

Memories From Büyükada 2



With my old friend Dr. Marko Benbanaste, in the balcony of my house in Büyükada, chatting about the past, the future and so on. I have been trying to be useful to the community of which I am a part for long years, as a member of the Neve Shalom Synagogue Foundation and Turkish Grand Rabbinat Law and Development Commission, as long as my health permits, I intend to keep working. I have served as the technical consultant of Neve Shalom Foundation Board of Directors from 1952 to 1992 voluntarily. I have overseen the restoration of all of the synagogues in Istanbul including the Ashkenazi and the Italian synagogues. I was honored in April of 1995 by the Board of Directors of Neve Shalom Foundation with a thank you and honor plaque. At the beginning of 1986, it was decided to renovate Neve Shalom Synagogue [This synagogue that was built by Architect Elyo Ventura and Architect Bernard Motola in the district of Sishane, on Büyük Hendek Caddesi(Large Ditch Road), on the upper floor of the old First Coeducational Jewish School was officially opened on March 25th, 1951 with a magnificent ceremony. As a result of Architect Angel's work, the front door of the synagogue was moved from the side street to the front. The synagogue that was attacked by terrorists in 1986 and 2004 twice is currently in use].