

Together

Sincerely

‘The rising star of
T u r k e y
BEŞİKTAŞ,



BEŞİKTAŞ
MUNICIPALITY

COLORFUL BEŞİKTAŞ



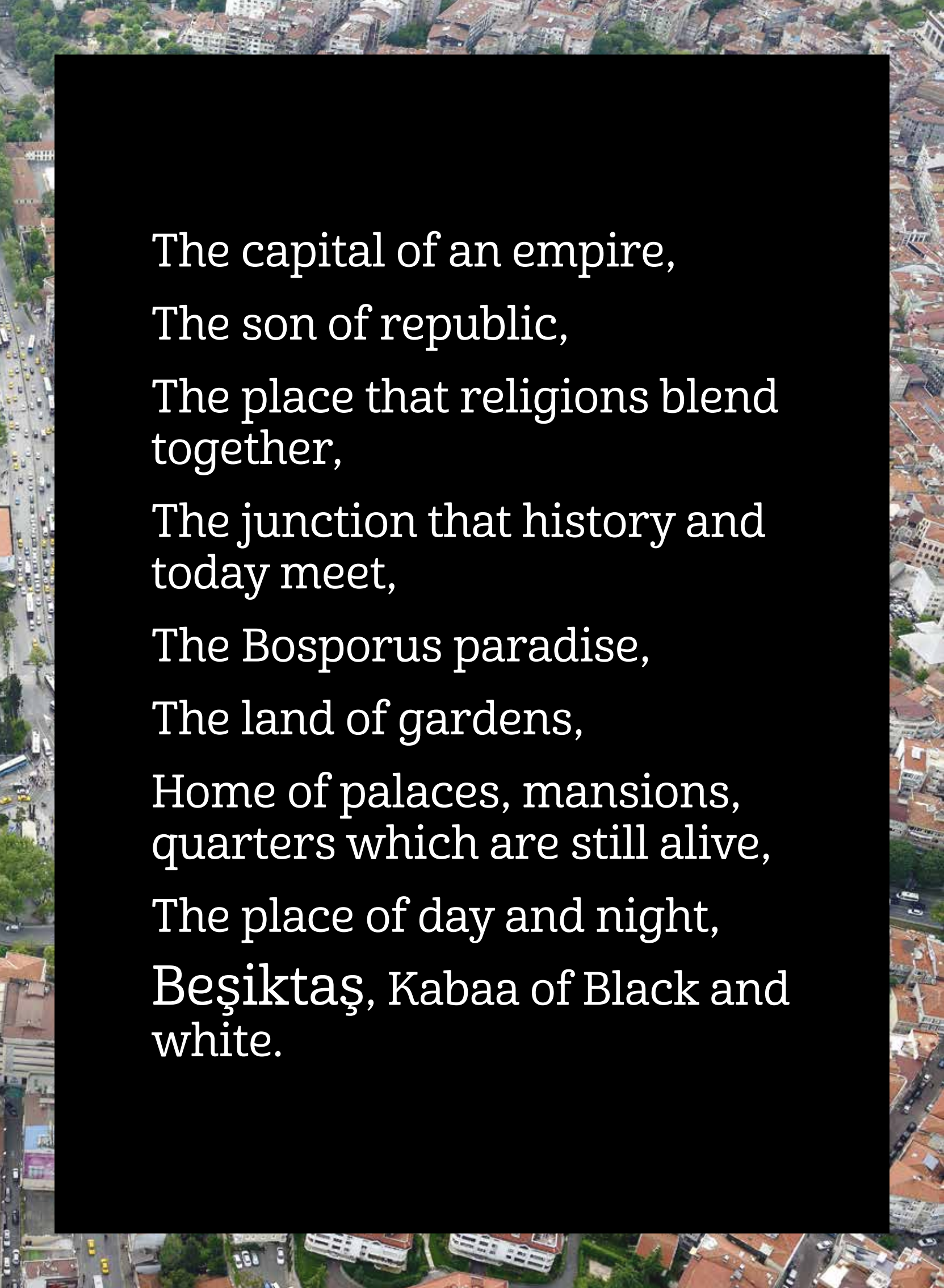




BEŞİKTAŞ
MUNICIPALITY





An aerial photograph of Istanbul, Turkey, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings, streets, and green spaces. The city is divided by the Bosphorus Strait, with the European side visible in the foreground and the Asian side in the background. The text is overlaid on a black rectangular background in the center of the image.

The capital of an empire,
The son of republic,
The place that religions blend
together,
The junction that history and
today meet,
The Bosphorus paradise,
The land of gardens,
Home of palaces, mansions,
quarters which are still alive,
The place of day and night,
Beşiktaş, Kabaa of Black and
white.

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PREFACE

Att. MURAT HAZİNEDAR
Mayor of Beşiktaş

There are important reasons for us to cherish and embrace Beşiktaş. Because Beşiktaş is different. Because Beşiktaş has a diversity that refuses being ordinary. Beşiktaş doesn't accept being mediocre, it turns its face to the creative, new and contemporary one. It loves pluralism, being shoulder to shoulder, to resist, embrace the alternative. Why? My dear friends, in order to understand why, it is enough to take a look at the past of Beşiktaş. What had happened in the past at Beşiktaş that has the most precious shores of the Bosphorus, also enlightens today.

You all know the historical past of Beşiktaş, but still, I am going to recall this history generally to you, the readers. Beşiktaş is the place that Ottoman Empire left the throne of Topkapı Palace and went to Dolmabahçe Palace, in other words this is the place that Ottoman Empire turned its face to the west and started to become westernized. Also we see that the steps Ottomans had taken in order to become democratic were planned here.

At this point, we witness that a name not only changed the future of Beşiktaş, but also our country, and swept away the bad fortune of our nation. Mustafa Kemal and his friends had their first steps to our National War of Independence at Beşiktaş, in 16th May 1919. Starting from that day, owing to the change, we now see those days and that's why we celebrate 16th May as the rebirth of Beşiktaş every year. We accept this step as the most important reason of Beşiktaş's and its residents' being different.

The photography book now you are holding was prepared in the light of those thoughts and ideas. As being in the first instance our photography artists, I congratulate every single person that contributes the creation of this book.

Together, sincerely,

Att. Murat Hazinedar



PRESENTATION
NECDET SAKAOĞLU

Humanity has been writing for thousands of years. But visual recording is not as old as writing, we can't even talk about two hundred years. No matter how objective you write, in every writing work missing parts, adaptations, and comments are inevitable, and the situation is the same for painting, but the invention that is called photography became the only real document that includes no subjectivity but the choice of lightening and shadowing. Like Nedim who work on Beşiktaş, all writers, poets, engravers, painters, travellers point out that reflecting something ugly is not necessary and they prefer to transform ugliness to beauty while reflecting it. But photography reflects it as it seems, with faithfulness.

As an exception, at the latest years of 19th century, Hagop Mintzuri who came from the Erzincan's Armudan village to the bakery of his father and uncles at Beşiktaş as an apprentice wrote the bazaar during II. Abdulhamid era in his book "İstanbul Memories" as objective as a photography frame.

But the art of photography, in spite of being attractive from its birth up to these days, couldn't deliver its message literary. So we wrote little notes like "Beşiktaş Bazaar in 1890s" under the photographs you see in this book. But today, owing to the explanations of the photographs of the photograph artists which took those photographs and editors who reserve them a place as what takes place in the photo and why, we can assess them more properly.

Like this photograph-based publication of Beşiktaş Municipality, this city needs similar service because İstanbul is a city which is wealthy in terms of natural and historical resources. We congratulate dear Mr. Mayor of Beşiktaş and all friends who contributed to this book. Again as we see, Beşiktaş is a step ahead.

STARTING

NECDET SAKAOĞLU

THE THREE PALACES OF BEŞİKTAŞ

The series of preserved palaces, beach palaces, feriyeler palaces, beach houses, mansions, pavilions and residences, from Hünkâr Pavilion next to Nusretiye Mosque to Valide Pasha Mansion at Bebek, offer us an abundance.

Let's take tour across İstanbul. How many palaces (saray) we can see? Sometimes we see traces of those palaces that had been destroyed but left its name to the quarter like Sulusaray and Ayvansaray. Sometimes, some places seemed to people that they were palaces, like Basilica Cistern. Once upon a time, there were "Suyabatan Palace" on Basilica Cistern, sultan's daughter and vizier groom entered the bridal chamber there. There are no other palaces but Topkapı in İstanbul where numerous Byzantine emperors and thirty Ottoman sultans reigned. There are no final decision about the ruins that appeared to be a base of a Byzantine palace. A couple of years ago, members UNESCO The World Heritage Committee came to İstanbul and examined this ruin that located across the Hagia Sophia, but they left İstanbul being indecisive about the ruin.

Let's take a look at the Anatolian side: The only palace is Beylerbeyi. Küçüksu Pavilion, Adile Sultan Pavilion and Beykoz Pavilion don't leave Beylerbeyi Palace alone. Pavilions, palaces, mansions destroyed and burnt during last 50 years are countless. We don't know where was Kavak (Salacak) and İstavroz palaces that we can see in the works of foreign artists. The history of being destroyed of these palaces and mansions must be read in "Boğaziçi Yalıları" (Bosphorus Mansions) of Abdülhak Şinasi Hisar. All of those who destroyed these mansions and Amcazade Mansion located at Anatolian Fortress were cleaned of these charges. Unfortunately, we cannot change it.

Byzantine ruins can be observed in Sarayburnu, Kadirga and Kara Surları and a ceremony hall called Tekfur Palace

also reflects the view. However, Eski Saray (Old Palace) in Beyazıt cannot be preserved. Some parts of İbrahim Pasha Palace that is located in Sur İçi survived.

Western side of Bosphorus is different, for both its abundance of mansions and its preservation culture. The first reason is the Beşiktaş-centered palace culture that appeared in the beginning of the 19th century. Illegal housing that captured the Anatolian side destroyed or changed most of the mansions and pavilions, also it damaged the ones located in the western side. Even so, we cannot deny that the glory of a capital city shines within the boundaries of Beşiktaş. The series of preserved palaces, beach palaces, feriyeler palaces, beach houses, mansions, pavilions and residences, from Hünkâr Pavilion next to Nusretiye Mosque to Valide Pasha Mansion at Bebek, offer us an abundance. All of these glorious Ottoman buildings have no intention to be outstanding.

Moreover, they not only hosted mansion lives and architectural trends but also İstanbul's transformation. In other words, İstanbul's westernization trend had started here. Beşiktaş is the only place where we can see such cultural and historical richness. We have three main palaces at Beşiktaş. With their formal names during Osmanlı times these palaces are: Beşiktaş (Dolmabahçe) Sarayı Hümayunu, Çırağan Sarayı, Yıldız Sarayı Hümayunu. Beşiktaş (Dolmabahçe) Sarayı Hümayunu is the second biggest palace in İstanbul. In the beginning of 17th century, a private garden for sultan's was created by filling there with soil. Sultans pavilions and mansions built called İncili, Yıldız, Camlı and



We have three main palaces
at Beşiktaş. With their
formal names at the time
of Osmanoğulları these
are: Beşiktaş (Dolmabahçe)
Sarayı (Palace), Yıldız Sarayı
(Palace), Yıldız Sarayı
Hümayunu (Palace).

Bayıldım to the shore and Bayıldım Gardens. II. Mahmud (1808 - 1839) who had the old Çırağan Palace built had these pavilions destroyed and built old Beşiktaş Palace. Being hosted by the sultan at this pavilion, on January 21st 1837, Moltke wrote these sentences in his journal:

"In the morning, I went to the emperorship meeting place with the embassy interpreter. This building is next to the sultan's winter palace at Dolmabahçe. We received an order to come into the presence of his majesty. We entered into the yard by passing a little door. The bosporus side of this yard was closed with a tight lath. At the end of the yard there was a three-floored house. Sultan was spending his winters here. Behind the building, there was the seraglio. They brought me to a very large mansion. Its view was incredibly beautiful and it was built onto the sea. We didn't wait much and entered the place. Here we waited in the hall and they called us. The rooms we passed were not large or glorious.

They were decorated with European style chairs, tables, mirrors, chandeliers, and even heaters. All were identical to those of any ordinary citizen. When a curtain which covered the side door was pulled, I saw the Sultan."(*)

This short-lived wooden palace of II. Mahmud was demolished by his son Sultan Abdülmecid (1839-1861), in 1840's, and in its place was built the only palace that has survived until present day with all its characteristics and beauty - Dolmabahçe Palace, constructed by Garabet Balyan Kalfa. With the actual palace building that contained the apartments for Sultan, Sultan's mother, his private secretariat, harem- and the separate buildings for the heir, Hareket Summer Palace, The Glass Mansion, kitchen and imperial treasury, Dolmabahçe Palace was under Sultan's disposal after War of Crimea was won in 10.06.1856.

Abdülmecid has lived in this palace during the last five years of his ruling, until the age of 38; where his brother and successor Sultan Abdülaziz (1861-1876) was dethroned and his son V. Murad's 3 month long reign was also finalized in 1876. Considered to be the first step at our constitution and attempts of democracy, Kanun-ı Esasi was declared in the ceremonial hall, therefore ensuring validity in the saying "Beşiktaş is where Turkish democracy was born".

II. Abdülhamid (1876-1909) had not used Dolmabahçe and moved to Yıldız, V. Mehmed Reşat (1909-1918) and Abdülmecid the last caliph (1922-1924) were the last residents of the palace. VI. Mehmed Vahideddin (1918-1922), who preferred the Yıldız Palace, had fled in Battleship Malaya. Atatürk has stayed in Dolmabahçe Palace upon his arrival to İstanbul as president of the republic and other occasions, also hosting the language and history congresses, Edward VII, foreign statesmen; also during his sickness and deceased in November 11, 1938.

The Çırağan Coastal Palace was designed as a summer resort. Moltke magnifies the beauty this palace possesses due to it's location at the Bosphorus, instead of the architectural features of this structure which took Melling's palace's place after II. Mahmut had it demolished and replaced: "The sultan is interested in structure. Right on the coast of the Bosphorus, neither on the Asian nor the European lands, he had a new palace built which has a truly beautiful sway to the adorable surrounding it is located in. A line of beautiful pillars carry the upper story. The broad marble stairway leads all the way to the cool and clear waters of the Bosphorus. The rest of this building consists of wood. The plain roof which displays a wonderful scenery is also covered with marble. However, this feature is a heavy burden for the building. Especially the chamber located inside the harem quarters is exquisite. This chamber occupies two stories and is illuminated from above. There rooms on both sides for women only.

The oval council, assembly hall is incredible" (**). The old Çırağan Palace which had been built by II. Mahmud consists of five stories reaching along the sea shore on the foot of a forest -today called Yıldız Park- all the way from Ortaköy Mecidiyeköy Mosque to the Yıldız Hill in

Çırağan Palace was designed as a summer mansion. Moltke does not praise the architecture of the palace that Melling had it destroyed and rebuilt, he praises its beauty that arises from its location in Bosphorus

the form of well-kept porches. The most magnificent onw was the royal chamber calles Mabeyn'i Hümayun. The second one being, Hünkar, third Ağavat (eunuchs), forth seraglio, the fifth Şehzadegân. The engraving which portrays this Palace gives us a hint on the achitectural features of this building.

The Çırağan Coastal Palace was designed as a summer resort. Moltke magnifies the beauty this palace possesses due to it's location at the Bosphorus, instead of the architectural features of this structure which took Melling's palace's place after II. Mahmut had it demolished and replaced.

Abdülmecid, had resorted in this summer palace, inherited from his father until Dolmabahçe's construction was over. After moving to Dolmabahçe in 1857 he had the project of the new Çırağan prepared. However, because of the depts left from the expensive cost of Dolmabahçe, it was possible to start the construction in 1860. The following year, when Abdülmecid died, the new Çırağan Palace was completed during his brother Abdülaziz's reign (1861-1876) in 1872.

This Maghrib-Indian influenced coastal palace was constructed by Sarkis Balyan, and had cost 4 million golden pieces to finish, although it was only 43 years old when it burned in 1910. 28 years of this period, it was the prison of V. Murad and his family, dethroned after 3 months of reign in 1876. In 1909 it was handed to the first Turkish parliament, 2 months before being burned down in January 6, 1910.

The "melancholic ruins" look that this burned palace added to the Bosphorus, was reminiscent of the state Ottoman Empire was in- for 77 years until 1987 when it was reshaped in concrete to what is now Kempinski Hotel, and the buidings around the premises were donated to schools.



GÖKHAN TAN

Beşiktaş is the only quarter of palaces of İstanbul and Turkey. It has a right to be proud of being the only one, but also has to cherish those palaces.

There are two myths about the name and establishment of Yıldız Palace: A wooden summer house was built for Bezmialem Valide Sultan, II. Mahmud's empress, Abdülmecid's mother. With a scenery that includes the Bosphorus, İstanbul, Princes' Islands, the location of this mansion gives its name "Yıldız" (star).

According to the other myth, Sultan Abdülaziz had renovated the mansion and gave it to his beloved "Yıldız" as a gift. Being the favorite of the Sultan and also being replaced from the harem to this mansion, the name of this Circassian beauty was seen fit to the palace.

Within a grove of 500 decares, well cared gardens and various beautiful structures, Yıldız Palace is wholly different than other Beşiktaş coastal palaces.

It was Sultan Abdülaziz who demolished the old wooden mansion and some other old buildings and build the first stone bricked constructions.

An elegant stairway was constructed to provide an easy passage between Yıldız Grove and Çırağan coastal palace, an elevated pathway covered with fences on sides with elegant marble columns.

Taking a look at this path and then at the solid iron passage of Sinanpaşa Mosque clearly defines the loss in city's cultural values.

II. Abdülhamid (1876-1909), who was the original



İZZET KERİBAR

founder of the palace and has spent 30 years on Yıldız Hill, establishing almost a neighborhood of palaces for himself and his family.

Walking from Barbaros Boulevard, walking up the Serencebey slope can realize the outer buildings of the palace complex like the Outpost, carman quarters, exterior service buildings, Mabeyn-i Hümayun and the Set Palace right in front, and Yıldız Mosque.

Upon entering the front entrance, the gardens, pools and detailed structures around the courtyard welcome the visitors.

Yâveran and Bendegân buildings, Armory, Island Palace, Cihannüma, Sultan's Kitchen, Sultan's Bath, Küçük Mâbeyn, Limonluk Palace, Çit Pavillion, Sultan's Quarters, Kaskat Palace, Private Quarters, Palace Theater, Musahibân Dairesi, apartments for Sultan's family, private apartments for harem maidens and servants, apartments for Kızlarağası, Ağavat, Şehzadegan; Hunting Palace, schoolroom, and the most glorious of Yıldız buildings: Şale Kasr-ı Hümayunu, greenhouses, flower beds, lemon groves, pools, carpentry and tile workshops, pharmacy, cellar, stable, electric factory... Yıldız truly is a neighborhood of palaces.

Conclusion: Beşiktaş is the only region of palaces in İstanbul and Turkey. This reason of pride also comes with a responsibility to look after these historical palaces. On the other hand, buildings with influences under similar architectural studies are mostly parts of art history.

Before it was transformed into Kempinski Hotel in 1987, Çırağan Palace had guarded its appearance for almost 77 years as a ruin that reminds of the fall of Ottoman Empire; and the beach palaces near to Çırağan Palace were given to schools.

Although this looks natural, Beşiktaş palaces contain the elegant Sultan Abdülmecid's intentions of a new style of life, emanating in waves through the streets of İstanbul. In its current state, socio-cultural transformation matters are awaiting researchers to be studied.

(*) H. Von Moltke, Letters on Situations And Happenings in Turkey (translation: Hayrullah Örs), Ankara, 1960, pgs 84-87 (**) pg 62 of said book





1

DIVINE

Beşiktaş is totally a history temple. During the second half of 19th century it was the heart of Ottoman Empire, the emperorship was controlled here, from three palaces: Dolmabahçe, Çırağan and Yıldız. This emperial center and its surroundings are the examples of Ottoman architecture.

DOLMABAHÇE PALACE



While the palace was being built, the empire was in debt and European industry and economy made itself felt. Also the palace was built by taking loan.

“Beşiktaş Saray-ı Hümayunu” as its original name, constructed as the new Imperial Palace between 1844-1855 by Sultan Abdülmecid (1839-1861). Abdülmecid sought a western lifestyle, and Dolmabahçe Palace reflects this kind of longing. European palaces set as example, the exterior of the palace conveys a modern outlook, yet the interior design carries the İstanbul coastal palace traditions. Synthesizing these two different styles in perfect harmony and glamour is the result of the mastership of members of the famous Balyan family, architects Garabet and his son Nigoğos.

The furnishing and ornament works of the palace are also in harmony with the longing for European lifestyle, with Sechan - decorator of the Paris Opera being consulted for the works.

Furniture and other commodities were brought from factories in Paris and other Eastern European countries. Most popular products of the time were selected, Sevres vases, Lyon silks, Baccarat crystals, English candleholders, Venetian glasses, Bohemian chandeliers...



In the time period when the palace was being constructed, the Empire had a lower tax income than its expenditure. It was a time when the exhausting effects of European industry and economy were being felt. The palace was built on debt. The construction was finished in 1855 and the ongoing Crimean battle was going on. The opening was in June 10th, 1856. In the opening ceremony, Abdülmecid, along with 130 guests, had a feast that lasted three hours.

Abdülmecid lived in this palace for 15 years. Dolmabahçe wasn't used as much by the latter emperors. Abdülaziz lived in Çırağan and Beylerbeyi palaces that he himself got constructed, whereas II. Abdülhamid ruled in Yıldız Palace. Last Sultan Vahideddin's last step on homeland grounds was the pier of Dolmabahçe Palace. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of the Turkish Republic had passed away in Dolmabahçe Palace.

With the L-shaped main grounds, the garden covered Dauphin Chamber is a small palace on its own, Furniture and Guardians Chambers, Military Headquarter (Built in the time of II. Abdülhamid). It is constituted of Glass

Palace, stables, kitchens, glass and iron workshops, and various other buildings for different purposes, a total of 16 structures. The main building is made of three conjoined parts: Mabeyn-i Hümayun, Ceremonial Hall and Private Quarters that include the harem other connected chambers.

Dolmabahçe, where the palace is located, is named after the filling grounds, being filled with soil since the 17th century. This location hosted coastal palaces, mansions, gardens and vegetable gardens in the past.

A 250.000 square feet area on the shore has been filled by a sturdy base and stakes of oak to keep the ground steady.

Certain improved techniques of the era were used in the palaces sewers to inhibit the pollution of the sea, as the rain waters were drained from enamel-covered walls. To protect the furniture and flooring, the sea and western aspects of the palace had violet tinted glasses on their windows, specially made in the glass workshops of the palace to provide protection against the sun.

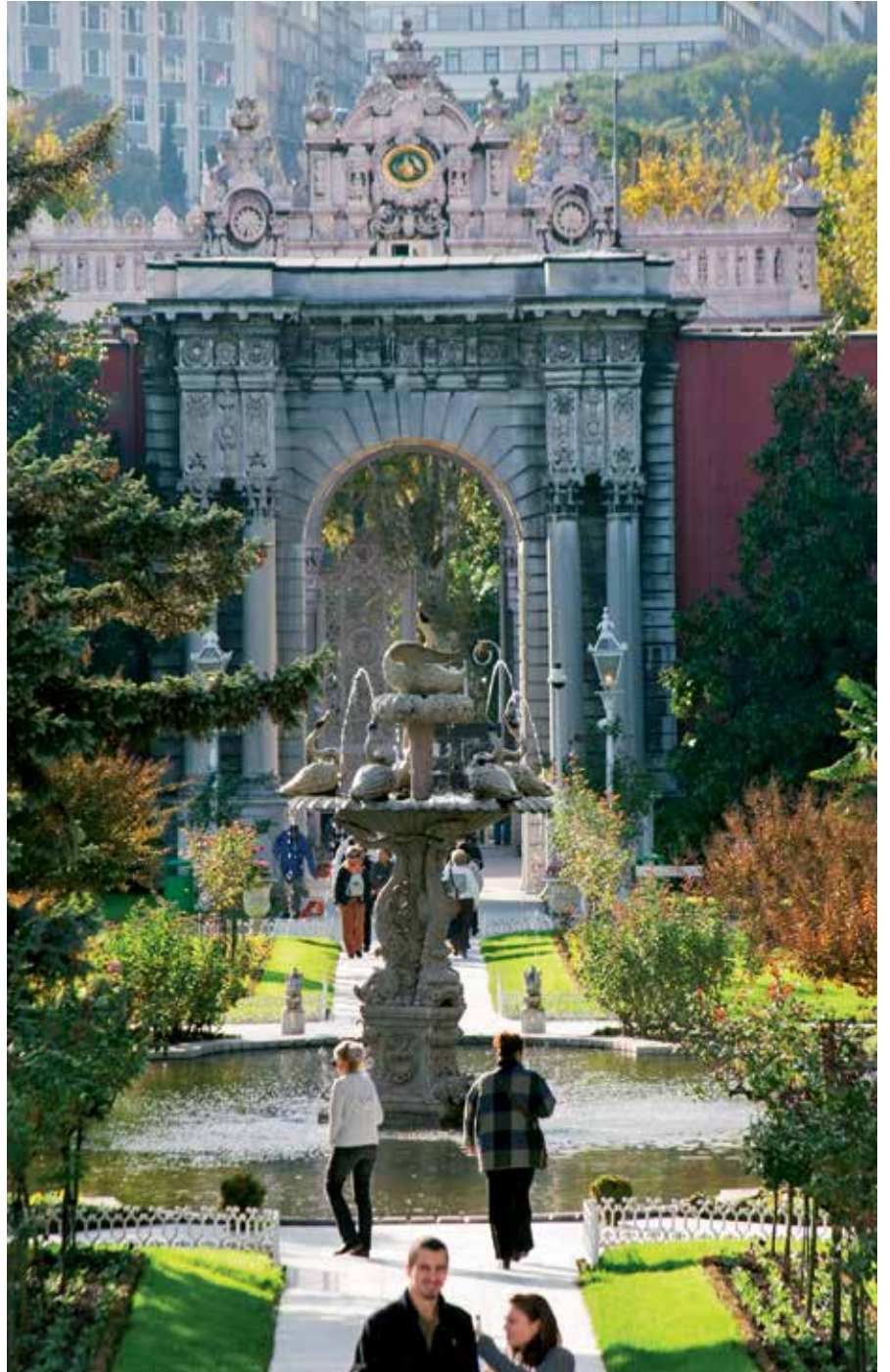


SULTANATE DOOR

There are two main doors of Dolmabahçe Palace's landside. Sultanate (ceremony) Door and Treasury Door. Sultanate Door is bigger and more magnificent. The door's main feature is its being concave both from inside and outside. There are five more mansion doors of the palace. The middle one is bigger and ornate compared to the others. It is across to the Muayede Hall. Also, there are seven secondary entrance doors in the palace.

GARDENS

The palace has beautiful gardens around. As an extent of the front garden, seaside garden extends parallel to the palace with its beautiful ornaments. The others are closed and private gardens. With their high walls and having pools inside, Veliâht (heir apparent) House, Harem (Seraglio) and Kuşluk Gardens are inner gardens (in the upper right corner).



TREASURY DOOR

Treasury Door is located at the Clock Tower side and combines Muhafızlar and Eski Mefruşat houses. It look magnificent with its huge size and ornaments. It is the main entrance with epigraph and sultan's signature (tuğra).





Muayede Hall is the most glorious place of the palace. 56-columned hall also witnessed the first constitution announcement.





Ceremonial Hall is covered with domes from the inside, and with a roof from the outside. It is remarkable from other halls with its height and design.



CEREMONIAL HALL

Ceremonial Hall is located in the centre of main building and is twice-high of the buildings reciding on both sides. This hall was being used for ceremonies. With its architectural static structure and decorations this building is an awe-inspiring building.

II. Abdulhamit (1876 – 1909) declared the The Basic Law of the Ottoman Empire (The First Constitutional Era) in this hall with a magnificent ceremony. On that night the buildings in the city got decorated and torchlight porcessions were arranged.

The public cheered over infront of Dolmabahce Palace and the estate of Midhat Pasha, the architecture of the Basic Law, and infront of other embassies. Also Abudlhamid greeted the people from the window of The Glass Villa which is also located in Dolmabahce Palace. 44 days later, on 5 February 1877 Midhat Pasha got exiled from the docks of the palace to Europe.

Ceremonial Hall witnessed two more historical moments after the declaration of the republic. First one happened when Mustafa Kemal Pasha who left Istanbul on 16 May 1919 as a military personal, returned to Istanbul as the president of the republic on 1927. 8 years later Istanbul rejoined with Ataturk in these halls. The second one happened on 10 November 1938. Ataturk's funeral prayer took place in the very same hall. On November 16, his body laid in state for the people to visit him one last time, and kept in the Ceremonial Hall for 3 more days.



HÜNKAR TURKISH BATH

Hünkâr Bath has three parts. First one is the resting room. The main bathroom has two rooms: warm and cool ones. The bath is covered with metal and glass. All metal parts are ornate.



SÜFERA (AMBASSADORS) HALL

This hall is one of the most magnificent places of the palace. Its decoration is covered with gold foil. Corner rooms that opens to the Süferah Hall also are decorated luxuriously. The room known as Red Hall was made for sultan's ambassadors' acceptance.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: GÖKHAN TAN

LIBRARY

Dolmabahçe Palace hosted six sultans including the last Ottoman Caliph Abdülmecid Efendi. This library is located in the private section and Caliph Abdülmecid's books can be found there.





