Objective-Current-Qualified News • *Monthly*

The Konya News

YEAR: 4 • VOL: 31 • $5 JULY-AUGUST, 2025 www.thekonyanews.com



15.000 NEW EMPLOYMENT IN KONYA ORGANIZED INDUSTRIAL ZONE (KOS) 14

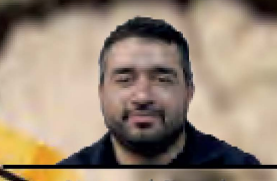


ŞAKALAK REDEFINES 'PLANTING' WITH CLEVER 24



SUCCESS OF KONYA'S INDUSTRIALISTS GIVES HOPE AND PRIDE 14

Heatwave From HELL



Kuttusi Demir

July Heatwave Pushes Konya's Temperatures to a 45-Year High Basra-centered heatwave keeps the city scorching for days as drought concerns deepen July arrived with sweltering heat across Konya and much of Anatolia. While no single-day record was broken, the monthly average temperature hit 26.3°C — the highest in the past 45 years. A Basra-centered heatwave gripped the region for about a week, keeping daytime highs between 38°C and 40°C. Even before the heatwave, temperatures had already been lingering between 32°C and 34°C. Brief, localized showers offered temporary relief for a day or two, but their effect quickly vanished under relentless heat. The ongoing drought, already a major concern for farmers and residents alike, has been worsened by increased evaporation, further depleting local water sources.As we move forward, the hope remains for cooler days ahead — days without new heat records, and blessed with the rainfall our land so desperately needs.

THE ELEGANCE OF THE PAST WITH THE VISION OF THE FUTURE IN SURIÇI

As part of the Meram Municipality's ambitious visionary project, the "Şükran Urban Transformation Project,"...

12





Anatolian Seljuk State

The Period of Kutalmışoğlu Süleyman Shah(1077-1086)

Tasked by Malik Shah with the conquest of Anatolia, Süleyman Shah quickly conquered all of Anatolia...

2-3

KARATAY'S 'PURPLE' BEAUTY CROWNED WITH A RECORD

Karatay Lavender Days hosted thousands of visitors from all over Turkey this year, offering a visual feast with its purple field. The event broke its own record by hosting 455,870 people during the three-day event.

18-19



Discover Yerköprü Waterfall, *Hadim's Hidden Treasure!*

Hadim, Konya's tranquil and peaceful district, captures the hearts of nature lovers with its Yerköprü Waterfall.

10-11



"KIFAYE"

of KONYA REGISTERED

22-23

Lively Sille



14-15

Anatolian Seljuk State (1077–1308)





By Büşra Sedef Işkan

The Period of Kutalmışoğlu Süleyman Shah (1077-1086)

Tasked by Malik Shah with the conquest of Anatolia, Süleyman Shah quickly conquered all of Anatolia, including İznik, and established his state in 1077. Sultan Süleyman Shah, who ruled Anatolia under the auspices of the Great Seljuk Sultan in Rey, took advantage of his position within Byzantium to frequently interfere in its internal affairs and, as a matter of policy, support certain emperors in their struggles for the throne. Meanwhile, he defeated his brother Mansur's rebellion with the help of a force sent by Malik Shah under the command of Emir Porsuk. In 1085, he seized Antakya Castle in a sudden raid. However, the conquest of Antakya caused a rift between him and the Syrian Seljuk Sultan Tutuş. Sultan Tutuş and his ally Artuk Bey defeated Süleyman Shah near Aleppo. Süleyman Shah, heartbroken, committed suicide (1086).

While setting out on the Antakya campaign, Süleymanşâh left the administration of İznik to one of his commanders, Ebu'l-Qasim. After Süleymanşâh's death, Malikşâh, suspicious of Ebu'l-Qasim's independent actions, sent a detachment to Anatolia under the command of Porsuk and Emir Bozan. Although he sought his pardon, he was killed by Bozan (1092). Around the same time, Süleymanşâh's son, Kılıç Arslan, was released upon the death of Sultan Melikşâh and came to Anatolia to inherit his father's legacy (1092).



Sultan Kılıç Arslan II (1155-1192)

In the early years of his reign, Sultan Kılıç Arslan struggled with his brothers, Danishmend Yağıbasan and Byzantine Emperor Manuel Komnenos. Taking advantage of Byzantium's preoccupation with the west, he achieved unity in Anatolia. Following the death of his greatest rival, Nureddin Mahmud Zengi (1174), he gained control of all of Anatolia except Western Anatolia and the Marmara Sea. Byzantine Emperor Manuel Komnenos mobilized with a large army to eliminate the threat posed by Kılıç Arslan. Sultan Kılıç Arslan II inflicted a crushing defeat on the Byzantine army at Yalvaç-Karamıkbeli in a battle known to Byzantine and European historians as the "Disaster of Myryekephalon." This great victory played a crucial role in the Turkification of Anatolia. From this date on, Byzantium could no longer pursue an offensive policy against the Turks. This victory opened Western Anatolia and the regions beyond Eskişehir to Turkish conquest. Turkish armies quickly captured numerous cities in the region extending to the Aegean Sea.

Towards the end of his reign, Sultan Kılıç Arslan divided his realm among his eleven sons, adhering to ancient Turkish customs. However, fierce fighting broke out among them. Meanwhile, the Third Crusade began, and Frederick Barbarossa entered Anatolia with a large army. However, the death of the German Emperor at the Silifke River saved the Anatolian Turks from another disaster. Kılıç Arslan died in 1192 while the country was embroiled in a struggle for the throne.

Ghiyaseddin Kaykhusraw I (1192-1211)

Ghiyaseddin Keyhüsrev I, who succeeded his father to the throne, sought aid from his brother Süleymanshah by going to Byzantium. However, he failed to receive the assistance he sought. Meanwhile, at the end of the Fourth Crusade, the Latins had captured Constantinople. Ghiyaseddin Keyhüsrev I thus crossed into Anatolia. Around the same time, upon his brother's death, the Seljuk emirs invited him to the throne. During his reign, he defeated Alexios III, Emperor of the Greek State of Pontus (Trabzon), and captured Antalya in 1207. He defeated the Armenian King Leo II. He prevented the Ayyubids from expanding into eastern and southeastern Anatolia. He was martyred in the Battle of Alaşehir against Laskaris, Emperor of İznik (1211).

İzzeddin Keykâvus I (1211-1220)

The most important event of the period was the capture of Sinop in 1214. Izzeddin Keykavus consolidated the Seljuk rule in Anatolia.

