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FROM HUNDREDS OF CITIES 7 CONTINENTS

Welcome to Konya

Konya is preparing to host a very important program in October. UCLG World Congress will be held in Konya. Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay will take over the Presidency of the World Union of Municipalities at the congress. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is also expected to attend the meeting.

MAYORS FROM 7 CONTINENTS WILL MEET IN KONYA FOR THE UCLG WORLD COUNCIL

As Konya, we will assume the term presidency of the Union of World Municipalities (UCLG) in 2023-2024. The relevant meeting will take place in Konya on 26-27-28 October, one day before we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Republic. More than 350 mayors and 1,000 participants from 7 continents will 26,27,28 October, one day before the celebration of 100th anniversary of our republic.

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UCLG CGLU United Cities and Local Governments



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Kerem İŞKAN
Executive Editor

WELCOME....!

Konya symbolizes the ancient fertile lands where the common heritage of humanity is collected at every stage and in almost every field of world history.
With the beginning of life, the whole world is watching the Çatalhöyük excavations with bated breath.
On the other hand, the call of Rumi, who whispered to the spiritual world of humanity centuries ago, "Come, come again, no matter what you are," continues to be a hope for billions of people from different geographies, different nations and races around the world.

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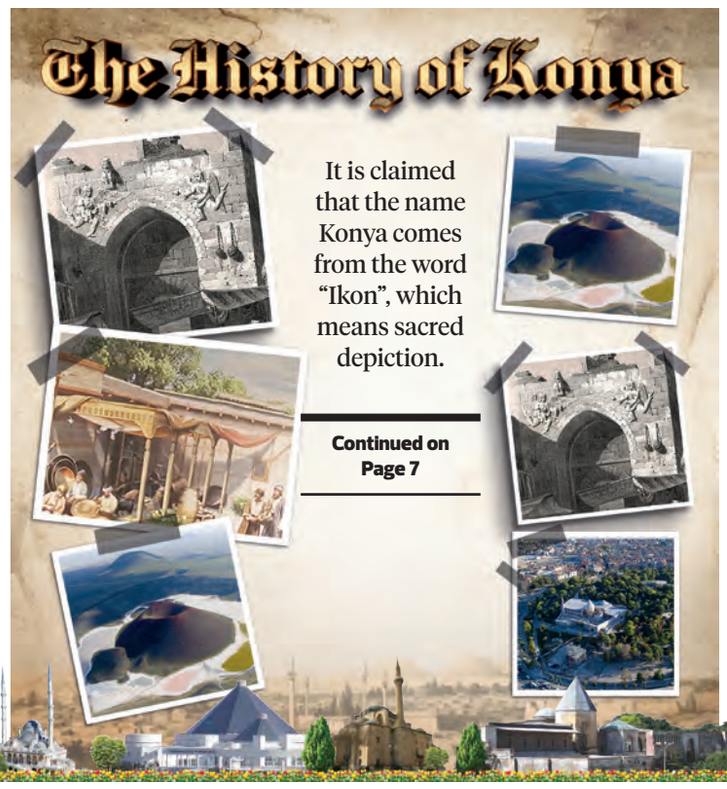
Some of Konya's BESTS...

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Turkey's Brand City KONYA



The History of Konya

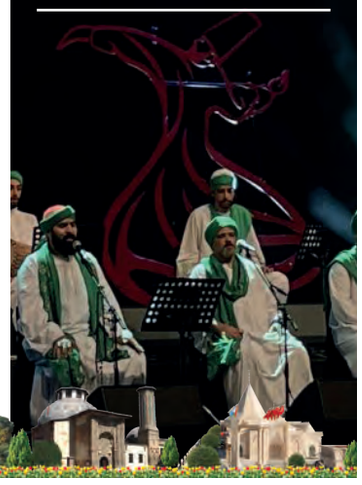


It is claimed that the name Konya comes from the word "Ikon", which means sacred depiction.

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20th International Konya Mystic Music Festival

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10 Reasons to invest in Konya

Growing Exportation Capacity

Exportation value grew up 25 times between 2000-2020
2,16 billion dollars of export in 2020
Exporter firms more than 2.700
Konya exports to more than 160 countries

Rich Natural Resources

Only primary aluminium producer in Turkey
%65 of salt production in Turkey
Developed casting industry



Strong Industrial Infrastructure

11 organized industrial zones, 70 private industrial zones and small industrial sites
The second largest organized industrial zone in Turkey
More than 48.000 SMEs
Easy adaptation to changes

Agricultural, Industrial and Commerce Centre

Vast lands eligible for agriculture
Strongest exhibition centre of the region
Leadership in crucial food products

Young and Qualified Human Capital

5 universities
More than 130.000 university students
More than 85.000 technical high school students
Lower cost compared to rival provinces



Powerful Social Capital and Collaboration Environment

Strong political support
Cooperation between NGOs, public and private institutions
Active trade associations

Strategic Location

Centre of Anatolia, ability to reach 10 million in 3 hours, 64 million in 6 hours by motorway
Logistics centre near Organized Industrial Zone
Easy access to 1,6 billion people globally



Living City

A historical background
Low crime rate
Dense and qualified cultural activities
3,6 million visitors each year

Incentives, Supports and Exemptions For Industrial Investments

Tax exemption, land allocation, social security premium support, customs duty exemption

Energy City

One of the most significant energy producing centre in Turkey with the establishment of the Karapinar Specialized Energy Industrial Zone
High solar radiation levels, plain wide areas
Potential areas to establish wind power plants
Biogas potential from agricultural wastes



Kerem İŞKAN

WELCOME....!

*

The Seljuk Capital City gives a different charm and a different colour to the city. Sharing all its knowledge such as its cuisine, industry, culture, music, sports and agriculture with the world, Konya, the "Capital of Tolerance", prepares to host many different organizations in this sense.

*

While visiting this city you find a part of it as if it was always there before, while leaving the city you take different parts of Konya in your heart.

***

There is city that is described and there is a completely different KONYA experienced inside.

Konya is a sooty but bright light leaking from the back rooms of history.

Konya is a secret trust hidden in a thousand bundles.

Konya is like the echoing sound of a river cascading from beyond to those who understand its secret.

KONYA is the secret city of the dervish...

To find out the secret means to come to Konya.

*

Inspired by Rumi's words, "Come, whoever you are, Come again," we say, "Welcome, you bring joy" to thousands of our guests who come to the city.

Glad to see you in Konya...

Sille Museum Fascinates the Visitors With a Historical Texture

While the historical places of Sille, where civilizations have been formed with its five thousand years of history, come to the fore with the restoration works of Selçuklu Municipality, they continue to attract attention as favourite places of visitors.

Sille Museum, which takes visitors on the historical journey of Sille from its past to the present, continues its contribution to Konya tourism by hosting 39 thousand 617 local and foreign visitors this year.

Rich Collection in Sille Museum

Selçuklu Municipality, which aims to present Sille's deep-rooted cultural heritage to visitors through carefully selected objects by adding functionality as a museum to some of the historical buildings in Sille, restored the Sille Museum in 2003 and opened as Sille Culture House. In this context, the building was reconsidered in 2016 and put into service as the Sille Museum in 2017 with restoration works. The museum, which was built on the plan of a Turkish house with an inner hall, which was applied in Ottoman residential architecture, was built as a two-storey building on a basement floor, using rubble stone materials. The most important work of this section of the Sille Museum, which has the Religious Life and Science and Art sections in the room to the right of the entrance hall, is the Kisve-i Şerif, that is, the inner cover of the Kaaba, discovered during the restoration of the Çay Mosque. Also in this area, manuscripts written on Logic, Philosophy, Fiqh, Grammar, Literature and Islamic ethics are exhibited. In the hall extending in the north-south direction on the upper floor, there are the Time Museum and Sille Art Gallery promotional showcases, the Endemic Plant corner and the Sille Cuisine sections. In the hall extending in the East-West direction, there is a Commercial Life section and a Weapons section. The room to the right of the upper floor hall contains the carpet section and the documents section. On the upper floor of the museum, there is a traditional clothing section and areas belonging to the bath culture. In total, 136 works are exhibited in the museum.



Sille Museum, keeping the historical texture alive in Sille, which is one of the Seljuk Municipality's works of loyalty to history, attracted great attention from visitors throughout the summer period. Sille Museum, which carries traces of history in every section, hosted local and foreign visitors throughout the summer.



Marbling Mapping Show on Stone Building

Mayor Altay, who also participated in the "Marbling Mapping Show with Garip Ay" at the Metropolitan Stone Building, stated that "the Mystic Music Festival continues at full steam. At the Metropolitan Stone Building, artist Garip Ay performed the mapping show by combining the art of marbling with technology.

"Smart City Leadership Award" From South Korea to Mayor Altay

Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay, who leads Konya's work in the field of "Smart Urbanism", was given the "Smart City Leadership Award" by the Seoul Metropolitan Municipality of South Korea and the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization, which has great prestige in the world, at the World Cities Mayors Forum event. Konya Metropolitan Municipality's current smart city studies and more than 100 smart city projects planned to be implemented by 2030 brought the award to Konya Metropolitan Municipality among 200 projects applied from 47 countries and 93 cities.

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Doğuhan İŞKAN
Executive Editor:
Kerem İŞKAN
Editor in Chief: Doğa İŞKAN
Art Director: Mehmet ÇAKIR
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
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Contact Number: +90 332 342 01 09

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Ömer Faruk BELVİRANLI

About a Holy Town "Konya" and Mevlana

The beautiful land we are on has become the sacred home and unshakable shelter of universal virtue with all its cultural, historical, social, artistic and human elements. The main axis of this strong civilization built by our ancestors is the divine commands stated in the Holy Quran and the Prophet Muhammad. It constitutes "Islamic Sufism", which has come down to us through scholars and Sufis who are representatives of the Prophet's exemplary sunnah and holy path.

Konya, the bright-faced city of our sacred Anatolia, is the home of many great saints such as Mevlana, Sadrettin Konevi, Sultan Veled, Şems-i Tebrizî and Hodja Nasreddin, whose wise and healing words enlighten our day and enlighten our spiritual side. Our city has been the eternal destination of great figures who revived sick hearts and brought devastated lands to life through science, wisdom, science, art, and especially poetry and music.

One of the most important representatives of this unique heritage; The 750th anniversary of his death offers us an opportunity to re-commemorate and understand "Mevlana", one of the great figures who saved our past from a dark unseen world and brought light, peace and joy to our present.

Although Mevlana was born about seven centuries ago in the city of Belh in the Khorasan province, which means "the place where the sun rises" in the Persian language (Old language: Hurâsân- خراسان), he was called "Rûmî" in reference to Anatolia, where he spent most of his life, and "Belhî", referring to the land where he was born. He is known by the title ". He is remembered with the title of "Mevlana", which means "Our Lord", by the people of Anatolia, where he spent his lifetime in spiritual guidance and evolution.

Mevlana, with a magnanimous humility peculiar to the wise men of the heart, describes himself as the servant (slave) of the Holy Quran and the dust of the luminous feet of our Prophet (PBUH). Regardless of their disposition and profession, many poets, musicians, scholars and statesmen who see it as a virtue to follow his path are very aware of what the Mevlevi way of thinking and way of life has brought to humanity.