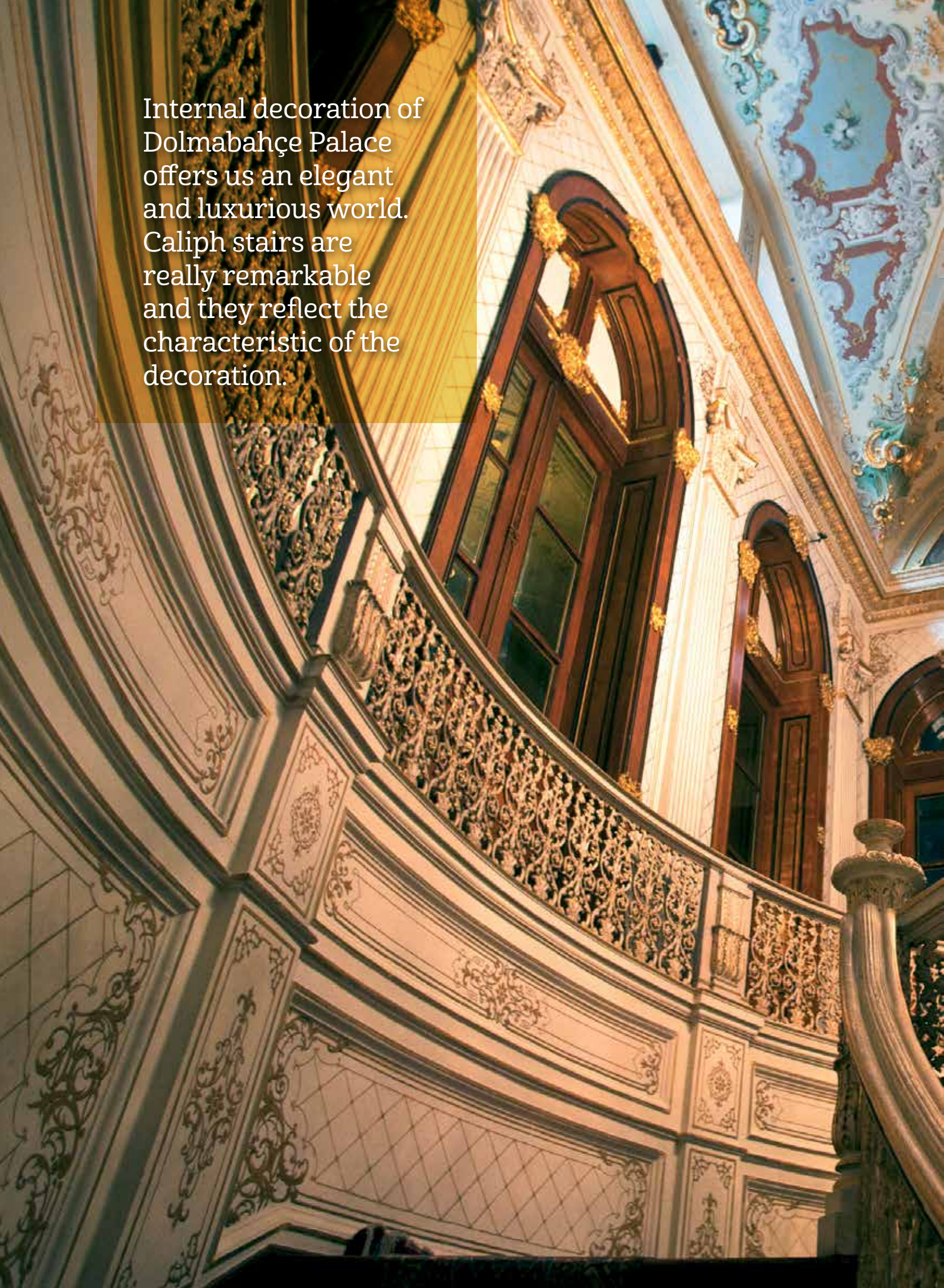
CRYSTAL STAIRS

These crystal stairs reflect an architectural expertise. Its middle part is narrower than the ground part and this makes it look wider and longer. Its railing was made from the famous Baccarat crystal. Marble colons are covered with gilt up to the railing. The stairs combine two parts of Resmi Daire (Official Part).



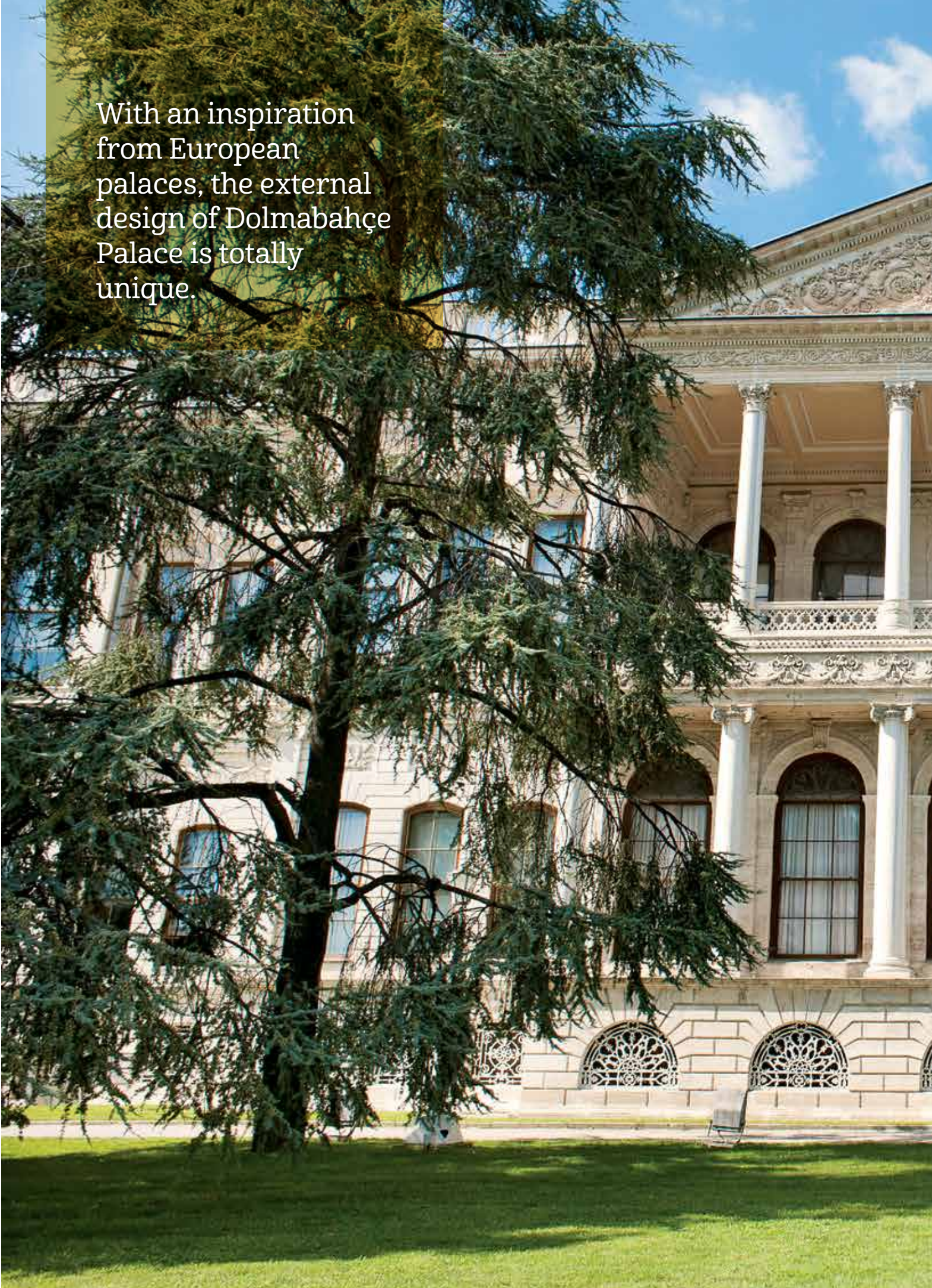
FOTOGRAFLAR: İZZET KERİBAR

Internal decoration of Dolmabahçe Palace offers us an elegant and luxurious world. Caliph stairs are really remarkable and they reflect the characteristic of the decoration.





With an inspiration from European palaces, the external design of Dolmabahçe Palace is totally unique.

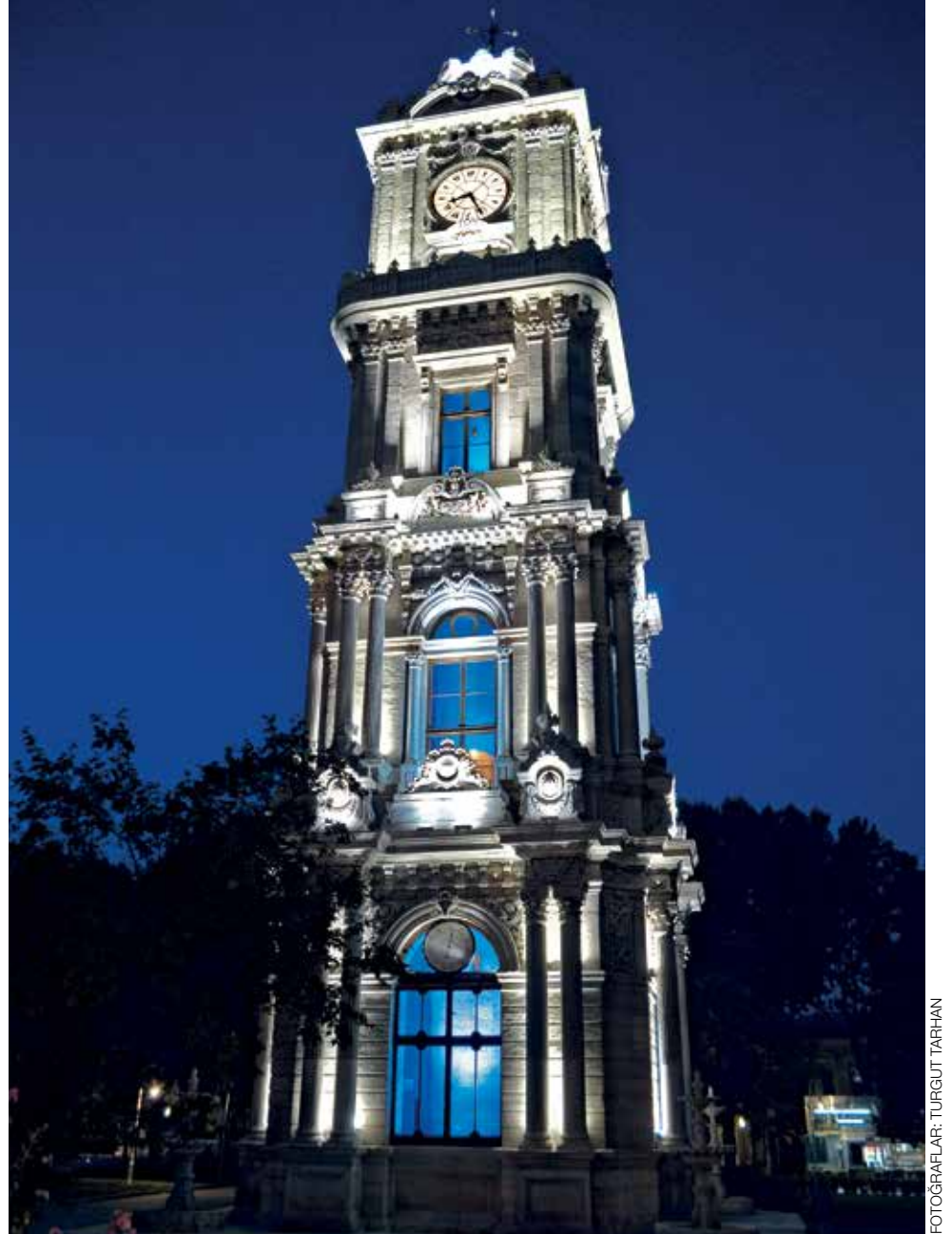






ATATÜRK'S FAREWELL

Dolmabahçe Palace served as the presidential palace between 1927 and 1949. Founder of the Turkish Republic Mustafa Kemal Atatürk had been staying here on his İstanbul visits. He deceased here, in this room on 10th November 1938 after his treatment. Clocks are still 09:05 in commemoration of Atatürk's death time.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: TURGUT TARHAN

DOLMABAHÇE CLOCK TOWER

Dolmabahçe Clock Tower was built by II.Abdülhamid between the years of 1890-94 and it is one of the benchmarks of İstanbul. As being an indispensable architectural constructions of Yeşilçam cinema, it witnessed many events including Sultan Vahideddin's escape and the İstanbul abandonment of the occupation forces after the WWI.

While constructing, the stones of the mosque that is located in Bayıldım Garden were used. 27 meters tall, constructed on a 12x12 metered platform, its size is 8.50x8.50 and has four floors. Its architects are Balyan family members.



YILDIZ PALACE

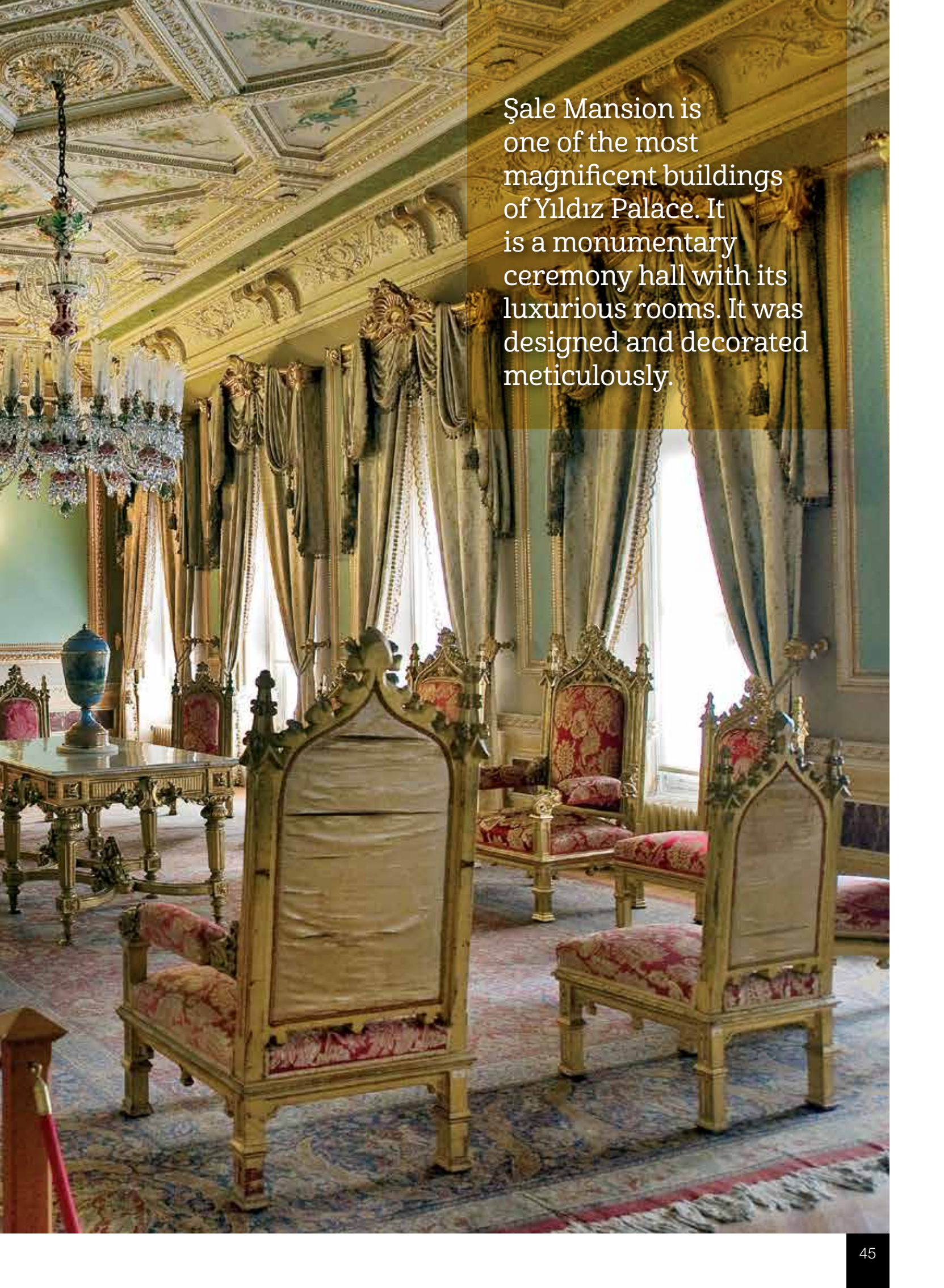
Its name derives from the mansion that Sultan Mahmud II made built and Yıldız Palace is the last palace of the Ottoman Empire. The most magnificent structure of this palace complex is the Büyük Mabeyn Mansion that was built in 1866.

Yıldız Palace is the last palace complex of the Ottoman Empire and it occupies a 500 thousand m2 area including gardens, palaces, mansions, pavilions and service buildings. It has approximately 100 buildings and some of them were burnt or destroyed. There had been other mansions inside but the main palace was built under the rule of Sultan Abdülhamid II. Its and the quarters name derives from the “Yıldız” mansion that Mahmud II made built in 1834.

Its design and construction are multi-formed and clearly, different architects worked on its construction. The contribution of Sarkis and Agop Baylan and Raimondo d’Aronco is for sure. It is not documented but Garabet Balyan, Vasilaki, İoannidis and Valaury are thought to be included. Moreover, the sultan himself ordered construction with describing its shape and style. There exist a high wall around Yıldız Palace. Inside this wall, there are an another wall that covers the properties of Sultan and his private garden. There are five doors that open to the official and private sections. Koltuk Door is always open and for personnel and visitors.

Sultanate Door is only for the Sultan. Valide (Sultan’s mother) door is for sultan’s family, foreign representatives and high commissioners. Mecidiye Door is the entrance of the garden and is open for the palace personnel and visitors. Great Mabeyn was built by Sultan Abdülaziz between the years of 1865 and 1866. It is the most magnificent part of the palace and was the administration building of the Ottoman Empire. Upstairs was used by the Sultan and downstairs was used by the high commissioners of the palace. It was designed and constructed by Agop and Sarkis Balyan. It is famous for its crystal stairs and the ornate room with a pool at downstairs.



The image captures a grand, opulent interior space, likely a ceremonial hall. The ceiling is a masterpiece of Baroque or Rococo style, featuring intricate stucco work, painted medallions, and a central floral motif. A large, multi-tiered crystal chandelier hangs from the ceiling, casting a warm glow. The walls are adorned with large, ornate mirrors and heavy, patterned curtains in shades of gold, blue, and red. In the foreground, several high-backed chairs with gold frames and red upholstered seats are arranged. To the left, a large, ornate table with a glass top and gold legs holds a blue vase. The floor is covered with a large, patterned rug. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and meticulous craftsmanship.

Şale Mansion is one of the most magnificent buildings of Yıldız Palace. It is a monumetary ceremony hall with its luxurious rooms. It was designed and decorated meticulously.



ŞALE MANSION

One of the most outstanding and interesting buildings of Yıldız Palace. It was constructed by three levels. First part was probably completed in 1879-80 (on the top right). Second part was built by Sermimar-ı Devlet Sarkis Balyan in 1889 in a short period because of the visit of German Emperor Wilhelm II. After, a hall (Yellow Hall) was constructed by Nikolaki Kalfa in 1889. Third part was designed by the Italian architect Raimondo d'Aronco in 1898. This part is also called as Ceremony Hall. This hall was built for the honour of Wilhelm II.

Although the mansion was built by different and many architects, you can observe its harmony. Şale Mansion is famous for its halls. Great Ceremony Hall is one of the most famous places of the mansion (above), it is remarkable with its lightening, adornment and decoration. The dining hall, Sedefli Salon (Nacreous Hall) is completely different from other halls by its decoration as an Occidental Corner. All of the halls were decorated differently but their ceiling ornates are famous. Stair halls are remarkable with their arrangement and decoration (on the middle right).



İZZET KERİBAR

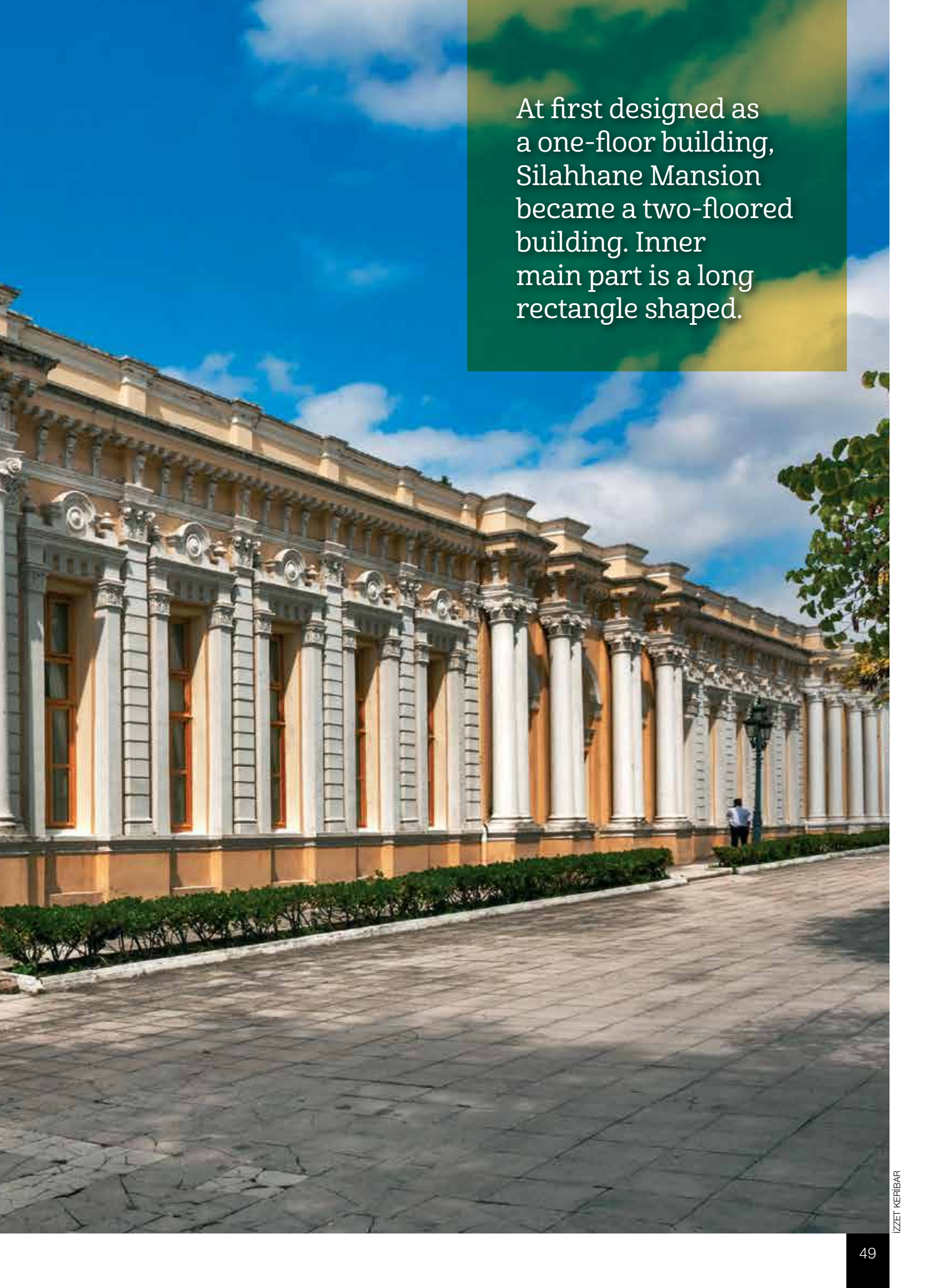


İZZET KERİBAR



GÖKHAN TAN



A photograph of the Silahhane Mansion, a long, two-story neoclassical building with a series of white columns and yellow walls. The building is set against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, there is a wide, paved plaza made of large, irregular stones. A low green hedge runs along the base of the building. A person is visible walking on the plaza near a black lamppost. A semi-transparent green and yellow box is overlaid on the top right of the image, containing text.

At first designed as a one-floor building, Silahhane Mansion became a two-floored building. Inner main part is a long rectangle shaped.



MALTA MANSION

Malta Mansion is one of the two seyir (view) mansions built during Sultan Abdulaziz era. The mansion was used by daily visits. It had been stayed empty for 40 years after Abdulhamid's dethronement. During 1950s, it was used for invitations and honours. While changing the mansion for these invitations, floors and ceiling ornates were destroyed.

While the redecoration period, the works of western painters were also destroyed. The stony place downstairs and the great hall's ceiling survived without intervention. In 1979, with The Touring and Automobile Club of Turkey (TURING) President Çelik Gülersoy's contribution, the mansion was decorated by using materials and paintings that belong to the original era.

Between the years of 1982 and 1995, the mansion served as a restaurant and café managed by TURING. The mansion has been managed by İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality since 1997. Grand vizier Mithat Pasha was put on trial in a tent, in this garden. He spent his time in the mansion between the trials.







İZZET KERİBAR

ÇADIR MANSION

As one of the two seyir mansions, Abdulaziz made it built in 1871. There are no bathrooms and bedrooms this mansion because this was only used for daily visits. During the trials of the suspects that Abdulhamid saw responsible of the death of Abdulaziz, suspects were exposed to torture on the basement floor.

South side of the mansion opens to one of the two big pools of Yıldız Parc. Like Malta Mansion, Çadır Mansion was restored in 1979 with the contribution of Çelik Gülersoy and in 1995, served as a restaurant and cafeteria. İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality started to manage this mansion in 1997.



IZZET KERİBAR

THEATRE

Abdulhamid II was interested in theatre and concerts. He probably made this theatre built according to suggestions of the Italian artists within the palace. The theatre was originally designed by d'Aronco. His project was using the narrow place as wide as possibly. This idea was kept but sophisticated details were not made. In this hall, Sarah Bernhardt, Coquelin, Chaliapin performed and were awarded with medals.

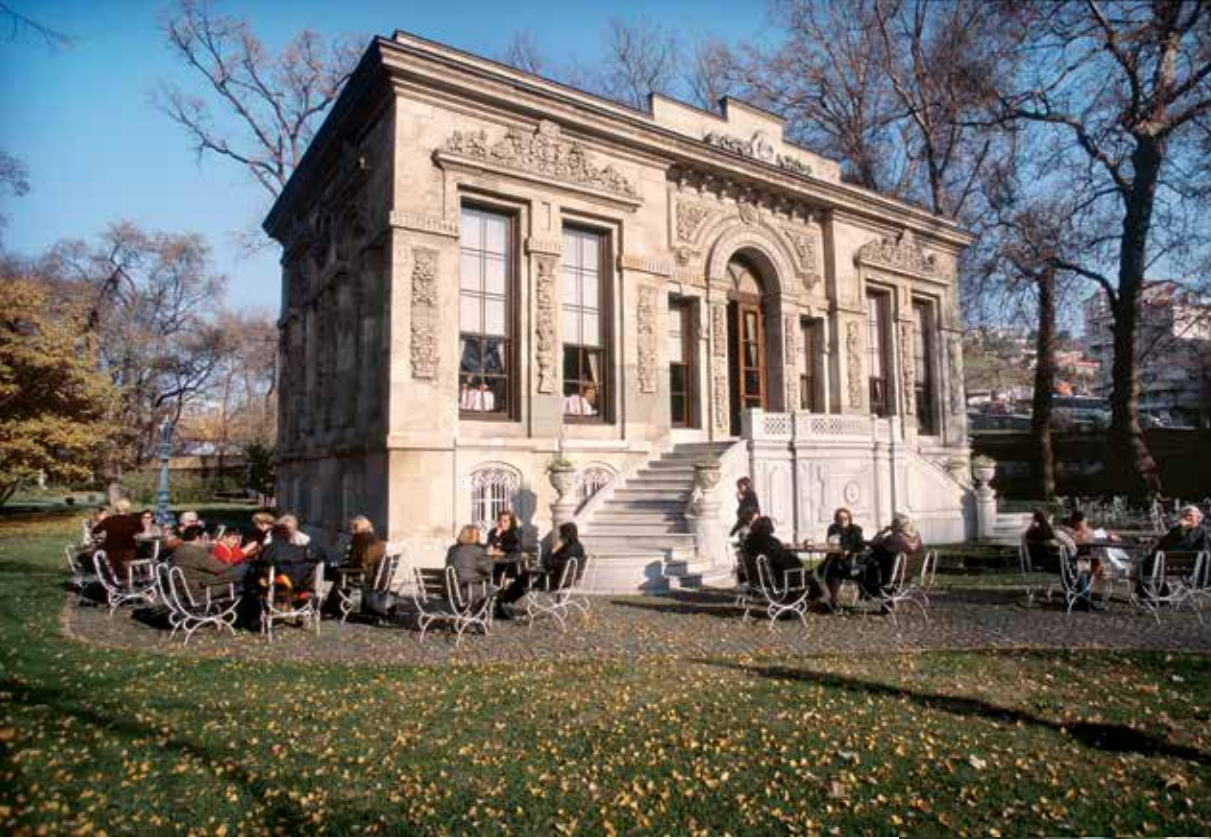


GÖKHAN TAN

YILDIZ CLOCK TOWER

Located on the corner of Yıldız Hamidiye Mosque, the clock tower has the traces of orientalist and neogothic architecture like the mosque itself. The clock is located at the side that sees the palace. It was built in 1890.

IHLAMUR PAVILION



Between the years of 1849 and 1855, Sultan Abdulmecid made the architect Nigoğos Balyan built two mansions: Merasim (Ceremony) Mansion (on the right) and Maiyet Mansion (on the top). These two mansions were used as a resting place during the hunting parties and arrow practices.

At the beginning, it was known as Hacı Hüseyin Gardens and it included only a plain and simple mansion. The real Ihlamur Pavilion is the Ceremony Mansion. Maiyet Mansion has a more simple construction. Before being used as a museum, it stayed empty between the years of 1914 and 1950. In the beginning of 1980s, it was restored completely and opened to visitors.



ÇIRAĞAN PALACE



Çırağan Palace is accepted as the last example of Ottoman Empire's glory. Abdulaziz ascended to the throne in 1861 and the palace was constructed between the years of 1861 and 1872. The palace is actually a complex alongside of Bosphorus up to 1.5 km. There are two Feriye (secondary) palaces next to the main palace. These secondary palaces are still being used. The secondary palaces that are located in Ortaköy are used as Maritime College, Galatasaray University and Kabataş High School.

The one at Beşiktaş side is used as Public Guest House. In 1909, parliament was moved into Çırağan Palace. Two months later, a fire broke out and the palace burnt completely. Only outside scaffold of the building

survived. An Honour Stage was located in its garden. In 1987, a hotel was built in Hünkar Garden. The walls that left from the fire were filled and used as ballroom, ceremony hall and restaurant of the hotel.

Designed by Sarkis Baylan, Çırağan Palace was built by taking four millions of gold as a loan and this loan was also used for the construction of railways in Anatolia and İstanbul's water need. During its glorious times, the palace was magnificent with its maroon and green porphyry stones and ivory and naced platings. The ceilings were full of bird and flower paintings the theatre décor artist Marlo from Italy.