Alaaddin Keykubad I (1220-1237)

Alaaddin Keykubad, who ascended to the throne upon his brother's death, was one of the greatest Anatolian Seljuk Sultans. Sultan Alaaddin Keykubad, who largely achieved Turkish unity in Anatolia, captured Kolonoros Castle near Antalya and named it after himself (Alaiye, later Alanya). Sultan Alaaddin Keykubad sent a fleet with ships built in the shipyards of Sinop to Suğdak, a major trade center in Crimea, and captured it. The Kipchak realm recognized the Sultan's sovereignty (1226). The Armenian King was subjected to tribute. When Jalaluddin Khagan fled from Genghis Khan's armies and came to Anatolia, he engaged in war against his ambition to conquer Anatolia and defeated him at the Battle of Yassıçemen in 1230. Jalaluddin Khagan, who had fled, was killed near Van. He repaired the castles to secure his eastern borders. He reinforced the army with troops and ammunition. He established a large defensive chain in the east. He also sent an envoy to the Mongol Khan Ögedey and signed a treaty. Thus, he protected Anatolia from Mongol encroachment. He died of poisoning in 1237.

Ghiyaseddin Kaykhusraw II (1237-1246)

Ghiyaseddin II was an incompetent ruler. Initially influenced by one of his commanders, Saadeddin Köpek, he made many mistakes. One of these was the assassination of Kayır Khan, a Khwarezm Bey who had entered Seljuk service. This incident triggered a rebellion among the Khwarezm troops and caused considerable hardship for the state. Although Saadeddin Köpek was later killed, the subsequent Baba Ishak Rebellion (1239) severely shook the state. Bayju Noyan, the Mongol governor of Azerbaijan, closely followed events in Anatolia and inflicted a crushing defeat on the Seljuk army at Kösedağ in July 1243. This battle led to the collapse of the Anatolian Seljuk State.

The Collapse of the Anatolian Seljuk State

The rulers who succeeded Ghiyaseddin Kaykhusraw II were mere playthings in the hands of beys and commanders. In 1256, the Mongols, who were committing massacres in Anatolia, made an agreement with Vizier Mu'inuddin Suleiman Pervane to divide the state into two, with the Kızılırmak bordering the region. In 1261, the Karamanids revolted against Mongol oppression. In 1276, the Hatirids revolted again against the Mongols but were unsuccessful. Supporting this movement, the Turkish Mamluk Sultan of Egypt, Baybars, advanced as far as Kayseri, but failed to receive the support he sought from Anatolia. In 1277, Karamanid Mehmed Bey attempted to enthrone the Seljuk prince Alaaddin Siyavuş in Konya, but he was unsuccessful. This event is known in history as the "Mimri Incident."
13th century towards the end of the century, the Turkmen principalities in Anatolia began to declare their independence one by one.



Kılıç Arslan I (1092-1107)

After Kılıç Arslan gained considerable strength in the Aegean region and eliminated Çakan Bey (Çaka Bey) (1097), he marched to Malatya and laid siege to it. However, upon hearing of the arrival of a large Crusader army in Anatolia, he arrived near İznik but withdrew to Anatolia in the face of the numerically superior Crusaders. Trying his luck again near Eskişehir, Kılıç Arslan harassed the Crusader army with guerrilla warfare until they reached Antakya. Despite suffering heavy losses, the Crusaders crossed Anatolia, capturing Antakya, Jerusalem, and Urfa, establishing kingdoms, counties, and princedoms there. Meanwhile, the Byzantines, following the Crusaders, succeeded in regaining control of Western Anatolia, the Black Sea, and the Mediterranean coast.Sultan Kılıç Arslan I, with only Central Anatolia remaining in his hands, moved the capital to Konya. He then advanced on several cities in Southeastern Anatolia. Consequently, the Atabeg of Mosul, Çavlı, the Artuqid Il-Ghazi, and the Melik of Syria, Rıdvan, marched against Kılıç Arslan. Having lost the battle at the Habur River in Syria, Kılıç Arslan drowned while crossing the Habur River (1107). His son, Mes'ud, succeeded him, but his other brother, Shahinshah, did not recognize him. The struggle for the throne continued until 1116.









Sultan Mes'ud I (1116-1155)

Sultan Mes'ud was initially forced to recognize the sovereignty of Danishmend Ahmed Gazi. However, after his death in 1134, he began to act independently. He attempted to reestablish Seljuk rule in Anatolia. However, the renewed Crusade (the Second Crusade) thwarted this project. Sultan Mes'ud, who defeated the German forces under Conrad III at Ceyhan in 1147, also won a major victory by defeating the French army under Louis VII, first at Yalvaç and then at Kazkbeli in the Western Taurus Mountains. Sultan Mes'ud also captured the Armenian-dominated Maraş-Elbistan region and at one point managed to stop the Byzantine Emperor Manuel Komnenos, who had advanced as far as Konya. After his death, his son, Sultan Kılıç Arslan II, succeeded him.

The Konya News

Founded: 19 October 2020
MARCH-APRIL, 2025 • Year: 4 • Volume: 29
Published as: Local and Monthly
Price : $3
On behalf of **DOU COMPANY PUBLISHING**

Doğuhan İŞKAN
Executive Editor:
Kerem İŞKAN
Editor in Chief: Doğa İŞKAN
Art Director: Mehmet ÇAKIR•Şevval ÖZELÇİ
Translation Editor: Melisa YILDIRIM
News Director: Şerafettin ULUSOY
Advertising Coordinator: Sedef Büşra YÜKSEL
Architect Consultant: Sinem Tuğçe ŞAHİN
Travel Editor: Semanur İŞKAN
Editors: Zeynep UÇAR, Mustafa ÖZKAN
Editors for Health: Dr. Ezgi ULU
Legal Consultant: Advoc. Erdem Selahi YILDIRIM
Financial Advisor: Nevbahar ÇOLAK TOSUN

Contact Address:
Musalla Bağları Mh. Şehit Ahmet Değerli Sk.
No: 46/13 Selçuklu / KONYA
Contact Number: +90 506 061 13 90
E-Mail: thekonyanews@gmail.com
Advertising Mail: advertising@thekonyanews.com
www.**thekonyanews**.com

Place of Publication:
Fevziçakmak, Hacıbayram Cd. 18
Zipcode: 42050 Karatay / KONYA
Contact Number: +90 332 342 01 09

Private Notice Advertising Prices
Above logo advertising : $385+VAT
Quarter-page colourful : $255+VAT
Full-back page colourful : $385+VAT
Half-page colourful : $320+VAT
Full-page colourful : $510+VAT
Half-back page colourful : $300+VAT
Quarter-back page colourful : $270+VAT

This newspaper promises to follow the press code.



Exclusive tastes of the palace cuisine are on your table with their essence.