There is almost no poet in our literature who does not mention Mevlana, whether he is a Mevlevi or not. Since Mevlana and Mevlevi order are frequently included in literary works, there are a remarkable number of poems and literary works in Divan literature in which the etiquette, customs, traditions and terminology features of Mevlevi order are mentioned. Divan poets generally evaluated Mevlana, a Sufi, within the framework of Sufi acceptances, and saw him as the greatest of the Sufis who tried to bring people to God through the heart and as the sultan of the land of meaning (the world of truth).

Mevlana's "wise" words, written with "divine inspiration", contain the universal merits and virtues that humanity needs most today. His works contained many subjects, from human rights to social security, from sociology to human psychology, with many valuable clues beyond time and place, before they took part in the conceptual world and life of Western countries, which we call civilized. In this way, a way of thought and life in Anatolia, which has transcended the ages in an endless fermentation and transformation over the centuries, where individual peace and happiness rise to social welfare and feed each other, has been established in this way.

In this context, many studies are carried out by our Ministry of Culture and Tourism to make Mevlevi Semah ceremonies known on a world scale. The Mevlevi Semah Ceremony was registered "on behalf of our country" in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2008, as a result of the intense efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. While efforts are being made to keep this valuable heritage element alive and to perform it in accordance with its original, in accordance with our domestic legislation and international agreements, precautions are being taken about the threats to this cultural heritage and efforts are being made to inform the public. "Circular on Mevlevi Order and Semah Ceremonies" dated 22/10/2008 and numbered 8 was put into effect to ensure the preservation of this unique culture, its authentic execution and its healthy transfer to future generations.

In addition, our art institutions operating within the Ministry, especially the Konya Turkish Sufi Music Ensemble, the Istanbul Historical Turkish Music Ensemble, the Istanbul State Turkish Music Research and Application Ensemble, the Sufism, Wisdom and Meydan Meşkleri Ensemble, the Commemoration of Mevlana and Şeb-i Arûs Ceremonies carry out activities with the aim of spreading Mevlana's unique world of ideas his teachings, love and tolerance, and thereby strengthening our national unity and solidarity.

Hoping that it will be an opportunity to remember the values that will be the key to the prosperity and righteousness of all humanity, I remember with mercy all the friends of God in the pure light of Mevlana, and I wish our readers healthy, happy and peaceful days.





Uğur İbrahim Altay,
Co-Chair of UCLG, President of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities and Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality,

Uğur İbrahim Altay "KONYA IS A BEAUTIFUL CITY IN ALL SEASONS"

Uğur İbrahim Altay, Co-Chair of UCLG, President of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities and Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, stated that Konya, which has hosted many civilizations for 10 thousand years since Çatalhöyük, has the best examples of history, culture and nature tourism. He invited everyone to Konya, which is beautiful in all seasons.

Uğur İbrahim Altay, Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, said that "Konya is a special city that dates back thousands of years and has hosted many civilizations for centuries.

Çatalhöyük, located within the borders of Konya, is one of the oldest living areas of humanity dating back 10 thousand years. Since then, many civilizations have been born and developed in Konya."

CITY OF YOUTH AND STUDENT

With an area of 42 thousand square kilometers and a population of more than 2.3 million in the center of Anatolia, Konya is a city with a high level of education with approximately 140 thousand students studying at five universities. It is possible to go to Ankara, Eskişehir and Istanbul from Konya by high-speed train connections. At Konya airport, there are flights to Istanbul and Izmir.

Uğur İbrahim Altay, Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, stated that "All our effort is to bring our young people together with a more prosperous future. We carry out dozens of works with the Konya Model Municipality approach for our youth. We have various activities such as Youth Assembly, Konya Science Center, Youth Center, youth and training camps, Young Culture Card application, KAPSUL Technology Platform, Animation and Digital Arts Academy, and Social Innovation Agency for young people."

QUALIFIED SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

Mayor Altay uttered that "Konya has significant developments in the field of sports in recent years. We have created new sports fields for sports fans in every part of our city. We have dozens of different projects that appeal to all age groups and encourage them for sports. We organized marathons and festivals with the participation of tens of thousands of our citizens. In addition, Konya hosts the 5th Islamic Solidarity Games, the most comprehensive and largest organization in the Islamic world. In this context, together with our Ministry of Youth and Sports, we have built many facilities such as the athletics track, Olympic swimming pool and Turkey's first Olympic velodrome in Konya. In the 5th Islamic Solidarity Games; we are hosting 4,200 athletes, a technical team of 1,700 people and thousands of spectators from 55 countries in Konya, the city of Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi, with a befitting tolerance. Konya, at the same time, has been selected as the 2023 World Capital of Sports and became the first city in Turkey and the second city in Europe, after Madrid, to receive this title."



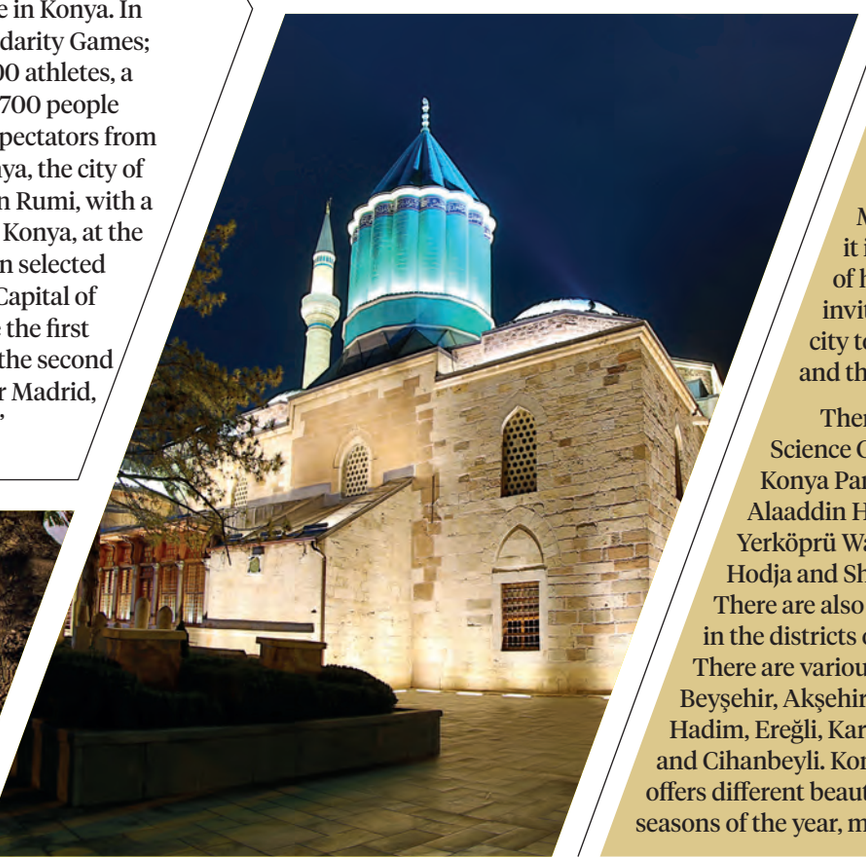
CITY OF BICYCLES

Due to its geographical structure, Konya is the city where most bicycles are used in Turkey. Mayor Altay stated that "We have implemented exemplary projects for Turkey to increase the use of bicycles in Konya. With 550 kilometers of bicycle lanes, we are well ahead in this regard in Turkey. With the new planning, we are building 87 kilometers of new bike paths. Turkey's first bicycle tram, which we launched last year, attracts great attention. Lastly, we have built two-storey bike parks. With the two-storey bicycle parks we have built in closed car parks and in busy areas of the city, residents of Konya can safely park more bicycles in the same place without paying a fee."

In Konya, bicycle repair stations, bicycle bridges, bicycle traffic lights, bicycle waiting stations, Intelligent Cycling Transportation System (ABUS), buses with bicycle transport apparatuses attract attention.







WISH TO SEE YOU IN KONYA

Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay stated that it is worth seeing with the best examples of history, culture and nature tourism. We invite our guests from every country to our city to experience Konya, the Seljuk Capital, and the city of Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi.

There are many places to see such as the Science Center,the Tropical Butterfly Garden, Konya Panorama,the Ecdat Garden, Kilistra, Alaaddin Hill, Ince Minaret, Meram Vineyards, Yerköprü Waterfall, Nasreddin Hodja and Shams-i Tabrizi. There are also great values in the districts of Konya. There are various beauties in Beyşehir, Akşehir, Seydişehir, Hadim, Ereğli, Karapınar, Ilgın and Cihanbeyli. Konya, which offers different beauties in 4 seasons of the year, must be visited."





The Konya News

CAMPING AREAS IN KONYA



KARATAY MUNICIPALITY CARAVAN CAMPING AREA

Karatay Municipality caravan camping area, which is located in Konya, is waiting for you. It has opportunities such as a caravan camping site, tent camping site, trekking path, parking lot, chairs and tables, playground, furnace, fountain, pool, picnic area and markets nearby. If you get on the shuttles that go to Karatay you can easily reach there. There is no possibility to rent a caravan. Our guests who will come with their caravan should get information about availability before they come.

LAKE BEYŞEHİR NATIONAL PARK CAMPING AREA

Beyşehir Lake National Park, located in the Karadiken area of Beyşehir, is waiting for you. Tent camping, caravan camping, bungalow accommodation, and guest accommodation are some accommodation types that you can reach in Beyşehir Lake National Park. It has opportunities such as a toilet, visitor center, Beyşehir Lake, tea garden, camping area, a place that you can watch the scene, camellia, restaurant, parking lot, market, historical places, aqueducts, sports field, running path, event place, picnic area, prayer room, playground, beach area, social facilities, and service building. It can be reached by bus or taxis in Beyşehir.

YEŞİLDAĞ CAMPING AREA

Yeşildağ camping area, located in Yeşildağ, in Beyşehir district, is located at the zero point of Beyşehir Lake. Even if public transportation is not available, it is located in a location where you can easily reach it with your own vehicle. You can experience a pleasant camping with a lake view at the Yeşildağ camping area. It does not have opportunities such as toilet, electricity, water, or market so you need to be prepared before you go. There is no parking problem; you can park wherever you want. It is very efficient in terms of fishing and watching scenery.

BEYŞEHİR KARABURUN BEACH CAMPING AREA

You can camp and have a picnic at Karaburun Beach, located on the shores of Beyşehir Lake. Karaburun Beach can be reached by Beyşehir shuttles. There are some facilities which you can satisfy your needs such as toilet, shower, electricity, and food-drink. You can have fun with your family and friends at Karaburun Beach. There are suitable areas for tent camping and caravan camping.

TAKKELİ MOUNTAIN CAMPING AREA

You can camp and have a picnic on Takkeli Mountain, located in Sulutaş, in Selçuklu, a district of Konya. You can get on the shuttles which go to Sarayköy direction after you get off in a close spot you can reach to the Takkeli Mountain on foot. Takkeli Mountain which is a very important region in terms of its historical background, it does not have any facilities or social facilities. There is a trekking path and a place that you can watch the scene on Takkeli Mountain. You can take pictures from Castle Gevela.

ILGIN ÇAVUŞLU LAKE CAMPING AREA

Çavuşlu Lake, located in Konya Ilgın, is also known as Yeşilgöl. It has opportunities such as walking path, barbeque area and a place to watch scene. You can reach Ilgın Lake from the centre of Ilgın by shuttles or taxis. You can visit the restaurants and cafes around Çavuşlu Lake for your food, beverage, toilet, and various needs.