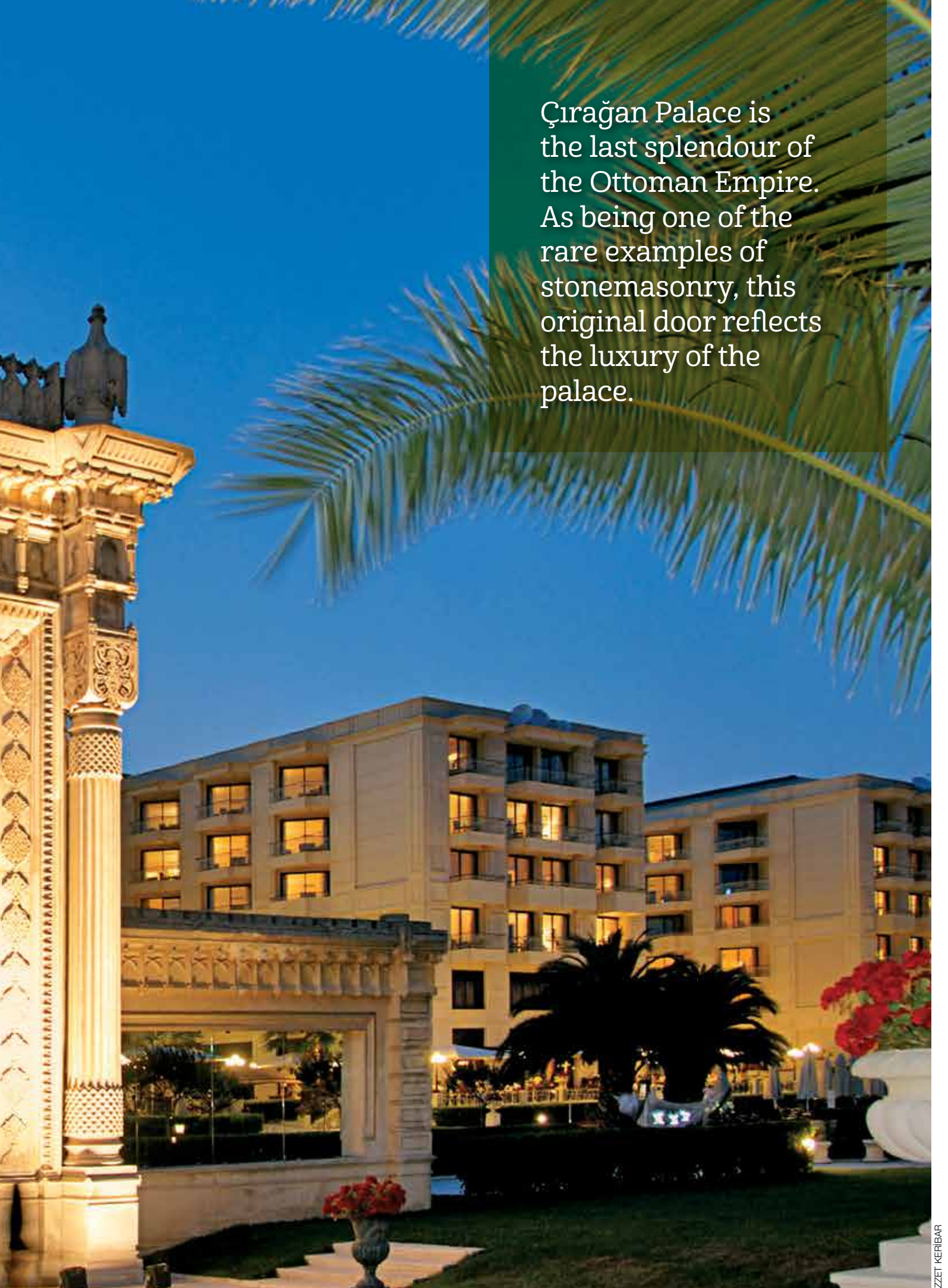
FOTOĞRAFLAR: GÖKHAN İM



Çırağan Palace was built by inspring the Wilhelma Palace in Germany. But with its design and decoration, it is a palace that Islamic tradition and all of the Ottoman's architectural style is presented.



Çırağan Palace is the last splendour of the Ottoman Empire. As being one of the rare examples of stonemasonry, this original door reflects the luxury of the palace.





KABATAŞ HIGH SCHOOL

Kabataş High School started its education life in Esma Sultan Mansion, Setüstü in 1908. Later on, as the school enlarged, the mansion wasn't large to hold it and it was moved into its current place, Ortaköy, in 1928-29

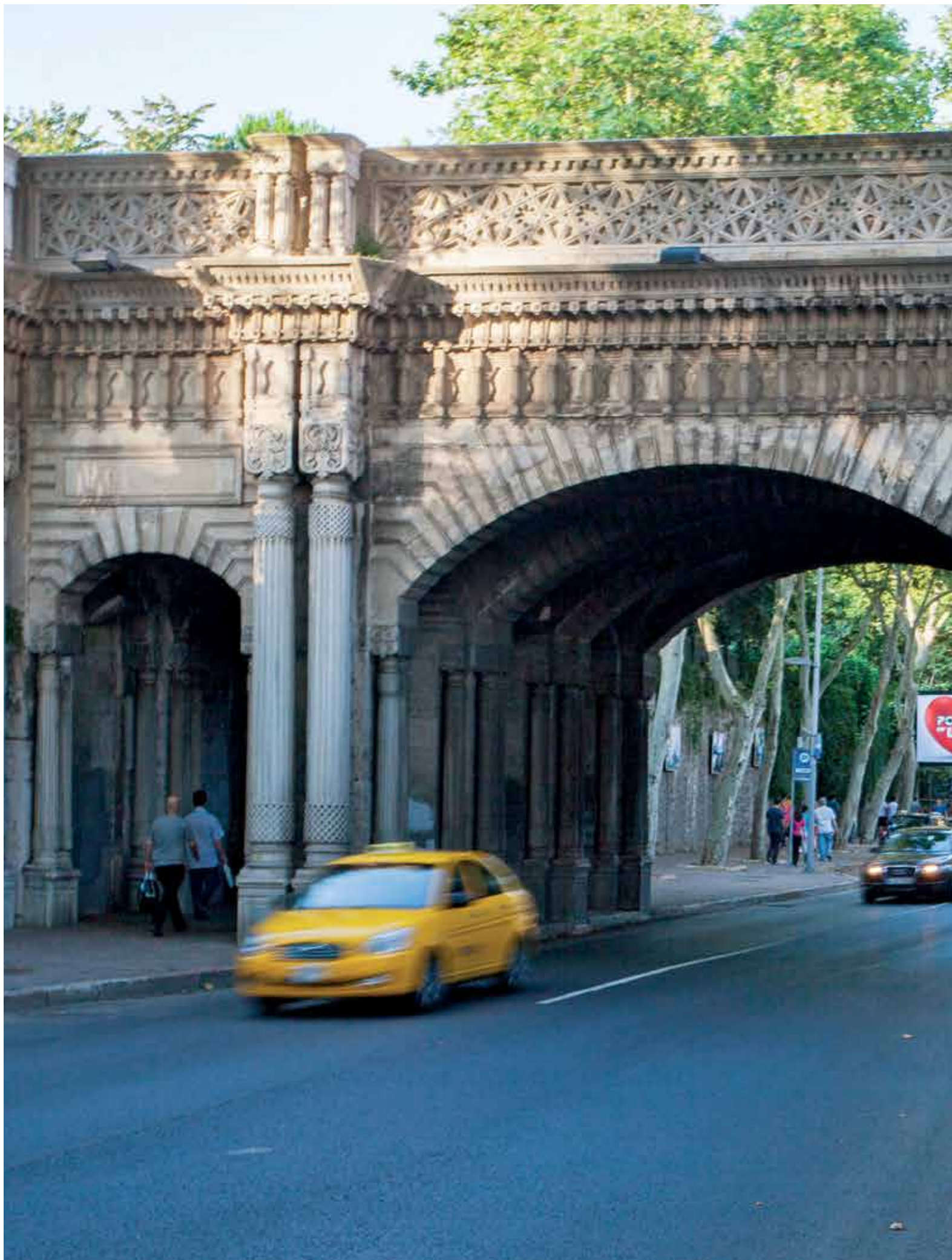
FERİYE POST

Kabataş High School Education Foundation bought and restored the Feriye Post's policeman wards of Feriye Palaces' last buildings in 1989. This building serves as conference hall, movie theatre, fair and museum (right).



FOTOĞRAFLAR: GÖKHAN TAN





Yıldız Park which's located behind Ciragan Palace is one of the recreational areas the Sultan used with his harem. This elegant bridge located on Ciragan Street was designed by Sarkis Balyan to join park and the palace to one another.



HIDIVA MANSION

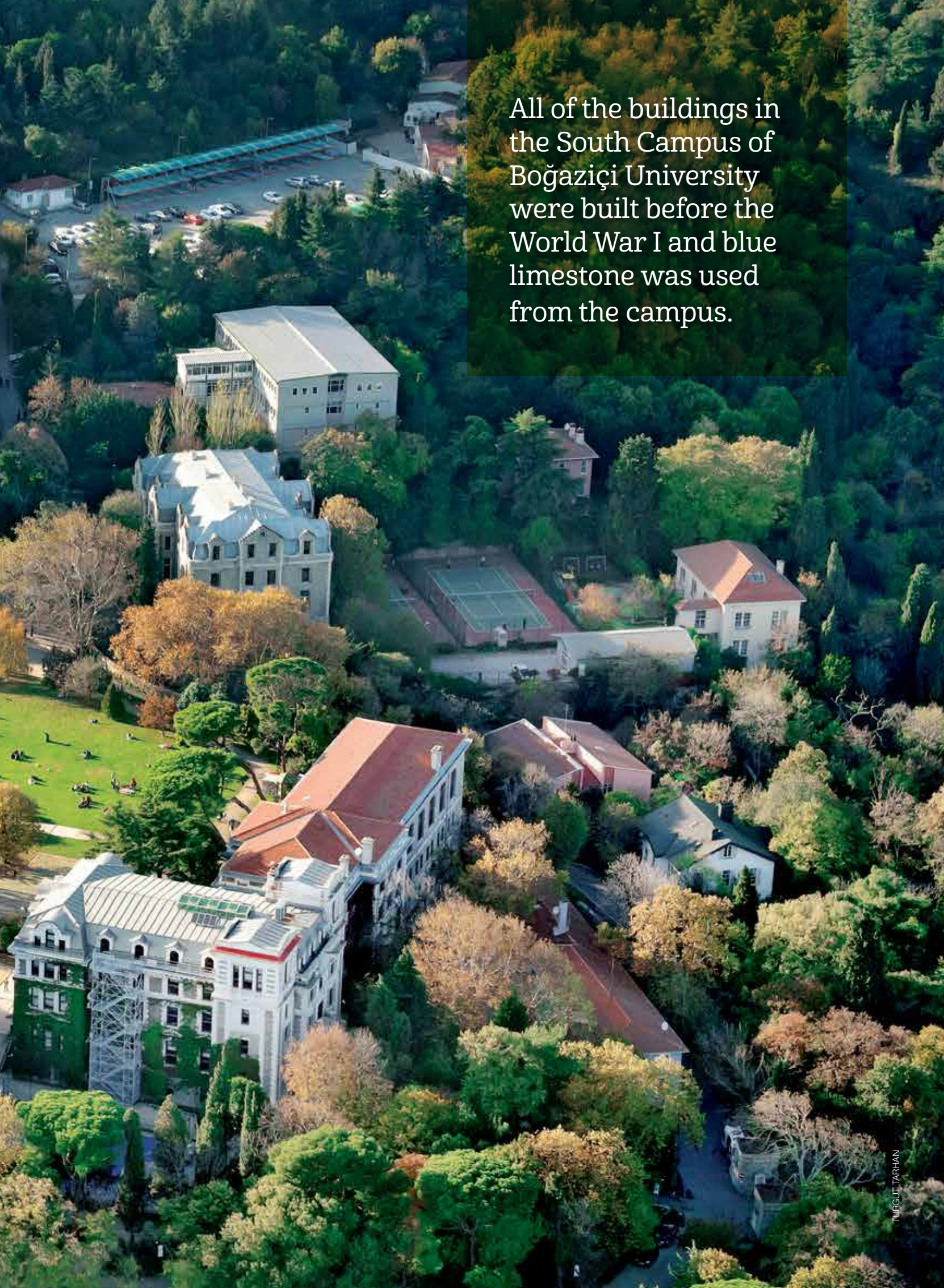
It is known as Hidiva Palace or Hidiva Mansion. The place that is located in Bebek was offered as a present to Egypt Hdivi Abbas Hilmi Pasha's wife, Hidiva Emine. Hidiva Emine had the palace built in the beginning 20th century.

Hidiva Palace is one of the most important structures of Bosphorus with its architectural features and its size. The Selamlık part (the quarters reserved for the men) is now used as Egyptian Consulate, the Harem (quarters reserved for the sultan's family) is now used as the consulate residence. The palace reflects the features of Art Nouveau from the Central Europe and is a great example of combining the new and ancient styles.









All of the buildings in the South Campus of Boğaziçi University were built before the World War I and blue limestone was used from the campus.



BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY

It started its education life as Robert College. Established in 1863 by academician Dr. Cyrus and businessman Mr. Christopher Rheinlander Robert. It was the first American College out of United States. Robert College bought the plot in 1862 but they got the building permit in 1869. The college started its education in 1871.

Overlooking the Bosphorus from Rumelian Fortress, it extended by preserving the wide coppice forest. The first building was Hamlin Hall that is called South Campus today. The second building was Science Hall and was built in 1892. After the Nature History professor Albert Long's death, this building (above) was named after him, he taught classes there between 1872 and 1901.

On the background of the photo, Anderson Hall which is now Faculty of Science and Letters was built in 1913 (right). 118-decard South Campus with all its services and staff, was started being used by Turkish government and from then on Robert College served as Boğaziçi University. With its 14 thousand students, the university has 53 thousand graduate students.







BARBAROS HAYREDDİN PASHA MAUSOLEUM

Beşiktaş's center has been a divine place for mariners since 16th century because first Ottoman captain Barbaros Hayreddin Pasha's mausoleum built by Mimar Sinan is located here. (above)

There are almost 50 gravestones in this mausoleum. There had been more graves than that but in the beginning of 1940s, many of them moved to another place during the arrangement of the square (top right).



BARBAROS MONUMENT

The monument was made by Ali Hada Bara and Zühtü Müridoğlu in 1941-43 and located its place in 1944, the area in front of the Barbaros Hayreddin Pasha mausoleum.

During the empire, Ottoman navy got together between Beşiktaş and Üsküdar, and then went on a cruise. Because of this reason, Barbaros' mausoleum and Derya Sinan Pasha (another captain) Mosque are here. 10-meter long stone carries the bronze statue that symbolize Barbaros and his two beams.





ALAATTIN TİMUR



SERHAT KESKİN

DİKİLİTAŞ (OBELISK) – NİŞANTAŞI (TARGET STONE)

At İhlamur street, nine-couplet epigraph that belongs to Mahmud II was written by the poet Şakir (on the top).

In 1810, during a competition Mahmud II put an ostrich egg as a target and shot the egg with a gun from 1115 steps away. As a commemoration of this event, they put the Obelisk there. The quarter was named after this stone in 1811 and fifteen-couplet epigraph was written by Enderuni Vasıf (in the middle).

Selim III shot often there and his Nişan (target) stone is dated back to 1790/91. In the fifty eight-couplet epigraph written by the Poet Naşid, Enderun agas that shot at the same place are mentioned (on the top right).



Obelisks and nişan (target) stones were put their place with the aim of documenting the shot of the Sultans. Around Beşiktaş, there were many rifle rangles and promenade places that sultans picked as their favourites. The stone (1790/91) that belonged to Selim III is now in Topkapı Palace Museum. The other four stones are still in their original places.



GÖKHAN TAN

BEZMİALEM VALİDE SULTAN FOUNTAIN

It was built in 1839 by the mother of Sultan Abdulmecid, Bezmialem Valide Sultan. It is a nice example of Ottoman architecture from its last era with Abdulmecid's autograph on it

DAMAT İBRAHİM PASHA FOUNTAIN

It is located at the opposite of Ortaköy Mosque and was built by Grand Vizier Damat İbrahim Pasha in 1723. In 1992, it was moved to the small square around its original place.



SERHAT KESKİN



GÖKHAN TAN

NURİ DEMİRAĞ FOUNTAIN

Especially between the years of 1950 and 1960, wide-ranged public improvements were made in İstanbul and as a result, many of the fountains moved into another places. The story of this fountain is an interesting one: One of the first Turkish contractors Nuri Demirağ bought two fountains from Yıldız Palace.

He placed one of them to his mansion's garden in Serencebey, and put the other next to his father's grave. Today, even though the mansion was destroyed, the fountain is still there. Also, the epigraph in Turkish that he had it written is also remarkable.



TEVFİK FİKRET MUSEUM

Aşyan means home in Turkish and it is the home of Tefik Fikret who was one of the most remarkable, outspoken and anti-war Turkish poets. He had only lived here for six years. He designed and decorated his house by himself and it is located in Rumelihisarı.

Many workers took part in the construction process. In the museum, Fikret's paintings can be found. The building has been the property of İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality since 1964 and now is used as a museum. Poet's grave is also here.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: BEKİR KÖŞKER

“I don’t wait for any help from anyone,
I fly within my own sky,
For me surrendering is heavier than captivity,
I am a poet with my free thoughts, wisdom and heart.”





BEŞİKTAŞ MUNICIPALITY AND DISTRICT GOVERNORSHIP

The headquarters of French Occupation Forces known as Kleber barracks during occupation years were opened publicly after the proclamation of the republic. It had been served as Beşiktaş Municipality and Beşiktaş Registry Office for a long period.

In the middle of 2000s, main sections of the municipality were moved to Levent. Today, some of the directorship of the municipality and Beşiktaş District Governorship serve here, in this historical building.



2

DIVINE

Throughout the history, Beşiktaş's seaside quarters hosted Greeks, Armenians and Hebrews. After the Conquest of Constantinople, it became home for Muslim Turks. Today, three main religions live together in the borders of Beşiktaş with its various architectural style.





GRAND MECİDİYE MOSQUE

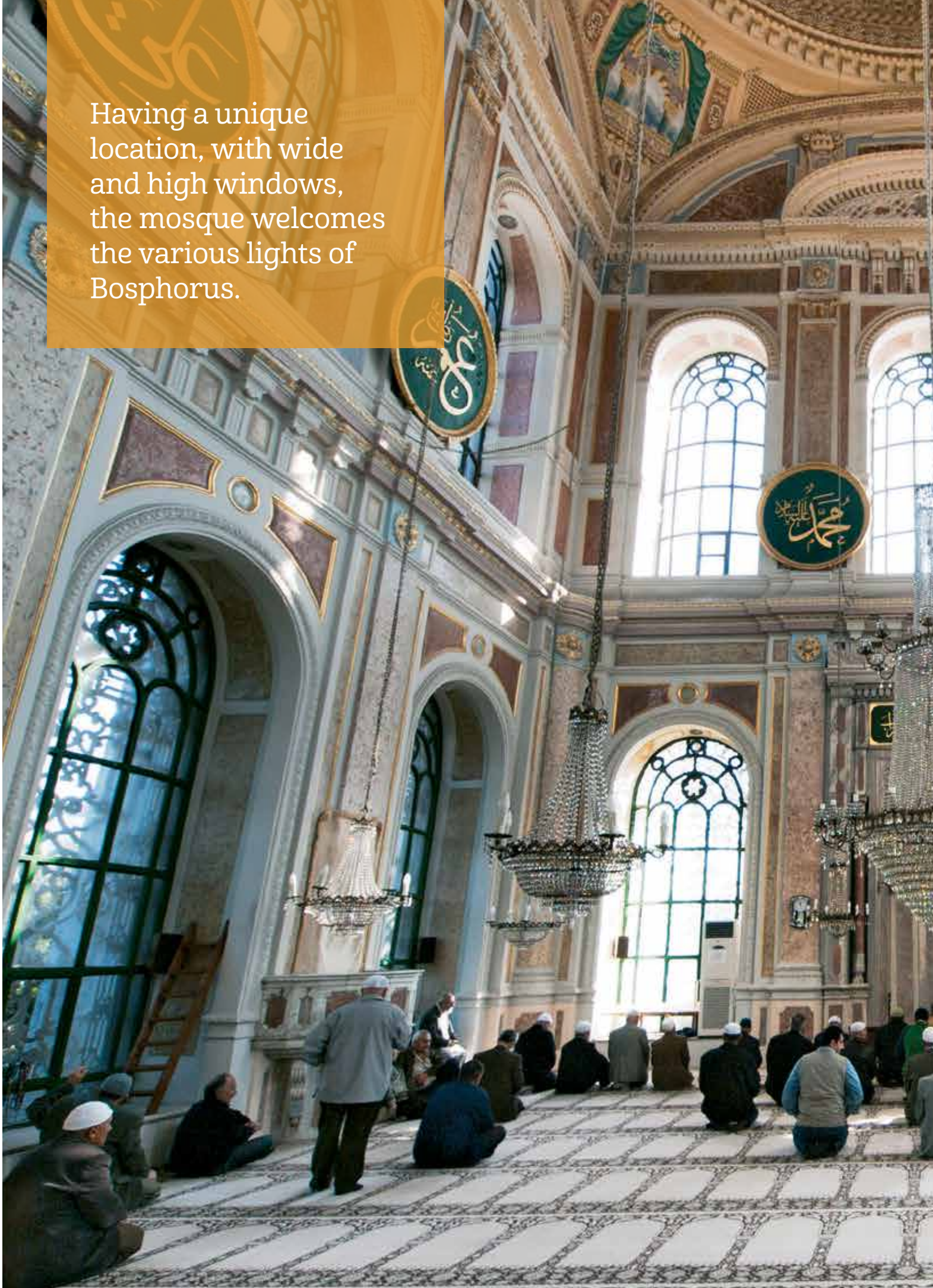
It is also known as Ortaköy Camii. Sultan Abdulmecid had it built in 1853 to Nigoğos Baylan. It survived many different situations throughout its history.

In 1894, during an earthquake it was seriously damaged and its minarets were repaired. Before the earthquake, it was repaired in 1862, 1866 and later in 1907. Its foundation is not that strong because it was constructed on Ortaköy Stream and because of its being a serious problem, in 1960s the mosque was repaired extensively.

It was fixed to the ground by piling and with 80 tons of cement, walls were carved and putrels were fixed to the walls. The dome was also repaired by constructing two thin reinforced concrete shells. But unfortunately, the mosque burnt in 1984 and was repaired again. At last, in 2013 it was restored and repaired from top to the bottom.

With its marvellous placement, Büyük Mecidiye Camii symbolizes the Ottoman Empire's imperial glory.

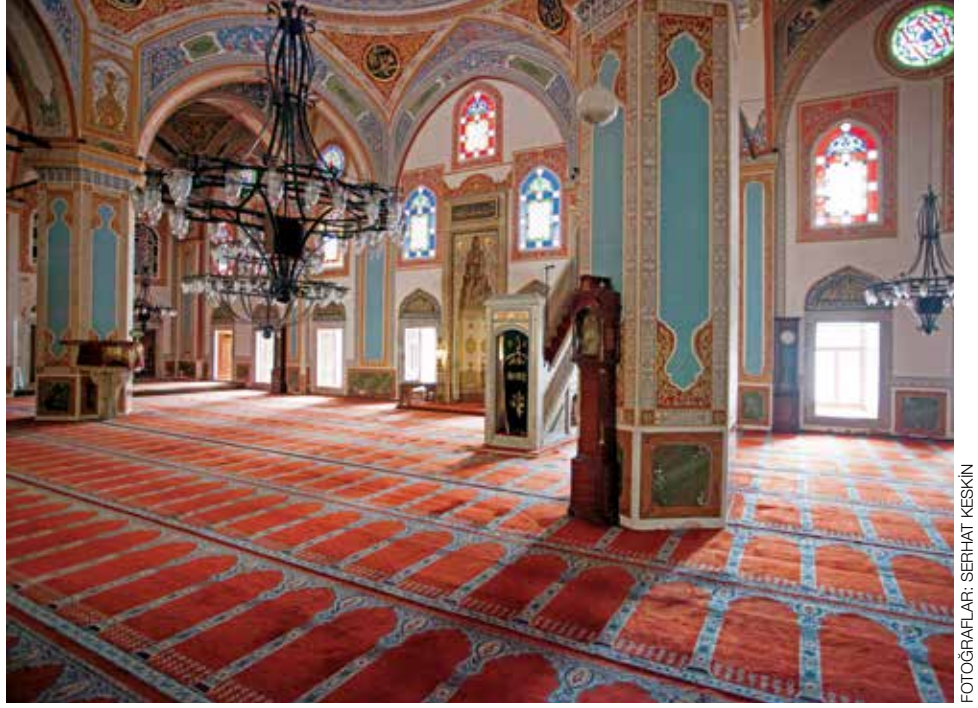
Having a unique location, with wide and high windows, the mosque welcomes the various lights of Bosphorus.







There are three mosques of captains in İstanbul: Kılıç Ali Pasha Mosque in Tophane, Piyale Pasha Mosque in Kasımpaşa and Sinan Pasha Mosque in Beşiktaş. All three was built by Mimar Sinan.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: SERHAT KESKİN

SİNAN PASHA MOSQUE

Designed by Mimar Sinan this mosque is one of the three chief admiral mosques of Istanbul. With its addition, the visage of Besiktas has been changed permanently, and Ottoman Navy began setting sail from Besiktas. After the friday prayer in Sinan Pasha Mosque, Kaptan Pasha's mausoleum will be visited and finally the naval campaign will be readied.

Also, this tradition continued in the Republic Era. In 1944 two famous sculptors, Ali Hadi Bara and Zühtü Müridoğlu designed and sculpted the statue of Barbaros Hayrettin Pasha, the statue's placed in Besiktas and the square renamed as Barbaros Hayrettin Pasha Square. At the beginning of 1960 the old Besiktas Tax Office which's located next to the square, recommissioned as the Sea Museum. Every 1st of July Denizcilik ve Kabotaj Bayramı is celebrated in Barbaros Square which's surrounded by naval buildings and Bosphorus.

One of the most important events Barbaros Square and Sinan Pasha Mosque witnessed happened in 16 May 1919. Mustafa Kemal was appointed with "yaveri ekrem" duty to Sultan Vahideddin's friday divine service parade regiment. Mustafa Kemal met the Sultan in sultan's gathering-place for the last time.

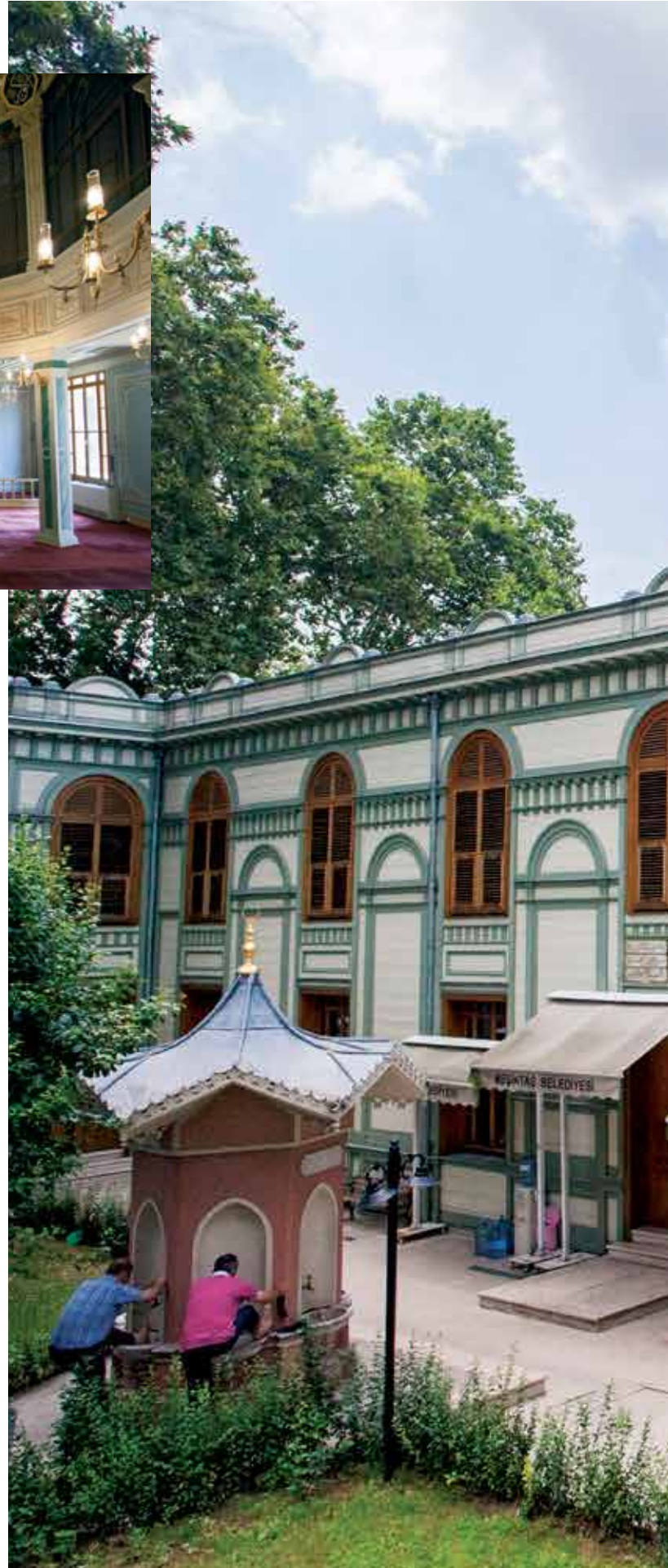


ERTUĞRUL ISLAMIC MONASTERY

This islamic monastery was established in 1887 by II. Abdulhamid, for the founder of Şazeli Cult's Medeni Sect, Sheik Hamza Zafir Efendi.

The name of this mosque-islamic monastery building comes from the Ottoman Principality's founder Osman Ghazi's father. In 1905-1906 a mausoleum, a library and a fountain were added to the building which contained a mosque, men's section, a harem and a guesthouse in the beginning. These new sections were designed by the Italian architect d'Aronco.

The minaret was added before 1905. The cages covering the areas between the pillars in the second level were said to be made by II. Abdülhamit who's also famed with his carpentry. Especially ceiling and wall decorations inside the sultan's office are of remarkable quality.







GÖKHAN TAN

TUNUSLU SHEIK ZARİFİ TOMB

This mausoleum is designed by the Italian architect Raimondo d'Aronco and is located in the courtyard of Ertuğrul Tekkesi. The sarcophagi of Shaik Zafiri and his three siblings are residing inside the mausoleum. The decorations inside the mausoleum are made by the palace painters.