40 KIRKİKİNDİ RESTORAN

In side of Millet Bahçesi
(Old Ataturk Stadium)

+90 (332)
235 40 40

The Konya News



15.000 new employment in

Konya Organized Industrial Zone (KOS)

Konya Chamber of Industry and Konya Organized Industrial Zone President Mustafa Büyükeğen in his written statement regarding the "KOS 6th Section Expansion Area" project, stated that they will bring new factories to the region with the investment.Büyükeğen announced that they would quickly complete the infrastructure work and deliver the parcels to industrialists. He said, "Konya Organized Industrial Zone has reached 31 million square meters with the 6th Section Expansion Area, making it Türkiye's second-largest organized industrial zone."

1081 FACTORIES, 80.000 EMPLOYMENT

He stated that the preliminary allocation process for 258 parcels in the sixth section of the KOS has been completed, while the process for 18 parcels is ongoing. Büyükeğen continued as follows:"As the Konya Organized Industrial Zone Directorate, we are continuing our infrastructure investments in the region. We have reached a significant point in wastewater, drinking water, and road infrastructure. Our work on construction site electricity has also reached 50% completion. We aim to complete the preliminary allocations for our 6th Section Expansion Area this year and move on to permanent allocation. Currently, we will invest over 10 billion liras in the industrial infrastructure of this area. This includes investments ranging from electricity and natural gas to fibre infrastructure and environmental irrigation."

"As the KOS Regional Directorate, we aim to quickly complete infrastructure investments and deliver the parcels to industrialists. Following our infrastructure investments, our industrialists will build their factories in Section 6 and begin production. We anticipate creating 15,000 new jobs in the factories to be built here. Thus, the total number of factories in our Konya Organized Industrial Zone will reach 1.081, and total employment will reach 80.000."

Success of Konya's Industrialists Gives Hope and Pride

Konya Chamber of Commerce President Selçuk Öztürk congratulated the 14 Konya companies on the ISO's Second 500 list, saying, "This success gives us hope and pride."

14 companies from Konya have been included on the list of "Turkey's Second 500 Largest Industrial Enterprises - 2024," announced by the Istanbul Chamber of Industry (ISO). Konya Chamber of Commerce (KTO) Chairman Selçuk Öztürk has congratulated the successful Konya companies and said that "This success gives us hope and pride."KTO President Selçuk Öztürk stated that "The strong performance of Konya's business community in production, exports, and employment has been confirmed once again. Konya's strong representation on this list reflects our city's industrial potential, entrepreneurial spirit, and
commitment to sustainable growth." President Öztürk also stated that "Konya, with its strong industrial infrastructure, skilled workforce, and investment environment, will further advance this success in the coming years."



14 Konya Companies on the ISO Second 500 List

Konya-based companies included in the study of Turkey's Second Top 500 Industrial Enterprises are:
Ova Un, Safa Tarım, Konya Çimento, Hekimoğlu Un, Al-San Gıda, Akova Süt, Çöğenler Yem, Konya Kağıt, Büyük Hekimoğulları, İzi Süt, Sezersan Matbaacılık, Besa Yemcilik, a company that wishes to remain anonymous, and Memak Makine.
These companies have reaffirmed Konya's manufacturing power across Turkey and supported the city's rising industrial and export performance.

ASHURA

Bitter and Sweet Stories in One Bowl

Ashura Day is the 10th day of Muharram according to the Islamic calendar and is an important day for Sunni Muslims. The miracles of many prophets, such as the salvation of Moses and the Children of Israel from Pharaoh's oppression, are commemorated on this day. According to the Sunni school of thought, fasting on this day is a Sunnah. The Prophet Muhammad also fasted on this day and recommended it to his ummah.However, the Shia school of thought has a different meaning for Ashura. According to the Shia, Ashura is a day of mourning for the martyrdom of Hussein and his family in Karbala. Therefore, Shia people primarily observe this day in mourning and lamentation.
In short, for Sunni Muslims, Ashura is a day of worship, fasting, and gratitude. For Shia, it commemorates and mourns the events of Karbala.

According to legend, Noah's Ark survived the Flood and landed on Mount Judi on the Day of Ashura. As is known, Noah, upon God's command, took his believers aboard an ark he had built. When the Flood occurred, those who did not believe were drowned and destroyed.
The acceptance of Adam's repentance, Abraham's salvation from Nimrod's fire, Jacob's reunion with his son Joseph, and the salvation of Moses and the Israelites from Pharaoh's oppression are among the events reported to have occurred on the Day of Ashura.
This year, Ashura Day begins on Saturday, July 5th and continues until July 26, 2025.

What is Ashura dessert?

A food prepared by boiling legumes and nuts such as wheat, beans, chickpeas, apricots, and figs is called "ashure." The practices surrounding the cooking and distribution of this food during the month of Muharram, according to the Islamic calendar, are called "ashure tradition." The name "ashure" comes from the Arabic word "ashura" and is derived from the Hebrew word "asor," meaning "tenth."



What is Ashura made for?

There are many stories about the events believed to have occurred in Muharram, known as the month of Ashura in Turkey. The most widely known of these are the grounding of Noah's Ark, the acceptance of Adam's repentance, and Abraham's salvation from the fire. Ashura, observed on the 10th day of Muharram, is commonly observed to commemorate the martyrdom of Hussein, the grandson of Muhammad, in Karbala.



The ingredients, date of preparation, and purpose of Ashura vary depending on the meaning communities that practice the Ashura tradition attach to this day. While the variety and number of ingredients vary depending on the communities that practice it, Ashura is renowned for its multitude of ingredients. It is generally prepared by boiling dehulled wheat, along with legumes and nuts such as beans, chickpeas, apricots, walnuts, grapes, and figs, for a long time. Prayers are said for the cooked ashure; it is served first to the sick and children, believed to have healing properties, and then distributed to many others, starting with close neighbours. The ashure container is returned unwashed. Any leftover ashura is poured at the base of fruit trees, believed to encourage more fruit production.

The Ashura tradition has found its place in Islamic sects, as well as being known by various names among Jews and Christians. Known and still practiced throughout Anatolia, the Ashure tradition has been transformed into a festival through various events organized by village associations.



What Ingredients are Used to Make Ashura? Ingredients

- 3 cups wheat for Ashure
- 1 cup beans
- 1 cup chickpeas
- 1 cup raisins
- 7 figs
- 7 apricots
- 6 cups sugar
- 3 single cloves (boiled in a pot and drained)
- Cinnamon
- Walnuts

How to Make Ashura?