KOCAKORU FOREST NATURAL PARK CAMPING AREA

You can camp and have a picnic in Kocakoru National Park, located in the Taraşçı area of Seydişehir. It has opportunities such as a fountain, toilet, camellia, water tank, picnic area. It is not possible to reach Kocakoru Forest National Park by public transportation. It does not have opportunities such as market or restaurant, so you need to bring your own food and drink.

MEKE LAKE CAMPING AREA

Meke Lake struggles with drought, so it is not available for camping.

ÇETMİ WATERFALL CAMPING AREA

Do not forget to visit Çetmi Waterfall, located in the Taşkent district of Konya. Even if you can't camp at the bottom of the Çetmi Waterfall, there are suitable areas for camping and picnic in the nearby areas. There are facilities close to the waterfall to satisfy your needs such as toilet, electricity, and food. It is not possible to reach the waterfall by public transport that's why you must travel with your own vehicle.

GÖKSU WATERFALL CAMPING AREA

You can have a pleasant time at Göksü Waterfall, which is located within the borders of Konya Güneysınır. Göksu Waterfall is located on Göksü River. It is peaceful to watch the streams flowing through the giant rocks. You can visit it daily or camp close to the waterfall. Public transportation is not available to Göksü Waterfall. There are cafes, restaurants, and tea garden facilities within walking distance to Göksü Waterfall.

AKYOKUŞ NATURAL PARK CAMPING AREA

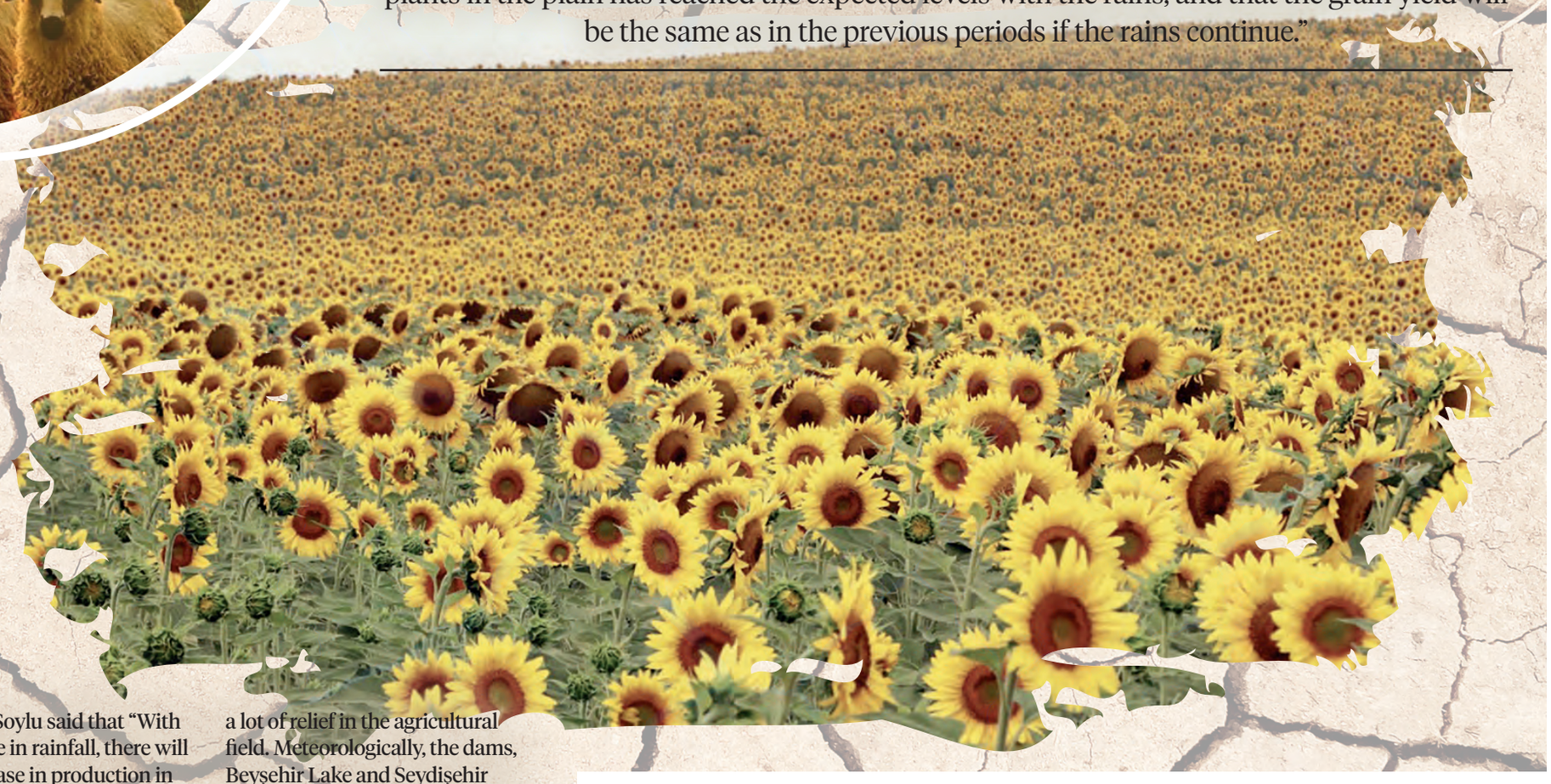
Akyokuş Natural Park, located in Sarayköy, which is connected to the centre of Konya, is waiting for you. It is possible that you can get access with the help of public transportation from the city centre of Konya. There is a fountain, tea garden, restaurant, prayer room, camellia, playground, trekking path, and a place that you can watch the scene in the Akyokuş Natural Park.

YAKA MANASTIR NATURAL PARK CAMPING AREA

You can camp and have a picnic in Yakamanastır Natural Park, located within the borders of Bademli Village of Beyşehir. Entrance to Yakamanastır Natural Park, which you can easily reach with the help of shuttles from Beyşehir to Bademli, is entrance fee charged. In addition, bungalow accommodation can be made in Yakamanastır Natural Park. You can accommodate inside the 4 and 6-bed cottages. It has opportunities such as a fountain, playground, bungalow, market, tent camping area, caravan camping area, prayer room, restaurant, and camellia. Our guests who want to accommodate in bungalow must make a reservation in advance. Bungalows are in high demand and are not available at times.

From Agricultural Drought to High Yield Expectation in Konya Plain

The last rains falling on the Konya Plain, known as Turkey's largest agricultural basin, has made the farmers happy and increased the expectation of high yields. Selcuk University Faculty of Agriculture Lecturer Prof. Dr. Süleyman Soylu stated "that the development of plants in the plain has reached the expected levels with the rains, and that the grain yield will be the same as in the previous periods if the rains continue."



In Konya, 67 percent of its surface area is used as agricultural land, production is carried out on a plantation area of 2 million 200 thousand hectares. Rainfall in the plain plays a major role in increasing the yield and quality of grain products. About 10 percent of Turkey's total agricultural production comes from Konya. Selcuk University Faculty of Agriculture Lecturer Prof. Dr. Süleyman Soylu said that "With the increase in rainfall, there will be an increase in production in the barren areas. Especially in the winter months, there was a great drought not only in the Konya Plain, but throughout the country. The rainy period in Konya Plain started in February, followed by very nice rains in March. In the first half of April, we received significant rains. Of course, this situation made a lot of relief in the agricultural field. Meteorologically, the dams, Beyşehir Lake and Seydişehir Suğla Storage area did not reach the desired level in terms of occupancy, but our request is that the plant should get rain at the desired time, and we received the rains in the periods they needed, especially in the barley and wheat fields planted in autumn. Plant growth on the plain is quite good at the moment.



Konya is the 2nd with 3 million 59 thousand sheep and goats

With the positive reflection of the inclusion of sheep and goats in the scope of support in 2006, a continuous increase was recorded in the number of animals. The ratio of the number of sheep and goats in the total livestock has increased to 75.9% as of 2021. Although there was a 0.7 percent decrease in the number of cattle last year compared to the previous year, the number of sheep and goats reached 57 million 519 thousand 204 with an increase of 6.3 percent. The number of sheep increased by 7.2 percent in this period to 45 million 177 thousand 690, and the number of goats increased by 3 percent to 12 million 341 thousand 514. Regarding the number of ovine animals by province, the cities with the highest number of ovine animals in Turkey are Van with 3 million 384 thousand, Konya with 3 million 59 thousand, Şanlıurfa with 2 million 428 thousand. These are followed by Ankara, Diyarbakır, Mersin, Balıkesir, Antalya, Ağrı and Iğdır. Small cattle breeding is a serious source of income in the cities that are in the first place.



Ahmet Bilgiç

Konya, the City of Four Seasons

Konya has a geography and historical depth too wide to fit into a short description. Konya, which is the largest local government in the world with a surface area of 42 thousand square kilometers. It is a city where the four seasons are experienced in the most beautiful way and which carries thousands of different natural, historical and cultural riches.

Çatalhöyük, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List and where the first city settlement was established and agriculture was first practiced, sheds light on human history with its 10 thousand-year history, is located in Konya.

The adventure of this city started in Çatalhöyük and continued through the Hittites, Phrygians, Alexander the Great Empire, Roman and Byzantine Empires, Great Seljuk State, Turkish Seljuk State and Ottoman Empire. It rose with the ancient heritage of each civilization it cradled.

With its history dating back to the Hittites; Fasıllar, Eflatunpınar, Yalburt and İvriz monuments and the ancient cities of Kilistra, Vasada, Savatra and İsaura, which are among the most important ancient settlements of Anatolia, are located within the borders of Konya.

It is possible to see works from the Seljuk and Ottoman periods in almost every corner of Konya, which was the capital of the Turkish Seljuk State for 200 years. Many historical values such as Eşrefoğlu Mosque and Aziziye Mosque, Alâeddin Mosque, Kapu Mosque, Karatay Madrasa, İnce Minareli Madrasa, Şırçalı Madrasa, Aya Eleni Church and Ak Monastery, which are on the UNESCO World Heritage List, are located in our city.

Along with these, Konya has also been the home of many scholars and enlightened figures throughout history. The light of truth of scholars such as Mevlânâ Celâleddîn-i Rûmî, Şems-i Tebrizî and Nasreddin Hodja, who are a source of inspiration to all humanity, has been spreading from Konya to the world for centuries.

Our city, which has dozens of different natural beauties along with its historical riches, also hosts the Yerköprü Waterfall, Meram Vineyards, Beyşehir and Suğla Lake with its lush green nature on one side, and the vast Salt Lake where the steppe climate prevails on the other. Konya carries all the beauties of the four seasons. Tulips adorn the gardens in spring, roses and lavender in summer.

Another feature that makes our city important is that it is located in a place that can be called the heart of Turkey. Konya connects the east and west, the south and the north and provides transportation to 10 million people in 3 hours and 64 million people in 6 hours by motorway. On the other hand, the availability of uninterrupted air and rail transportation allows Konya to open up to the world. With all these features, Konya stands out as one of the most important tourism centers in the world.

I invite all history and nature enthusiasts in our country and around the world to see Konya, the capital of culture and civilization of Anatolia, the Seljuk Darü'l-Mülk and the city of Rumi...

