

Exchanging Culture Along the Silk Road

By staff reporter **JIANG WANDI**

THE Year of Turkish Culture in China (2013) was formally inaugurated in March after a curtain-raising gala in Beijing. Various cultural activities are on display or will be staged in different cities throughout China, ranging from opera, concerts and ballet to photo and painting exhibitions, according to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey.

The year-long cultural exchange is expected to enhance friendly relations between China and Turkey and is a part of the Joint Statement of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Turkey on Establishing and Developing Strategic Relations of Cooperation. Last year saw the Chinese Cultural Year successfully held in Turkey. What can Chinese audience expect from the Year of Turkish Culture? *China Today* sat down with Mr. Murat Salim Esenli, Turkish ambassador to China, to find out.