The preparation of ashura varies from region to region in our country. We'd like to share a recipe from our book, Anatolian Cooking Art. The wheat, beans, and chickpeas are soaked separately the night before. Once the wheat is thoroughly cooked, the chickpeas and beans, cooked separately, are added and boiled for a while longer. Sugar and washed raisins are added. Finely chopped figs and apricots are added. After cooking for another five minutes, cloves are added to the mixture. The cooked ashure is served hot in bowls and garnished with walnuts and cinnamon.The ingredients in ashure, made in almost every region of Turkey, also vary from region to region. Ingredients such as broad beans, black-eyed peas, and corn are also added, as well as pomegranate and sesame seeds. In some regions, ashure is sweetened with molasses.

MAYOR ALTAY:

"WE WORK TO REVEAL KONYA'S WALLS AS A CAPITAL AND INCREASE ITS TOURISM POTENTIAL"

Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay stated that the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Konya Metropolitan Municipality are carrying out a significant project to uncover Konya's outer walls, the centre of the Darülmülk Project, at the excavation site of the Larende Gate and city walls. He said, 'We aim to uncover Konya's city walls as a capital and make a significant contribution to its brand value. Our most important goal is to attract more tourists to Konya and capture a share of this economic growth. As part of the Greater Larende Transformation project, which we carried out with the Meram Municipality, we relocated 78 shops here. We are currently conducting a significant archaeological excavation. Once the restoration work, we have carried out as part of the Darülmülk Project is complete, we will all witness the further expansion of this potential.'





Doğuhan İşkan









A LARGE ARCHAEO-PARK

Konya Museum Director Ömer Faruk Türkan stated that they are working to uncover the Larende Gate. "Currently, 70 percent of the gate has been uncovered. As we know from 19th-century engravings and sources, this is the section where the gate is located; we are in the perfect spot. We have determined that the gate's entrance is more towards the west. We will also excavate and uncover the remainder of the outer walls, including the moat in front of it. We will create a large archaeological park in this area."
Mayor Altay said that "Konya was the capital of the Seljuk State for 200 years and during this period, very important historical works were built, but many of them did not survive today. We are conducting a significant project to uncover Konya's outer city walls, the center of the Darülmülk Project.



I hope that upon completion, we will first complete the reconstruction and then the completion of the project, which will revitalize the historical fabric of the entire area within Konya's outer city walls. As part of the Great Larende Transformation project, which we are carrying out with the Meram Municipality, we relocated 78 shops here. We are currently conducting a significant archaeological excavation. Our goal is to uncover the Larende Gate. Initial findings are promising. This will mark the beginning of work on uncovering, reconstructing, and rebuilding the Larende Gate, located opposite Sahip Ata."





Discover Yerköprü Waterfall, Hadim's Hidden Treasure!

TRAVEL MORE

Hadim, Konya's tranquil and peaceful district, captures the hearts of nature lovers with its Yerköprü Waterfall. With its unique ecosystem, captivating views, and cool waters, Yerköprü Waterfall welcomes thousands of visitors each year.Hadim Yerköprü Waterfall, a natural structure formed by the collapse of limestone layers in the deep valley formed by the Göksu River, has been a lifeline for numerous plants since ancient times.The waterfall's formation dates back thousands of years. With its intriguing geological structure, it is located on the Göksu River, one of Anatolia's major rivers.The waterfall is also located within a canyon formed by the Karasu River. The name Yerköprü Waterfall comes from the word "Yerköprü," meaning "water flowing underground."

Features of Yerköprü Waterfall

Hadim Yerköprü Waterfall is located in the Hadim district of Konya.
The waterfall is 30 meters high and surrounded by lush greenery.
Yerköprü Waterfall is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Konya.
The waterfall is located in a canyon formed by the Karasu River.
The water of the waterfall is quite cold and clear.
There are suitable areas for picnics around the waterfall.
The nature walking trails, viewing terraces and resting areas around the waterfall have a peaceful atmosphere.

How to go to Hadim Yerköprü Waterfall?

The waterfall is located approximately 110 km from Konya city centre.Alternative routes you can use to go to Yerköprü Waterfall: Following the Konya-Hadim highway, after leaving Konya and driving 121 km, you need to turn onto the Aladağ Village road 10 km before Hadim. When you drive 29 km more on this road, you will reach the Bademli junction on the right. When you turn from this junction and drive 600 meters, you will see Yerköprü Waterfall.

If you prefer to use the Konya-Karaman road, after leaving Konya and driving 60 km, the Güneysınır District road splits on the right. When you drive 11 km more on this road, you will reach Elmasın Village. When you drive 21 km more from Güneysınır District, you will reach Kayaağzı Village, and from there, you will reach Habiller Village after driving 10 km more. After Habiller Village, the road splits into two; one goes to Karaman, the other to Hadim. If you follow the road to Hadim and continue for another 14 km, you will reach the Bademli Village junction on the left. If you turn left from this junction and continue for another 600 meters, you will come across Yerköprü Waterfall.



Hadim Yerköprü Waterfall Address
Bademli,
Bademli Road,
42830 Hadim/Konya

Public Transportation

You can reach the town by taking buses from the Konya intercity bus station to Hadim. Then, from there, you can take a minibus or taxi to the waterfall.





The elegance of the past with the vision of the future in Suriçi

As part of the Meram Municipality's ambitious visionary project, the "Şükran Urban Transformation Project," historically registered buildings were brought together on a single island in Suriçi and rebuilt in accordance with their original design, contributing to the city's tourism scene. These structures, Turkey's second-largest registered building relocation project, have now begun operating as a hotel. The opening ceremony for the "Sırçalı Hotel," which will significantly contribute to the city and its tourism sector, was held.



By Doğa İŞKAN



















"SIRÇALI HOTEL IS A LOYALTY TO HISTORY, A RESPECT FOR CULTURE AND A STRONG BELIEF IN THE FUTURE"

Mayor Kavuş made a statement about the Sırçalı Hotel, which will provide accommodation services as a result of the Meram Municipality's efforts. He said "Our hotel, which will offer 21 rooms and 50 beds, takes its name from the Sırçalı Madrasa, which embodies the elegance of Seljuk tile art. The elegance of the art of "glazing" will be felt in every corner of the hotel with aesthetic touches. The cafe called Suriçi Avlu, located amidst registered buildings on the same place, also began operating alongside the opening. This social space, open not only to guests but to all residents of Konya, will become Meram's new meeting point with its historic atmosphere and high-quality service."

"WE HAVE BROUGHT THIS CENTURY-OLD HERITAGE TO THE CITY, HISTORY, TOURISM, AND LIFE WITH AN INVESTMENT OVER 4 BILLION LIRAS."