The Konya News

The History of Konya

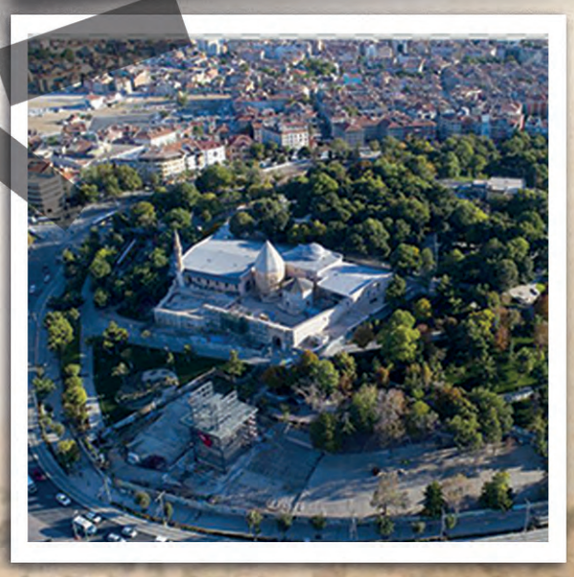












It is claimed that the name Konya comes from the word "Ikon", which means sacred depiction.

There are different rumors about this subject in mythology. A descriptive picture is drawn. The name given to this monument is Ikonion. The name Ikonion turns into Iconium over time. The Arabs changed the name of the city to Kuniya, this name changed to Konya during the Seljuks and Ottoman periods.

The settlement in and around Konya starts from the Prehistoric age. Neolithic-Chaltolithic-Early Bronze Age cultures are seen in this age. The mounds, which are the settlements of this age, are within the provincial borders of Konya. Remains from the Neolithic Period (7000-5500 BC) were unearthed during archaeological excavations at Çatalhöyük. Today, Hittite settlement is seen in Karahöyük, which is in a neighborhood in the city center of Konya. Archaeological excavations carried out for years describing this era.

The Phrygians, who put an end to the Hittite rule in Anatolia, are tribes that migrated from Thrace to Anatolia. Finds from places such as Alaaddin Hill and Karapınar, Gıcıkışla and Sızma date back to BC VII. Century. After the Phrygians, Konya (Kavania) was invaded by the Lydians and Alexander the Great. Later, when Roman domination was achieved in Anatolia, Konya preserved its existence as Iconium. (25 BC) Hatun Saray, Lystra-Derbeş, Laodica (Ladik) and Sille are important Byzantine settlements. With the spread of Islam in Anatolia, Arab raids began in Byzantium (Istanbul). Emevis and Abbasids raided through Konya. After the Battle of Malazgirt in 1071, Konya, along with a large part of Anatolia, was taken from the Byzantines by the Seljuks. Anatolian Seljuk Sultan Süleyman Shah made Konya the capital city in 1076. In 1080, the capital was transferred to Iznik, and Kılıç Arslan I moved the capital back to Konya in 1097. Konya remained the capital of the Anatolian Seljuk State from 1097 to 1277 without interruption. Later, in 1277, it came under the sovereignty of the Karamanoğulları State. Ottoman Sultan Murat II ended the Karamanoğulları rule in 1442. Growing and developing rapidly in the Republican era, Konya is a city that looks like an open-air museum today with its historical monuments. The total population of the districts of Karatay, Meram and Selçuklu, which form the city center, exceeds one million and the total population exceeds two million.



Prof. Dr. Doğan Kaplan

Be like Adam

Undoubtedly, this world is a land of testing for us. A mansion where we are tested for our eternal home. As a matter of fact, Our Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), master of the universe, stated the following in order to express this truth: "In this world, be like a foreigner who is abroad and will return to his homeland one day, or like a traveler who is going somewhere." (Bukhari). In other words, we should be like travelers who left their original homeland and will return there one day. However, it is also true that in our daily life, we sometimes miss this truth and live as if we will never die. To prevent this, we must remember to look at the whole picture. This can only be achieved by questioning ourselves from time to time and being like Adam in our behaviour.

What does "Be like Adam" mean?

Being like Adam means regretting when we make a mistake, committing a crime, or making a mistake and not making that mistake again. If we have offended someone, it means knowing how to apologize. It means admitting that we are wrong without saying "but" or "however" without blaming the others. It means to be just like our ancestor Adam. Let us remember that our God said to the father of humanity Adam, our ancestor, and told our mother Eve to sit in heaven and eat and drink as they wish, provided that they did not approach the tree shown to them, but since they fell for Satan's deception and approached that tree, humankind's life on earth began.

This situation is mentioned in our Holy Book as follows:

"Oh Adam! Dwell you and your spouse in paradise, eating and drinking freely wherever you wish, and do not approach this tree; Otherwise, we said, you will be among the oppressors. Satan caused them to slip from there and expelled them from where they were. We said, "Go down to be enemies to each other! We said, "There is a place for you to stay on earth and necessities for a while." (Baqara, 2/35-36)

In a twist of fate, humankind's worldly life began as a result of our ancestors disobeying the command of our God. Leaving this aspect of the matter aside - which does not seem possible for us to penetrate its full truth in this world -. Let's focus on the attitude of Adam after this mistake.

Adam realized the mistake he had made, saw the fault in himself, and repented to our God, saying, "Rabbana! Zalemna enfusenâ/ Our God! He showed his regret by making a plea by saying, "We have wronged ourselves, forgive us." Thereupon, Almighty Allah forgave him and his wife.

The Holy Quran expresses this as follows:

"Thereupon Adam received some words from the God (he repented with them); The God accepted his repentance. Surely, He is the one who accepts repentance and whose mercy is limitless." (Baqara, 2/37)

"They said: "Oh our God! We oppressed ourselves. If you do not forgive us and have no mercy on us, we will surely be among the losers!" (A'raf, 7/23)

This is exactly what I want to focus on in this article! When we make a mistake, we realize what we did and regret it. As a matter of fact, our God also states that He loves and will forgive such His servants.

"When they do something ugly or harm themselves, they remember Allah and immediately ask for forgiveness for their sins. After all, who can forgive sins other than Allah? They do not knowingly insist on what they do." (Al-i Imran, 3/135)

Not to be like Devil

Not accepting our mistakes and making excuses or blaming the others is only Satan's method. It means having the attribute of Satan. Remember that our God commanded to all angels to prostrate to Adam, all the angels prostrated except Satan. When he was asked why he did not follow the command to prostrate, he said, "I am superior to him; Because you created me from fire, you created him from mud." (A'raf, 7/12) Because Satan was arrogant and did not fulfil the order. Our God dismissed him from his presence, saying that he had no right to be arrogant, and he asked for permission to test people and was given this permission. However, the point to be noted here is this. Instead of apologizing for the mistake he made towards our God, who allowed him to do so, Satan ignored his own guilt and blamed the mistake on our God, saying "febima aghveyteni/ you led me astray/left me astray" (A'raf, 7/16; Hijr, 15/39).

We are human, we get confused. The important thing is to recognize and apologize when we make a mistake. It means being able to say, like Adam, "Oh God, we have made a mistake, forgive us, forgive us." This is what it means to have the attribute of Adam. Blaming the others by covering up our mistakes and evading the issue with buts and howevers means being described as Satan. We seek refuge in Allah from being described as Satan.

As Rumi said, "He who shows respect will be respected. "The one who brings sugar eats almond halva." (Mesnevi, 1/1495). So let's try to be like Adam in all our actions. Our Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), who is a role model for us to take as an example and whose past and future sins were forgiven, said, "I swear to Allah, I ask God to forgive me and repent more than seventy times a day." As (Bukhari) said, let's keep our consciousness of servitude alive by asking for forgiveness a certain number of times every day.

Some of Konya's BESTS...

1 » With an area of 38 thousand 257 square kilometers, Konya is the largest city in Turkey.

2 » Konya has the highest number of villages and the longest country road network in our country.

3 » KOP (Konya Plain Project) is the second biggest irrigation project after GAP.

4 » Turkey's largest and the world's most modern sugar factory, Çumra Sugar Factory is in Konya.

5 » Turkey's largest and the world's third largest aluminum factory is also in Konya.

6 » Alaeddin Junction is known as the world's largest roundabout with a length of approximately 1250 meters.

7 » Turkey's largest freshwater lake, Beyşehir Lake, and its second largest lake, Salt Lake, are located within the borders of Konya.

8 » Selcuk University, which has the highest number of students in Turkey, is in Konya.

9 » The Ivriz Rock Relief, the world's first Agricultural Monument, is located in Konya.

10 » Çatalhöyük, which is shown as one of the oldest settlements in the world, sheds light on the history of humanity before the discovery of writing with the first house architecture and original finds of the first sacred structures, is located in the Çumra district of Konya.

11 » The Mevlana Museum is one of the most visited museums in Turkey.

12 » The Konya Closed Basin, which is among the most important basins in Turkey and the world, contains 40 percent of the country's groundwater.

The Konya News

750th Anniversary of the Reunion

750 Whirling Dervishes performance at SULTANAHMET SQUARE

Within the scope of the 750th anniversary of Mevlana's reunion by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Konya Metropolitan Municipality, the Semah ceremony was held at the historical Sultanahmet Square in front of the Hagia Sophia Mosque, with the participation of 750 whirling dervishes from Turkey and abroad. Minister of Culture and Tourism Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, who participated in the program, stated that they held a very important event in Hagia Sophia, one of the most important squares in world history, and said, "With this event, we want to continue to spread Mevlana's 'come' philosophy to the whole world." Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay stated that, "It is one of our most important duties to explain the philosophy of Rumi, one of the most important Sufis who grew up in Konya, the city of scholars. We will continue to carry out activities in line with Rumi throughout the year.

"SPREAD RUMI'S 'COME' PHILOSOPHY TO THE WHOLE WORLD"

Minister Ersoy reminded that 2023 has been calendared as the "Year of Rumi" by UNESCO and that it is also the 750th Anniversary of Rumi, and continued as follows:

"In this context, we held a very important event today in Hagia Sophia, one of the most important squares in world history, with the participation of 750 whirling dervishes from both Turkey and abroad. With this event, we want to continue to spread Mevlana's 'come' philosophy to the whole world. We will hold an event with 750 whirling dervishes from all over the world, conveying the messages of peace, brotherhood and tranquility in the current chaos and war environment that the world is in, and these are messages that were fermented in Anatolia. As the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, we are starting many events to give this opportunity to the whole world. I would like to thank all my friends who contributed to this very important and meticulously prepared event."

"ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT DUTIES IS TO EXPLAIN RUMI AND HIS PHILOSOPHY"

Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay stated that "they organized various events and commemoration programs in Konya and across the country due to 2023 being the "Year of Rumi". We brought greetings from Darü'l-Mülk Konya, the capital of the Seljuks, to Istanbul, the capital of the Ottoman Empire. This year is very valuable for us. Because 2023 has been declared as the 'Rumi Year' by our President on the occasion of the 750th Anniversary of Şeb-i Arus. September 30 is his birthday, we are celebrating his 816th birthday. I would like to thank our esteemed President for the declaration of 'Rumi Year'. Rumi is one of the most important Sufis who grew up in Konya, the city of scholars. As Konya Metropolitan Municipality, one of our most important duties is to protect and explain Rumi and his philosophy. We will continue to carry out activities in line with Rumi throughout the year. I would like to thank our Minister on behalf of all Konya residents and Rumi friends for their support in making Konya a tourism destination and for the lesson that will please Rumi's friends today."