SERHAT KESKİN

TEZKİRECİ OSMAN EFENDİ MOSQUE

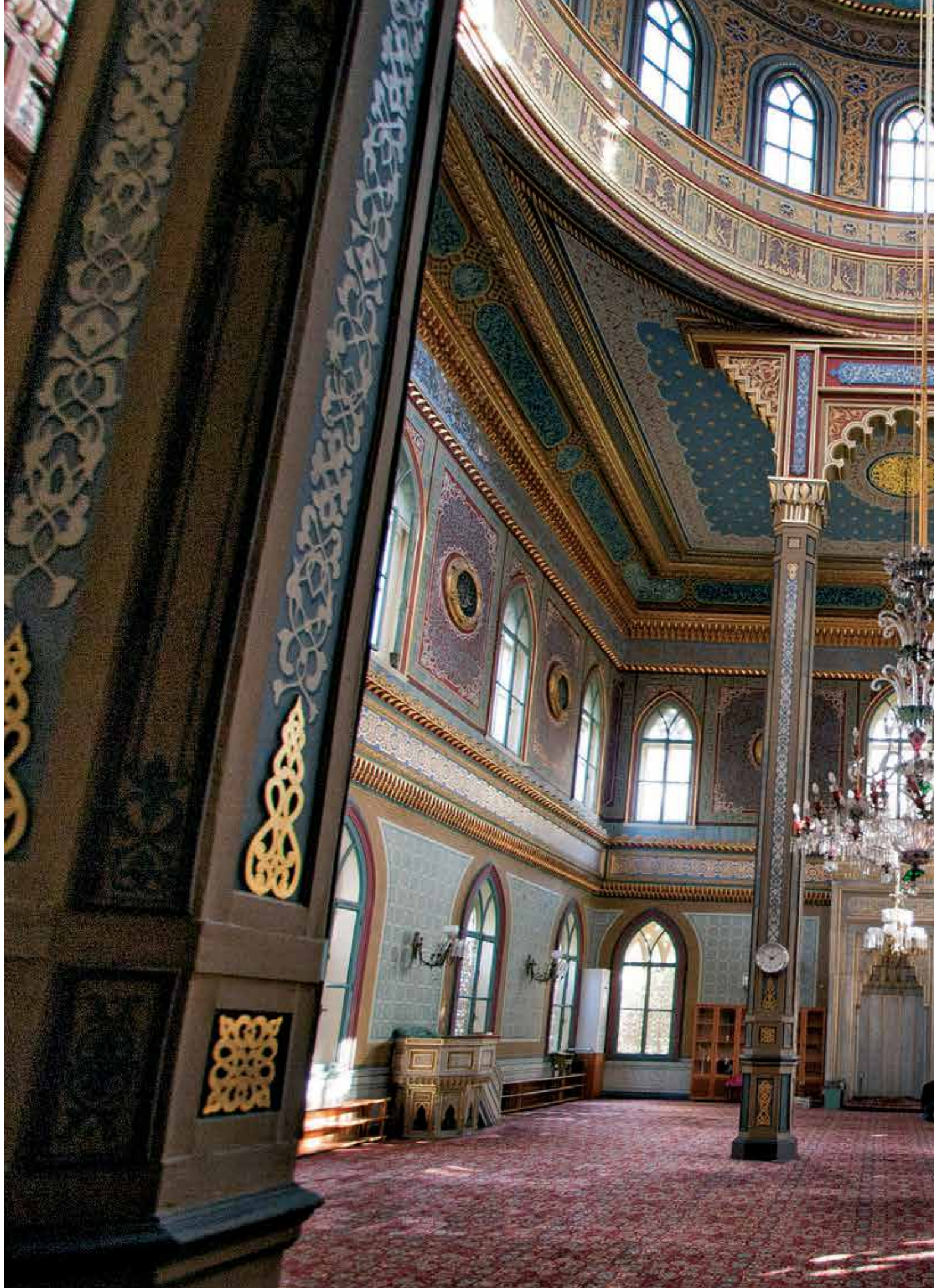
This 18th century constructed mosque is founded by Osman Efendi who was the biography collector of I.Mahmud. Under the mosque there are shops and a fountain.



GÖKHAN TAN

KÜÇÜK MECİDİYE MOSQUE

This mosque located at the entrance path of Yıldız Park was constructed by Garabet Amira Balyan in 1848 on I. Abdülmecid's order. The most important design feature of Küçük Mecidiye Mosque is that there isn't a narthex which acts as a gateway between the open and closed areas.



The image captures the interior of the Yıldız Mosque, showcasing its exceptional architectural details. The space is characterized by a high, vaulted ceiling adorned with intricate blue and gold patterns. The walls are embellished with colorful frescoes and geometric motifs. Large, arched windows allow natural light to filter into the space, highlighting the rich red carpet. In the foreground, a large, dark wooden pillar is decorated with elaborate golden carvings. Several people are seen in the background, some standing and others kneeling in prayer, emphasizing the mosque's function as a place of worship.

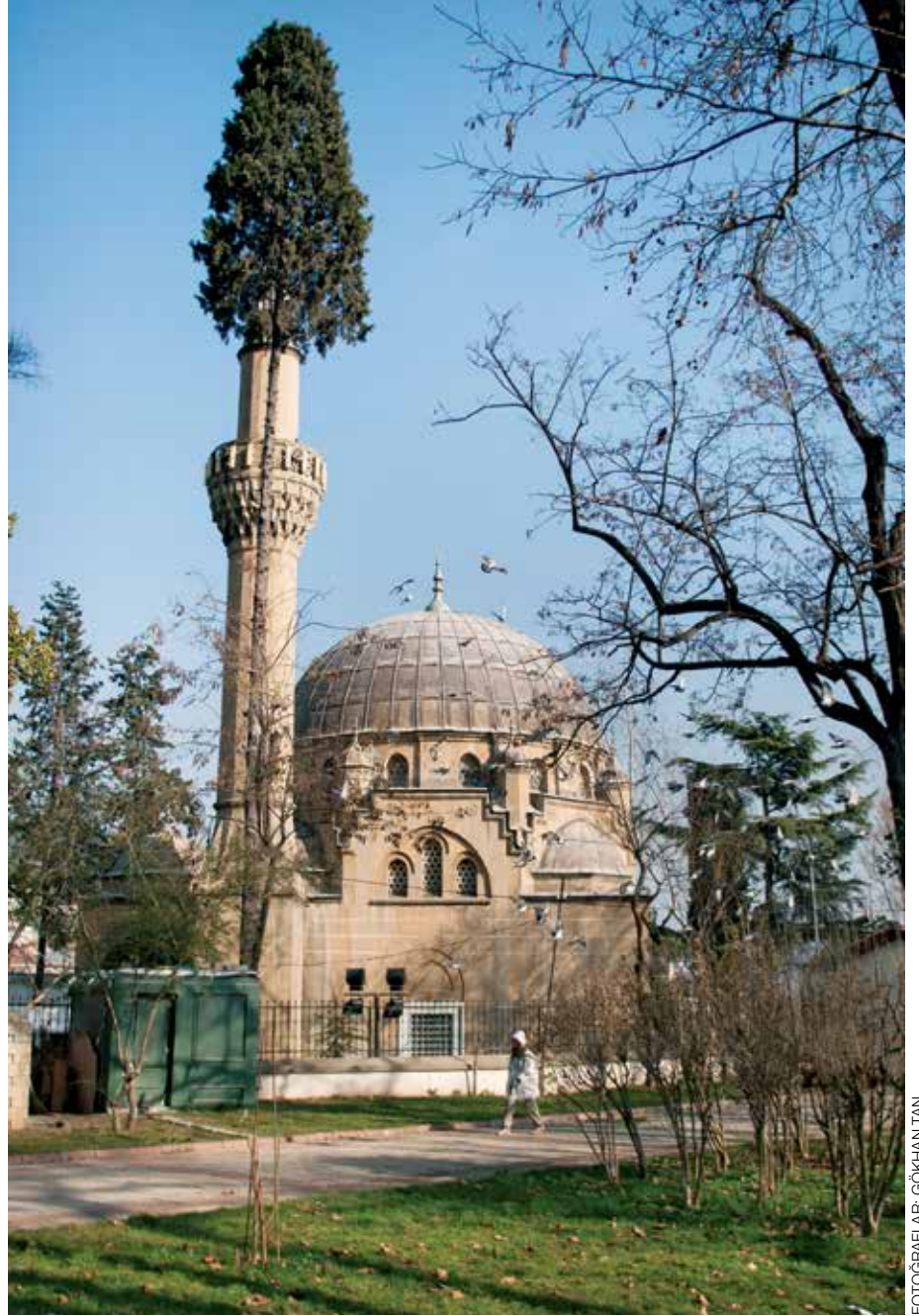
Yıldız Mosque resembles a palace with its architecture, also with its internal decorations this image is emphasized. This mosque has a unique decoration style which's unseen in other mosques.



YILDIZ HAMİDİYE MOSQUE

Even though originally named as Hamidiye Mosque, this mosque is known as Yıldız Mosque. It's construction is ordered by II. Abdulhamid in 1885-86. II. Abdulhamid who moved his throne to Yıldız Palace didn't prefer to go to distant mosques for important religious days such as friday divine service and holidays, for this reason he ordered the construction of this mosque next to the palace.

With its design and architecture there's no equal in the last Ottoman era architecture. In its design the image of palace is emphasized. Also, the interior design of the mosque is decorated so richly in a fashion no other mosque has been. The upper floor of the Sultan's Estate which's reserved to II. Abdulhamid is decorated with golden foils, multi-coloured and a very sophisticated oriental decorations which creates the atmosphere of a palace.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: GÖKHAN TAN

BEBEK MOSQUE

It was constructed by the Architect Kemaleddin Bey in 1913. Before this mosque, in the same place there was an old mosque constructed by Grand Vizier Damat İbrahim Pasha between the years of 1725-26. The mosque reflects all of the features of the First National Architectural Style led by Architect Kemaleddin and Vedat Tek.



“People deceive the fake ornament of the world and play with it’s green leaves, the language becomes a poor little boy and plays with Beşiktaş’s soul.”



FOTOĞRAFLAR: SERHAT KESKİN

YAHYA EFENDİ ISLAMIC MONASTERY

This monastery is located at Çırağan, Yıldız Quarter and was established by Şeyh Yahya Efendi from Beşiktaş in 1538. Yahya Efendi bought the area with his own means and then the area was united with Yıldız and Çırağan Palace and there he established there madrasas, turkish bath, fountains, various houses and the first mosque as a social complex and surrounded it with gardens and flowers.

Later, this first small mosque was transformed into a mosque with the contribution of Velizade Ahmed Efendi. After the death of Yahya Efendi, Selim II had a mausoleum built to Mimar Sinan on Yahya Efendi's grave and renovated the monastery.

In 150 years, many buildings were built and the monastery started to look like a quarter itself. In 1812, the monastery was repaired, redecorated and widened by Mahmud II by adding dervish cubby-holes. The monastery took its current shape in 1873, by Abdulaziz's mother Pertevniyal Valide Sultan's repair. Later, a library was added (later on the books were moved to Sülemaniye Library) and Şehzadeler Mausoleum was built, in the mausoleum there are graves of many members of Sultan's family. It was served as a mosque after the closure of the monasteries.

The respect of other people has continued even after his death and there are many other graves there. After the second half of the 16th century, many politicians, ulamas, members of sultan's family was buried there. This monastery is still one of the most visited places in İstanbul.

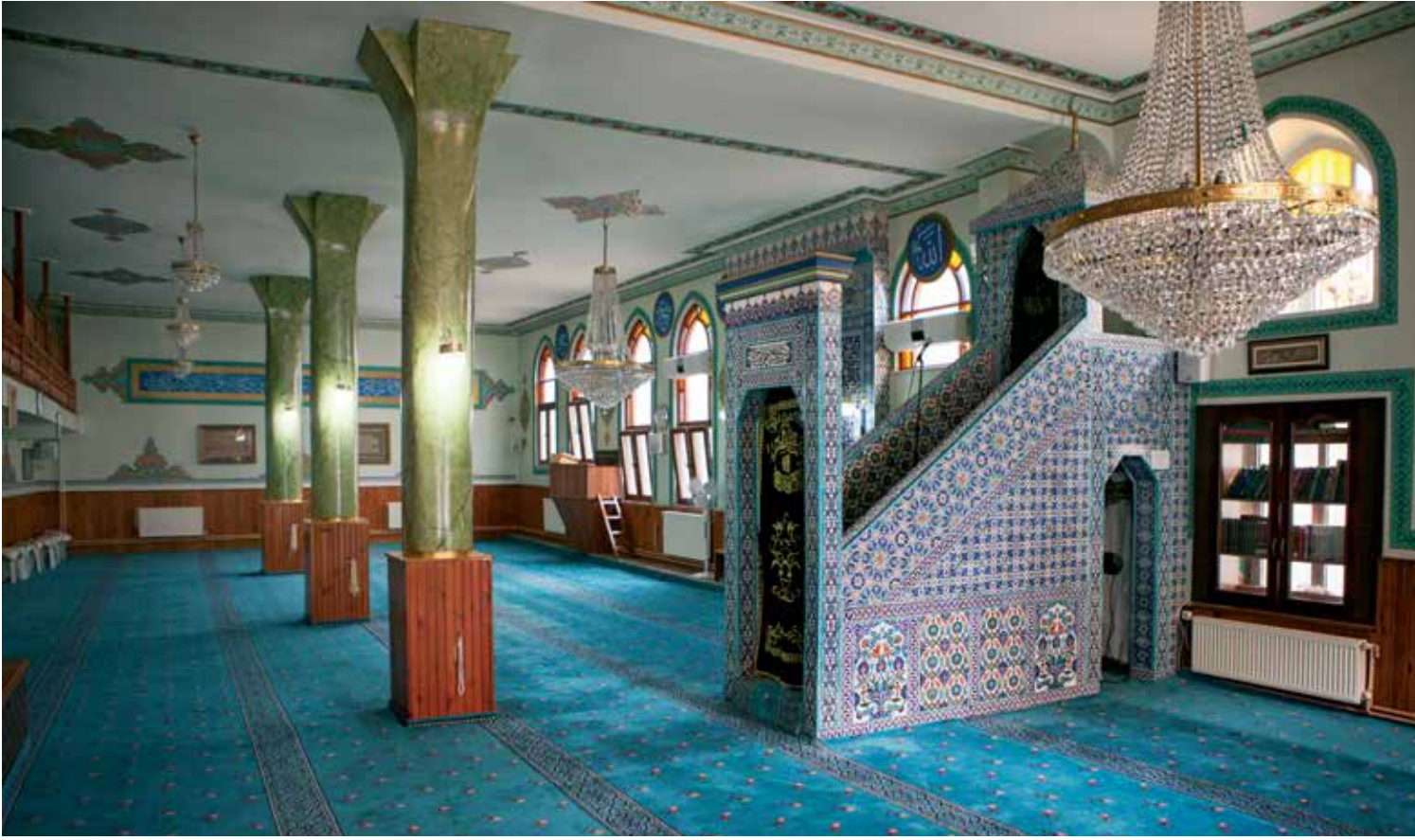


ASARIYE MOSQUE

The founder of the mosque is Captain Kılıç Ali Pasha. But then Kılıç Ali Pasha Pier Mosque was destroyed and moved, then reconstructed by Damat İbrahim Pasha from Nevşehir (1718-30).

It took its ultimate shape during the Mahmud II era (1808-39). Its walls are stone and domes are wooden. We can see the effects of westernization in this mosque. With its rounded sanctuary, its plan is rare in İstanbul.





TUZBABA MOSQUE

Türkali quarter at which the mosque is located is the first habitation in Beşiktaş during the era of Fatih Sultan Mehmed (1451-81). This mosque is one of the Turkish buildings here. Its founder is Rum Ali Ağa.

The mosque is also known as Rum Ali mosque or Uzuncaova mosque. It was constructed on a lamping area and on a platform. Its ceiling is wooden and it is a masonry structure. Its original part is the small one square-planned.

The wider part is the curtilage of the old building and recently it has been added to the sanctuary. Its main mihrab is a simple niche rounded belted. Covered with tile, the main mihrab, pulpit and preaching stand are new. Its renewed minaret is wooden.



DEFTERDAR İBRAHİM PASHA MOSQUE

Located in Ortaköy, Defterdarburnu, this mosque belongs to 17th century. It is also known as İhmal Pasha Mosque or Defterdarburnu Mosque. The mosque was repaired during the era of Mahmud II (1808-39) and Abdulhamid (1876-1909). It was repaired last in 1941. Its pulpit, lectern and ceiling are wooden. Its octagon-shaped is adorned with floral details.

TEVFİKİYE MOSQUE

It is located in Arnavutköy, Akıntıburnu. Its construction started at 1832 and according to some resources, the construction didn't end until 1838. Its roof is wooden and walls are made of stone. Its pulpit and gathering place are also wooden. Its minaret was constructed from face stone and it has one balcony (on the right).





AYIOS DIMITRIOS CHURCH

Ayios Dimitrios Church was rebuilt in masonry work at the time of Selim III. The church gained particular importance in the early 19th century, when the university of the Eastern Orthodox Community and clergy school was opened in Kuruçeşme. However, these institutions were moved in the middle of the same century.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: GÖKHAN TAN

AYIOS DIMITRIOS HOLY SPRING

Ayios Dimitrios Church is also famous for its holy spring, which dates back to the Byzantines, and which is known as an empire structure. Adjacent to the church, the water tank of the holy spring houses Saint Dimitrios' icon, dating back to the period of Byzantines (Above). To reach the main holy spring, you have to pass through this prayer hall. Water can be found in a cave, which is 40 meters in height and 1.20 meters in width. The water is believed to be good for women's breast and breastfeeding diseases.





FOTOGRAFLAR: İZZET KERİBAR

SYNAGOGUE OF ETZ HA-HAYIM

There was a synagogue of the same name before in Ortaköy, whose population was mostly composed of Jews in the 17th century. The structure suffered from famous fires of Istanbul.

It was considerably damaged by the fire in 1703 and then reconstructed. After having become unserviceable during the fire of 1813, it was restored again in 1825. The fire of 1914, on the other hand, destroyed all of it but a still-standing ehal (a closet containing parchment manuscript copies of Torah). The current synagogue was used to be the madrasa area



TAKSIARHIS CHURCH

Having given its name to the church, Taksiarhes describes the two archangels of Christian iconography, Gabriel and Michael.

Built in the 4th century, the church was rebuilt in the 6th century. The columns of this church were used in the construction of the Rumelian Fortress in 1452. There was always a church at the same location; the current structure, on the other hand, was built under the patronage of Muzurus Pasha in 1899. The tomb is located in the naps of the church.







ORTAKÖY SURP ASDVADZADZIN ARMENIAN CHURCH

The architecture of the church, which was dedicated to Mother Mary and opened to worship in 1824, is Senekerim Balyan. The church was renovated in 1835, 1843, 1912 and finally in 1964. There was a small Armenian wooden church at the same location and it was restored in 1725.

However, as it fell into decay and was not large enough to hold Armenian community, which started to increase in Ortaköy in the last half of the 17th century, the current church was constructed. A manuscript of the Bible is one of the most valuable treasures of the church.

BEŞİKTAŞ SURP ASDVADZADZIN ARMENIAN CHURCH

It was built by the architect of the palace, Garabed Sarkis, in 1838. Sarkis Balyan supported financially the construction of the church. While it has a plain appearance, the columns composing the altar were decorated with gold-leaf.

The paintings depicting Mother Mary, Jesus Christ, saints and the writers of the canonical gospels were produced by the palace artist, Umed Beyzad. Asdvadzadzin Church was built on the same location of an older church, which was thought to be built between 1661-1684 (on the left).



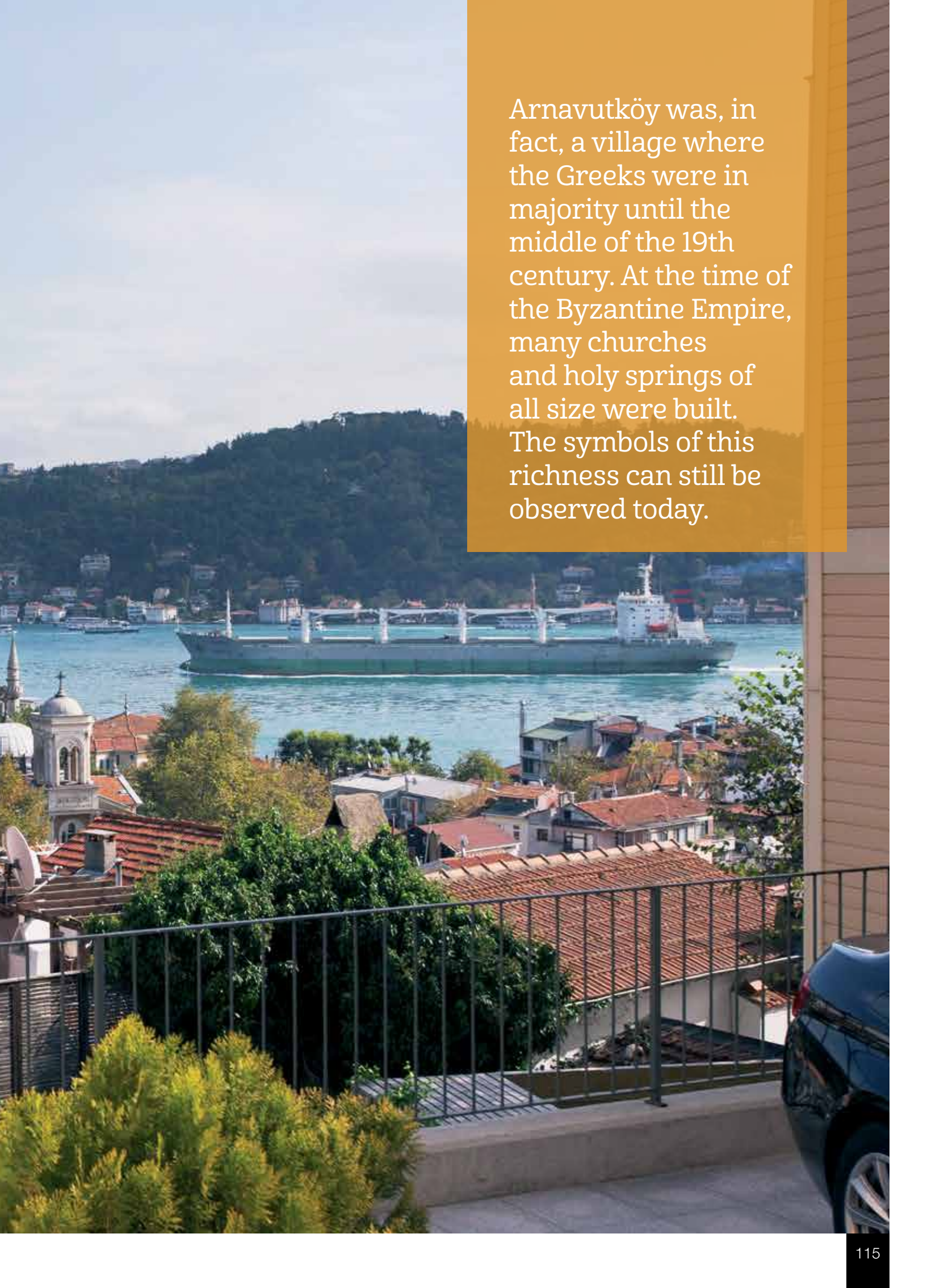


YEREVMAN SURP HAÇ CHURCH

The church was built during the second office of the patriarch Zakaria II from Kağızman (1782-1799). The patriarch Zakaria himself blessed the church and opened it to worship. During the Kuruçeşme fire in 1919, two gates of the church were completely destroyed and its roof was partly gutted.

It was then renovated but it underwent its major renovations in 1975 and 1988. With its symmetrical appearance, Yereman Surp Haç Church is different from classical Armenian architecture. The most striking and ancient component of the church is its decoration and carved wooden altar.





Arnavutköy was, in fact, a village where the Greeks were in majority until the middle of the 19th century. At the time of the Byzantine Empire, many churches and holy springs of all size were built. The symbols of this richness can still be observed today.





3

BLUE

Beşiktaş enjoys the Bosphorus, which constitutes the south and south-east border of the district and which is one of the most special settlements in the world. Dolmabahçe, Çırağan, Kuruçeşme, Arnavutköy and Bebek are the quarters of the province, which overlook the blue.



Author and writer Abdulhak Sinasi Hisar narrates the relation between an Istanbulites and Bosphorus as “A shore was seeming like a garden to the opposing shore. Ferries were passing by just like the chorus of a song every once in a while. As these ferries were coming and going to Istanbul, with its conversing passengers who were watching these shores and waters, were like halls just to observe Bosphorus and for the residents of Bosphorus to meet one another, there were ferries traversing.”

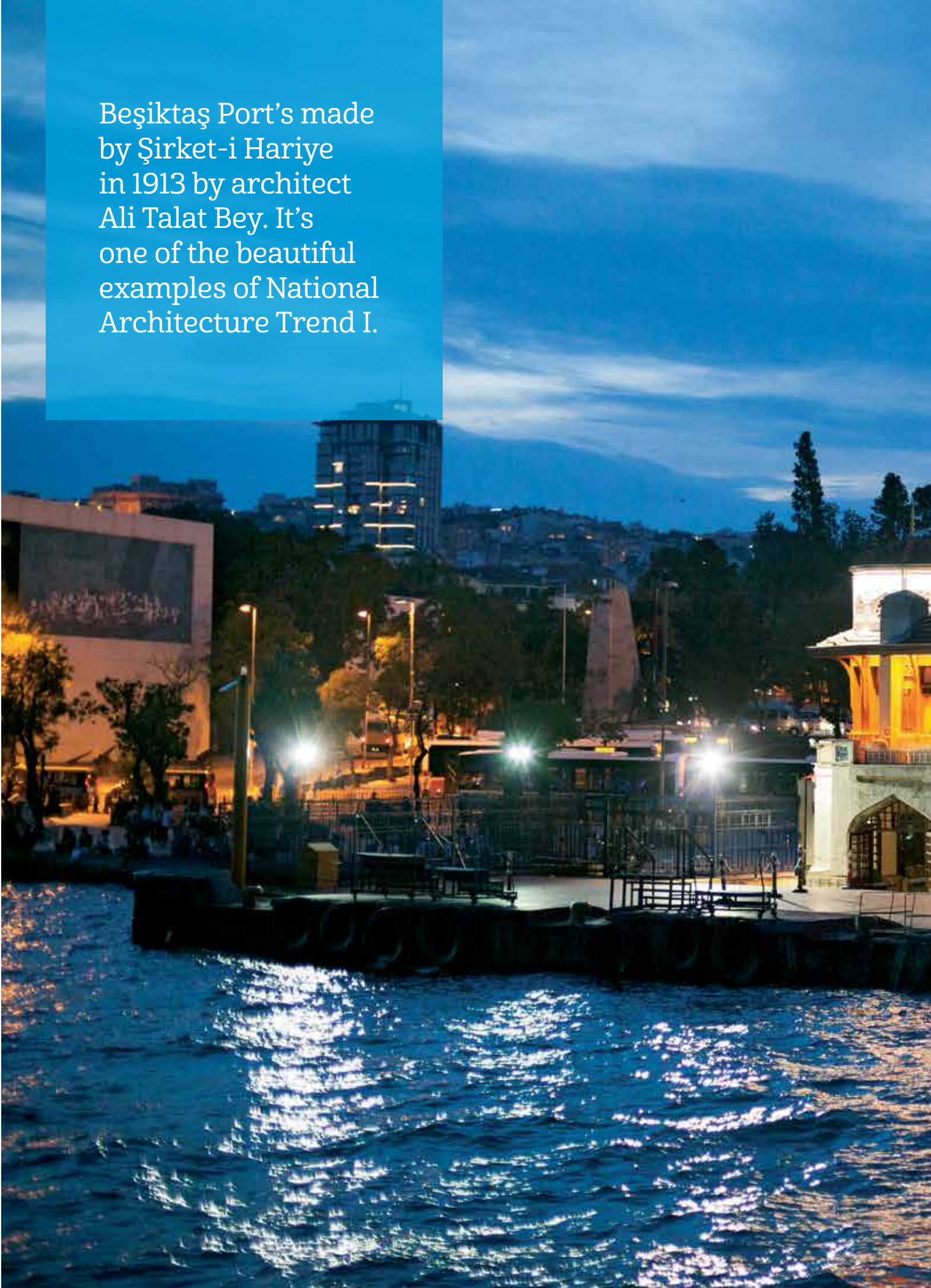
Abdulhak Sinasi's Istanbul, who's born in a waterside residence, left its place to a city that lives under the shadows of skyscrapers. Probably the most visual heritage left in Bosphorus which resembles the last century is the cityline ferries. Although Beşiktaş still has the privilege of being one of the five districts neighbouring Bosphorus. With the

races taking place between April and September, Istanbul hosts worlds most famous sailors. Amongst these races Bosphorus witnessed, race organisations such as Naval Forces Cup which has the Turkey's longest course, Admiral Cup, Bosphorus Sailing Fest and Bosphorus Cup which are specific to Istanbul are worth to mention. The common feature of these organisations, in which boats of various sizes participate, is that they liven up the shores of Beşiktaş.

Extreme Sailing Series in which catamaran class ships are participating, a top-tier race beginning in February in Singapore and ending in December in Australia is keeping Istanbul in its program for the last 3 years. 2014's race Istanbul course started on 13 September with 12 vessels from Beşiktaş shores.



Beşiktaş Port's made
by Şirket-i Hariye
in 1913 by architect
Ali Talat Bey. It's
one of the beautiful
examples of National
Architecture Trend I.



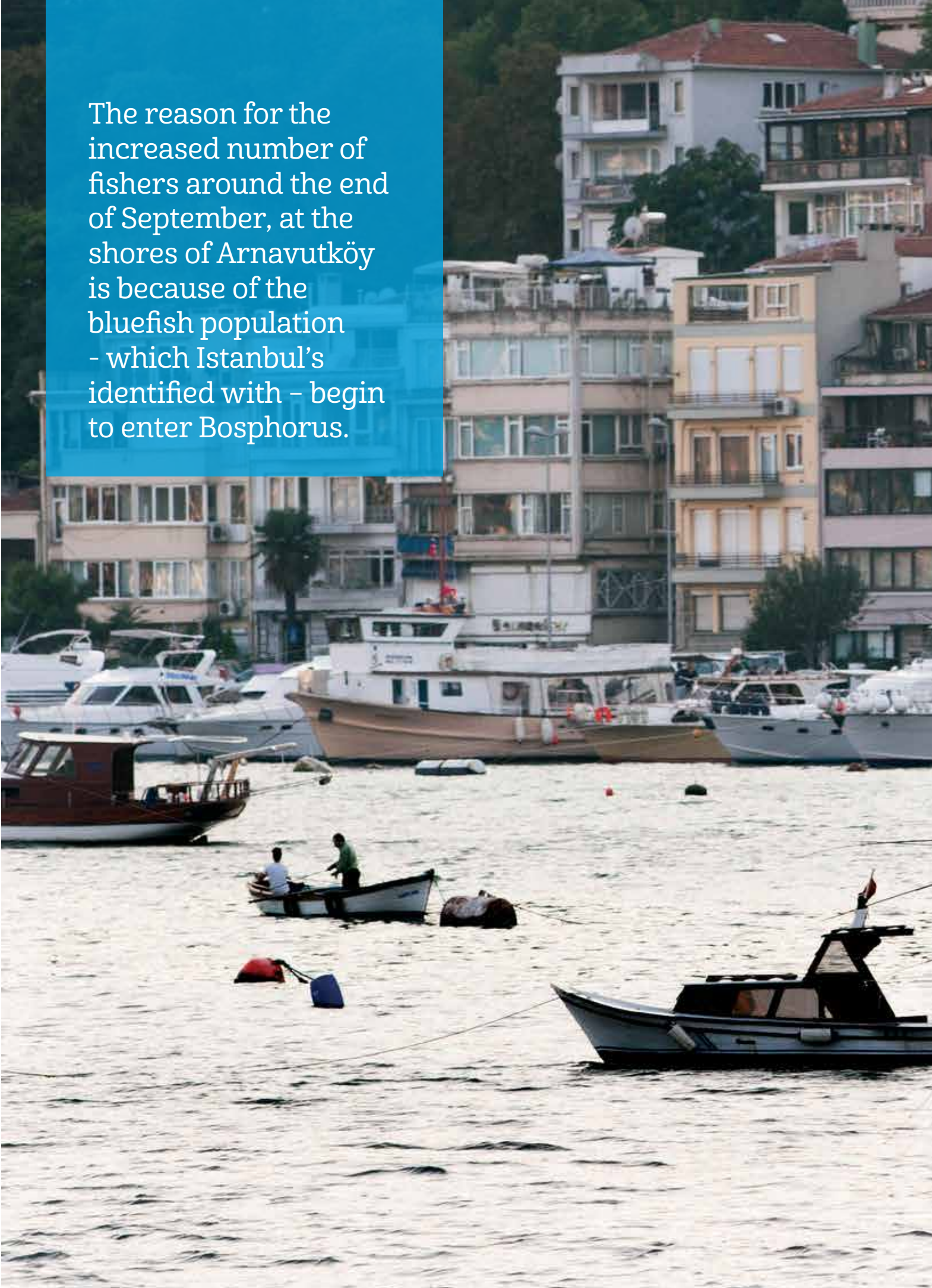






Participants of all ages who're starting to swim from Anatolian shores are swimming to Beşiktaş. The 6.5 km length course between Kanlıca-Kurucesme is the racetrack of Bosphorus Intercontinental Swimming Race since 1989 organized by Turkey National Olympics Committee.