Mayor Kavuş also reminded that the Şükran Urban Transformation Project, with an investment volume exceeding 4 billion liras to date, is a comprehensive transformation initiative that aims to revitalize the identity and history of not only Meram but all of Konya. He pointed out that Sırçalı Hotel stands out as one of the symbolic stops of cultural heritage, aesthetics, and a visionary urban planning approach in this intensely ambitious endeavour.Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay, spoke at the opening ceremony of the Sırçalı Hotel, emphasized the importance of the transformation taking place in the Şükran district. He stated that he was one of those who best
experienced and observed the transformation. Mayor Altay said, "Years ago, this place was in chaos, but today it is Konya's tourism showcase." Praising Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş's interest and determination in the project, Mayor Altay said, "Mayor Mustafa has made a great contribution to this magnificent project. I wholeheartedly congratulate him and his team." Following the speeches, the opening ceremony of the Sırçalı Hotel, which will accommodate 50 guests at a time in its 21 rooms, took place. After touring the hotel building, the dignitaries spent time at the Suriçi Avlu Cafe.

Lively Sille

Selçuklu Mayor Ahmet Pekyatırmacı stated that "the Selçuklu Municipality's investments and services have added value to Sille. It is a 5,000-year-old important cultural valley. Having hosted numerous civilizations throughout history, Sille holds a wealth of historical and cultural riches. As the Selçuklu Municipality, we have undertaken significant projects in Sille to uphold this historic mission.
A wide range of projects, including restorations of places of worship, street improvements, and facade improvements, have borne fruit, and Sille has become a major tourist destination visited by thousands of local and international visitors each year. Tourists visiting Konya now don't leave without seeing Sille.
All of these projects contribute significantly to our city's tourism revenue."



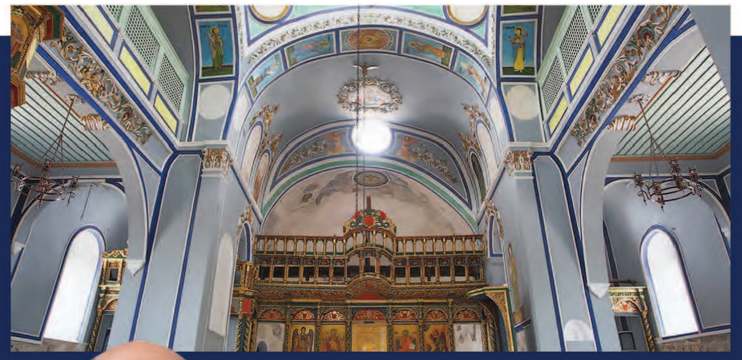






Sıla İşkan

"Step Back in Time in Sille"





Selçuklu Belediye Başkanı
AHMET PEKYATIRMACI



Sille lies just 15 minutes northwest of Konya's city centre, a 5,000-year-old village where Seljuk, Greek and Ottoman stories share the same cobbled lanes. Start at the Aya Elenia Church, commissioned in 327 CE by Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine, after she paused here on her pilgrimage to Jerusalem. The white-stone basilica, now fully restored, anchors a hillside of slate-roofed houses that have been reborn as artisan cafés and boutique guest rooms, making every corner Instagram-ready.
Wander downhill and the valley floor turns wild: honey-comb cave chapels pierce the soft tuff cliffs, and the dramatic single-arch Şeytan Köprüsü ("Devil's Bridge") vaults a narrow gorge first spanned in the 16th century. Today hikers can loop a scenic 5 km trail that links the bridge, pigeon lofts and hidden grottoes before climbing back into the village.Round off your visit at Türkiye's first Time Museum, a former hillside chapel filled with Ottoman and early-Republic clocks, sundials and astronomical instruments that tick through 700 years of horology. Sip a glass of cinnamon-laced Sille coffee on the museum terrace, then pick up the paved cycling path that runs all the way back to Konya.
Whether you crave history, hiking or just an other-worldly photo op, Sille proves that time travel is only a bus ride away.





"Ordeal" in Mevlevi Order



The path to spiritual maturity is to wage war against one's ego, that is, against excessive desires. The practice of this war is called "ÇİLE (ordeal)" in the Mevlevi order and lasts 1001 days, carried out through service. Service continues by being under the tutelage of a mature person. Learning through observation, imitating and taking as an example a role model, is a good method of maturation. During the sufi order, one learns etiquette, customs, and rules of behaviour from these role models.Beginning the ascetic journey begins in the kitchen. The kitchen (matbah) is not only where meals are prepared and cooked. It is also where Mevlevi dervishes undergo the process of preparing for the ascetic journey, training, cooking, and maturation.

The candidate who begins the ascetic journey initially observes the services of those who have undergone it before them. They then perform services such as errand boys, market boys, dishwashers, somat chefs, and market attendants. During this time, they perform the sema (a traditional Sufi dance). They also progress in fine arts such as poetry, literature, music, and calligraphy, depending on their abilities. Those who complete this journey are admired.Many prominent names such as Şeyh Galib, İsmail Dede Efendi, Tahirü'l-Mevlevi underwent hardships in the Yenikapı Mevlevi Lodge, starting from the simplest services and eventually reaching perfection.





Spiritual Ordeal

In the ordeal, the word "cile" (sufi order) is used instead of "erbain" (religious order) and "halvet." Its duration is approximately three years. In other words, it is a 1001-day period of service.Mevlevi order holds a prominent position among Sufi institutions in terms of organization, etiquette, rituals, and rules. Mevlevi lodges have a detailed structure appropriate to these functions. The large Mevlevi lodges, also known as asitane (places of worship), built within a spacious garden, consist of a semahane (sema hall), a mausoleum, a small mosque, a kitchen,a square, dede cells, a selamlık, and a harem. Consequently, it is natural that a large staff would be present.The large Mevlevi lodges where the sufi order were performed were called "asıtâne." These lodges are listed according to their degrees as follows: Mevlevi lodges in Konya, Afyon, Manisa, Kütahya, and Aleppo; Mevlevi lodges in Istanbul: Mevlevi lodges in Galata, Yenikapı, Kasımpaşa, and Beşiktaş; and Mevlevi lodges in Bursa, Cairo, Kastamonu, Eskişehir, Gallipoli, and the New City of Rumelia (Larissa).In the Mevlevi order, ordeal is a training for maturity. The word "Rıza" corresponds to the number 1001 in the abjad calculation. Because of this relationship, a connection is sought to be established between completing the suffering and "rıza." Rıza is considered the culmination of Sufi stations in the Usul-I Asherah tradition. During this period of suffering, the candidate is expected to reach this level of maturity.The ordeal, which lasted nearly three years, was based on spiritual knowledge. It possessed a peculiar humility unique to the East. This humility far from creating an inferiority complex was entirely geared towards self-discipline. In the event of failure, the candidate's dignity was not violated; only the dervish's shoes at the door were turned outward. This graceful gesture conveyed the purpose without uttering hurtful words.During the ordeal, they learned etiquette, customs, and rules of behaviour from exemplary individuals. In Mevlevi lodges, everything had its own etiquette and rules. These etiquette, customs, and rules were not to be deviated from, nor could they be broken. An unseen authority permeated the entire
tmosphere of the lodge.