750 Whirling Dervishes at the Historical Square

Sufi music and Turkish music artist Ahmet Özhan and Ministry of Culture and Tourism General Director of Fine Arts Ömer Faruk Belviranlı took part as soloists in the program titled "Invitation to Mevlana Gülşen - Come". Özhan and Belviranlı were accompanied by an orchestra containing classical Turkish and Western music instruments conducted by Hasan Niyazi Tura. In the program where high technology and artistic expression opportunities were used in terms of staging techniques and musical infrastructure, 750 whirling dervishes from home and abroad performed Semah Ceremony. The Semah program was followed by many local and foreign press members.

250 Whirling Dervishes at Mevlana Square

The 20th International Konya Mystic Music Festival, organized by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism with the contribution of Konya Metropolitan Municipality within the scope of the Turkey Culture Road Festival, started with the "Vuslat (Reunion) March" and the whirling dervish ritual performed simultaneously by 250 whirling dervishes at Mevlana Square. The spiritual atmosphere was intensely felt in the program, which was followed with interest by thousands of guests from Konya and outside Konya.

As part of the opening events of the festival, the first "Vuslat (Reunion) March" was held with 250 whirling dervishes from Alaaddin Hill to Mevlana Square. Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism Nadir Alpaslan, AK Party Konya Deputy Mehmet Baykan, Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay, AK Party Konya Provincial Chairman Hasan Angı, mayors, protocol members and hundreds of citizens attended the ceremony. At the opening ceremony held at Mevlana Square, the prayer and dhikr program called "Halvet-i Devranı", organized by the Foundation for Research and Survival of Turkish Sufi Music and Folklore, under the leadership of artist Ahmet Özhan, was followed with interest.

Semah Ceremony by 250 Whirling Dervishes

At the end of the program, Konya experienced one of its most special days. The spiritual atmosphere was intensely felt in the program, where 250 whirling dervishes performed the Semah ritual at the same time. Thousands of citizens from Konya and outside Konya followed the program with interest. Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay said that "The Semah ritual was performed by 250 whirling dervishes at Mevlana Square. All Konya residents and our guests accompanied this. It was truly a day when we experienced the spiritual climate again with the citizens who followed the program at Mevlana Square.

Tourism investments *and* numbers in Konya

Konya, with its deep historical background, has been a cradle to many cultures and civilizations

Konya, which was home to the first Christian residential areas and sanctuaries in the world, has an important potential in cultural tourism, too. In this context, Konya aims to become an essential centre for cultural tourism beside faith tourism.

Some important historical values such as Sille (Siyata), Aya Elena Church, Kilistra ancient city, Eflatunpınar Hittite monument, Çatalhöyük, Karahöyük, İvriz rock-cut relief, Bolat, Nekropol and Bouleterion shows the potential of Konya on behalf of cultural tourism.

The traditional handicrafts and folkloric values of Konya are also a part of cultural tourism. In Konya, various handicrafts such as making felt, carpet, wooden spoon, rifle, earthenware water rug, tile and calligraphy attract the attention of foreign tourists. Semah, folk dancing and sufi music also form primary folkloric values of Konya.

Konya bears the trace of a history that dates back to 7000 B.C. and witnessed various civilizations. It has a very rich historical heritage with its archaeological sites, historical and natural protected areas, caves and civil architecture examples. Konya, which was the capital of Seljuks, has an important tourism potential with its world-wide known characters such as Rumi and Hodja Nasrettin.

In Konya, there are 135 hotels-7 of them are five starred-with more than 14.000 total bed amounts. Moreover, there are more than 150 tourism agencies that own tourism operation license.

In Konya, there are 11 museums in total. 7 of them are in the city centre (Mevlana, Karatay Tile Museum, İnceminare, Sırçalı Madrasa, Atatürk, Ethnography and Archaeology Museums), and 4 of them are in the districts (Çatalhöyük Archaeological Site Museum, Ereğli Museum, Akşehir Western Front Base Museum and Akşehir Archaeology Museum).

By 2015, 2.7 million people visited those museums.

In our city, there is also one place (Çatalhöyük Neolithic Site) in UNESCO World Heritage List and there are four places (Eşrefoğlu Mosque, Konya – Seljuks Capital, Anatolian Seljuks Madrasas and Eflatunpınar: Hittite Water Monument) in World Heritage Tentative List.

In our city, there are Regional Manuscript Library and Yusufağa Manuscript Library as manuscript libraries in which national culture is preserved. Those libraries include 18.118 manuscripts and 91.621 books-73.503 of them are printed.



In the region; as it is stated in the Turkey's Tourism Strategy Action plan, faith tourism steps forward. By taking into consideration of the potential of our city for nature tourism, speleological tourism, health tourism, hunting tourism and convention tourism, it can be understood that how far the regional tourism can expand. In this context, detailed inventory studies are required in the region.

Beyşehir, the biggest freshwater lake of Turkey, is one of the leading centres of behalf of nature tourism and hunting tourism. Beyşehir Lake, with more than 30 islands on, is expected to become an important centre for nature tourism via investments and effective advertisement in the future.

The district areas in Toros Mountains and the plateaus are extremely appropriate for mountain hiking and mountain sports. Besides, the mountainous and forestry areas are suitable for hunting tourism and in some parts of those areas there has been visits for hunting tourism by foreign tourists.

In the region there are some other natural beauties such as Balatini Cave, Körükini Cave, Suluin Cave, Sakaltutan Cave, Susuz Cave, Tınaztepe Cave, Pınarbaşı Cave, and İncesu Cave and these are important potentials for the speleological tourism here.

There are important areas in the region which are suitable for bird watching that can be included in nature tourism.

The inner part of Salt Lake has the biggest flamingo colonies in the world. In the region, mountain sheep in Bozdağ Mountain (in Konya) and wild horses in Karadağ Mountain (in Karaman) are under protection by environmental board in order to preserve the fauna. By constructing excursion spots, these areas can be more profitable for tourism.

Turkey, which is over an important geothermal area, is among the first seven countries in the world in terms of the richness of its resources and potential. There are more than 1000 springs whose temperatures changes from 20oC to 100oC. There are more than 200 thermal centres over these springs. One of these centres is in the town Ilgın, in Konya and comes forward in alternative tourism.



Traditional handicrafts and folkloric values are also a part of culture tourism. In the action plan of Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023, it is stated that creating a strong tourism path and regional destinations will make these kinds of regions stronger in terms of culture, handicrafts, food & beverage facilities and accommodation. In this sense, the potentials in the region devoted to handicrafts such as making felt, carpet, wooden spoon, rifle, earthenware water rug, tile, handmade equipment and calligraphy should be evaluated. Semah, folk dance, sufi music, Rumi, Yunus Emre and Hodja Nasreettin are the leading folkloric values of the region.



You will discover the miraculous

LIFE CYCLE OF BUTTERFLIES IN KONYA TROPICAL BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Konya Tropical Butterfly Garden has the largest butterfly flight area in Europe and a journey experience full of joy and excitement awaits you, where you will discover the miracles of creation.

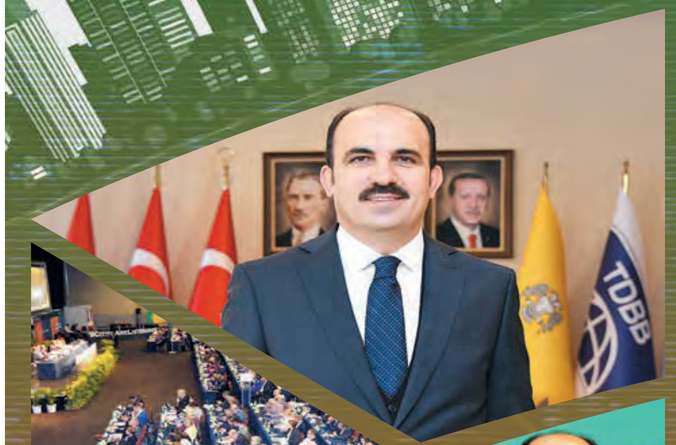
SELÇUKLU BELEDİYESİ

KONYA TROPİKAL KELEBEK BAHÇESİ

UCLG
United Cities
and Local Governments

Uğur İbrahim Altay, the Mayor of Konya, was elected as the Co-president of United Cities and Local Governments in World Council. Altay;

UCLG represents 240.000 cities all over the world





The Mayor Altay uttered that "We are very pleased to be represented here as Konya and Turkey. Turkey's and Konya's flag will wave in one more international platform. We are carrying out studies on identifying the problems of all local governments in the world and creating new solution proposals. We have prepared a Decalogue about what can be done as local governments during pandemic which especially the whole world had to be faced. In this process, we tried to create a support for local governments by sharing Turkey's and Konya's experiences and tried to contribute to the process of determining a road map."

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), which is one of the most important representatives of local governments and continuously supports local development, has witnessed damages of Covid-19 in cities and prepared a Decalogue for the post Covid-19 era:

1) Guaranteeing Public Services
2) Financial Support Packages
3) Proximity models of global consumption and production
a) A territorial approach to food systems should guarantee not only security but also greater sustainability models in which many small producers and small processors, respectful of the environment, would restore life to our territories and encourage job creation and local development.
4) A worldwide green deal
5) New citizenship and freedoms for renewed democracy
6) Generation Equality
7) Territories that care for their public providers
8) Culture as an antidote for the secondary effects
9) An interurban system
10) Next Generation Multilateralism







United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) can be defined as globally the most active organization for local and regional governments. After a long process which started in the Habitat II Conference in 1996 in Istanbul, IULA (International Union of Local Authorities) and FMCU-UTO (World Federation of United Cities) were united by adding METROPOLIS (the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities) and became UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments)

Headquartered in Barcelona, Spain, UCLG started its actions in January, 2004. The organisation's stated mission is "to be the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government, promoting its values, objectives and interests, through cooperation between local governments, and within the wider international community." United Cities and Local Governments, known as UCLG in short, is at a point that it increases the role and influence of local government and its representative organisations in global governance; it supports international cooperation between local governments and their associations; and it has become a basic, world-wide information source about local governments.

UCLG is the most comprehensive local and regional governance network which represents 240.000 cities from different regions all over the world. When the population of member cities are considered, it can be said that UCLG represents 5 billion urbanites. At the same time, UCLG has active members in 140 different countries from the total 192 members of UN.

MAYORS FROM 7 CONTINENTS WILL MEET IN KONYA FOR THE UCLG WORLD COUNCIL

As Konya, we will assume the term presidency of the Union of World Municipalities (UCLG) in 2023-2024. The relevant meeting will take place in Konya on 26-27-28 October, one day before we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Republic. More than 350 mayors and 1,000 participants from 7 continents will 26,27,28 October, one day before the celebration of 100th anniversary of our republi









Unique seasons in Konya city of love

Uğur İbrahim Altay, the Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, expresses that with its natural and historical beauties Konya is fascinating in every season. Also, the city welcomes millions of guests every year with the understanding of love and fellowship of Rumi's throughout centuries.