The reason for the increased number of fishers around the end of September, at the shores of Arnavutköy is because of the bluefish population - which Istanbul's identified with - begin to enter Bosphorus.







SEHA TİRKSKIN



SINAN ÇAKIRMAK





SEASHORE

The life in Beşiktaş is above the sea. Bebek Cafe (upper left) is one of the most popular places in Bosphorus. Bebek Park is one of the locations for good-weather festivities (bottom left).

Also Ortaköy Square is very crowded especially on the weekends. Not just the places at the shore, but also with the cafes and bars in the side streets going to the main square which preserved its historical look, it's one of the essential locations for Istanbulites.



BEBEK BAY

Bebek was a small fishers town until the early years of republic. The Byzantine influence had ended before Ottoman's conquest of Istanbul. Fatih the Conquerer had ordered the construction of Rumeli Fortress right afterwards. According to Evliya Çelebi, Fatih had appointed someone named or nicknamed Bebek Çelebi to keep the order while the fort was still being built. This is believed to be the origin of the name of the place. Bebek's becoming a district reaches to III.

Ahmed era in Tulip Era. Until the mid 19. century many waterside palaces and estates were built or the high ranking officials. But later on Bebek stopped being a summer place with the beginning of ferry and tram lines. Even though Bebek's no longer a place with many waterside estates and palaces, it is still one of the outstanding districts of Istanbul.





GOOD LUCK

Bosphorus is an important passageway not just for ships and people but also for fishes. Migrant fishes like anchovy, bonito and bluefish keep going back and forth between Black Sea and Marmara Sea. These migrating fishes gets even tastier after they go and come back from Black Sea.

Even though it's not possible to see some like swordfishes anymore, Bosphorus still full of fishes today and it's very likely to see groups of men and women at the sides of Bosphorus with their fishing poles. These amateurs fishers are able to catch saurels the most, it's possible to catch them almost 6 months a year in Bosphorus waters. Old fishermen say the best season to catch saurels is the blossom time of redbuds, which's around April.

BONITO TIME

The fish that announces the commercial fish season is usually bonito. Although fish lovers wait more after bonitos are on sale, they wait for their backs to get thicker and fat and their prices to go down.

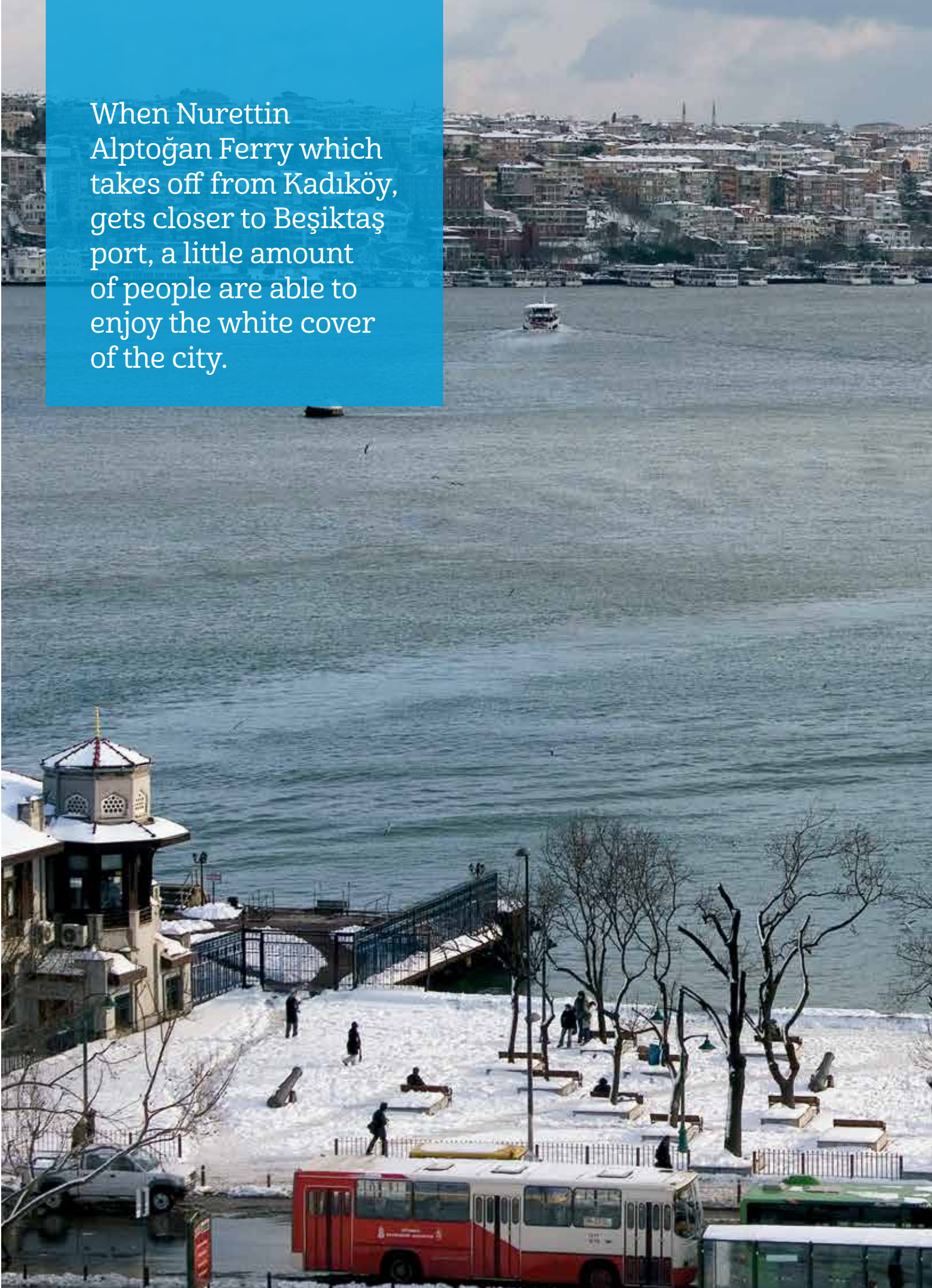


PALAMUT
SÜLE
TAYIN
10

İRİ
LÜFER
BOĞAZ
ALTIN
TAYIN
20

LÜFER
BOĞAZ
ALTIN
TAYIN
20

When Nurettin Alptöğün Ferry which takes off from Kadıköy, gets closer to Beşiktaş port, a little amount of people are able to enjoy the white cover of the city.







FLOW CAPE

The Current Point in Arnavutkoy is one of the most popular fishing spots. This place which had a large population of Greeks, was named Mega Revma, which means “big current” in Greek. This name was given because the strongest current in Bosphorus is located here.

As Abdulkhak Sinasi Hisar relayed too, in the past sailors who came here were getting help from towers who wait here, to deal with the current. When the boats were close, the towers would throwing a rope and then he would shoulder the rope and walk to pull the boat to the shore.



SİNAN ÇAKMAK



SERHAT KESKİN

DOCKS OF BEŞİKTAŞ

In place of Barbaros Hayrettin Pasha Port, which is used by the Cityline Ferries, there was a wooden dock until 1982. The port got renewed in 2005. It was the first example of the design which became the traditional style for the renewal of other ports of Istanbul.

The space between Dolmabahçe Palace's old boathouse's wall and the port was being used by the shore tea houses. When it began being used as Prime Ministry Work Office, the tea houses've been removed (above). Beşiktaş-Üsküdar dock (top)



SAVARONA

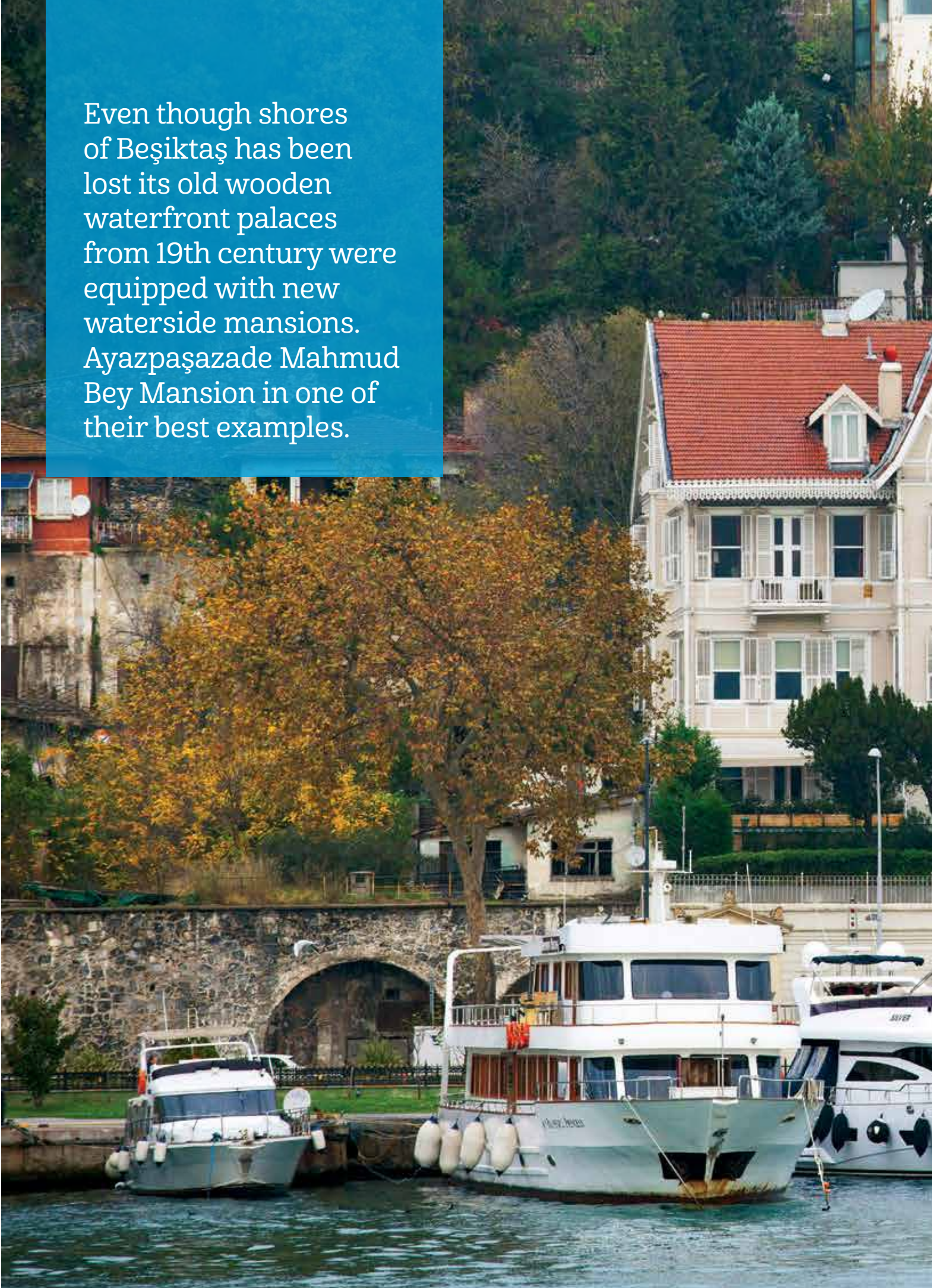
The Savarona yacht, in which Mustafa Kemal Atatürk spent 56 days, is anchored at Kuruçeşme shore. Named after an African swan that lives around the Indian Ocean, Savarona was built in Hamburg shipyard in 1931, for Emily Roebling Cadwallader, the grandson of John Roebling, engineer of the Brooklyn bridge in New York. In its era, it was the biggest and flashiest of its kind with a 124 meter length. It still is one of the longest yachts today. Savarona was bought by the state of the Republic of Turkey in 1938.

During the six week interval of Atatürk's stay, Savarona hosted many events with important guests, members of the cabinet, even heads of

state. It stood stationary in Kanlıca Bay during World War II. It was turned into a drill boat in 1951, and took some damage during a fire in 1979. In 1989, it was rented for 49 years by a businessman and renovated. The original steam engine was replaced by a diesel motor, but the agreement was later terminated. Turkish government took back Savarona and assigned it to the use of president of the republic. The yacht includes a swimming pool, Turkish bath, cinema hall and a library that includes Atatürk's personal belongings. The golden threaded 86-meter-long stairs of the boat are still preserving their originality. Some parts that were replaced during the renovation are being displayed in the Sea Museum.



Even though shores of Beşiktaş has been lost its old wooden waterfront palaces from 19th century were equipped with new waterside mansions. Ayazpaşazade Mahmud Bey Mansion in one of their best examples.







ALAATTIN TİMUR

MABEYNCİ ARİF BEY MANSION

During the Ottoman era Beşiktaş was the extension post along the Bosphorus line. There were plenty of wooden palace and mansion in this beautiful coast. In 19th century, wooden palaces were replaced spectacular stoned palaces and mansions. Mabeynci Arif Bey Mansion is one of them. It is used as an hotel now.



YILANLI YALI (Meaning mansion filled with snakes)

There are two prevailing theories about the history of the mansion, which was built in the late 18th century: It was constructed whether at the time of Abdülhamid I (1774-1789) or Selim III (1789-1808). The first owner of the mansion was Reisülküttab Mustafa Efendi.

The structure was at times renovated and some parts of the mansion, especially the harem, lost their architectural features during these renovations. The Harem, which was bigger one and had more than 40 chambers, was burned in 1964. The Selamlık (quarter reserved only for men), which has survived up to the present day, has preserved its exterior architectural features but the interior was designed in a contemporary style.

The mansion, Yılanlı Yalı was named after a rumor, which spread at the time of Mahmud II. During a promenade, Mahmud saw the mansion and wanted to buy it. Muhasib Said, who was close to the owner of the mansion, deterred the Sultan by saying that the mansion was filled with snakes.







ATİK PASHA MANSION

It is one of the secondary palaces of the Çırağan Palace. For many years, it had been used as a warehouse of İETT (İstanbul Electricity, Tramway and Tunnel Company). In the early 1980s, it was renovated as a State Guest House. Then, it was put out to tender and turned into the Four Seasons Hotel. The façade of the building is original, while its interior was redesigned and rearranged as a hotel.



NAVY MUSEUM

Beşiktaş beach, at which the Ottoman navy used to prepare for expeditions, is the host of the first and the biggest naval museum of Turkey. In the quarter bearing the name of the Chief Admiral Sinan Pasha, the museum neighboring the Barbaros Hayreddin Pasha tomb, is being run by the Turkish Naval Force. The naval museum, establish in 1897 in Kasımpaşa was relocated to Beşiktaş in 1961. Imperial caiques and galley was first displayed in the building which was used by the businessman Nuri Demirağ since 1936 as an airplane workshop (right). In 2009, in the place of this building, the modern museum designed by architects Ertuğ Uçar and Mehmet Kütükçüoğlu was built.

The most striking artifacts the museum, which host a wide collection; from weapons to naval accessories, from navigation instruments to uniforms, are imperial caiques. In the collection of caiques there are in total 34 artifacts.

Besides 14 imperial caiques most of which belong to 19th century, five infantry caiques and three caiques used by Atatürk are also displayed at the new building of the museum which was opening in October 4th, 2013. The galley known to be used during Sultan Mehmed IV (1648-1687) rule, 40 meters long and 5,7 meters wide is particularly significant. This boat holding 144 paddlers, is the only galley having been preserved in its original state. In other words, it is the oldest boat of the world. The ongoing researches show that its construction date might be older than what is known.







The double caique sized 12.5 meters is among the 6 infantry caiques in the Naval Museum collection. The sultan signatures used by the navy and the name plates belonging to war ships are displayed here.






4

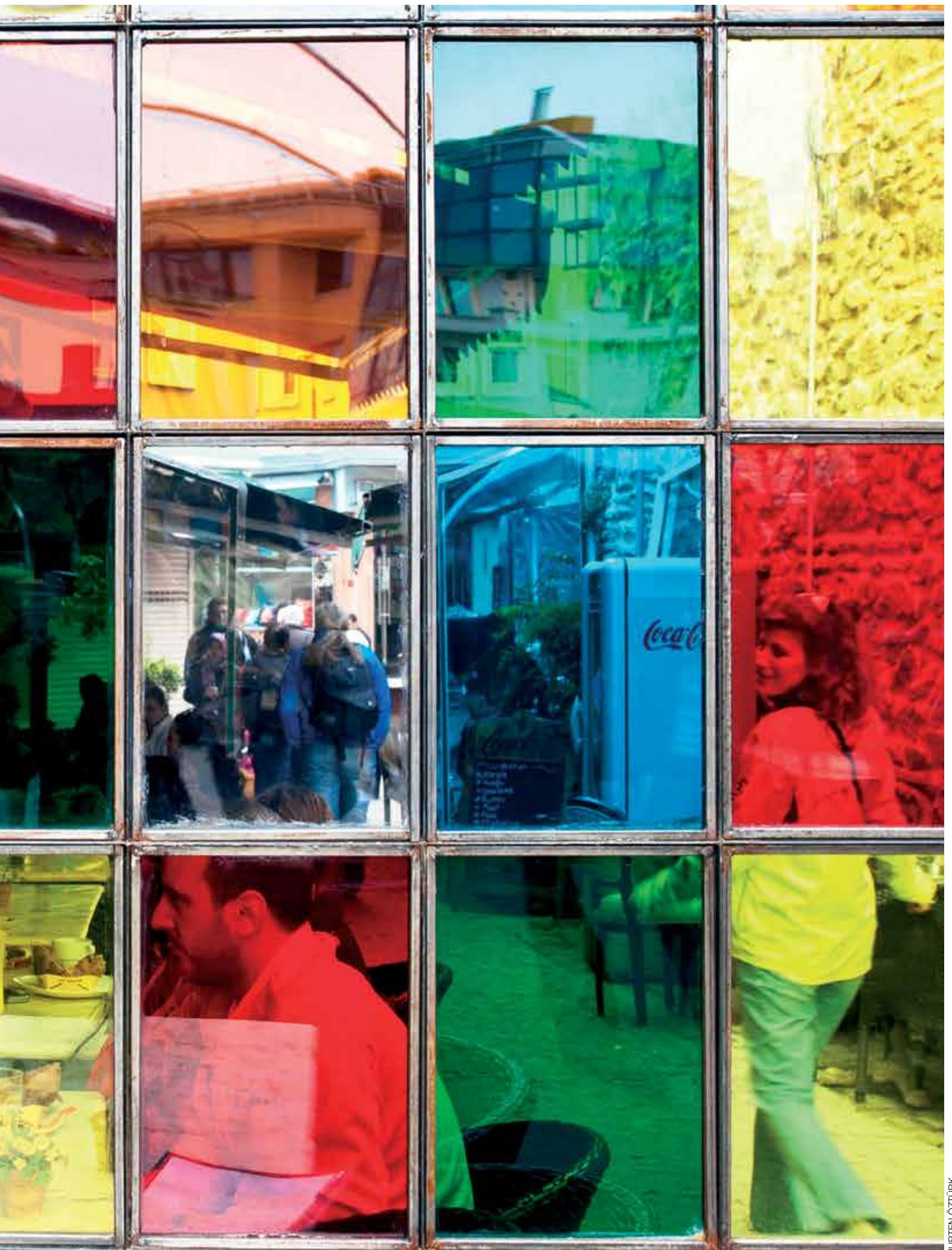


COLORFUL



Beşiktaş boasts a very dynamic social life. Sports, cultural and artistic activities turn this dynamism into an array of colors. National holidays which comprise the cornerstone of the foundation of the Republic, with the attendance of the citizens who possess high awareness, turn into festivals in the real sense.







GÖKHAN TAN


RED AND WHITE BEŞİKTAŞ

In Beşiktaş the national holidays are celebrated with an exceptional passion. In these days, the meeting spots of Beşiktaş residents are obvious, in April 23th Çilekli sports grounds, in May 19th the Mustafa Kemal museum in Akaratler, in August 30th the Mausoleum of İlhan Selçuk and Illuminators of the Republic. These festivals are more important than one another.

Even though the starting date of our War of Independence is May 19th, Beşiktaş residents know that Mustafa Kemal and his brothers in arms sailed to Samsun from Beşiktaş on May 16th 1919. With this awareness, each year between 16 and 19th of May there are "First Step Towards Independence" activities. Each May 16th is celebrated as a birthday for Beşiktaş.







The Republic's 91st
year celebration of
Beşiktaş residents
illuminate the
Barbaros Boulevard
and the future.

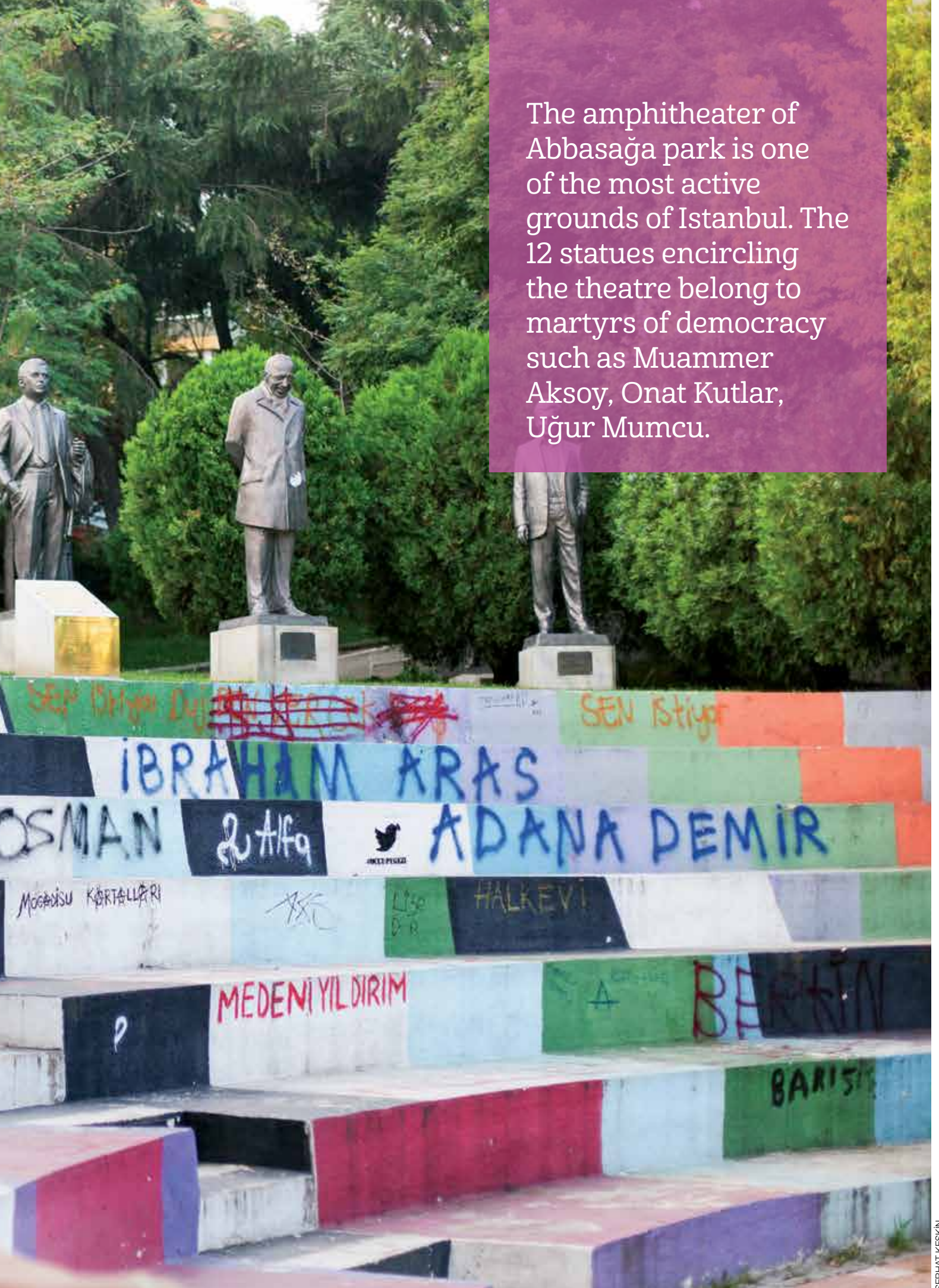


Beşiktaş hosted the biggest photo festivity of Turkey in 2014. During one month, the oeuvres of over 70 artists from 16 countries were met by the public in the streets of Beşiktaş.

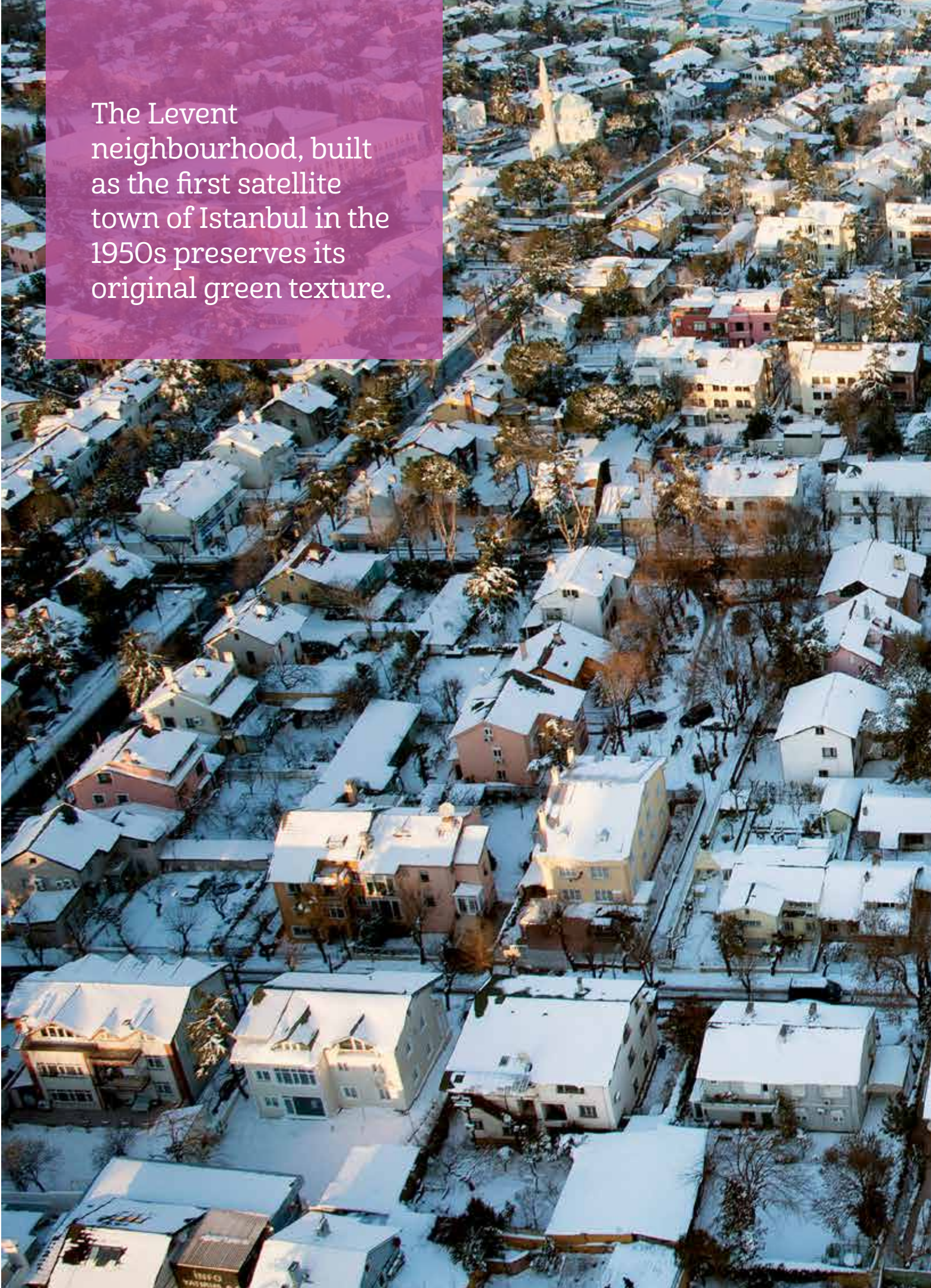




The amphitheater of Abbasağa park is one of the most active grounds of Istanbul. The 12 statues encircling the theatre belong to martyrs of democracy such as Muammer Aksoy, Onat Kutlar, Uğur Mumcu.