KONYA PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS JUNE 2025

The "Konya Province Economic Indicators," conducted in collaboration with the Konya Chamber of Commerce and TEPAV, provide a monthly sectoral analysis of the Konya economy. The study consists of five separate bulletins: the Retail Confidence Index, the Service Sector Confidence Index, the Construction Sector Confidence Index, the Employment Monitoring Bulletin, and the Foreign Trade Bulletin. The survey includes 300 companies in the retail sector, 300 in the services sector, and 200 in the construction sector.

RETAIL CONFIDENCE INCREASES MONTH-OVER-MONTH BUT DECREASES YEAR-OVER-YEAR

In May 2025, the TEPAV Retail Confidence Index (TEPE) received a value of 10.0 points, while the KOPE received a value of 0.7 points. Compared to the same period last year, the KOPE decreased by 0.8 points and the TEPE increased by 22.5 points. Compared to the previous month, the KOPE increased by 3.7 points, and the TEPE by 2.3 points. While Konya's retail performance is more negative than in Turkey overall and more positive than in the EU-27, the monthly increase in the KOPE was driven by a 10.3-point improvement in the business development indicator over the past three months and a 6.0-point improvement in the sales expectations indicator for the next three months. Conversely, a 5.0-point change in the current inventory level above normal has a negative impact on the index.

RETAIL CONFIDENCE INCREASED THE MOST IN THE "FURNITURE, LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS" SECTOR IN MAY

When examining the retail sector in Konya by sub-sector, above-average changes were seen in the "furniture, lighting equipment, and household products," "motor vehicles," "textiles, ready-made clothing, and footwear," and "food, beverages, and tobacco products" sectors in May compared to the same period last year, while below-average changes were seen in the "electrical appliances, radios, and televisions," "others (gas stations, pharmacies, perfumeries, hardware stores, glassware, stationery, etc.)," and "grocery stores, markets, and department stores selling more than one type of product." The "grocery stores, markets, and department stores selling more than one type of product" sector saw a 10.4 percentage point contraction.

THE SERVICES SECTOR CONFIDENCE INDEX INCREASED IN KONYA COMPARED TO LAST YEAR BUT DECREASED NATIONWIDE.

In May, the Konya Services Sector Confidence Index increased by 9 points compared to last year and by 5.6 points compared to the previous month, reaching a value of 1.4. The Services Sector Confidence Index, representing Turkey as a whole, increased by 4.8 points compared to the previous month and decreased by 6.7 points compared to the previous year, reaching a value of 15.8. The Services Sector Confidence Index, representing the EU-27, decreased by 4.7 points compared to the same period last year and increased by 1.6 points compared to the previous month, reaching a value of 5.3.

THE NUMBER OF COMPANIES REPORTING INSUFFICIENT DEMAND AS A CONSTRAINT ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IS DECLINING

Comparing the assessments of companies in the service sector in Konya regarding the factors that constrain their activities compared to last year, a decrease was observed in sectors excluding other factors. Of the companies that participated in the May assessment survey, 16.3 percent cited financial constraints, 14 percent cited insufficient demand, 1 percent cited labour shortages, and 62 percent cited other factors as constraining their activities. The percentage of those reporting no constraint on their activities was 5.3 percent.

THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CONFIDENCE INDEX DECREASES IN KONYA COMPARED TO LAST YEAR, WHILE IT INCREASES IN TURKEY

In May 2025, the construction sector confidence index representing Turkey as a whole was -8.2 points, and the confidence index representing the EU-27 was -2.6 points. In May, compared to the previous month, the construction sector confidence index increased in Turkey and the EU-27, but decreased in Konya. The indices have been negative across Turkey since July 2020 and in Konya since September 2021, indicating a predominance of pessimistic sentiment. However, they have been negative in the EU-27 since October 2022 (except for May 2023).

ANNUAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED EMPLOYEES IN KONYA IN MARCH: 1.1%

According to March registered employment statistics published by the Social Security Institution (SGK), the total number of insured employees in Konya, including those paid Social Security Support Premiums (SGDP), increased by 6,638 (1.1 percent) compared to the same month last year, reaching 601,631, but decreased by 2,725 (0.5 percent) compared to the previous month. The annual rate of change for Turkey in the relevant period was 0.5 percent, with the total number of insured employees increasing by 22,171 compared to the previous month, reaching 24,986,873. An examination of the employment class in Konya reveals a decrease in employment across all employee groups compared to the previous month.

In March, compared to the previous month, there was a decrease of 0.6 percent in insured wage employment, 0.7 percent in registered farmer employment, 0.1 percent in public employee employment, and 0.1 percent in registered tradesmen group. Meanwhile, the number of businesses operating in Konya, which ranks 7th in Turkey, increased by 3.2 percent compared to March 2024, reaching 56,225. During this period, female employment increased by 4.6 percent to 99,850, and their share of total employment rose from 24.2 percent to 25.0 percent.

KONYA'S IMPORTS FROM ROMANIA INCREASES 21-TIMES COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR

According to Foreign Trade Statistics published by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) using the Special Trade System, Konya's exports totalled $265.5 million, and imports totalled $150.3 million in April 2025. Annualized data shows a foreign trade surplus of $1.9 billion, with an export-to-import ratio of 224 percent. Meanwhile, across Turkey, as of April 2025, annual export revenues covered 72.3 percent of import expenditures, while the foreign trade deficit reached $90.4 billion.

The "Weapons and ammunition, parts and accessories thereof" sector, which ranked fourth with a 5.1 percent share in exports in April 2025, reached $13.6 million this year (a 40.9 percent increase), up from $9.7 million in the same month last year. Meanwhile, the "Aluminium and articles thereof" sector, which ranked among the top 10 sectors during this period and accounted for a 3.4 percent share of total exports, saw the fastest contraction at 29.3 percent.

When looking at Konya's export figures by country, Algeria saw the largest increase in exports in April. Konya's exports to Algeria increased by 68.7 percent compared to the same month last year, reaching $7.5 million, and its share in the total rose to 2.8 percent. Additionally, exports to the United Kingdom increased by 38.4 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, while exports to Poland, France, and Azerbaijan also saw increases of over 30 percent. Meanwhile, exports to Russia decreased by 36.9 percent during this period, followed by Iraq.