KUBBE-İ HADRA GREETS THE CITY WITH ITS NEW APPEARANCE



While expressing that Kubbe-i Hadra, which is a symbolic structure of Rumi's tomb, has been restored and renovated appropriate with its origin, Mayor Altay also said that "from the very beginning to the end, all the works done has been conducted elaborately. As a result, Kubbe-i Hadra has started to greet the city again with it original colour."

TRANSFORMATION IN THE HISTORICAL CITY CENTRE



While expressing that they have made important regulations in the city centre, Mayor Altay also said that "we have been conducting one of the most important transformation works in Turkey in the area opposite Mevlana Museum. We made an agreement with our craftsmen in the old buildings of Mevlana Bazaar and Golden Bazaar. Instead of these old buildings, we decided to make a special project which is suitable for the historical style and will make people feel the sense of Seljuk capital. When the project is completed, the social and commercial life in the region will liven up. Also, there will be a connection between Mevlana's tomb and Bedesten, and Kapu mosque and Aziziye mosque. By this way, the tourism will be more alive."

Also, when you think about Konya, another important thing that comes to mind is Alâeddin Hill. There have also been some renovation works on the external walls appropriate with the historical elements. During the first stage of the renovations, 60 separate departments have been completed in 12 buildings. In the second stage, regulations in the face walls of 40 buildings are about to finish.

WE WAIT YOU IN FOUR SEASONS



Uğur İbrahim Altay, the Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, stated that Konya is worth seeing in all seasons with its beautiful examples of historic, culture and nature tourism. He also said that "we invite visitors from all other places to live Konya, which is the capital of Seljuks and home of Rumi. There are lots of places to see such as ten thousand years old Çatalhöyük, which is in UNESCO World Heritage List, Sille, Science Centre, Tropical Butterfly Garden, Panorama Museum, Ecdat Garden, Kilistra, İvriz Rock Monument, Alâeddin Hill, İnce Minaret, Meram vineyards, Yerköprü waterfalls, Nasreddin Hodja and Şems-i Tebrizi. There are also many other beauties to see in different districts of Konya such as Beyşehir, Akşehir, Seydişehir, Hadim, Ereğli, Karapınar, Ilgın and Cihanbeyli."

CITY OF BIKE



Konya is a city of bicycles thanks to its geographic structure. In order to support the bike riding, some projects have been conducted by Metropolitan Municipality. Konya has the longest bike road in Turkey. It is 550 km. long. Especially in newly opened roads, bike lines are musts. A new 35 km long bike line construction has started recently. Also, the bike tram, which was put into service last year and was the first in Turkey, gets great attention from bike lovers. There are other conspicuous services in the city such as closed car parks, double-storey bike parks, bike repair stations, bike bridges, bike traffic lights, bike waiting stations, ABUS (smart bike transportation system), and buses with bike carrying equipment.

CENTURIES OLD CUISINE CULTURE



Beside many other historical values, Konya has a magnificent cuisine culture, too. For instance, Ateşbaz-ı Veli is in Konya and it's the only tomb of a chef in the world. This city hosts the most beautiful examples of court kitchen. The Metropolitan Municipality has the motto of "it is a civilization to eat here" and has important steps in terms of gastronomy tourism and organizes events. The mostly preferred cuisines in Konya by the visitors are Fırın kebab, okra soup, etliekmek, tirit, bread&meat cuisine, butter&bread, höşmerim and sac arası.





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



Keşkekli Kuzu İncik
(A dish of lamb's shank and ground wheat)



Piruhi
(Boiled dumplings seved with walnuts and butter)

KIRKİKİNDİ
RESTORAN

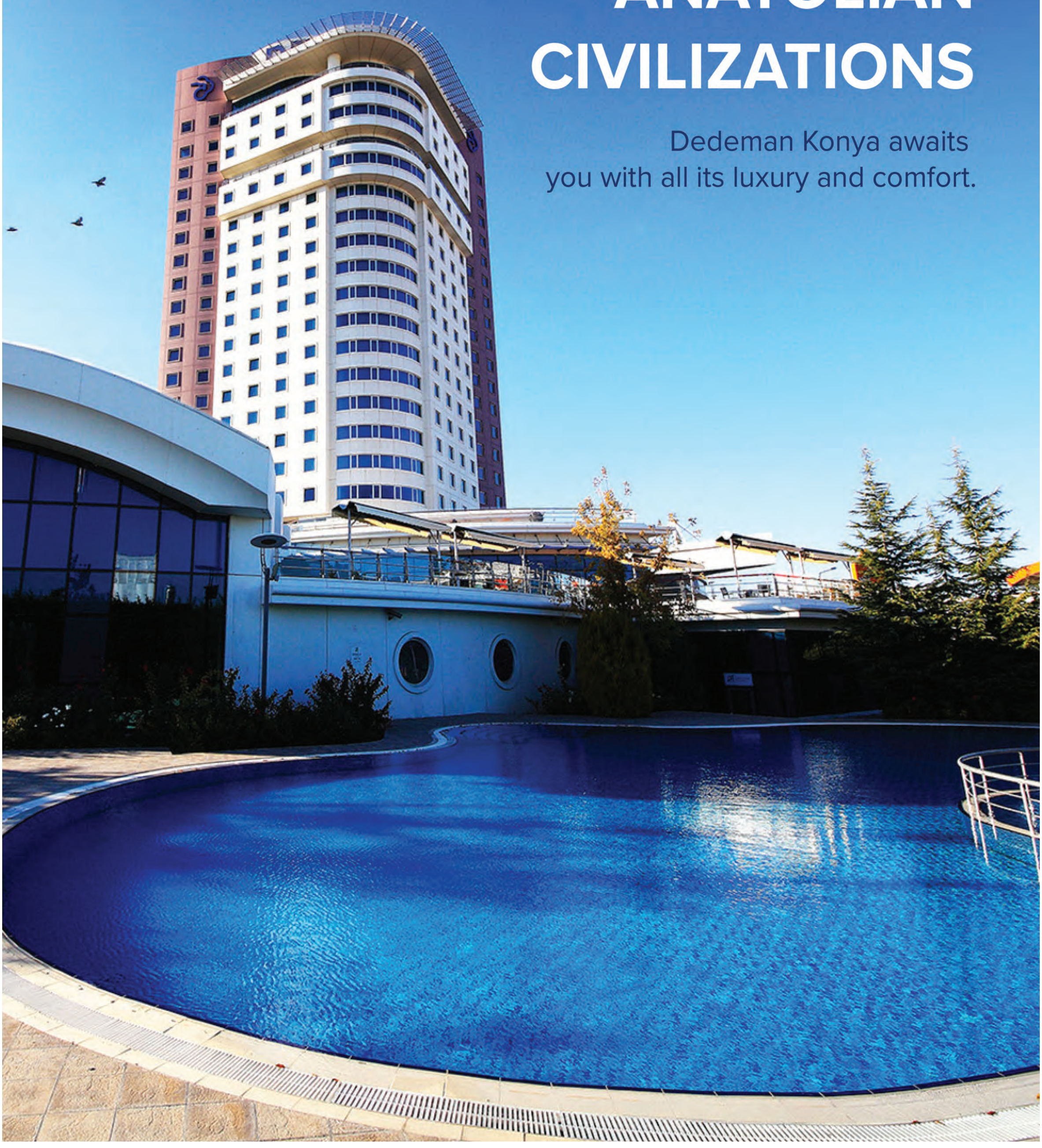
In side of Millet Bahçesi
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STAY CURIOUS, STAY AMAZED, STAY AT DEDEMAN.

The Konya News

What to eat in Konya





















In addition to the historical and cultural importance of the city, the rich Konya cuisine includes the following delicacies;

Etliekmek (Bread with Meat)

Ocra Soup

Arabaşı Soup (A kind of soup with chicken or rabbit meat)

Tirit Kebab

Sacarası (A kind of Pastry Dessert)

Zerde (A kind of Dessert made with Rice)

Bread with Butter

Green Moldy Cheese

Arabian Meatball

Topalak (A kind of soup with small meatballs)

Su Böreği (Pastry with feta cheese filling)

Oven Kebab

Tirit and Papara are *Different from Each Other*

In fact, “Papara” and “Tirit” are two different Konya dishes, which are very similar but not related to each other. They are both based on dry bread and sauces. In addition to a few unique recipes of Tirit, Papara has hundreds of recipes and methods. Papara is very different in every cuisine.



Papara

Papara is one of the most used methods for evaluating stale bread in Konya. Papara is also perfect for an anti-waste, waste-free kitchen. It is not just stale breads that give the papara its flavor. We see the Papara flavor, which is created with a sauce consisting of a mixture of stale breads, yoghurt and tomato paste and spices, on the tables most during Ramadan. Unlike Panzanella and Dakos, Papara is a dish served hot, not cold. Tirit, a meat-filo pastry dish made widely in all of Anatolia, is probably the ancestor of Papara. When it comes to papara, it is difficult to say “this is the recipe”, as it has lots of recipes. Basically, stale breads are cut into cubes, fried in the oven or in a pan with a little oil, placed on a tray and softened by sprinkling broth on it. Different materials are placed on the prepared bread base according to the region. It is prepared in Central Anatolia without tomatoes and with meat, in Konya again without tomatoes, with meat but additionally with garlic yoghurt, in the Aegean Region roasted ground beef, onion, green pepper and tomato, and in Kırklareli cuisine with cheese.

Tirit

Tirid, is described as one of the local flavors in many cities in Turkey. Tirit, which is also owned by the people of Konya, is literally a dish adopted by the local people. There is also a trick that makes Tirit cooked in casserole with meat and herbs in it so delicious. While the tirit is made, the broth of the meats remains in the casserole. After the cooking process, people eat the meat together with its broth. Those who consume meat with its broth know that consuming meat with broth can give people an unforgettable taste experience. You can go to many cities to try Tirit, but you shouldn’t say I ate Tirit without trying the Tirit dish as Konya style. It creates a feast of taste with the spices specific to Konya and the method of preparation.

We could cook all the meals in the world but we
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New Tourism Favorites in Karatay

Savatra Ancient City, Obruk Inn And Boncuklu Mound...

Karatay Municipality carries out many projects in order to bring rich cultural assets to tourism and to deliver them to future generations. Karatay Municipality, which is working on the Savatra Ancient City, Boncuklu Mound and the Seljuk period caravanserai Obruk Inn, which has become the centre of attention of local and foreign tourists as well as archaeology enthusiasts with its 10,300-year history, is making great efforts to bring both historical places to tourism.

Boncuklu Mound, located within the borders of Hayıroğlu District of Karatay, is the ancestor of the 9 thousand year old Çatalhöyük, with a history of approximately 10 thousand 300 years.

Boncuklu Mound to be a new tourism destination

Karatay Municipality, which has undertaken many important projects in order to further increase the number of tourists coming to Konya and increase the region's share of tourism, especially in recent years, is making a special effort to promote Boncuklu Mound.

Karatay Mayor Hasan Kılca stated that they will always support the work in Boncuklu Mound and that the hidden history of Karatay has come to light with these works.

Mayor Hasan Kılca said that "Boncuklu Mound is the common heritage of humanity and an important value of Karatay and Konya. I believe that with the work to be carried out in the coming periods, this place will become an important place where history enthusiasts will go on a pleasant exploration. As Karatay Municipality, we will do our best to keep this historical value alive, promote it and bring it into tourism. As a municipality, we continue our efforts to further develop the region and build roads and landscaping. We predict that Boncuklu Mound will hopefully become a new tourism centre and the number of visitors will increase 20-30 times in the coming years.

