

## THEME 4 WHAT A LIFE READING SKILL (YILDIRIM)

### A. Fill in the timeline below with the events (a-i) according to the infographic.

#### The Most Important Architect of the Ottoman Empire

Sinan was the chief architect and civil engineer for the Ottoman sultans Süleyman I, Selim II and Murad III, so he worked during the most powerful periods of the Ottoman Empire and created marvellous works of art which decorated different parts of it. He is believed to be one of the greatest architects in Turkish history.

He was born in the village of Ağırnas near Kayseri. His exact birth date is not known, but according to some sources, he was born around the year 1490. He grew up in his hometown. His father was a stonemason and a carpenter. Sinan spent his youth helping him and learned a lot.

In 1512, some Ottoman officers recruited Sinan to the army. He had the chance to work with successful architects and learned different techniques. He was very talented and ambitious. After a short while, he improved his skills. He managed to make 3 ships to pass Lake Van during the military campaign to Baghdad in 1535. He completed building the Hüsreviye Mosque in Syria. It was the first of his masterpieces, which he had built all around the empire before he gained his fame in art in 1537.

He attracted lots of attention after he had built a bridge over the Prut River during the campaign to Moldova in 1538. He was so successful that he became the chief architect in 1539. In 1548 he finished building the Şehzade Mosque in İstanbul. It is considered his first important work in the classical Ottoman architecture. In 1557 he completed the Süleymaniye Mosque in İstanbul, which was the largest mosque of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. After he had built it, he gained the title Great. In 1574 he built the Selimiye Mosque in Edirne, which was his most important work of art.

Great Sinan undertook many projects in his lifetime. He had built over 80 mosques, 34 palaces, 41 public baths, 19 tombs, 12 inns, and so on before he passed away in İstanbul in 1588. Turkish people know him as Mimar Sinan and they have been fascinated by his masterpieces for centuries.

- a. He joined the military campaign to Moldova and built a bridge.
- b. He became the chief architect as a result of his success.
- c. He built the Selimiye Mosque in Edirne.
- d. He joined the military campaign to Baghdad and made 3 ships.
- e. Some Ottoman officers recruited Sinan to the army.
- f. He built the Süleymaniye Mosque in İstanbul.
- g. He built his first mosque in Syria.
- h. He passed away in İstanbul.
- i. He built the Şehzade Mosque in İstanbul.

1512 :

1535 :

1537 :

1538 :

1539 :

1548 :

1557 :

1574 :

1588 :

**B. Complete the following sentence according to the infographic.**

Some of Mimar Sinan's Masterpieces are \_\_\_\_\_

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**C. Which of the following CANNOT be inferred from the infographic?**

- a. After Mimar Sinan had learned the nuts and bolts of the jobs 'stonemason' and 'carpenter', he became a member of the Ottoman army.
- b. It took only a short time for Mimar Sinan to learn many different techniques of architecture.
- c. Before Mimar Sinan built a bridge over the Prut River, he had become the chief architect.
- d. Mimar Sinan had created many different types of structures before he passed away.

**D. Read the text and fill in the timeline below with the events (1-8).**

**Bosnians' Wise King**

Alija Izetbegovic was a Bosnian politician, lawyer, author, activist and philosopher. He was the leader of Bosnians during their independence struggle.

Alija was born in Bosanski Samac in 1925 and grew up there. He attended high school in Sarajevo, which later became the capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina. While he was a soldier in the army, he had an argument with the authorities. Next, he was put into prison in 1946 and stayed there for 3 years. After he had got out of prison, he returned to university and got a degree in law. He got married at the age of 24 and had 3 children.

In 1962, Alija started to work as a law consultant in Sarajevo. He wrote for some newspapers as well. In 1970, he published one of his most important books called The Islamic Declaration. In 1983, there were conflicts in the country. After the authorities had examined the book again, they sent him to prison for the second time, and he got out in 1988.

Alija founded the Democratic Action Party with his friends in 1990. There was a referendum for the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1992. As a result, more than 99% of the people accepted. Soon afterwards, Bosnians declared independence on 1 March 1992. Then a terrible period began. Lots of Serbian groups started to attack the Muslims in different cities. On 6 April 1992, Serbians besieged Sarajevo, and that lasted for 3 and a half years. They were extremely cruel and killed too many Bosnian Muslims. Some Croatian groups also helped Serbians. Meanwhile, Bosnians were trying to resist and Alija Izetbegovic was leading them, but they didn't have enough weapons. There was no safe place in Sarajevo. The life was horrible there. The tragedy ended with the Dayton Peace Treaty in 1995. However, the result was incredibly bad. Thousands of people had been killed during the war. Unfortunately, most of them were Bosnians.

In the first election after the war, Alija Izetbegovic became the first president of the independent Bosnia-Herzegovina. He ruled the country until the year 2000, when he ended his political life because of some health problems. Alija Izetbegovic was a great leader. He was just and tolerant. He was also very knowledgeable, so people used to call him Wise King. He passed away in Sarajevo in 2003.

- 1. He got out of prison after he had been there for the second time.
- 2. He started to work as a law consultant in Sarajevo.
- 3. He passed away in Sarajevo.
- 4. Alija Izetbegovic was born in Bosanski Samac.
- 5. He founded the Democratic Action Party with his friends.
- 6. He was put into prison for 3 years.

7. He ended his political life after he had had some health problems.

8. He published one of his most important books called The Islamic Declaration.

1925 :

1946 :

1962 :

1970 :

1988 :

1990 :

2000 :

2003 :

**E. Read the text and choose the correct answer.**

1. Which of the following information IS NOT mentioned in the text?

- a. Alija Izetbegovic had done different types of jobs before he became the president.
- b. He had taken part in some charitable activities before he graduated from university.
- c. He was put into prison after he had written his book The Islamic Declaration.
- d. After Bosnians had declared independence, many Serbians began attacking them.

2. Which of the following information is false according to the text?

- a. Alija Izetbegovic was a very knowledgeable leader, but he wasn't tolerant at all.
- b. Almost all the Bosnians accepted the independence of their country at the referendum.
- c. The Dayton Peace Treaty finished the Serbians' attacks on the Bosnians in Sarajevo.
- d. Alija Izetbegovic became the first president in the election after the war had ended.