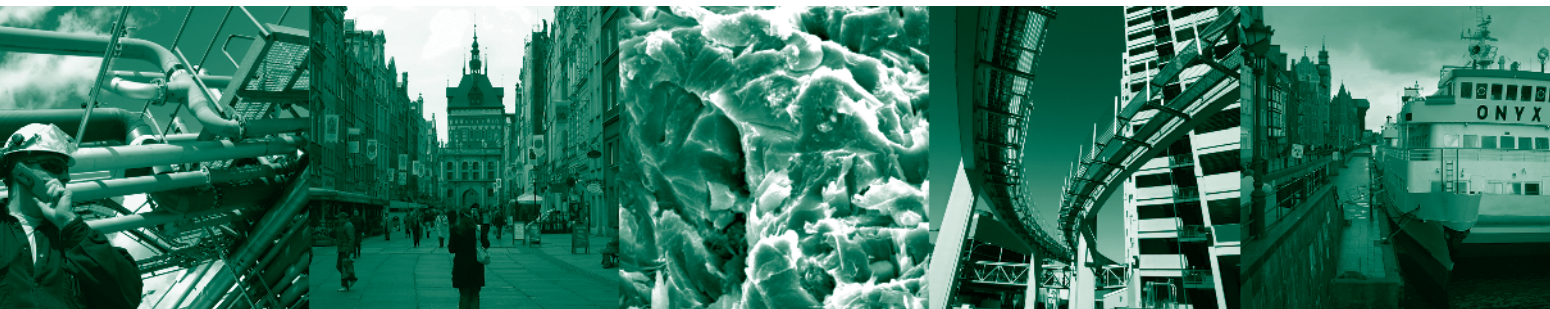




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It was said...



ORHAN PAMUK

The Nobel Prize Winner in Literature 2006

Why do you write? This is the question I've been asked most often in my writing career. Most of the time they mean this: What is the point, why do you give your time to this strange and impossible activity? Why do you write... You have to give an excuse, an apology for writing... This is how I have felt every time I've heard this question. But every time I give a different answer... Sometimes I say: I do not know why I write, but it definitely makes me feel good. I hope you feel the same when you read me! Sometimes I say that I am angry, and that is why I write. Most of the time the urge is to be alone in a room, so that is why I write. In my childhood I wanted to be a painter. I painted every day. I still have that childish feeling of joy and happiness whenever I write. I write to pursue that old childish happiness and that is why for me literature and writing are inextricably linked with happiness, or the lack of it... unhappiness. In my childhood, I felt happy, painted a lot, and all the grown ups were constantly smiling at me. Everybody was gentle, polite and tender. I wrote all about this in my autobiographical book, *Istanbul*. After the publication of *Istanbul*, some people asked me this question: Aren't you a bit young to write your autobiography? I kept my silence. Literature is about happiness, I wanted to say, about preserving your childishness all your life, keeping the child in you alive... Now, some years later, I've received this great prize. This time the same people begin asking another question: Aren't you a bit young to get the Nobel Prize? Actually the question I've heard most often since the news of this prize reached me is: How does it feel to get the Nobel Prize? I say, oh! It feels good. All the grown ups are constantly smiling at me. Suddenly everybody is again gentle, polite and tender. In fact, I almost feel like a prince. I feel like a child. Then for a moment, I realize why sometimes I have felt so angry. This prize, which brought back to me the tender smiles of my childhood and the kindness of the strangers, should have been given to me not at this age (54) which some think is too young, but much much earlier, even earlier than my childhood, perhaps two weeks after I was born, so that I could have enjoyed the princely feeling of being a child all my life. In fact now... come to think of it... That is why I write and why I will continue to write.