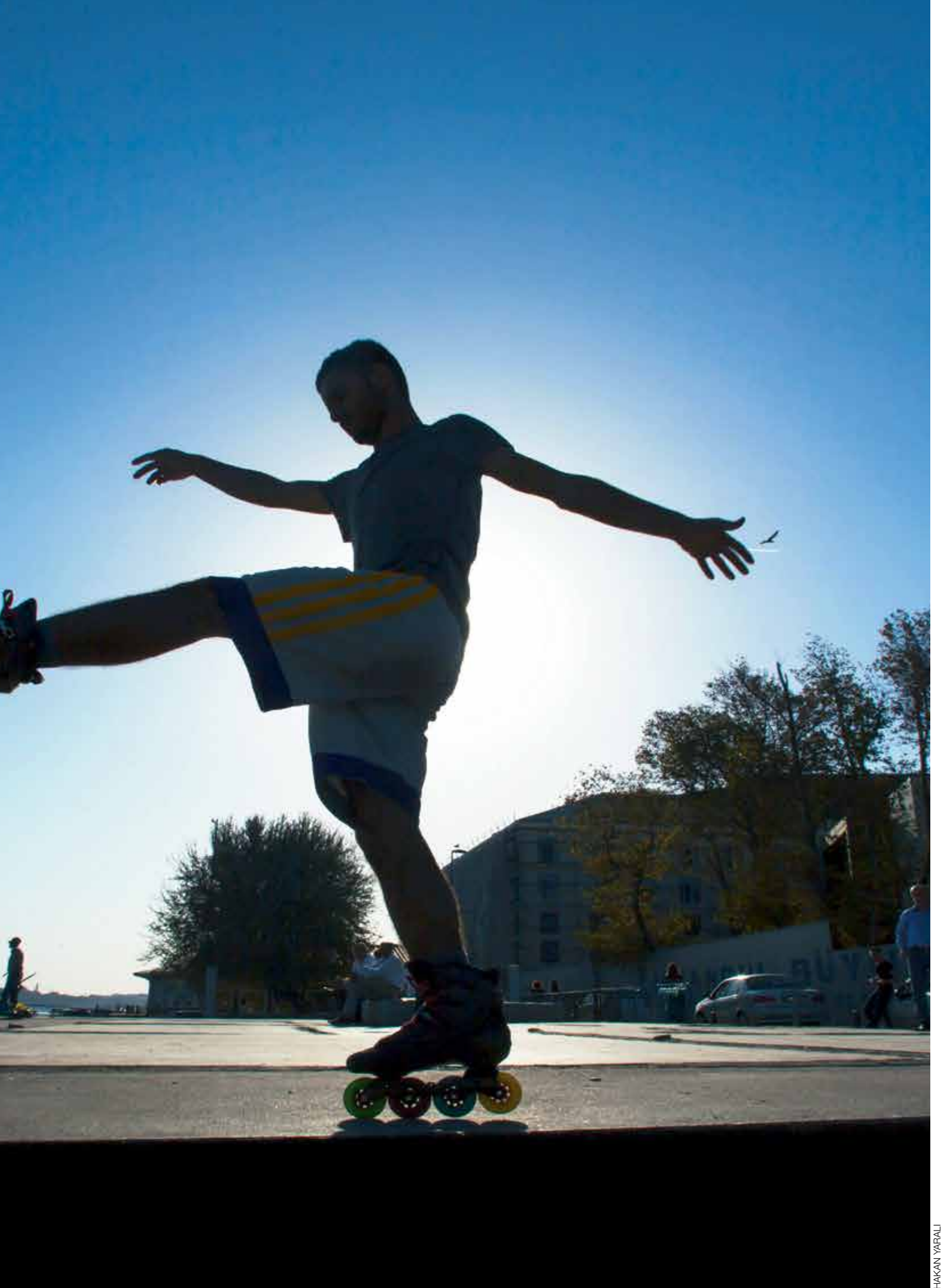
The Levent neighbourhood, built as the first satellite town of Istanbul in the 1950s preserves its original green texture.





The right address to watch the rollerblade and skating expert youth of Beşiktaş is Barbaros Hayreddin Pasha Square.







DEPO PHOTOS



GÖKHAN TAN



YASIN AKGÜL

INTERCONTINENTAL

The European leg of the Bosphorus Bridge connecting Europe and Asia is in Beşiktaş. Since 1979, Intercontinental Eurasia Marathon route continues past across the bridge which put in the service in 1973 and through Beşiktaş. The international feature of this activity is completed in three categories: the marathon, 15 km and public race. People take this opportunity as a fair because of the bridge opens for pedestrian traffic (above).

The European leg of Bosphorus bridge near by Beşiktaş becomes a scene of worldwide famous athletes' performance shows. One of these performances belongs to the most successful golfers of all time, American athlete Tiger Woods. Woods was in Turkey for Turkish Airlines Open tournament, he has carried out 10 strokes from Asian side to European side on 5 November 2013 (above left).

A similar organization was held for tennis in 2005. American athlete Venus Williams who won the Wimbledon racket in same year, made an exhibition match with tennis player İpek Şenoğlu for 13 minutes (bottom left).



MOSAICS OF 4. LEVENT

4. Levent residences was designed by architects Rebiî Gorbon and Kemal Ahmet Aru, 4. Levent residences has held firsts of architectural and artistic embodies, also carries “the first satellite town of the country”. 4. Levent Residences has been protected in ordinance of “urban site” by the Board of Protection of Cultural Heritage because of these features.

When you enter Akçam Avenue through Büyükdere Avenue, you first meet with gigantic wall mural mosaics out of the hands of six contemporary artists of the Republican era 1957... 21 wall mural mosaics made by Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu, Eren Eyüboğlu, Ferruh Başağa, Nurullah Berk, Sabri Berkel ve Ercüment were registered and protected in 2012 with a delayed ordinance.

Beşiktaş Municipality is waiting for the confirmation by the council of conservation for survey-restitution-restoration projects. These works constitute the first examples of art in public space in Istanbul with similar works that found in the Market of Istanbul Textile Traders. The top two images are the works of Bedri Rahmi Eyuboglu, Eren Eyüboğlu's work is on the left bottom.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: CAN KOMAZ





ALAATTİN TİMUR

SCULPTURE CITY

Beşiktaş also rich with art in public space. Sculptor Mehmet Aksoy bearing the signature “İlhan Selcuk and the Creator Enlightenment Republic Monument” is commissioned by Beşiktaş Municipality for the the second anniversary of journalist İlhan Selçuk’s death. The monument is at the beginning of Arnavutköy Ayazma Slope through Ulus (top).

Mehmet Aksoy’s another work of art named as “Two Sides to Nazım Hikmet Cultural Bridge” in the county ,Aksoy’s 70 tons of Afyon gray marble sculpture was placed in memoriam of Nazım Hikmet’s 122th birthday in Akatlar ArtistsPark in 2014 (right).

The sculpture placed in Beşiktaş Bazaar and named as “Eagle Sculpture” designed by sculptor Neslihan Pala, became the most important symbol of the district as soon as possible (on the opposite page).

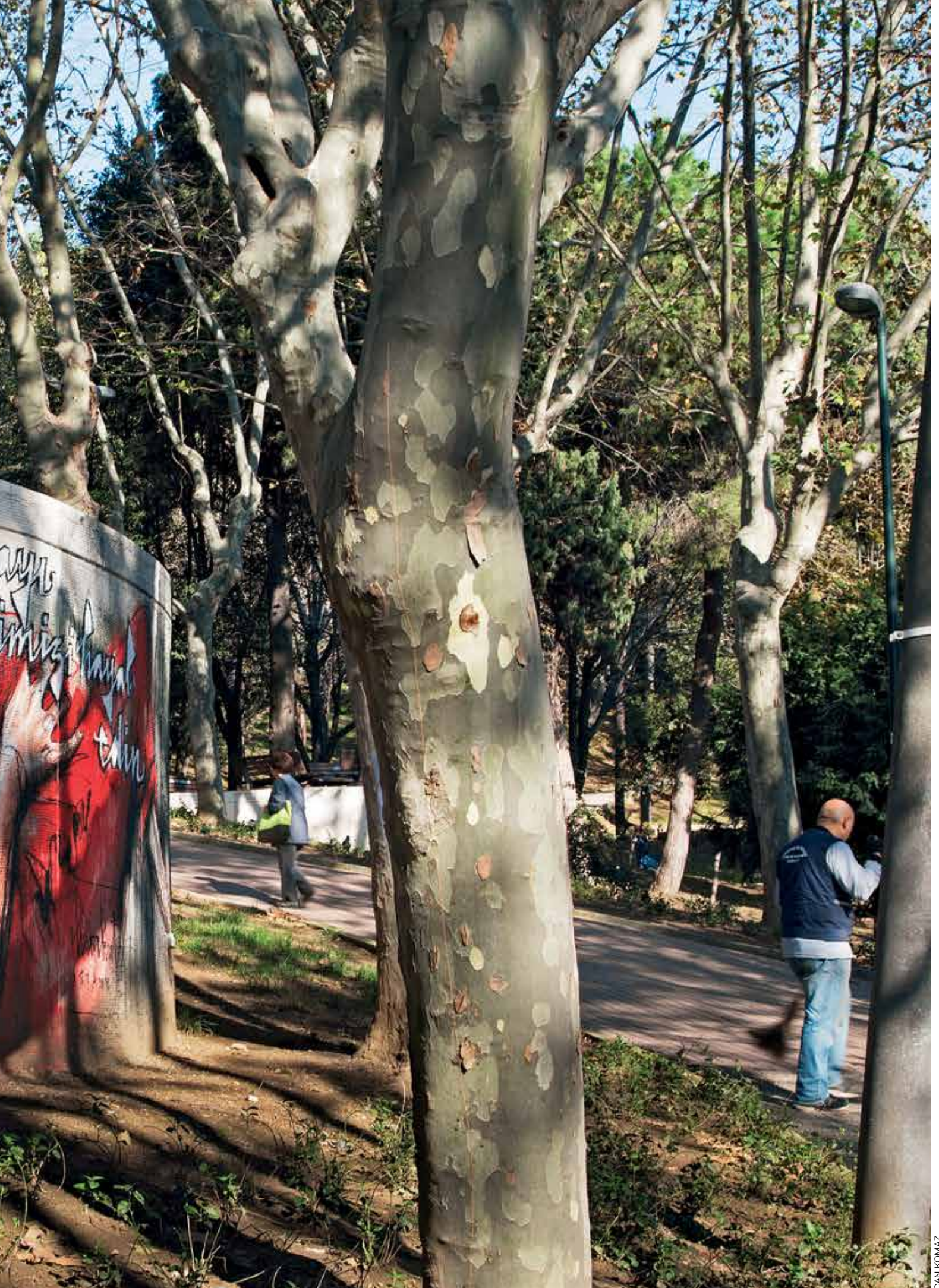


BARIŞ ACARLI



German artists Hera and Akut, writes “imagine we teach our children not to take laughter ever again” on the graphite in Abbasağa Park with the signature Herakut partners.







FERDA ÇAĞLAYAN

COLORS OF ART

Every corner in Beşiktaş is full with artsy, colorful surprises. Vişnezade neighborhood's hotspot, the Poets Sofa Park is hosting Behçet Necatigil, Sabahattin Kudret Aksal, Cahit Sıtkı Tarancı, Oktay Rıfat, Orhan Veli, Neyzen Tevfik and poet Lady Niger (left).

While local and foreign tourists are taking photos to capture the moment during their visit İstanbul, Dolmabahçe Palace columns are standing as a décor(right, top). Famous artists as Poet Özdemir Asaf and musician Cahit Berkay are graduated from well known, historical Kabataş High School which is ready to raise the artists of the future (right).



TIJEN BURULTAY



TIJEN BURULTAY





5

GREEN

Beşiktaş, with plantations ranging through Bosphorus shores to hills, gardens of pavillions and palaces is one of the greenest county of İstanbul.

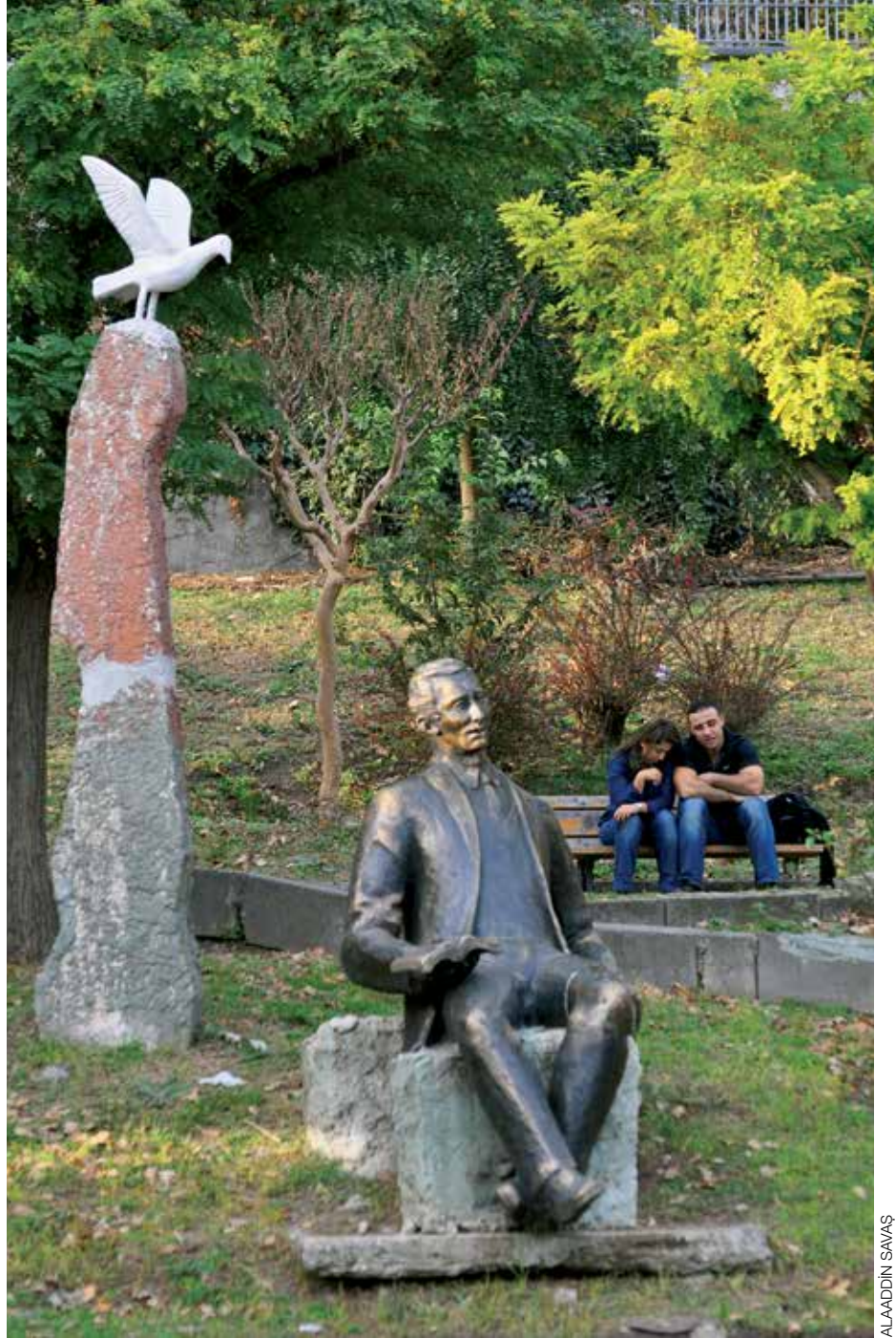


IHLAMUR PAVILLION PARK

Basswood/lime (Ihlamur) is one of the iconic tree of İstanbul. The valley between Yıldız and Nişantaşı is also named after these trees. The creek that holds the same name used to flow around the area where the Sea Museum is located.

Ihlamur Valley and Creek live only by their names. But Ihlamur Pavillion carries on the natural heritage, and stands tall with both name and structure intact. The palace was used as an excursion spot before being made a ceremonial building by Abdülmecid (1839-1861).

Around 25 thousand square meters of gardens there are lime, plane, magnolia, chestnut, cypress, nettle, laurel, rose and ginkgo trees. The garden has lion statues and a pool, similar to the ones in Dolmabahçe Palace.



ALAADDİN SAVAŞ

AŞIYAN PARK

It is not in vain that Beşiktaş is called the town of poets. Imagine a town being the landlord of the poets from Şair Nedim, Tevfik Fikret to Neyzen Tevfik, Behçet Necatigil, Şair Leyla, Rüşdü Onur.

For the poet, Orhan Veli who was deceased in 1950, Beşiktaş was a frequent residence. Today, his remembrance is celebrated in Bebek, in the little park of Aşyan near the Bosphorus line. His monument, made by the sculptor Aydın Aşkan, salutes the visitors of Bosphorus since 1988.

Yıldız Park is the outer garden of Yıldız Palace. It was previously the plantation of Çırağan Palace. Plantation is a home for more than 120 exotic trees and bushes, mostly having foreign origins.







ALAATTİN TİMUR

YILDIZ PARK

Yıldız Park is the biggest green field of Beşiktaş. The history of it dates back to early 17th century. This extensive field owned by the daughter of Murad IV was then owned by Mehmed Pasha, brother of Damat İbrahim Pasha in 18th century. The plantation, today called Yıldız Park, was named “Çırağan” after the festivals held by Mehmed Pasha in the coastal side open for Bosphorus. Yıldız Park, again comes to life with Çırağan Palace and the bridge built between the palace and the plantation.

Women of the palace who were allowed to go out in the days of springs after the cold days of winter, purified from the presence of men in the plantation, come together with green and and nature in this particular place. Borders of the plantation was then enlarged after Abdulhamid II moves to Yıldız Palace. After the disenthroned of Abdulhamid II, doors of the plantation was closed. The plantation was ascribed to Greater Municipality of İstanbul in 1940s with the pavilions of Malta and Çadır. Its' name was changed to Yıldız Park in the same period.

The contract signed in 1979, between Municipality of İstanbul and Turing happens to be a turning point. Beginning from this date, with the restorations made by Turing, pavilions in the park that had long been deserted finally met with community. In the midst of 1990s, Municipality of İstanbul, again, takes over the management of the park. Today, the park is a place for having a good breath and a moment of relaxation, especially for the residents of Beşiktaş.



ERGUVANİ

Bosphorus and Beşiktaş shores take a purplish tint around spring and fall. Istanbulians call this color “erguvani” for centuries. The redbud tree has been an iconic symbol since the Byzantine era. The name for the redbud tree used to be “Flower of Byzantium”. Byzantine emperors and empresses used to wear clothes in this color, and buried in tombs carved out of porphyry stone. Porfirogenitos Dynasty, who ruled the Byzantine Empire for a long time, gets their name from the meaning “Born in the purple room”.



SERHAT KESKIN



GÖKHAN TAN

The resting spot of Bosphorus promenades, Bebek Park. There are exclusive areas in the park reserved specifically for children and pets. Redbud trees endemic to İstanbul salute the Bosphorus scenery.



ULUS FRUIT GARDEN

While descending from Ulus to Ortaköy valley, the Ulus Fruit Gardens are another spot serving since 2014, prepared by the municipality of Beşiktaş. Situated in a 30 thousand square meters of ground, these gardens are host to 4 thousand fruit trees. Another important aspect of the park is that although it's located on a downslope, it is perfectly designed to suit handicapped access.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: SERHAT KESKİN



AYKUT BARKA PARK

Prof. Dr. Aykut Barka was one of the first names that came to mind upon hearing the word earthquake. Unfortunately, passed away at the early age of 50 due to a brain illness. Municipality of Beşiktaş keeps his memory alive by giving his name to the park which is located on a 17 thousand square meter area in Kültür Neighborhood.

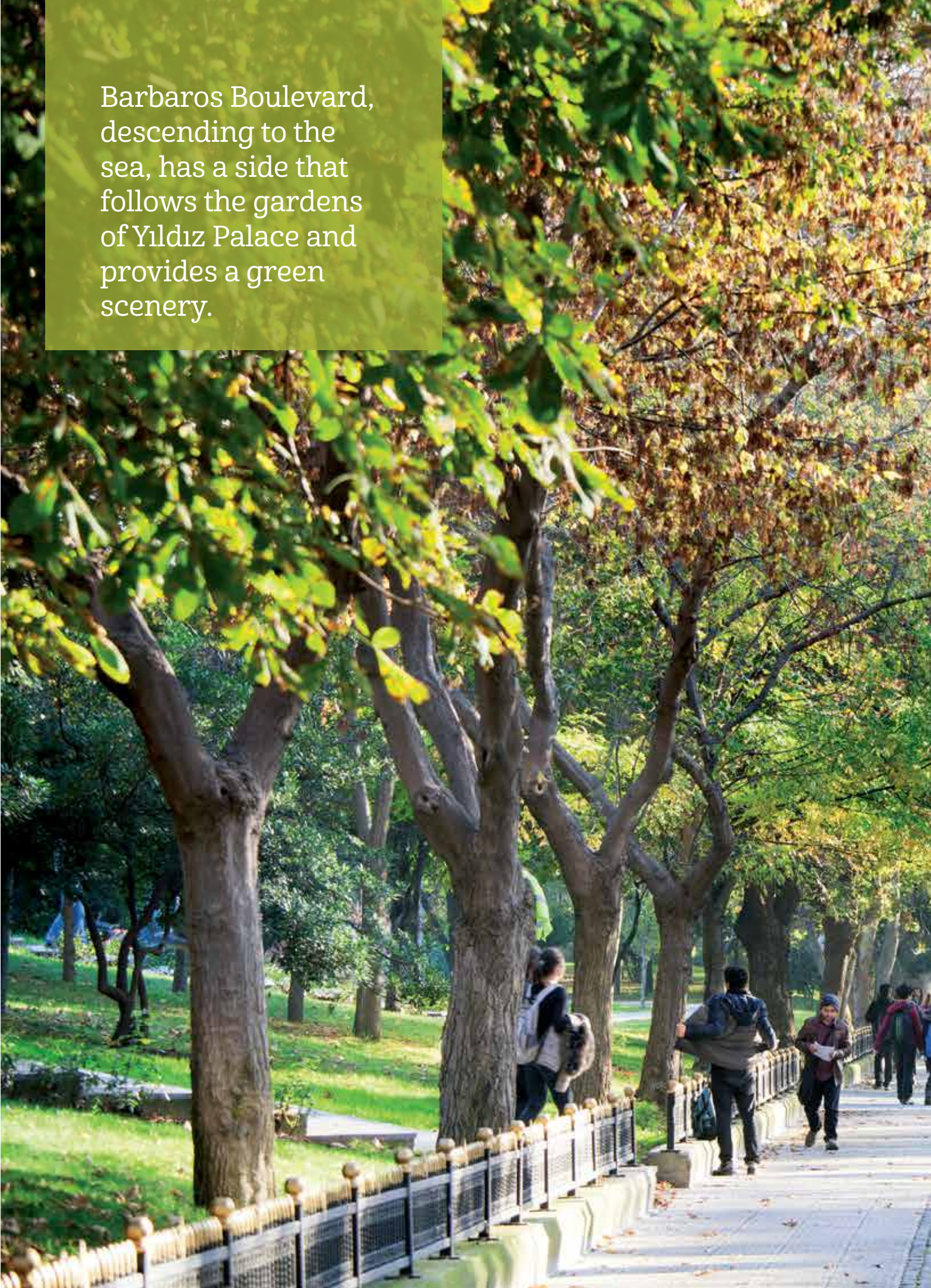
An important aspect that sets the park aside is the Disaster Control Headquarters being located there. This area offers training for pre-disaster, disaster and after-disaster situations to not just the citizens, but also municipality workers. Inside the storage of the center there are tools that can be needed in case of a disaster.



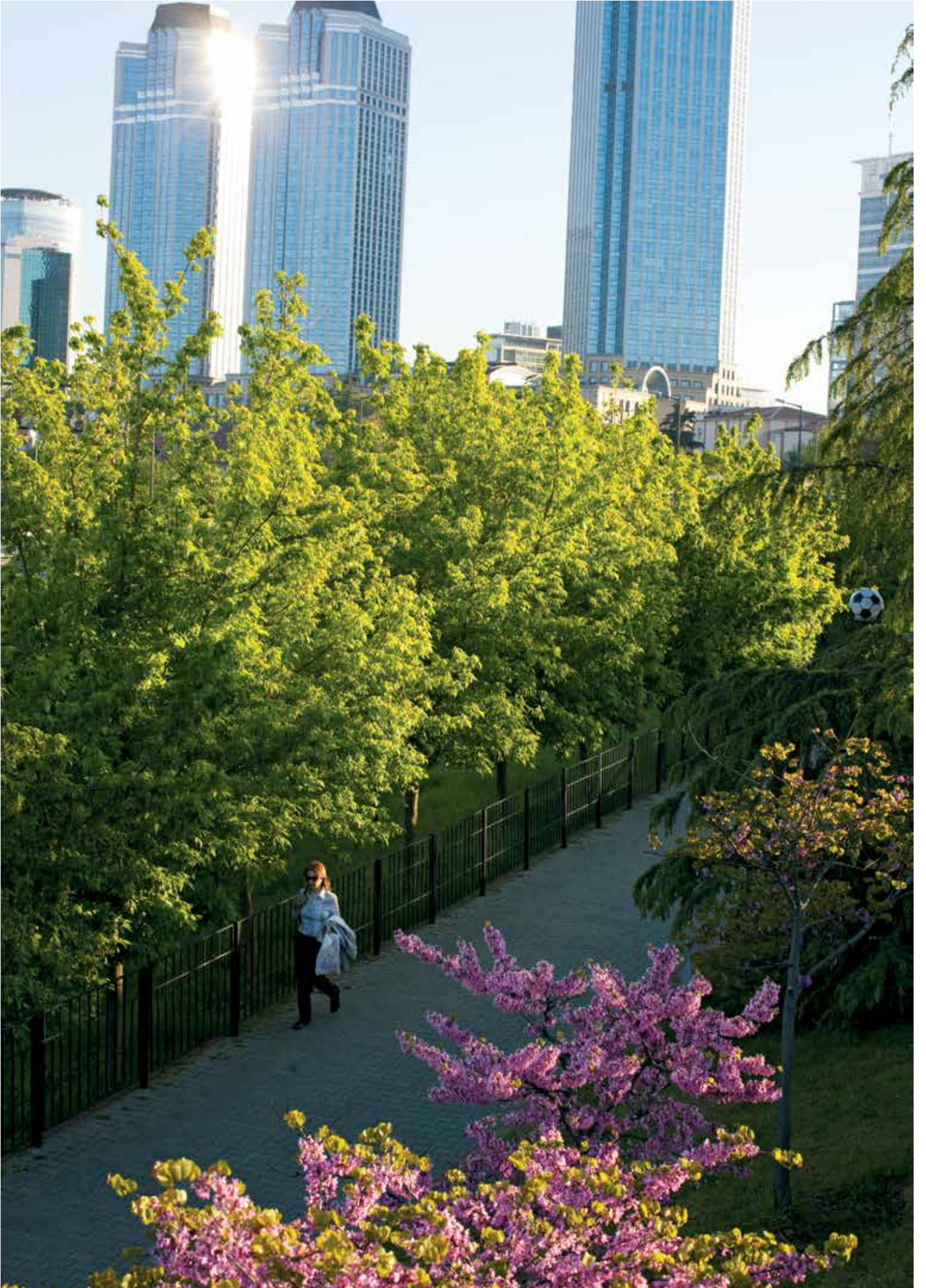


Artists Park, opened for service by the municipality of Beşiktaş in 2003 is the first park that is dedicated to the arts and artists, with busts and hand prints of the country's most famous artists being on display. Situated on a 16.400 square meter area, the park has a 1500 meter long walking track.

Barbaros Boulevard,
descending to the
sea, has a side that
follows the gardens
of Yıldız Palace and
provides a green
scenery.









NAİLE SULTAN GROVE

Between Ortaköy and Kuruçeşme, alongside the grove, two storied mansions and villas were constructed. The mansion that belonged to Naile Sultan was also restored. Naile Sultan (1884-1957) is II. Abdülhamid's daughter.

For being a member of the dynasty, she was forced to leave the country in 1924, after the foundation of the republic, but returned in 1952. She had sold her property to a fabric vendor at the time, Namık Özsoy. The types of trees that can still be found around the area are stone pines, old blue atlas cedars, Turkish pines, cypress, mahaleb, buckthorn, taxus, locust, linden, flowering ash and magnolias.

SPORSTMEN'S PARK

Situated on a 10.000 square meter area, this park satisfies the longing for nature of not just the residents of Konaklar neighbourhood, but also the surrounding regions. Sporty citizens can make use of the 800 m walking track, tennis and basketball courts and sports instruments. Beşiktaş City Hall hasn't forgotten the many iconic Turkish athletes while designing the park.

At the entrance, you're welcomed by legendary weight-lifter Naim Süleymanoğlu, Süreyya Ayhan - winner of many international awards on athletics, and Turkish National Football Team of 2002 who finished third place in the World Cup Championship organized in Korea and Japan (left).





6



DAY AND NIGHT

Beşiktaş is one of the most important passages between Anatolia - Rumelia. It's crowded during both days and nights, and is also a leading spot for its hangouts and night life.



THE HEART OF İSTANBUL

One of the trademarks of İstanbul are the Bosphorus ferries. Beşiktaş piers take on a considerable amount of the human circulation for being an important transit point, having business premises of different sizes and offering an enormous variety of entertainment possibilities. After the arrival of the subway line, Beşiktaş has become a central that connects all means of transit. İstanbul is a city that is awake for 24 hours a day, and Beşiktaş is the cradle of this life with its streets, market, cafes, pubs, bars and parks.







GALATASARAY ISLAND

It's the only island on Bosphorus. The whole island is 6900 square meters. Sultan Abdülaziz had given the island that belonged to Sultan Abdülmecid Foundation to Sarkis Balyan the palace architect. After his death, his heirs had rented the island to Şirket-i Hayriye, the ferry company that used the place for storage. Galatasaray Sports Club has bought the island from Balyan's heirs in 1958. The club uses the island for events on rowing and swimming disciplines, also as a venue with restaurants and bars.

Abbasağa Park, gained a social liveliness and motion especially after the Gezi resistance that started on June of 2013. It has become one of the most important forum locations. The park has maintained its vivacious state with concerts and other activities.







Kuruçeşme Arena hosts Turkey's leading artists like Sezen Aksu, and also prominent names in worldwide music. Overlooking the Bosphorus, the venue is "world's most beautiful stage", according to words of Ozzy Osbourne following his concert in 2010.



Haydi Abbas, vakit tamam;
Akşam diyordun işte oldu akşam.
Kur bakalım çilingir soframızı;
Dinsin artık bu kalb ağrısı.
Şu ağacın gölgesinde olsun;
Tam kenarında havuzun.
Aya haber sal çıksın bu gece;
Görünsün şöyle gönlümce.
Bas kırbacı sihirli seccadeye,
Göster hükmettiğini mesafeye
Ve zamana.
Katıp tozu dumana,
Var git,
Böyle ferman etti Cahit,
Al getir ilk sevgiliyi Beşiktaş'tan;
Yaşamak istiyorum gençliğimi yeni baştan.

Cahit Sıtkı TARANCI







BEŞİKTAŞ DOWNTOWN

One of Turkey's liveliest places. This congested area has a completely unique soul to it. Its people, shopkeepers, buildings carry and nurture this soul. Those who had recently moved to the region start embracing this notion very quickly. Even those who are just passing by, willingly surrender to the feeling.

The pubs are a characteristic of the market place, rapidly escalating in number during the last few years, filling the narrow streets with crowds of people every day of the week (on top and on the previous page). Almost all corners of the market area is alive every single day of the year. Miniature-goal football games are age-old traditions (top right). Newlyweds go for the Bosphorus shore (right-middle). Breaking of the ramadan fast in Nüzhetiye Avenue is a good example to the ever present neighborhood spirit.



SERHAT KESKİN



A LAATTIN TİMUR



BÜLENT BABAYİĞİT



A LAATTIN TİMUR











7

MARKET PLACE & BAZAAR

One of the characteristics that makes Beşiktaş what it is must be its stubbornness. The persistency it presents for what it believes to be right. Against shopping malls, Beşiktaş Bazaar still maintains a relationship connected to its tradition. Although the new life habits impose a system that is based on more comfort and fulfilling needs in shorter time periods, Beşiktaş residents still prefer greeting the shopkeepers and wishing them a productive work day.







PLANE TREES OF BEŞİKTAŞ

No one who sets foot in the market place wants to leave it. Doner master Asım Durmuş, tailor Şener Uzun, master barbers Güngör and İbrahim have been here for 40 years. They mean more influence to Beşiktaş residents than coffee (It is said that a cup of coffee holds 40 years of influence). They open their stores with the same eagerness as if it's their first day in business. Shoe maker Alaattin Pezüt has been in Beşiktaş market place for 45 years. Actors from Beşiktaş Culture Center are also regulars of Master Alaattin. Şöhretler Köftecisi Ali Çağlar owns a meatball restaurant that carries the visual mementos of the black and white colored jersey on the walls.