KARATAY'S 'PURPLE' BEAUTY CROWNED WITH A RECORD

Karatay Lavender Days hosted thousands of visitors from all over Turkey this year, offering a visual feast with its purple field. The event broke its own record by hosting 455,870 people during the three-day event.Organized by Karatay
Municipality for the fourth time, Lavender Days brought citizens together with the enchanting atmosphere of lavender for three days.During the festival, visitors walked in Turkey's largest lavender field in Karaaslan Neighbourhood, visited the stands, and children had a great time at the events. Guests from all over Turkey, especially Konya, showed great interest in this special event of Karatay.



BROAD PARTICIPATION FROM ALL OVER TURKEY

There was intense participation in the Lavender Days from both Konya and all over Turkey. Visitors expressed their satisfaction by appreciating the effort put into every detail of the organization. Karatay Mayor Hasan Kılca thanked everyone who contributed to the event that added a different colour to Karatay. Mayor Kılca met with the Konya Press at the Karatay Lavender Gardens, which opened its doors to visitors on June 28. Hasan Kılca shared the Karatay Lavender Gardens as well as the investments and projects that the municipality has recently implemented with the public at the meeting.
Karatay Mayor Hasan Kılca noted that they were very pleased with the intense interest shown in Karatay Lavender Days. Mayor Kılca said, "We transformed an idle area into fragrant lavender fields and contributed to both production and employment. Approximately 500.000 citizens visited the 4th Traditional Karatay Lavender Days for three days. This broad participation is the best indicator of how much the project we implemented in Karatay is loved. This interest from our citizens gives us strength and motivation."

TWO BEAUTIES FOR TOURISM: LAVENDER AND ROSE GARDENS

The 340.000 m2 Karatay Lavender Garden, which opened its doors on June 28, continues to attract visitors after the events. The decorative objects in the garden allow guests to immortalize their memories by taking photos.The Karatay Mevlana Rose Park, which opened on June 13, is gaining the appreciation of visitors with thousands of roses of 190 different types. While both gardens make important contributions to Konya tourism, Karatay Lavender Days hosted a record attendance with 455 thousand 870 visitors in 3 days.







Mustafa AKGÖL
Journalist

Water Stress in the Konya Plain

The Konya Plain is renowned for its fertile soil, which plays a critical role in Turkey's agricultural production. However, the increasing impacts of climate change and the depletion of water resources in recent years pose serious threats to agricultural activities in the region. The challenges facing the Konya Plain are significant not only regionally but also nationally. Accounting for one-fifth of Turkey's total agricultural land, this region is vital to the country's food security. However, having only 10% of its usable water resources, it further enhances the importance of sustainable agricultural practices and smart water management.

THE AGRICULTURAL IMPORTANCE OF THE KONYA PLAIN AND THE CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

The Konya Plain is one of Turkey's largest agricultural production centres. The region is a leader in the country's production of wheat, sugar beets, sunflowers, and many vegetables. However, increasing drought and declining groundwater levels in recent years threaten agricultural activities in the region.Rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall due to climate change Depletion of groundwater resources due to over-irrigation Risk of soil salinization and desertification Inefficiency of traditional irrigation methods These challenges necessitate the urgent implementation of sustainable agricultural practices and smart water management strategies in the region.

SMART MANAGEMENT OF WATER: KEY TO THE FUTURE OF THE KONYA PLAIN

Smart water management is critical to the agricultural sustainability of the Konya Plain. Various technological solutions and innovative approaches are being implemented in this context:Drip Irrigation Systems: These water-saving systems, which deliver water directly to plant roots, can save 30-50% compared to traditional methods. Satellite-Based Irrigation Management: Using satellite imagery and sensor data, plants' water needs are precisely determined, and irrigation scheduling is optimized.Soil Moisture Sensors: These sensors measure soil moisture levels in real time, preventing over-irrigation and thus saving water.The effective use of these technologies enables more efficient management of water resources and ensures sustainable agricultural production.

LOOK TO THE FUTURE: KONYA PLAIN'S VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The sustainable agricultural future of the Konya Plain depends on the continued development of technological innovations and smart water management strategies. Some key future steps envisioned include:

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS: Developing and implementing basin-based water management approaches.

USING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY: Further integrating artificial intelligence and big data analytics into agricultural decision-making processes.

RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION: Incorporating solar and wind energy into agricultural production processes.

BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION PROGRAMS: Implementing projects that balance agricultural production with biodiversity conservation.

FARMER EDUCATION PROGRAMS: Continuously training and supporting farmers in sustainable agricultural practices.
This vision will ensure that the Konya Plain remains a sustainable and productive agricultural region, maintaining its leading position in Turkey's agricultural production in the future.

MOUNTED POLICE HIT THE STREETS

"No Room for Crime in Konya"

Konya Provincial Police Chief Maksut Yüksek met with journalists to evaluate the work carried out for the city's security and peace. Yüksek made statements on many issues, from the decrease in crime rates to traffic safety, from the fight against drugs to the protection of children.Konya Provincial Police Chief Maksut Yüksek, expressing his pride and joy in serving in Konya, said, "We have been making great efforts to maintain peace in Konya since the day we took office. Together with our colleagues, we work tirelessly day and night to ensure the peace of our citizens, addressing everything from traffic and drugs to public order and narcotics. We are seeing a significant improvement in crime rates compared to previous years. We are particularly striving to counter the perceptions surrounding drugs in our province. Unfortunately, drugs have become a common theme in some conversations and have overshadowed Konya's conservative identity. We are striving to control this negative situation, because even a single drug case is of great importance to us. We are working tirelessly day and night to achieve successful results."