Boncuklu Mound: The Ancestor of Çatalhöyük

Head of Boncuklu Mound Excavations and Faculty Member of Liverpool University, England, Prof. Dr. Douglas Baird stated that they carried out studies in 4 different areas in the mound and said that "In our work here, we determined that grains such as wheat, peas and lentils existed 10 thousand years ago. Unlike Çatalhöyük, agriculture was less practiced here, but in terms of architecture and settlement practices, this place was founded about a thousand years before Çatalhöyük. In other words, Boncuklu Mound is the ancestor of Çatalhöyük. Again, as a result of DNA tests, we see that the society here has spread to Southeastern Europe. We can detect that there are people going to Europe for commercial purposes to exchange agricultural products."

Obruk Inn and Kızören Sinkhole

In addition to the 10,300-year-old Boncuklu Mound, Karatay Municipality is also working to bring the Kızören Sinkhole, one of the deepest sinkholes on the plateau with a width of 180 meters and a depth of more than 145 meters, and the Obruk Inn, one of the Seljuk period caravanserais, located right next to the sinkhole, into tourism.

The restoration and landscaping work of Obruk Inn, one of the works of the Seljuk period, which is expected to be an important destination of Konya tourism, has been completed. The inn will become an important center of attraction in tourism. On the other hand, Obruk Lake was registered as a "Sensitive Area to be Strictly Protected" with the signature of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Obruk Inn and Kızören Sinkhole, located 75 kilometres away from the city centre and 4 kilometres north of the Konya-Aksaray highway, is one of the places frequented by those traveling to Cappadocia and tourist groups.

A PERIOD UNEARTHS IN THE ANCIENT CITY OF SAVATRA

Excavations in the Savatra Ancient City located in Yağlıbayat District continue uninterruptedly under the management of Konya Museum Directorate with the permission of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

The discovery of the ancient theatre, one of the elements of the ancient city and discovered through archaeological surface research, especially in Central Anatolia, created great excitement among archaeologists. Savatra Ancient City Scientific Advisor and S.U. Cultural Heritage Preservation and Restoration Department Faculty Member Assoc. Prof. İlker IŞIK has been conducting surface research around Bozdağ National Park since 2017 with the permission of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Işık also concentrated his work on this area. After the new structures and findings, especially in the ancient theatre section, came to light in the works carried out with the significant support of Karatay Municipality, Karatay Mayor Hasan Kılca closely follows the works carried out.



KARATAY MUNICIPALITY

20th International Konya Mystic Music Festival

The 20th International Konya Mystic Music Festival, held within the scope of the Cultural Path Festival, ends on September 30.



On the last day of the events, which started on September 23 at Mevlana and Kılıçarslan Square, actor, writer and director Yılmaz Erdoğan gave a poetry recital.

Greeting people who came to watch him before the poetry recital, Erdoğan stated that "it was the first time he attended such an organization in Konya and that it was an honour to be in the land of Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi. Then, Erdoğan read poems belonging to both himself and Rumi for about an hour. At the end of the program, Erkan Tarhan, Deputy General Director of Fine Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, presented a painting and a reed flute to Erdoğan.





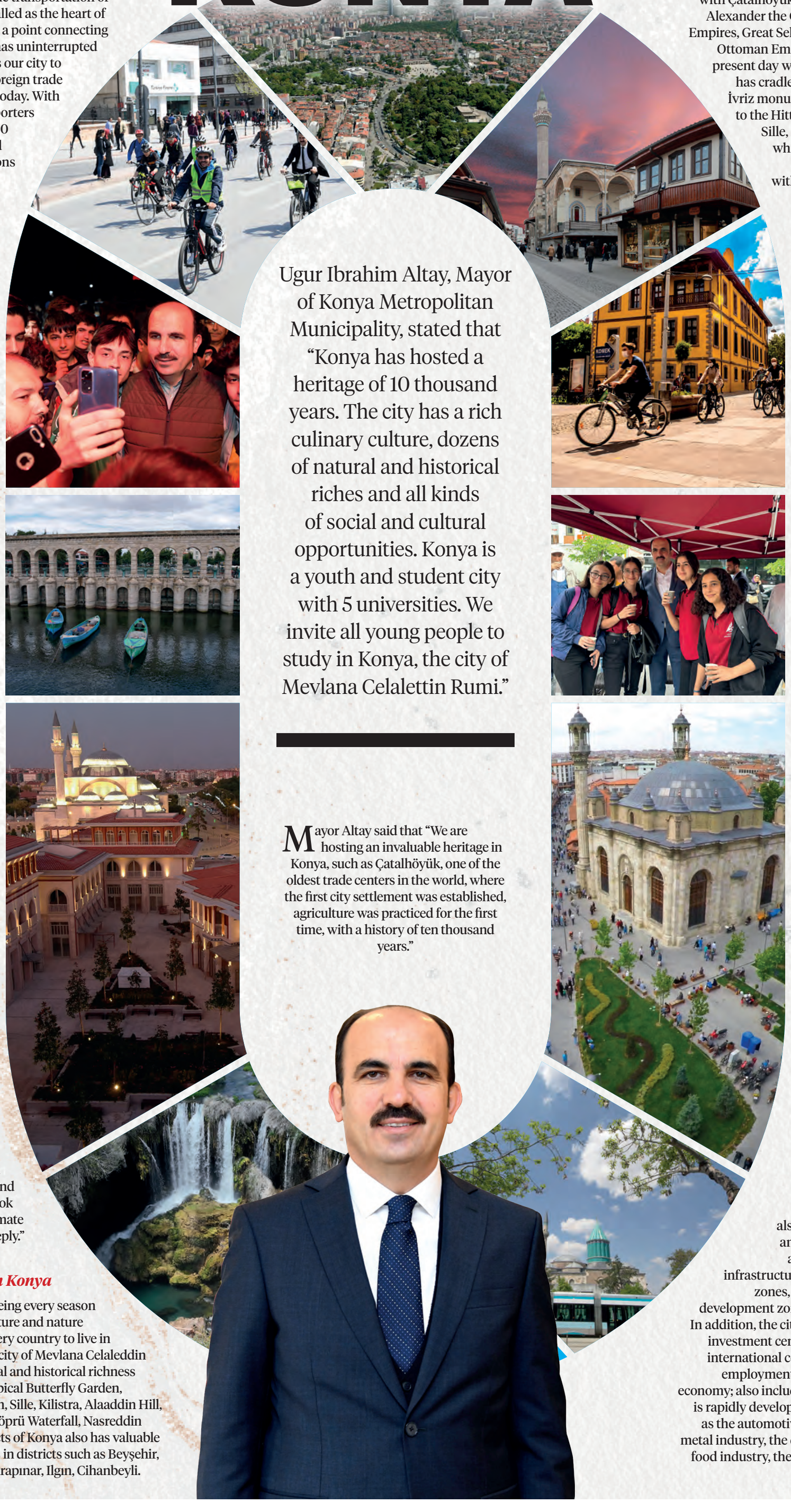


The Konya News

Turkey's Brand City

KONYA

Ugur Ibrahim Altay, Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, stated that "Konya has hosted a heritage of 10 thousand years. The city has a rich culinary culture, dozens of natural and historical riches and all kinds of social and cultural opportunities. Konya is a youth and student city with 5 universities. We invite all young people to study in Konya, the city of Mevlana Celalettin Rumi."



Heart of Anatolia: Konya

Altay, who is also the President of the World Union of Municipalities and the President of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities, talked about the transportation of Konya. He said that "Konya can be called as the heart of Anatolia. The fact that it is located at a point connecting east and west, south and north and has uninterrupted air and railway transportation allows our city to easily market its products. Konya's foreign trade volume has risen to 3 billion dollars today. With thousands of manufacturers and exporters in our city, we export to more than 180 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa, and America. We have commercial relations with these countries."

City of Youth and Student

Mayor Altay said that "Konya is a city of youth and students, students studying here continue their education in the best way. It is a big youth and student city with five universities, 130 thousand university students, nearly 500 thousand primary and secondary education students. Our students continue their education here in the best way and make the most of the opportunities our city offers. Our city has all kinds of social and cultural opportunities for the students. It also has the best facilities in terms of accommodation and transportation. Konya, one of the first cities to use the High-Speed Train in our country, is currently one of the cities where public transportation is the cheapest for students. As the Metropolitan Municipality, we continue to support our students, especially in cultural activities. I invite all our students who want to study at university to our city, where people brought up in Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi's climate of love, peace and tolerance, and to experience the beauties of this city together."

Unique Cuisine Culture

Mayor Altay uttered that "Konya has a very rich food culture and the tradition of cooking that started in Çatalhöyük ten thousand years ago has continued uninterruptedly for thousands of years. Each civilization living on our lands has carried our food culture even higher. The story of Konya cuisine started in Çatalhöyük, was cooked in the Seljuk palace and matured in the Mevlevi cuisine; almost lived its golden age especially during the Seljuk and Ottoman periods. Konya is also the city of Ateşbaz-ı Veli, the head chef of Mevlana, who was the first cook whose tomb was built. Rumi prays for Ateşbaz- I Veli as "May those who receive your salt be healed, may those who visit you find peace. May their food increase but not waste". He engraved his heart on fire and cooked his meals with wisdom and took a very special place in our spiritual climate with his secrets that affected us all deeply."

Look Forward to Seeing You in Konya

Altay said that "Konya is worth seeing every season with the best examples of history, culture and nature tourism. We invite the guests from every country to live in our city, the capital of the Seljuks, the city of Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi. In Konya, there is a lot of natural and historical richness to see such as the Science Center, Tropical Butterfly Garden, Panorama Museum, Ancestral Garden, Sille, Kilistra, Alaaddin Hill, Ince Minaret, Meram Vineyards, Yerköprü Waterfall, Nasreddin Hoca and Shams-i Tabrizi. The districts of Konya also has valuable works of art. There are many beauties in districts such as Beyşehir, Akşehir, Seydişehir, Hadim, Ereğli, Karapınar, Ilgın, Cihanbeyli.

Konya, a ten-thousand-year-old City

Altay stated that "Konya's adventure that started with Çatalhöyük; continued with Hittites, Phrygians, Alexander the Great Empire, Roman and Byzantine Empires, Great Seljuk State, Anatolian Seljuk State and Ottoman Empire. Our city continues its rise to the present day with the heritage of each civilization it has cradled. Fasıllar, Eflatunpınar, Yalburt and İvriz monuments with their history dating back to the Hittites and the ancient cities of Kilistra, Sille, Mysthia, Vasada, Savatra and Isaura, which are among the important ancient settlements of Anatolia, are located within the borders of Konya. In addition to all these, the main thing that gives our city its reputation is that it was the capital of the Anatolian Seljuk State, one of the greatest civilizations in Turkish-Islamic history, for 200 years. Today, there are dozens of masterpieces from both Seljuk and Ottoman periods in the center and many districts of Konya."

Mayor Altay said that "We are hosting an invaluable heritage in Konya, such as Çatalhöyük, one of the oldest trade centers in the world, where the first city settlement was established, agriculture was practiced for the first time, with a history of ten thousand years."