ANCIENT SHOP KEEPERS OF THE MARKET PLACE

Pando Sestokaf's century-old shop, which was ready to be found purely on instinct and the smell of cow milk, is no longer there. Uncle Pando is forced to an early retirement, after being evicted by the landlord in 2014. The shop that also delivered milk to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk when he stayed in Dolmabahçe Palace after the declaration of the republic and was the oldest shop in Beşiktaş, will now live solely in memories.



ALAATTİN TİMUR

LIVING LEGACY

Beşiktaş's life starts with opening the doors of Hasan Paşa bakery not with the sun. Beşiktaş's bakeries are the most preferred ones since the ottoman era. Most reliable source of the 19.cc golden era of the Beşiktaş's bakeries, Hagop Mintzuri's "Memories of İstanbul". In Mintzuri's youth who delivered the breads. He didn't only describe bakeries, he also describes in detail the shop owners of Beşiktaş.

Every saturday time stops at Beşiktaş, heartbeat of the Saturday and Sunday shapes the life of Beşiktaş.

The groceries of all around the country awaits the buyers in affordable prices.

Some of the most interesting streets of İstanbul are the streets of Ortaköy. The only place you can see the amazing Bosphorus view and browse through the weekend bazaar "handcraft bazaar"

The umbrella salesman Sabri Kayalı, has been in Beşiktaş for 30 years after he learned his craft (next page).



ALAATTİN TİMUR



SERHAT KESKİN



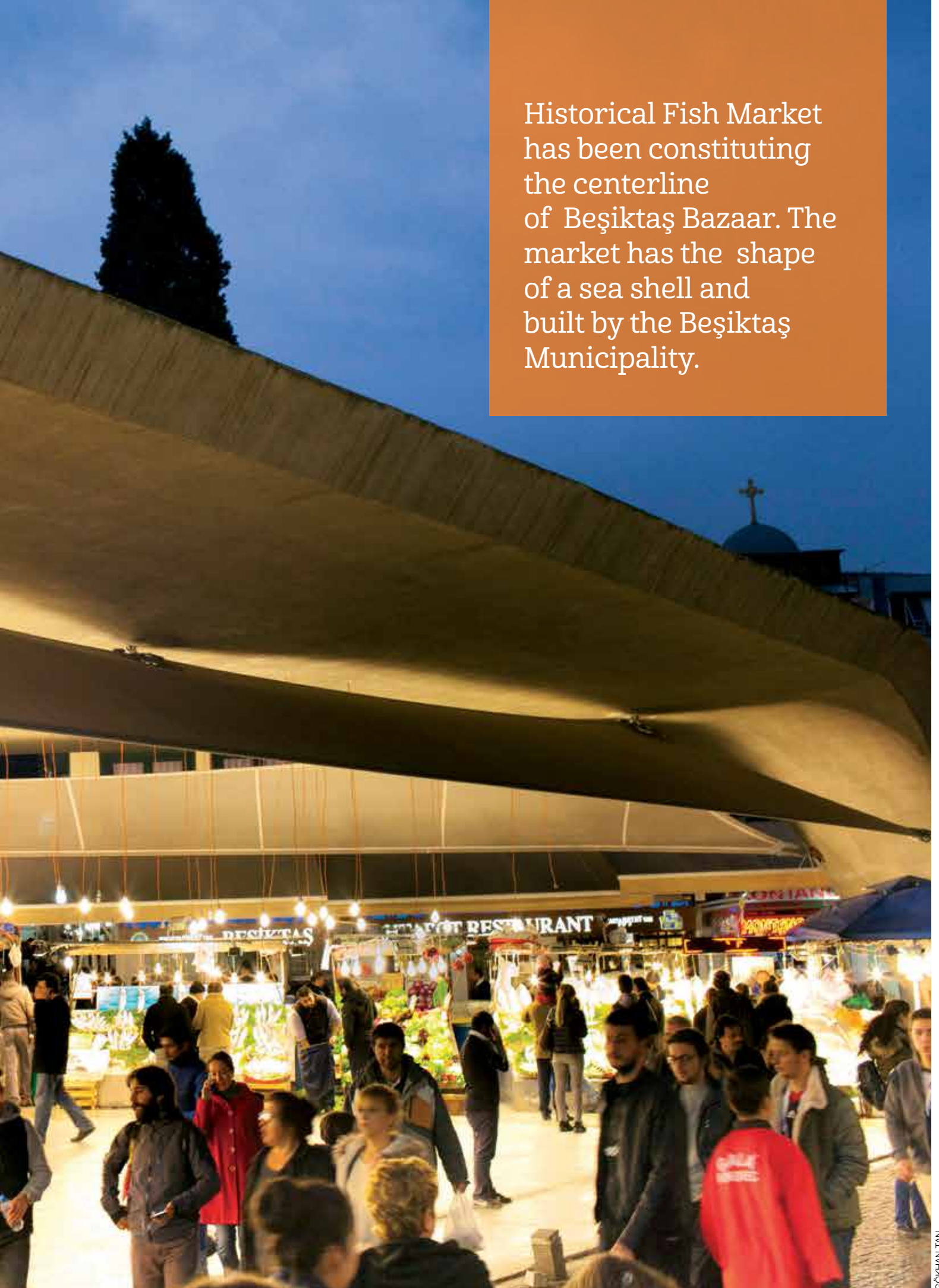








Historical Fish Market has been constituting the centerline of Beşiktaş Bazaar. The market has the shape of a sea shell and built by the Beşiktaş Municipality.



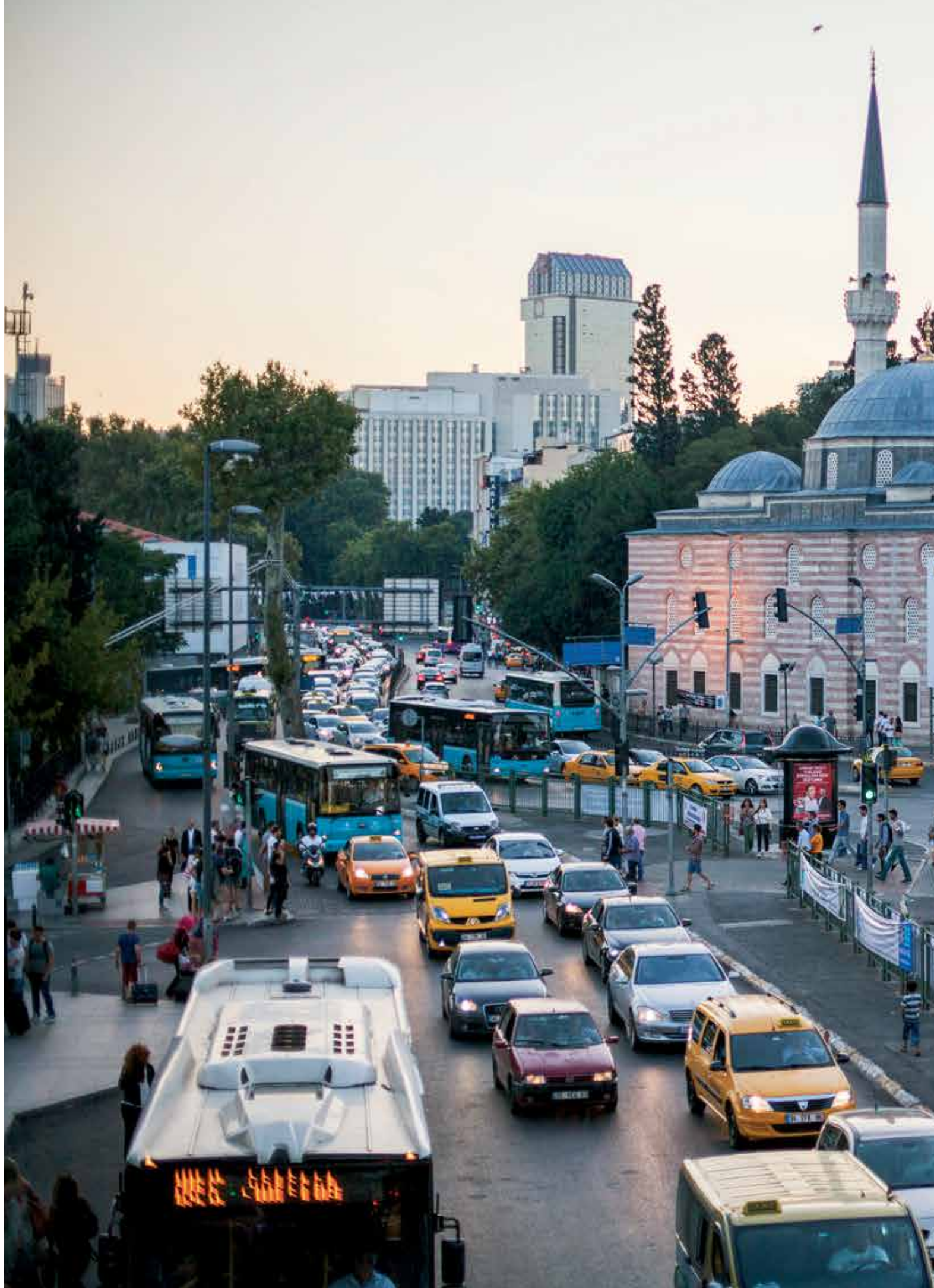




8

STREET

The Streets of Beşiktaş, where the landscapes are beyond expressing just the historical texture also keeps neighbourhood spirit alive and together in other areas. The breeze of the bosphorus blue has been living in these streets.



The Square of Beşiktaş is one of the most important intersections in Istanbul. This intersection is the specific key point between two continents. Also the main connection line of ancient district of Istanbul and Bosphorus.






ABOVE THE SEA

Arnavutköy is one of the oldest and prosperous parts of Istanbul. Since the Byzantium era, the district has its own living community and some different types of churches and chapels. Arnavutköy has been named because of the Albanian community. Where they have been immigrated in 1568 at the time of reign of Fatih. Since the 16th century, the area is one of the most decent places in Istanbul.







Arnavutk y still has the classical texture of its own.
Walking in these streets without looking to the sky can be
a mistake.



FATİH PINAR

STREETS LEADING TO THE SEA

After mid 19th century, when upper class Ottoman families started moving to Arnavutköy, the shore wasn't only being surrounded by mansions and summer houses, but also with different sizes of houses and manors. The streets around Arnavutköy hillside are filled with these wooden buildings that reflect the serenity of the region. The streets that lead to the sea carry in the fresh breeze from the Bosphorus.





GÖKHAN TAN



ÇUKURÇEŞME

This veteran house is not the only thing stuck between the streets of Vişnezade neighborhood. The small island of trees also hides old Çukurçeşme just below the road.



18 AKARLAR

Ortaköy has been a fishermen's town since Byzantine times. It has spread to inward since the 20th century. The region also contained the highest Jewish population. Lines of houses formed new quarters. One of the streets carries the traces of a disappearing culture.

18 Akaretler of Bulgurcu Street was built after the revolution of 1917 to accommodate the Ashkenazi. Although not even one Jewish family occupies these houses, the street has been placed under protection after the efforts of Beşiktaş Municipality.







AKARETLER

Buildings now used as offices, apart hotels, cafes are examples to İstanbul's most important and monumental row-formed ribbon building streets. Architect being Sarkis Balyan, the buildings were started in 1875 under the order of Sultan Abdülaziz. 133 buildings constructed were to be rented, and the income was supposed to fund the construction of Aziziye Mosque. Atatürk's mother Zübeyde Hanım and sister Makbule Hanım lived in the residence number 76 for long years.

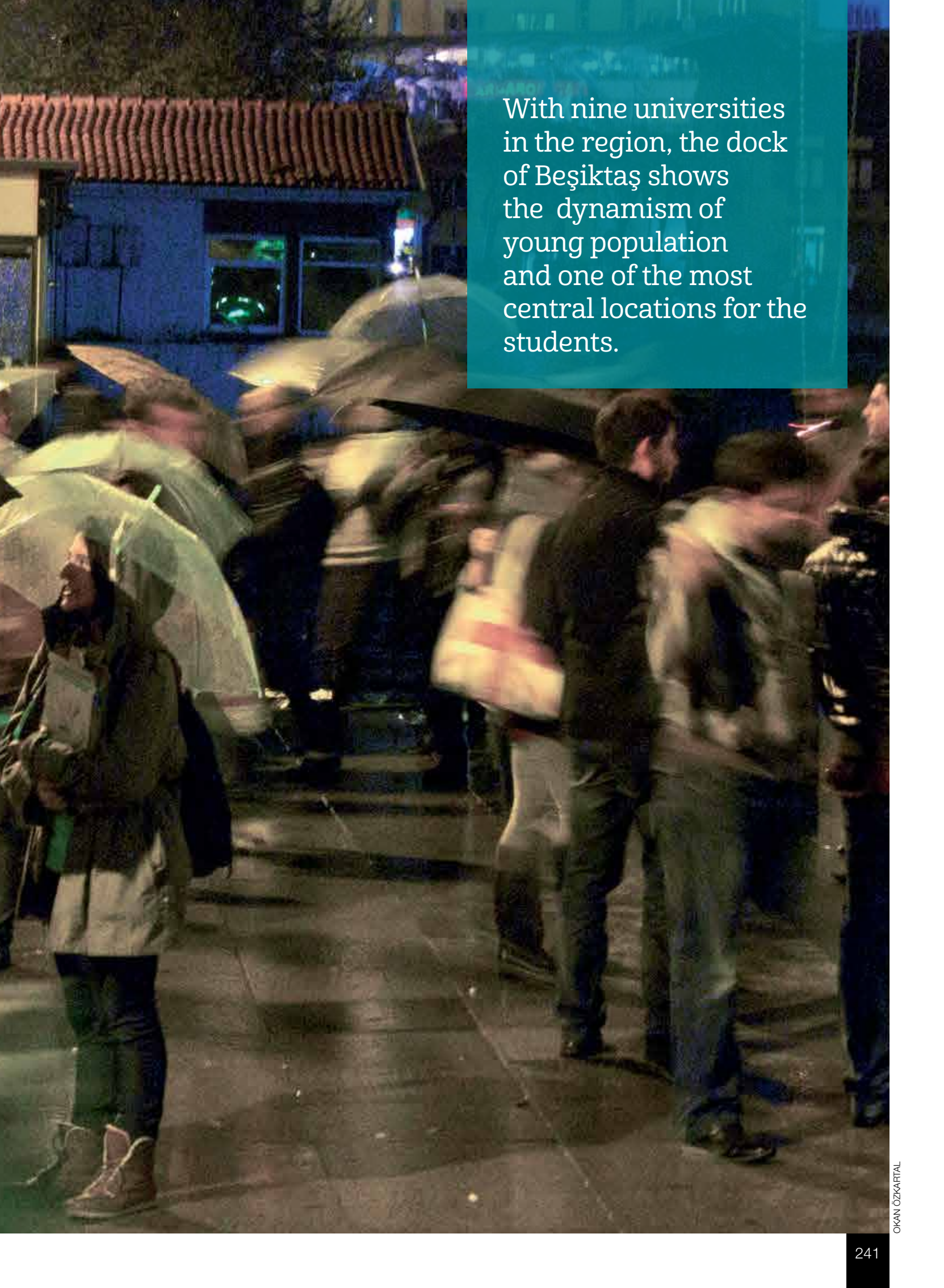


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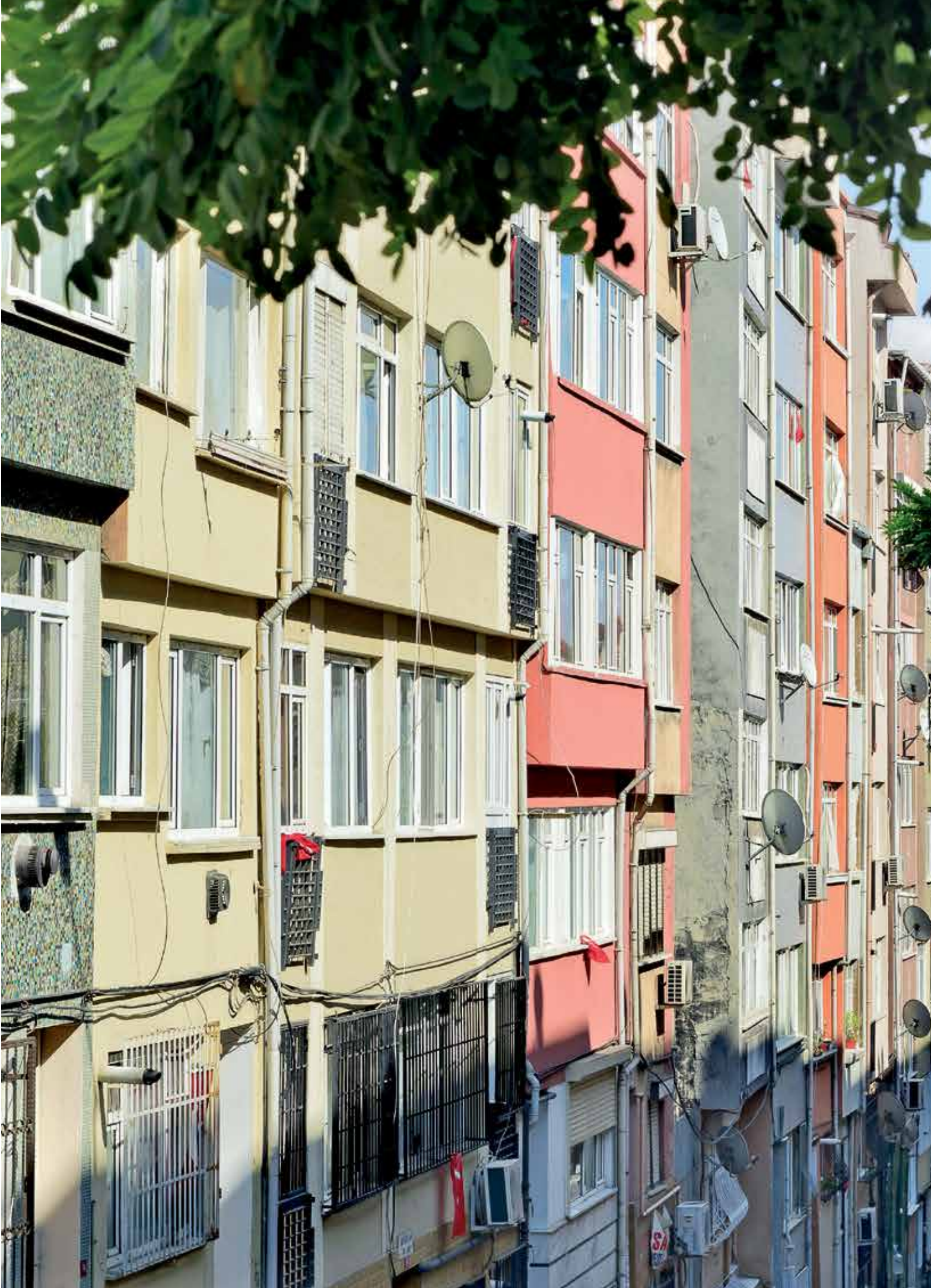


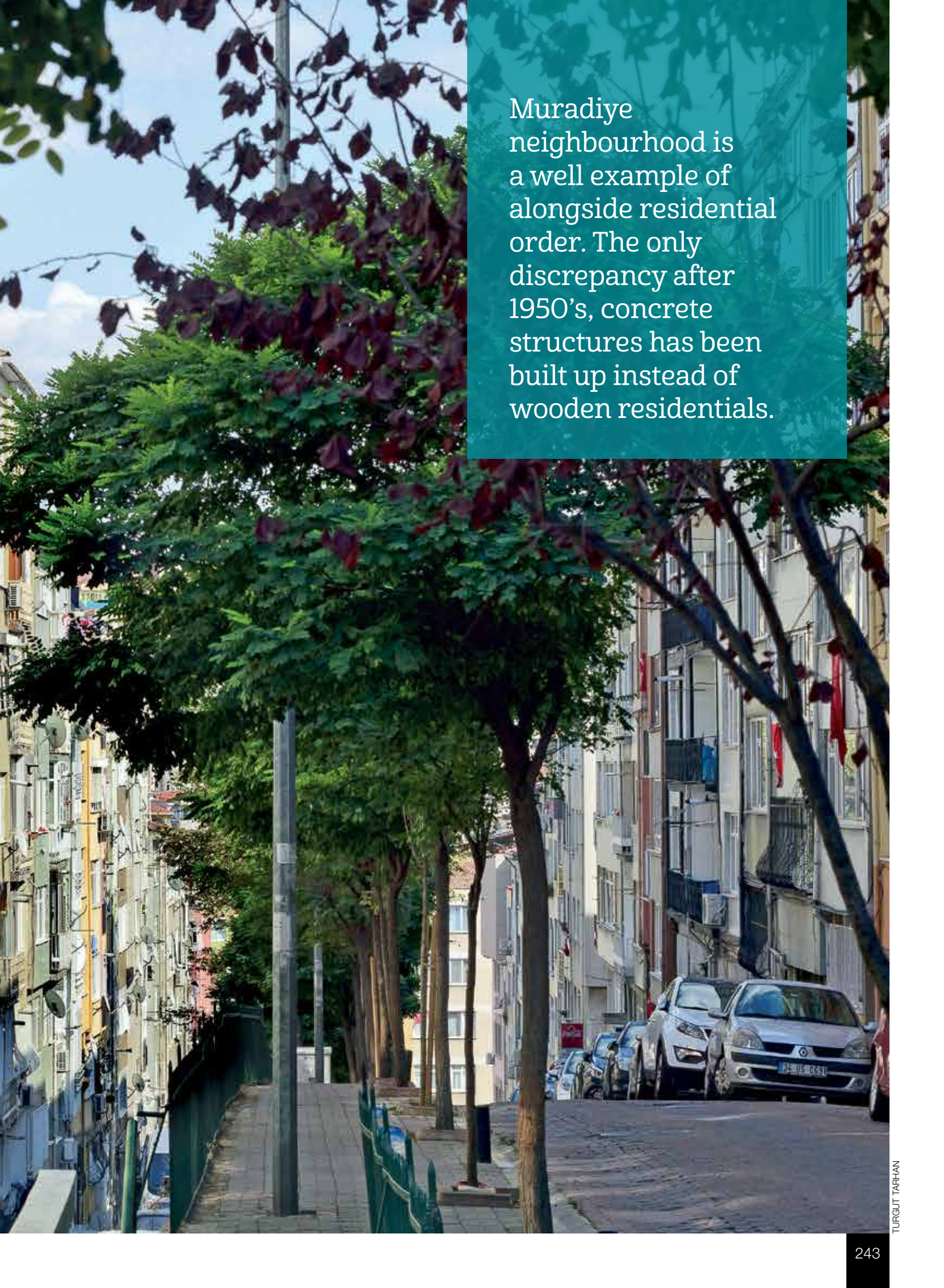
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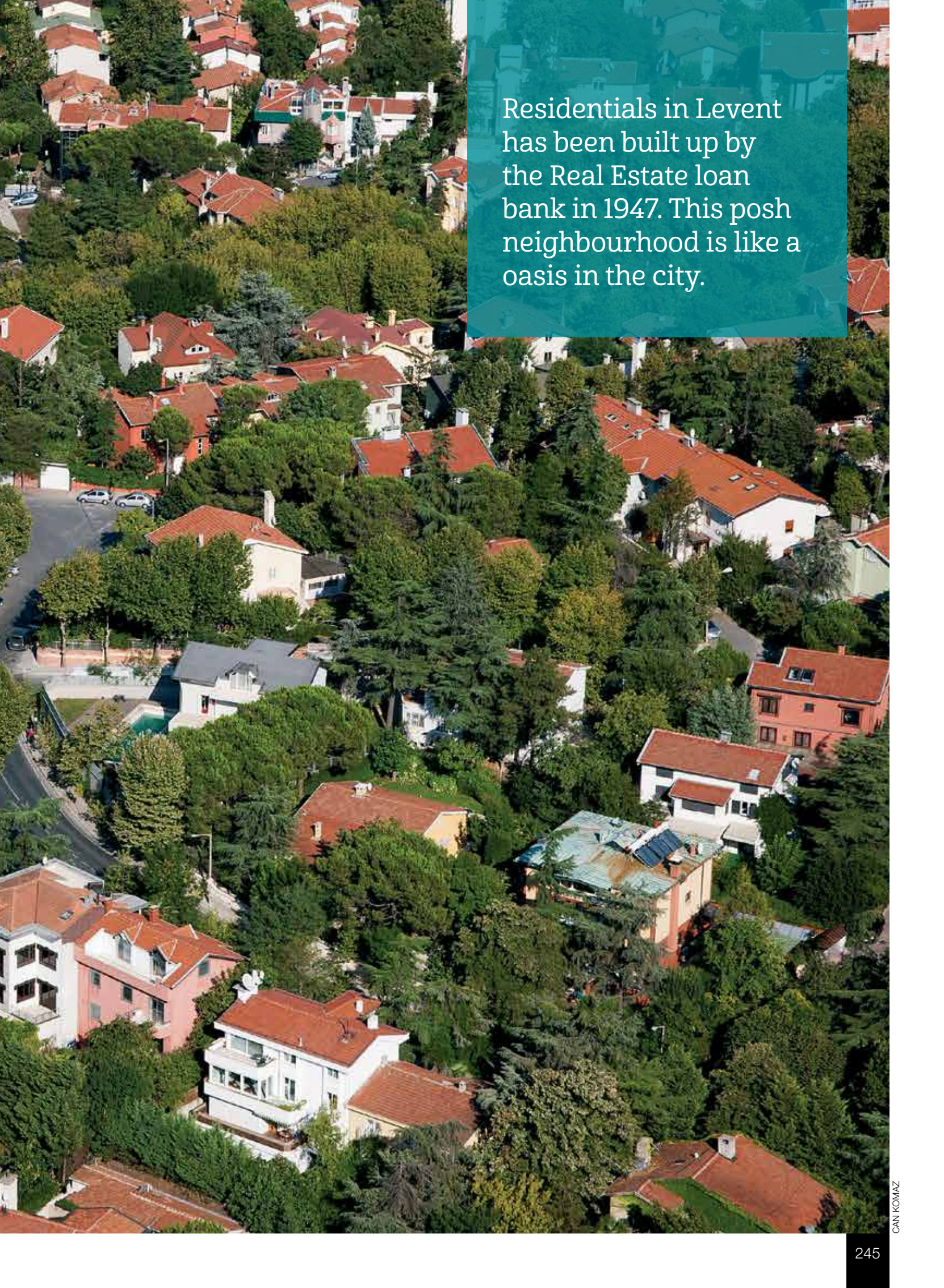
With nine universities in the region, the dock of Beşiktaş shows the dynamism of young population and one of the most central locations for the students.





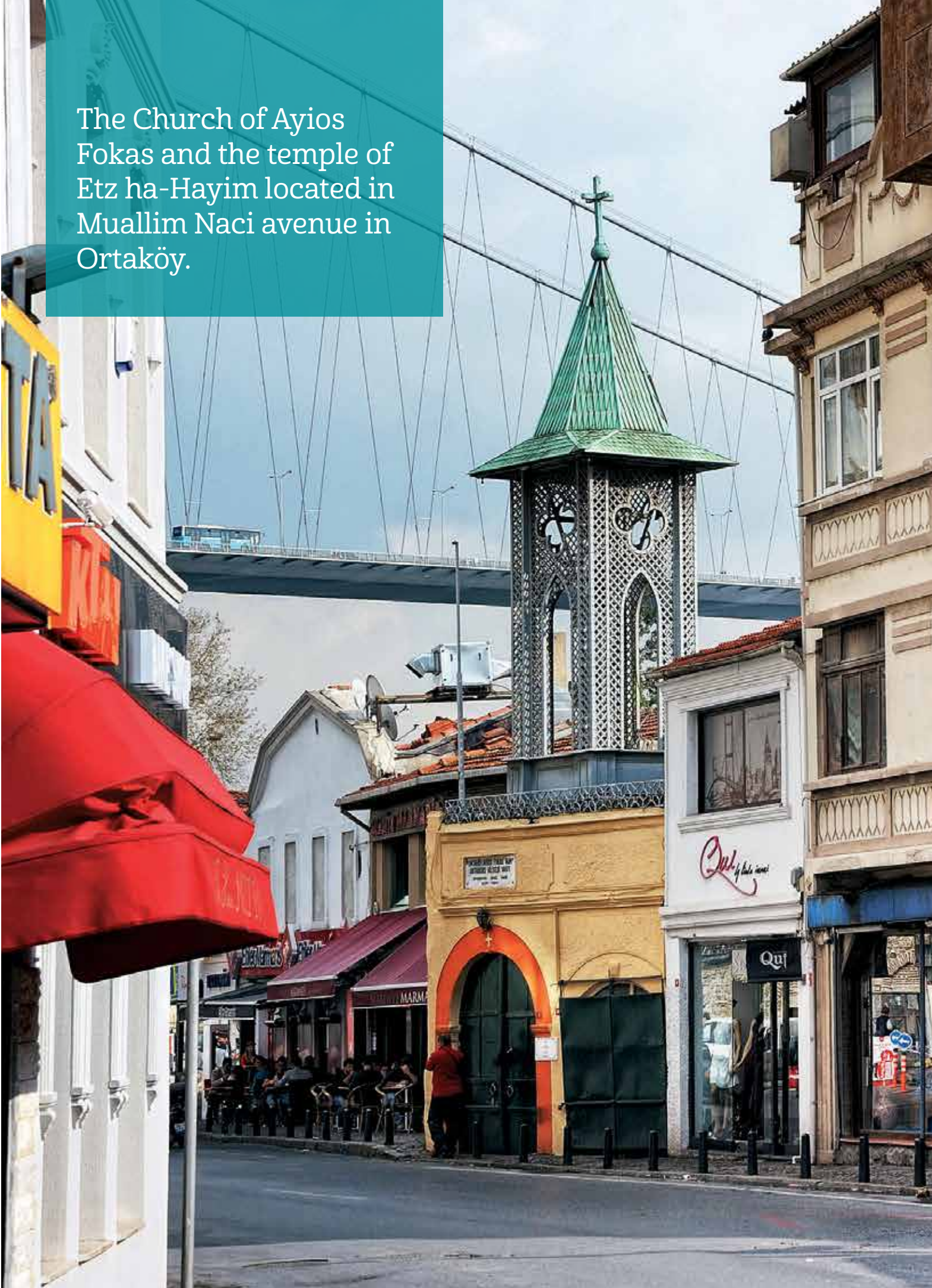
Muradiye neighbourhood is a well example of alongside residential order. The only discrepancy after 1950's, concrete structures has been built up instead of wooden residentials.





Residential in Levent
has been built up by
the Real Estate loan
bank in 1947. This posh
neighbourhood is like a
oasis in the city.

The Church of Ayios Fokas and the temple of Etz ha-Hayim located in Muallim Naci avenue in Ortaköy.







“Seagulls are the slumdogs of the sea.”
Can Yücel





An aerial photograph of Beşiktaş, Istanbul, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous multi-story residential buildings. The buildings have various colored roofs, mostly red and orange. In the foreground, several white ferries with blue and red accents are docked along the waterfront. A curved road with some traffic is visible on the left side of the image. The sky is clear and blue.