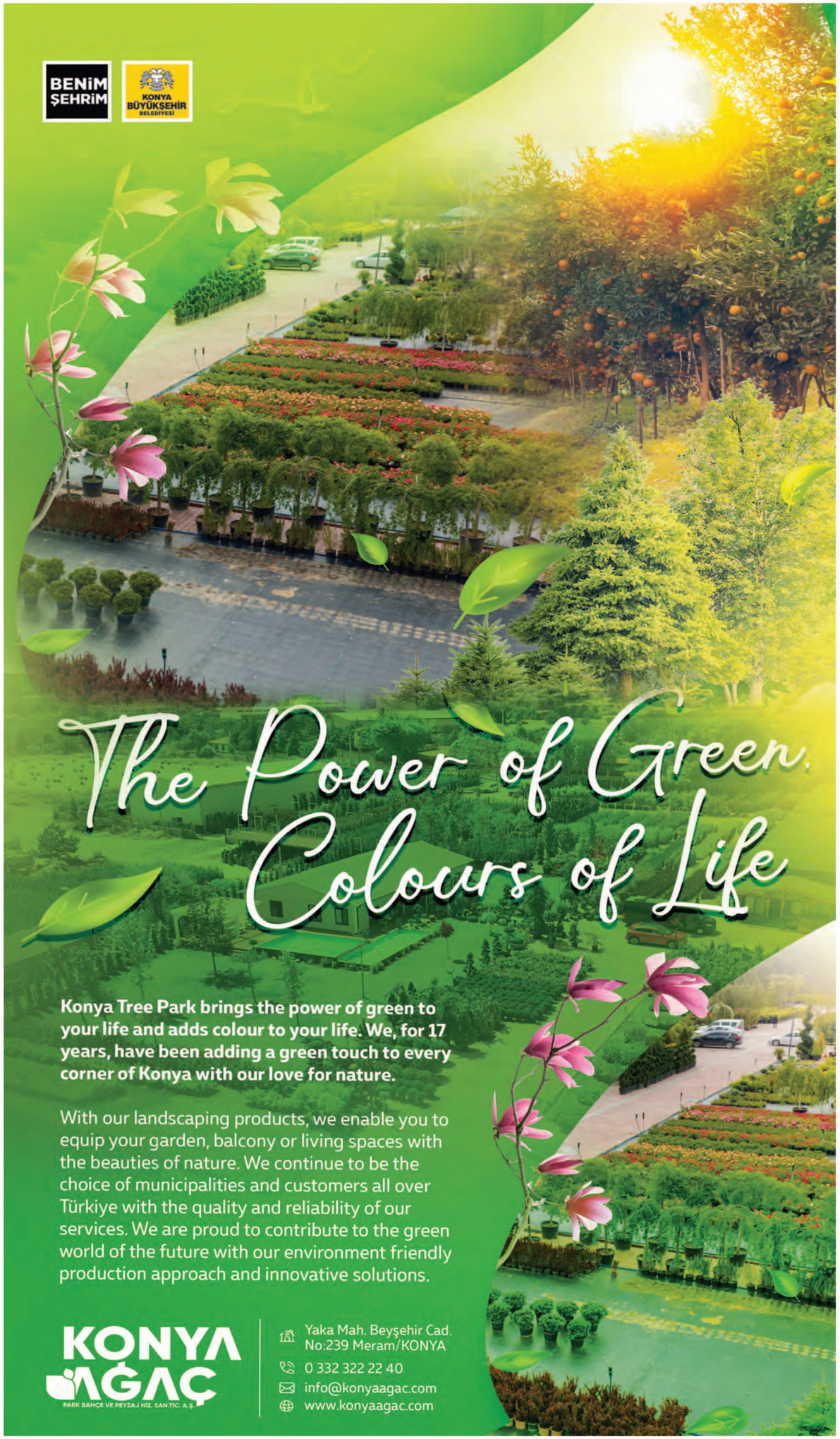
Mounted Police Hit the Streets

The mounted police officers roaming the streets and avenues of Konya are drawing attention from citizens. The mounted police unit established within the Konya Police Department has begun providing service on some of the city's streets and avenues. The mounted units patrolling to ensure peace and security have been on duty on the city's busy streets and squares. Citizens who watch the mounted police officers patrolling Mevlana Square with curious eyes have been taking lots of photos with them. Konya Provincial Police Chief Maksut Yüksek stated that the mounted police unit was put into operation specifically to establish a warmer relationship with the public, and said, "We want to establish closer contact with the public and also create a deterrent security element in touristic areas."









"KIFAYE" of KONYA REGISTERED

Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay announced that Konya Kifaye, one of the city's traditional flavours, has been granted a geographical indication, making it Konya's 78th registered flavour. Mayor Altay stated, "We will continue to pass on our ancient cuisine to future generations and introduce it to the world."

Mayor Altay said, "As Konya Metropolitan Municipality, we have made our city one of the cities with the most registered products in Turkey with 9 names of origin and 69 indications of origin in this field. We will continue to carry our ancient cuisine to future generations and introduce it to the world. I wish good luck with it."

NEW ONES WILL BE ADDED TO KONYA'S REGISTERED TASTES

Many registered flavours such as Konya Semolina Helva, Okra Soup, Etlieknek, Tandori Kebab reveal the richness of Konya's culinary culture. Known as one of Turkey's gastronomy capitals with its unique dishes that combine history and flavour, Konya will soon expand this list with three new products awaiting registration.



Recipe for KIFAYE

Pear is commonly used in Konya.
400 ml water, 170 grams of white sugar, 1 star anise, 1 cinnamon stick, 3 grams turmeric, 26 grams granulated sugar (for sauce)
After washing the fruits, the seeds of the fruits except for the sour cherry are removed, their skins are peeled and sliced. Water is boiled in a deep pot and the fruits and optionally anise, cinnamon and turmeric are added. After the fruits are boiled until they soften, sugar is added and boiled for 5 more minutes, then removed from the stove and left to cool. As a sauce, sugar is melted in a small pan, caramelized and poured over the fruits and served.



Şakalak redefines 'planting' with Clever



Şakalak Tarım Makineleri A.Ş., operating in the agricultural machinery sector with 50 years of experience, continues to revolutionize agriculture with its innovative products. Şakalak engineers have completed R&D processes and have been in production for a year, and the next-generation Clever planter has been highly praised by farmers. Enabling faster, more precise, and more efficient planting, Clever's technology has paved the way for new developments in the sector.

Mustafa Genç, Board Member and General Manager of Şakalak Agricultural Machinery Inc., provided information about the Clever, a new-generation electric planter. Genç emphasized the electric motor and electronic control system used in the Clever's new-generation pneumatic planters, saying, "Clever offers significant advantages to our farmers with its advanced technology and ease of use. This system eliminates traditional mechanical power transmission and adjustment components, minimizing planting errors and offering technology that increases productivity. With our new-generation pneumatic precision planter, our farmers' planting becomes smarter and more efficient."



"Prevents planting losses"

Mustafa Genç stated that these innovations offer farmers many advantages, saying, "The electronic system is quite easy to adjust and calibrate. All pre-planting checks and adjustments can be made accurately and completely. The main device display in the tractor cab eliminates the need for visual inspection, allowing for safe night planting. The row spacing of seeds falling on each planting unit can be adjusted and viewed. This allows for monitoring every stage of the planting process. The system notifies farmers with audible and visual alerts regarding potential planting errors. This feature allows farmers to detect faulty plantings early, take action quickly, and prevent planting losses."

10 different languages

Mustafa Genç stated that Clever, which features a Can-Bus infrastructure, also supports various languages. He said, "The electronic control system offers ten different language options, including Turkish, English, German, French, Spanish, Russian with Cyrillic alphabet, Bulgarian, Romanian, Serbian, Hungarian, and Greek with Greek alphabet. This multilingual support ensures that farmers from different countries can easily use this innovative technology."