Cycling City and the World Sports Capital

Mayor Altay pointed out that "Due to its geographical structure and the importance given to "healthy transportation", Konya is the city where most bicycles are used in Turkey. As Konya Metropolitan Municipality, we have carried out many different studies to increase the use of bicycles in urban transportation. Konya is currently one of the cities with the longest bicycle path network in the world with 595 kilometres. We will increase this length to 800 kilometres by 2030. Again, with a project that sets an example for Turkey, we put the Bicycle Tram into service to facilitate long distance bicycle transportation. We implemented the Cycling Master Plan for the first time in Turkey to further encourage cycling in our city. In many points of our city, bicycle repair stations, bicycle parks, shared bicycle points and bicycle bridges continue to serve bicycle users. Turkey's first Olympic Velodrome is also located in Konya. In addition, as a result of the fact that we have the most modern sports facilities in Turkey with international standards and the importance we give to sports, Konya was selected as the '2023 World Capital of Sports' by the European Federation of Sports Capitals and Cities. We became the first city in Turkey and the second city in Europe, after Madrid, to receive the title of 'World Sports Capital'."

Agriculture, Industry and Trade Center

Mayor Altay stated that "Konya also has the titles of "Turkey's granary" and "industrial city". Today, Konya has a developed industry and technology infrastructure with modern organized industrial zones, R&D and design centres, technology development zones and Technology Industrial Zone. In addition, the city stands out as one of the important investment centres preferred by both domestic and international companies. Our city, which shares the employment and industry burden of the Turkish economy; also includes a dynamic industrial system that is rapidly developing in dozens of different fields such as the automotive and machinery industry, the basic metal industry, the defence industry, the agriculture and food industry, the wood products industry, the rubber, plastic, and furniture industry.

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TORKU BİR ÇİFTÇİ KOOPERATİFİ MARKASIDIR.

Doğal olarak bizden

Creating a route...

MERAM GETS A NEW TOURISM DESTINATION!

The new tourism rotation implemented by Meram Municipality and consisting of 9 different points will add great value to Konya's social, cultural and tourism life.



While giving information about the tourism destination they have created in the one and a half kilometre area, Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş said that "We have put Meram Vineyard, Lavender Garden and Girls' Rock into service. Aydınçavuş Observation Terrace and Meram Culture Museum are also counting down the days for the opening. When the Historical Meram Bridge, Tavusbaba Tomb, 80000 Devri Alem Park are added to these, our city will have a very valuable tourism axis."

MERAM VINEYARD

Anatolia's most uniquely beautiful new travel-tourism and history axis is beginning with Meram Vineyards. With the work carried out on the 18000 m2 land located at the intersection of Yeni Meram Street and Yaka Street of Meram Municipality, the historical Meram Vineyards were revived. Inside the vineyard, there is the Summer Café, a stone building reflecting the past of Meram, 200-year-old valonia oak trees, more than a thousand grape vines and nearly two hundred fruit saplings.

LAVENDER GARDEN

The Lavender Garden, established by the Meram Municipality on a 20 thousand square meter land in the Dere Neighbourhood, just west of the Meram Vineyard, offers its guests insatiable moments of beauty. The Lavender Garden, which is projected on 10 thousand m2 of the area, has a marble water pool arbour with wooden pier road application, seating benches, observation terrace, swing terrace, wellness track and rose arches.

Girls' Rock

It is located at the top of the picnic and recreation areas in Meram Dere Neighbourhood, Girls' Rock has a feature reminiscent of fairy chimneys in Cappadocia. In order to bring the Girls' Rock, which has been a centre of attraction for centuries with its beauty and legends in Konya, to tourism, environmental arrangement and lighting have been made by Meram Municipality and beauty has been added to the beauty of the region.

AYDIN ÇAVUŞ OBSERVATION TERRACE

Aydın Çavuş Observation Terrace, where you can see all of Konya from the most beautiful way from the forested area in the unique clean air of Meram, has been re-projected by Meram Municipality. Aydın Çavuş Observation Terrace, the address of peaceful conversations, is counting down the days to welcome its guests.

TAVUSBABA TOMB AND MOSQUE

Tavusbaba Tomb and Mosque, located just at the foot of Aydın Çavuş Observation Terrace, is one of the most beautiful and remarkable parts of this tourism axis. The area, which has gained a new face with the work of Konya Metropolitan Municipality and Meram Municipality, offers its guests unforgettable beautiful moments.



HISTORICAL MERAM BRIDGE

The Historical Meram Bridge, which is one of the rare areas with its architecture, aesthetic appearance and natural beauty, is located just below the Tavusbaba Tomb. The bridge, which is located on the stream flowing among the great trees surrounding it, was built on the Meram River in the 13th century of the Seljuk period and is about 30 meters long and 5 meters wide. The bridge and its surroundings summarize the history, nature and briefly all the beauty of Meram in the most beautiful way.

MERAM CITY AND LIFE CULTURE MUSEUM

The vineyard land behind and consisting of two traditional Konya houses belonging to Meram Municipality, located opposite each other in a single courtyard, is organized by Meram Municipality as the City and Life Culture Museum. When the museum starts to serve, it will reflect the deep, subtle and elegant culture of Meram in the most beautiful way.

80 THOUSAND DEVR-I ALEM PARK

80 Thousand Devr-i Alem (Around the World) Park, which is a first in Turkey with its incorporation of three different concepts, has 120 miniature works, 50 moving and audible dinosaurs and models of fairy tale and television world heroes. This park is a unique value for children's imaginations and journeys into history.

MERAM DUTLU MİLLET GARDEN

Meram Mulberry Millet Garden, which hosts social and cultural activities as well as serving in many areas from fiery fireless picnic areas to children's play groups, welcomes its guests in an area of approximately one million square meters. In Meram Millet Garden, there are colourful and interesting areas such as a children's playground of 40 thousand square meters, a vineyard of 10 thousand square meters, a pond of 10 thousand square meters, a fish restaurant, an Ottoman Garden, a prayer room, social facilities, a rose garden with fragrances and jams.



Assoc. Dr. Yusuf SAYIN

"Karabakh is Azerbaijan"...

After 44 days of homeland warfare, Azerbaijan, which recently launched an anti-terrorist operation in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, taught a lesson to the Armenian terrorist organizations in the Nagorno-Karabakh region and forced the Armenian forces in the Karabakh region to sit at the diplomatic table. Taking advantage of the gap in the international conjuncture and the situation caused by Russia's inability to take a close interest in the developments in the Caucasus region, Azerbaijan, with the support of Türkiye, has taken another permanent step towards building a climate of peace and tranquility in Karabakh.

The historical background of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, which is the most important sign of Türkiye-Azerbaijan strategic alliance, points to a 30-year process of occupation, massacre, and ethnic cleansing. Armenia, taking some Western powers with it, kept the Karabakh region, which is Azerbaijani territory, under occupation for many years. With the increase in Azerbaijan's national power capacity, regional and global developments, the Ukraine war, and the energy crisis, Azerbaijan has completed the work it left unfinished in the 44-day war. All the best to our Azerbaijani brothers and sisters. I wish mercy to the martyrs, peace to the veterans and those left behind.

Azerbaijan's victory in Karabakh is important in many ways. It marks the defeat of the West, which for many years remained silent and gave all kinds of support to Armenia's occupation of the region, in the face of a just struggle. Secondly, it tells the story of Azerbaijan, with the support of Türkiye, building its own justice in the region with elements of power and diplomacy, despite the highly inconsistent and unjust approaches of international law. The third corresponds to the synergy of victory formed when two Turkic/men states, Türkiye and Azerbaijan, turned their kinetic energy into potential. To summarize; the Karabakh issue tells us about the process of unjust actions resulting in the manifestation of justice and law.

The peoples of Türkiye and Azerbaijan are brotherly peoples in terms of ethnicity, history, language, and culture. While Azerbaijan's support for both the anti-terrorist operations that started with the July 15 process and national disasters such as the February 6 earthquakes consolidated the bonds of brotherhood in the eyes of the Turkish people, Türkiye's support for Karabakh becoming Azerbaijan again has been very important steps towards building permanent historical peace bridges in the eyes of the Azerbaijani people. This process, which anchors the "2 states 1 nation" paradigm, has opened doors to very important cooperation for the states and people of the two countries. Energy, trade, defense, diplomacy, and counterterrorism are among the main areas of cooperation.

In particular, the opening of the Zangezur and Lachin corridors in cooperation with the two countries is important for Azerbaijan's commercial and political relations with the Western world and Türkiye's commercial and political relations with the Eastern world to much greater horizons. Considering that factors such as the US, Russia, and Iran are effective here, we can foresee that the synergy established by the diplomacy and national power of the two countries can lead mechanisms to balance these powers. It can be argued that the realization of these corridors, which will make the two countries stronger in the region and in international relations, will benefit not only the two countries but also third-party countries, especially Armenia. We will have to wait and see...

Absolute success means being Champion



Tümosan Konyaspor Club President Fatih Özgökçen made some statements. Here are some important statements of Özgökçen;

• Third place is not the ultimate success for us. The ultimate success for Konyaspor means being the champion."

• Ticket prices were not calculated on an amount that would generate profit for Konyaspor."

• This is a visual show and it must be done in accordance with the rules. "It's not much, but we're tightening our belts a little bit, otherwise we won't be able to make these transfers."

• Approximately 70 million lira of our tax debts were not restructured. It was also structured for the long term. Therefore, a debt of over 300-350 million was restructured."

• Combined and match ticket prices will not decrease. It will even increase in some matches. However, we can give discounts to those who buy combined tickets as a family."

• The combined tickets purchased by the management will be sold to tradesmen in Konya industry. This will be an incentive for them to come to the matches."

• If our fans at least come to the matches and support us, we will be happy and Konyaspor will be more successful."

• The main goal is to be in the top 10, but I think our squad has the capacity to go above that."



He makes Konya proud!



The World Para Taekwondo Championship was held in Veracuruz, Mexico between 21-24 September. Mehmet Sami Saraç, a successful sportsman from Konya Büyükşehir Belediyespor, who competed in the championship with the national team jersey, won the bronze medal by placing third in the world in the +80 kilo category. Turkish Para Taekwondo National Team completed the championship, in which it participated with 12 sportspeople, with 7 medals, 2 silver and 5 bronze.

Konya teams competes in the 4th group

The groups and fixtures of the Turkish Volleyball Men's 2nd League have been announced. Five representatives of Konya will compete in the same group. Konya Büyükşehir Belediyespor, Seydişehir Gymnastics Sports Club, Beyşehir Akademi Spor, Karapınar Anatolian Leopards Unity Academy, Pema College will compete in the 4th Group and will represent Konya in the league. The first week matches of the new season will be played on November 21.



Preparations for the new season continues

Konya Büyükşehir Belediyespor, which will compete in the Turkish Basketball 2nd League, continues its preparations for the season. A surprise birthday party was held for Team Captain Mustafa Ünlü during the last training session of the Yellow-Blacks. Club President Yavuz Kızılaslan also attended the surprise birthday celebration held before training at Konya Technical University Sports Hall. Konya Büyükşehir Belediyespor, which will compete in TB2L Group B, will welcome the season with a match against Bersa at home. The competitions, which will be played in 4 different groups in the 2023-2024 season in TB2L, where 32 teams from 16 different cities will compete, will start on 3-6 November 2023 and will be completed on 1-4 March 2024. The play-off competition schedule will be announced later.