9

MODERN

Beşiktaş is the most important place for financial and business works. Includes many regions that donate a modern look to originally ancient İstanbul.





SPHERIC İSTANBUL

Sabancı Centers in Levent, 158 and 140 meters in height, were perhaps the first reason of “elevation” in Beşiktaş and in İstanbul (left). After these two towers were opened in 1993, Büyükdere Avenue (top) was the scene of rapid structuring and has been dubbed the skyscraper district. Between the Zincirlikuyu-Levent line lie some of the tallest buildings of Turkey, including head offices for four major banks and financial establishments, plazas and shopping centers.



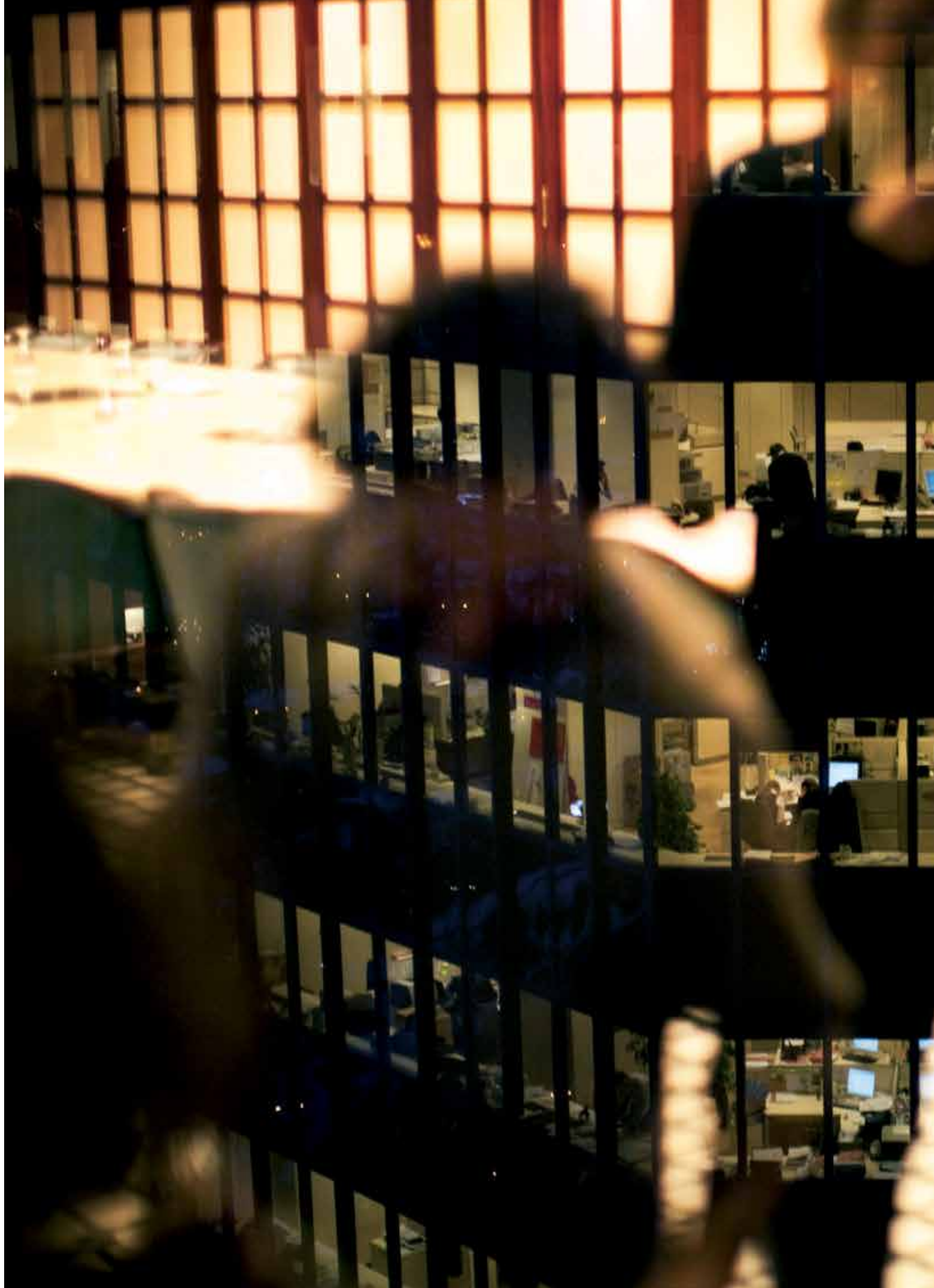
At the entrance of the Athlete's park in Levent, the statue of Sureyya Ayhan – the first Turkish female champion athlete in Europe- has been placed.

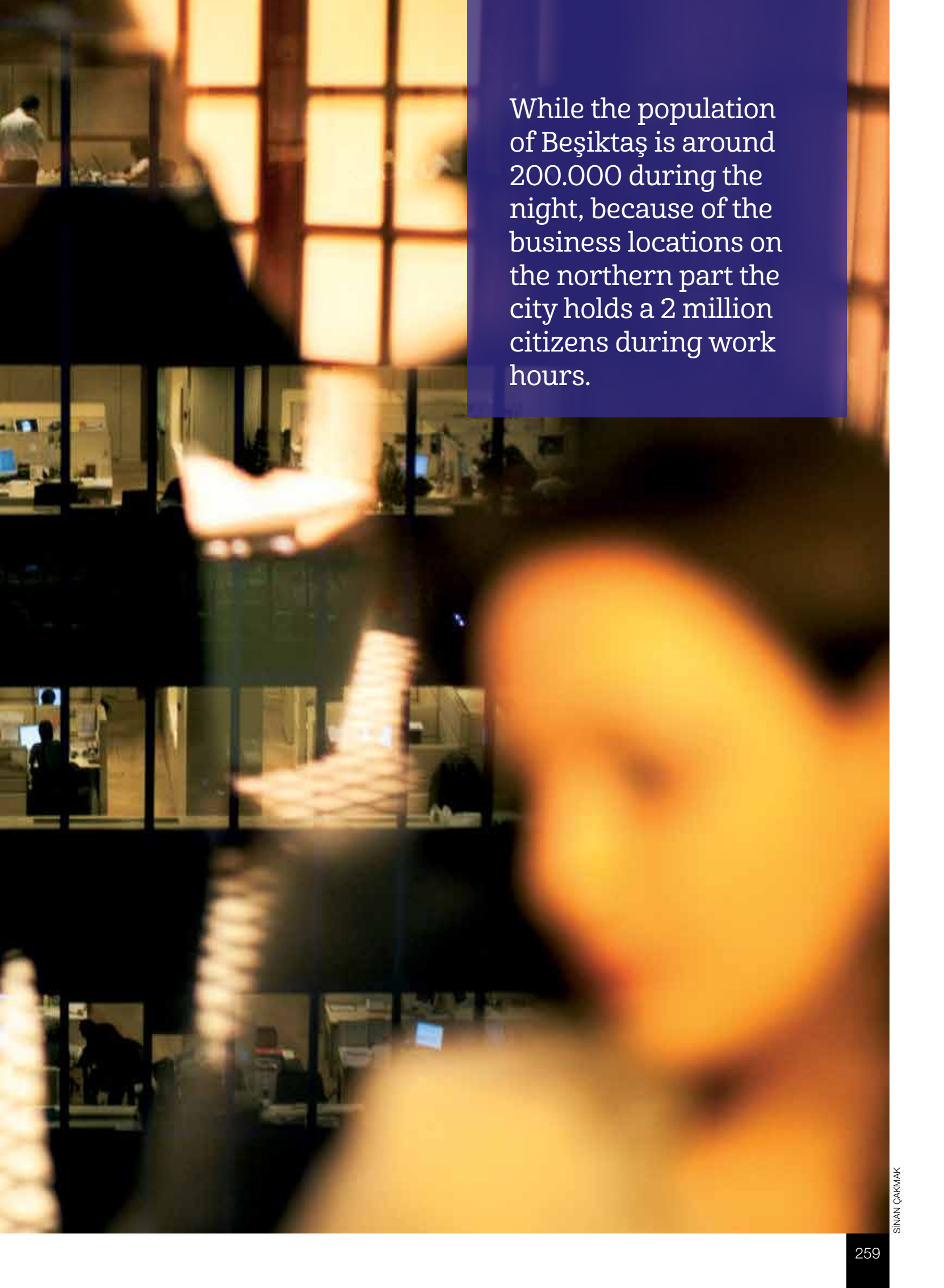


Mediterranean statue from İlhan Koman is one of Beşiktaş's most famous monuments. The artwork was completed in 1980, and was displayed in Zincirlikuyu and Beyoğlu for a long time, and now is supplying its environment with a fresh perspective, to an otherwise skyscraper confined Büyükdere avenue.



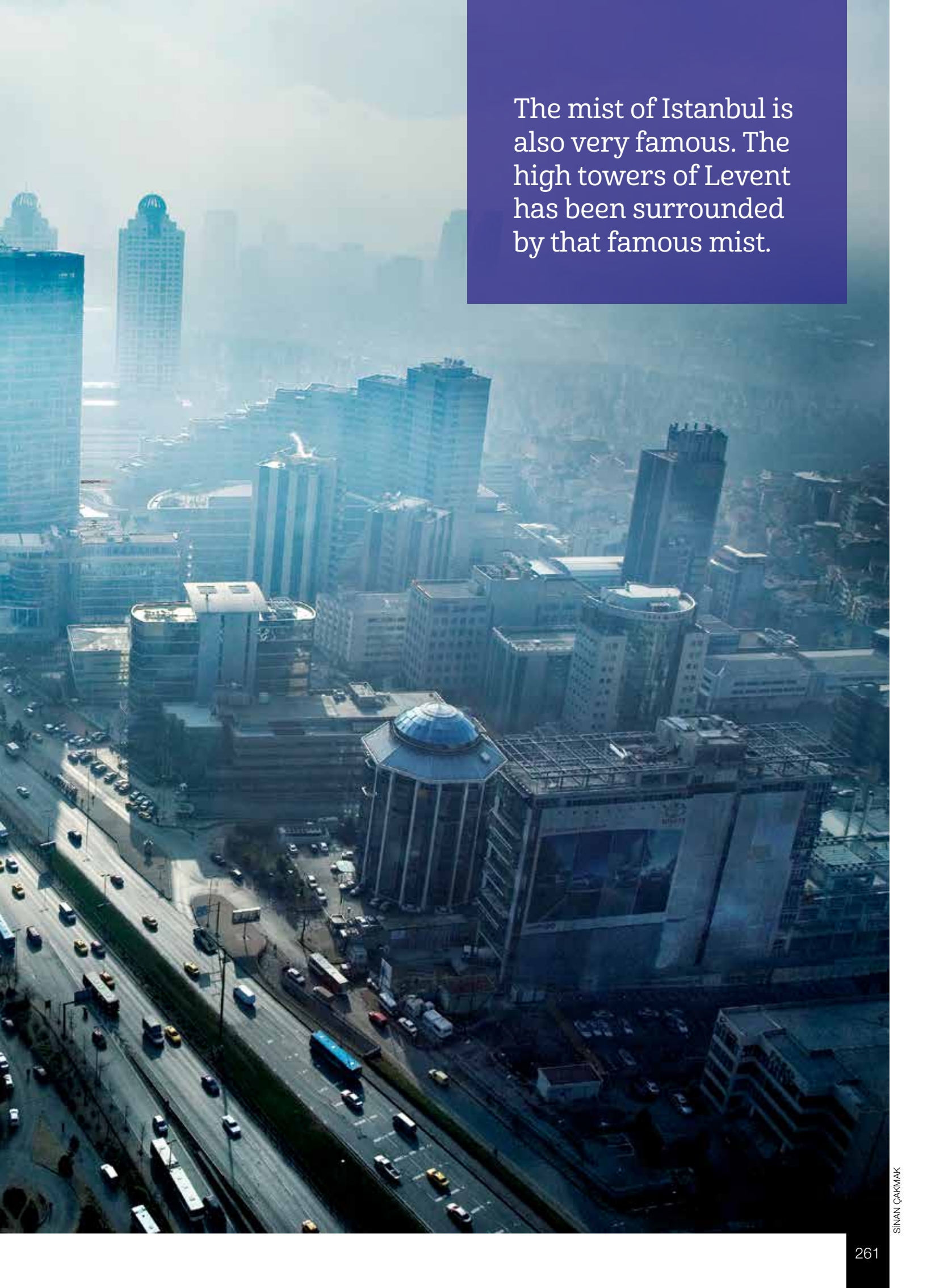






While the population of Beşiktaş is around 200.000 during the night, because of the business locations on the northern part the city holds a 2 million citizens during work hours.



An aerial photograph of the Istanbul skyline, showing a dense cluster of modern skyscrapers and older buildings. A thick layer of mist or haze hangs over the city, particularly in the background. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway with traffic is visible. A large, modern building with a glass facade and a curved structure is prominent in the lower right. The overall color palette is dominated by the blues and greys of the buildings and the white of the mist, with a purple overlay in the top right corner containing text.

The mist of Istanbul is also very famous. The high towers of Levent has been surrounded by that famous mist.





10

BLACK AND WHITE

The colors of Beşiktaş football team is black and white. The statue of an eagle represents the Beşiktaş Gymnastic Club. Since 1982, Beşiktaş has the most colorful football supporter group known as **ÇARŞI**



SANCTUARY OF FOOTBALL: İNÖNÜ STADIUM

Beşiktaş Football Team plays the home games in İnönü Stadium, until 1947 when it was first opened. The opening game was between Beşiktaş and AIK Solna, and the first goal was scored by then player, now the late honorary president Süleyman Seba. The last official game in which the above photo was taken, took place in May 11th 2013 between Beşiktaş and Gençlerbirliği and ended 3-0 in favor of Beşiktaş. The stadium was demolished that summer. In its place, a new stadium is being built to be opened in 2015, with a capacity of 42 thousand supporters.



GÖKHAN TAN



FATİH PINAR



Süleyman SEBA
1926 - ∞

Beşiktaş Jimnastik Kulübü



Üzüleceğiniz çok şey var. SÜS
Hiçbir şeyi bizi gl'dişin ka...r üzme

RAHAT UYU SEBA
BEŞİKTAŞ'I
ÜZDÜRMEYE GİZİ

GARSI



UNUTU...ACAKSIN
HA...N TAKIMI



KAR
Ç
Ü

Beşiktaş supporters in Köyiçi Square, before a Fenerbahçe game. The façades of the historical buildings are covered with posters of the late honorary president Süleyman Seba, who had directed the club for a consecutive 17 years, passing away in August 13th 2014.





FOTOĞRAFLAR: FATİH PINAR



KÖYİÇİ

The historical center of Beşiktaş, known as Köyiçi since its establishment. Being used as a market for centuries, Köyiçi Square is the gathering spot for Beşiktaş supporters before games. Eagle monument on the square is renovated by the municipality of Beşiktaş, for winning the Super League championship in 2003, on the 100th year since foundation (top). Streets of Köyiçi turn into festival grounds on the days of Beşiktaş games.



FOTOĞRAFLAR: SİNAN ÇAKMAK





OPEN TRIBUNE

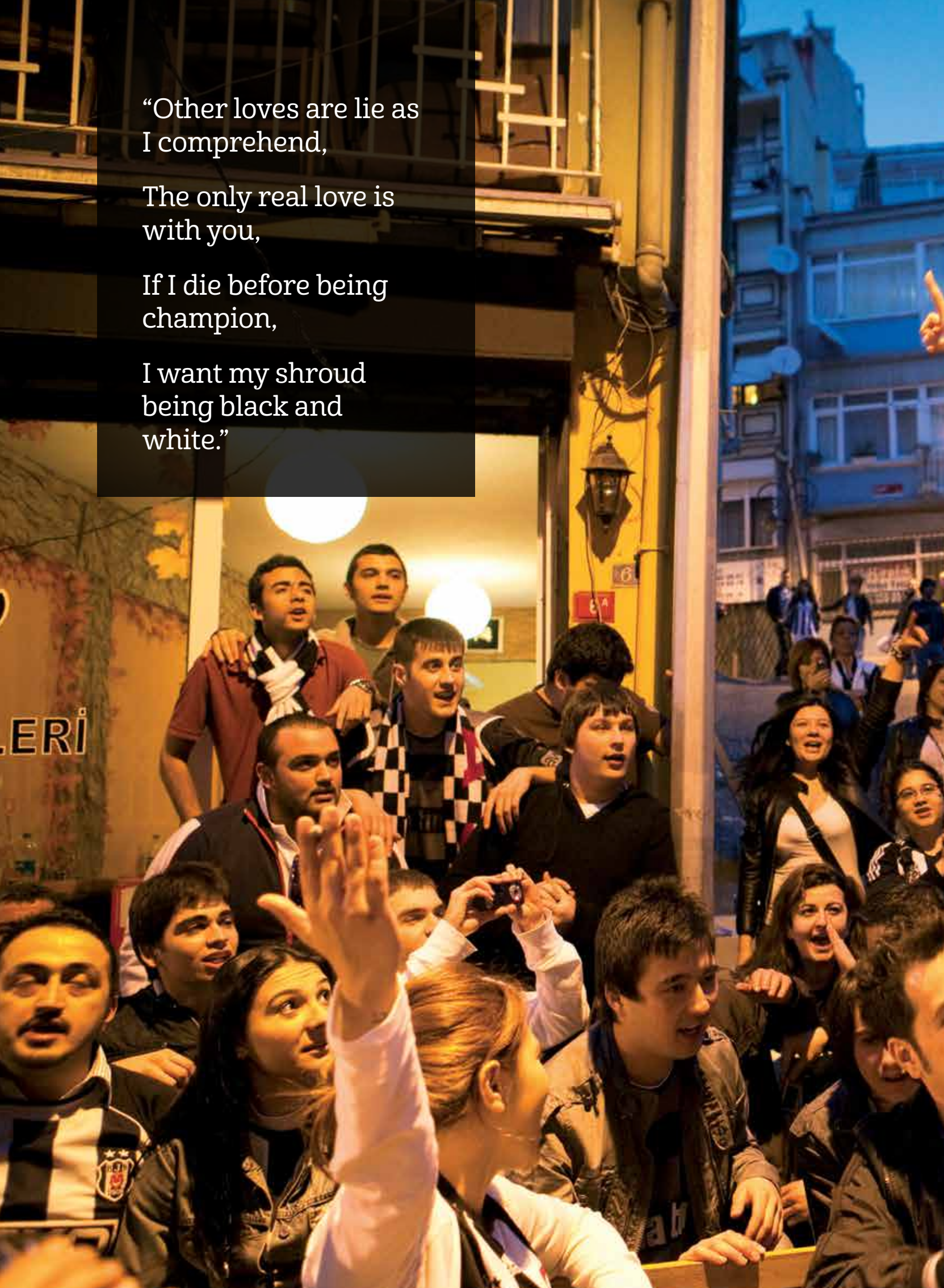
During the game days, Besiktas district becomes an open tribune. There might be no seats at the stadium but for the devoted supporters its always easy to find some new ways to cheer for their beloved team.

“Other loves are lie as
I comprehend,

The only real love is
with you,

If I die before being
champion,

I want my shroud
being black and
white.”





CONCLUDING

NECDET SAKAOĞLU



BEŞİKTAŞ AND ATATÜRK

8 years 2 months 46 days after 16th May 1919, Friday, his departure from Beşiktaş by Bandırma ship to Blacksea, we can say coincidence to Atatürk's coming back to İstanbul from Ankara by train and passing Haydarpaşa to Beşiktaş, Dolmabahçe Palace. Let it be so, Atatürk's coming to Beşiktaş for the first time after the national glory and foundation of Turkish Republic must be meaningful.

Beşiktaş's docks were connected to Haydarpaşa, Derince, Yalova, Mudanya, Karadeniz and Marmara seas and that's why Dolmabahçe Palace was the only palace for the president.

Atatürk said goodbye to Vahideddin, the last representer of the Ottoman sovereignty, in Yıldız Palace and Sinan Pasha Mosque, after the fall of the sultanate he set himself free from his pasha uniforms and medals, and instead of Ottoman symbols like fez, he came to the magnificent palace with his modern clothes.

When we narrow down the matter of subject to the “Republic period” and “place of residence” -presidential residence in this matter- the Çankaya Palace in Ankara takes first place, followed by the Dolmabahçe palace in Beşiktaş-İstanbul. Between the years of 1927-1938 “Beşiktaş Sarayı Hümayun” (Dolmabahçe Palace) in İstanbul has been equivalent to the Republican Residence in the capital of Republic Ankara.

Dolmabahçe palace used to be listed as a “National park”, later on however it was connected to the Grand National assembly and since then Atatürk used this palace as an accommodation during his visits to İstanbul. Presidential residence in Yalova, “Millet Gardens”, “Baltacı Gardens” and the “Deniz Palace” next to the Florya public beach were used as accommodations during Atatürk’s visits.

Sultan II. Abdulhamid had moved from Yıldız palace to Dolmabahçe palace for safety reasons; however during his presidential years Atatürk accommodated in Dolmabahçe palace during his visits; making it one of the palaces to witness innovational moves and many events. In this respect, youngsters paying visits to the palace should be aware of the fact that this palace plays a very important role in the progress made in the Turkish republics politics, foreign policy, and in the fields of culture and art. They should be taught that many congresses concerning language, modern art and culture including the “Alphabet Reform” which set the grounds for the Turkish enlightenment took place here in this palace.

Yet the image of connections between “Beşiktaş-Dolmabahçe-Ataturk” that is set in our brains consists of images on TV screens, newspaper pages that this palace is only a place where soldiers stand guard in that cold and dark





room in which Atatürk died in 1938, with the image of that bed covered with our Turkish flag fills the hearts of children with sorrow. With no doubt it is not correct to restrict Atatürk's connection to Dolmabahçe and Beşiktaş to the image of soldiers standing guard to a room full of sorrow and to the expression "Atatürk had died in this room!" fulling every visitor's ears.

Another important matter which has been overlooked is that Atatürk took his first steps to the National war of independence from Beşiktaş, 16 May 1919. However with no mention to this matter, it is said that Atatürk started the movement from Samsun on 19 May 1919.

There are plenty more examples to the connection between Atatürk and Beşiktaş. For instance during the Balkan wars (1912 - 1913) just like hundreds of Turkish families in Selanik, Atatürk with his mother Zubeyde, and his sister Makbule and family members Fikriye and Abdurrahim, Mustafa Kemal Bey family fled to Istanbul, Akaretler, No 76 : public housing of the palace. Though the family stayed here for a few months during the years of 1918-1919, their stay in Beşiktaş took over 10 years.

Mustafa Kemal who served in the Ottoman army as first lieutenant colonel (kaymakam), colonel (Miralay), then brigadier general (Mirliva); stayed at his house in Akaretler during his visits to Istanbul, which brings us to the conclusion that the family from Selanik had become residents of Beşiktaş from 1912 onwards. During the National war of Independence (1919-1923) Atatürk didn't pay visits to Istanbul, however between the years of 1927-1938 Atatürk came to Beşiktaş at least once a year and stayed for months. During his visits concerning any purpose including holidays, cultural and political work or welcoming foreign guests Atatürk had many options of places for his accommodation . He could have chosen to stay at pavilions and palaces of Sultans or even the Pera Palace which he accommodated during his years of serving as general in the army.

At this point it will be useful to mention a political prediction; all of these mentioned above should not lead to the misconceptions that such residences which accommodated Vahideddin, Khalif Abdülmecid and previous Sultans





Atatürk, 21 July
1931 stepping out of
Dolmabahçe Palace.



were over valued for a president of Republic. This could be a true approach from the point of view of the new state and it's representators. However, even though this is a correct reason, Atatürk enjoyed living a simple life, wasn't fond of accommodating at Sultans' palaces and would after mention this to his kins.

Dolmabahçe palace had not being occupied ever since the evacuation of Khalif Abdülmecid on 5 March 1924 was decided to be suitable for the president of republic to carry out his work and to enjoy during summer in Istanbul. Beşiktaş, in which the palace was situated, was considered as a capital city within a capital city by II. Mahmud (1808 1839) and the 6 sultans and one Khalif following him it was an area which was favoured. In the 19th century Beşiktaş developed rapidly and paid attention to specific issues.

In addition to Dolmabahçe palace (also named Beşiktaş Saray-ı Hümayun) Çırağan palace and Yıldız palace, which are rated as second and third importance after Dolmabahçe palace, kiosks, pavilions and summer palaces connected to them, mansions and waterside residences of the rich, were planned to be turned into barracks, many foreign schools including the Robert college were restructured in Beşiktaş, a zoning plan also was first planned in here in Beşiktaş.

On the other hand compared to the poor districts taken over by hovels and unsound structures occupied by immigrants from Balkans, Beşiktaş was a modern, well-kept district occupied by highly cultured and wealthy residents. Moreover in order to keep the historical peninsula occupied, surveillance and sublime portes were kept on the other side of the shore.

Motor vehicles and aircrafts weren't common means of transportation, trains were the main source of transportation to Ankara, new capital city, from Haydarpaşa railway station; and since Beşiktaş was a suitable shore to travel to Haydarpaşa, Derince, Yalova, Mudanya, Blacksea region and Marmara

shores, the Dolmabahçe Palace on Beşiktaş shores was undoubtedly to become a presidential residence.

Even though palaces were not a choice of preference for Atatürk, due to many reasons put forward, Atatürk accepted staying at the Dolmabahçe palace. A simple room was chosen for his stay and was decorated with basic furniture. This room with the view of Bosphorus, consisted of 2 chamber rooms, 1 bedroom and a study. This was their accommodation during their stays Istanbul. This part of the palace which was accommodated for 11 years, 4 months and 10 days between the dates of 1 July 1927 - 10 November 1938 by Ataturk was called the private (personal) room.

Between the dates of 27 May-10 November 1938, he spent all fatal phases of the deadly illness he had been diagnosed with (apart from the 54 days in Savarona) Atatürk got his will written here, doctors came to this room, he was visited by statesman, friends and family in this room.

The study in this private (personnel) room, is smaller and much more simple compared to other rooms in the palace. There is a tall mirror, paintings on the walls, his own portrait, a traffic ticket which was given to Khalif Abdülmecid whom had been pulled over while in his car by the military police, it is said that this ticket was framed and placed across from his study table. This room which consists of small tables and chairs reflects his understanding of living a simple life.

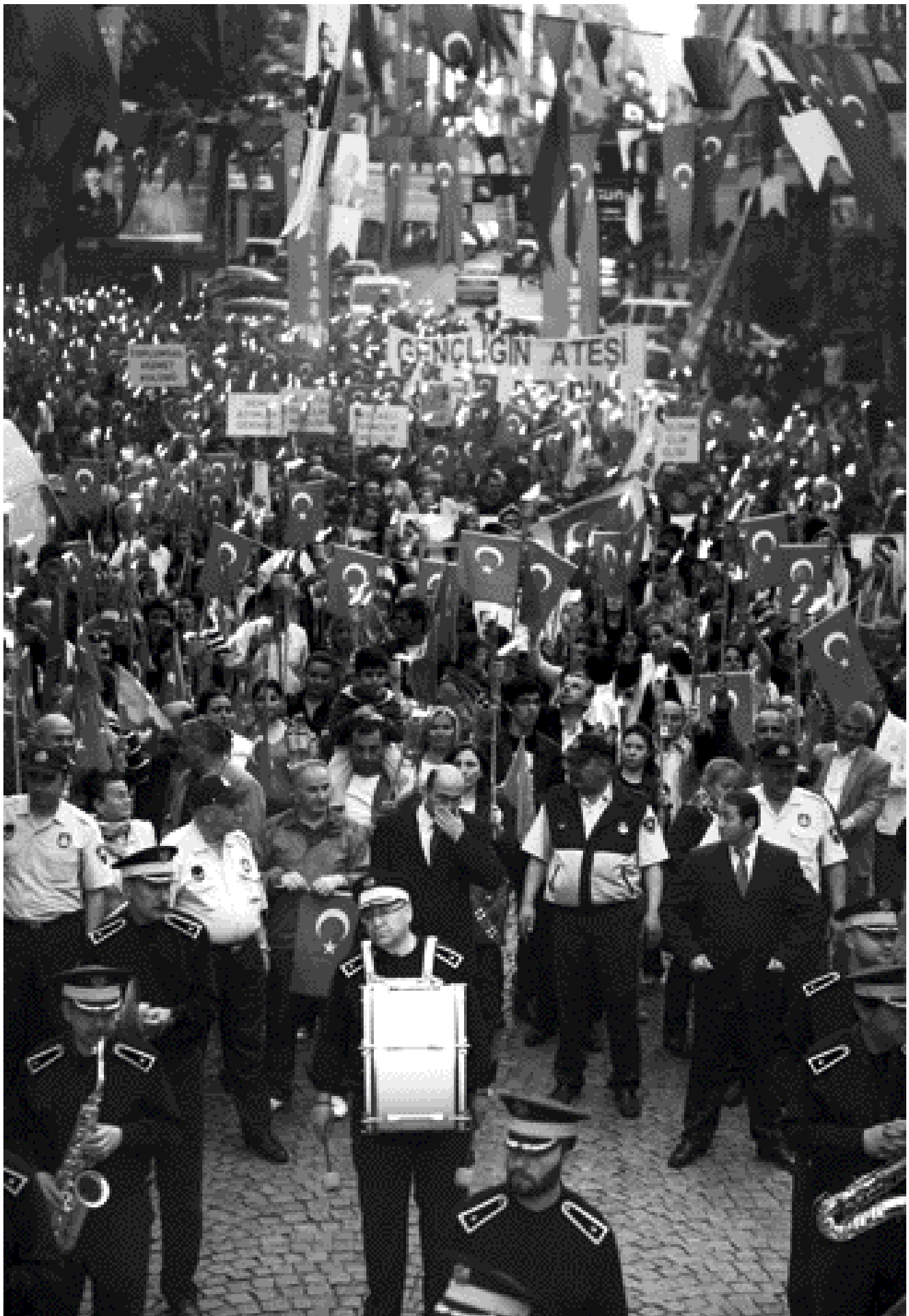
During the 1930s he continued his summer works in the palace while important meetings, formal calls, ceremonies, concerts, balls, weddings, visits of foreign guests and parliamentary meetings took place in large halls of the palace (e.g. 1932 - I. Turkish language congress was held in the Ceremonial Hall, 1934 - II. Turkish language congress at Ceremonial Hall). After his death, his catafalque was organised in the Ceremonial hall; between the dates of 16-19 Nov. 1938 almost all Istanbul residents had come to Beşiktaş, to this hall to say their last farewells with the pain in their chests.

In conclusion we must put down to words that since his first time coming to Istanbul on 14 May 1899 to sign up for the military school until his death, 10 November 1938, for almost 40 years his days in Istanbul are a matter of inspection. Until today there have been no studies carried out on Atatürk's connection with Istanbul or specifically with Beşiktaş.





BEŞİKTAŞ
BELEDİYESİ



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Together

Sincerely

‘The rising star of
T u r k e y
BEŞİKTAŞ,



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