The speech at the Nobel Banquet in Stockholm, Sweden on 10th December 2006

Editorial

Gdańsk is the city at the centre of the fourth-largest metropolitan area in Poland. It is Poland's principal seaport as well as the largest city in the Pomerania region of Northern Poland and also historically the largest city of the Kashubian region. The city lies on the southern edge of Gdańsk Bay (of the Baltic Sea), in a conurbation with the spa town of Sopot, the city of Gdynia and suburban communities, which together form a metropolitan area called the Tricity. Gdańsk is situated at the mouth of the Motława River, connected to the Leniwka, a branch in the delta of the nearby Vistula River, whose waterway system waters 60% of the area of Poland and connects Gdańsk to the national capital in Warsaw. This gives the city a unique advantage as the centre of Poland's sea trade. Together with the nearby port of Gdynia, Gdańsk is also an important industrial centre. Historically an important seaport and shipbuilding centre, Gdańsk was a member of the Hanseatic League. The Gdańsk city's name is thought to originate from the Gdania river, the original name of the Motława branch upon which the city is situated. According to archaeologists, a stronghold was built at Gdańsk in the 980s by Mieszko I of Poland, after a series of wars against the local tribes. Modern day Poles have come to regard this as the founding of Gdańsk; in 1997 the city celebrated the millennial anniversary of the year 997 when Saint Adalbert of Prague baptized the inhabitants of the settlement on behalf of Boleslaw the Brave of Poland. In 1186, a Cistercian monastery was set up in Oliwa nearby, now within the city limits. It is the longest cistercian church in the world, hiding pieces of sacral art in Renaissance, baroque, rococo and classic style of the high artistic level. In the metropolitan cathedral organ concerts take place and the delegates of the COMMENT'2009 Congress will listen to one of them. The history caused that the city of Gdańsk was alternately under the succession of Poland and Germany. Combining the number of years, the city was under rule of Poland for 641 years, under the rule of Teutonic Order for 158 years, 125 years as part of Prussia and later Germany, 29 years of its history are marked by the status of a free city, and 6 years under the occupation of Nazi Germany until it was given back to Poland in 1945. In 1980 the Gdańsk Shipyard was the birthplace of the Solidarity trade union movement, whose opposition to the Communist regime led to the end of Communist Party rule in 1989, and sparked a series of protests that successfully overturned the Communist regimes of the former Soviet bloc. Solidarity's leader, Lech Wałęsa became President of Poland in 1990. Gdańsk native Donald Tusk became Prime Minister of Poland in 2007. The Old City is full of historical buildings. Neptune's Fountain in the centre of the Long Market was first erected in 1549. Green Gate was built between 1568-1571 to serve as the formal residence of Polish monarchs. Royal Chapel of the Polish King – John III Sobieski was built in baroque style between 1678-1681. The city has many fine buildings from the time of the Hanseatic League. Most tourist attractions are located along or near Long Street and Long Market, a pedestrian thoroughfare surrounded by buildings reconstructed in historical (primarily 17th century) style and flanked at both ends by elaborate city gates. This part of the city is sometimes referred to as the Royal Road as the former path of processions for visiting kings. Artus Court – a building situated in the very centre of Gdańsk was not only a place of the meetings of merchants but also a centre of social life and attraction for numerous strangers from abroad. The name comes from a popular Medieval legend about King Arthur, a symbol of knighthood and courage. All over Poland a few Artus courts were created but that in Gdańsk was absolutely the most famous one. The most famous monuments in Gdańsk is the medieval port crane (Krantor), called Żuraw over Motława river.

During the last 17 years the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering and their main International Scientific Conferences on Achievements in Mechanical and Materials Engineering AMME and Contemporary Achievements in Mechanics, Manufacturing and Materials Science CAM³S conferences and the Worldwide Congress on Materials and Manufacturing Engineering and Technology COMMENT, organised every two years, took place in many important places in Poland. Those places became close to WAMME fellows and its sympathisers of whom a few thousands participated in those events, including ca. 2,5 thousands from ca. 50 countries from all world continents. One of venues of the AMME conferences was once Sopot with the oldest pier at the Baltic Sea and a historical Grand Hotel and historical Gdańsk with its City Hall in the Old Town. History likes to repeat that is why in 2009 the COMMENT'2009 Congress organised on 14th-17th June under the patronage of the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering will take place in the conference rooms of the very modern Mercure Hevelius Hotel in Gdańsk, Poland, at the beautiful Polish seaside. Moreover, the Opening Ceremony of the COMMENT'2009 Congress will take place in the Great Hall of Artus Court in Gdańsk. During the Opening Ceremony of the COMMENT'2009 Congress the wonderful music of the outstanding Polish romantic composer Frederic Chopin played by the famous Polish pianist of the young generation Wojciech Waleczek from Silesia will sound there.

The COMMENT'2009 Congress' main aim is to comment and discuss the new trends of the development of materials and manufacturing engineering and technologies during the next decades of the 21st century. It is a federation of the 7 independent following Conferences which are organised for many years:

- 17th International Scientific Conference on Achievements of Mechanical and Materials Engineering AMME'2009. The AMME'2009 Conference serves to accomplish knowledge and raise professional qualifications for its delegates including the level of professional knowledge and abilities of making current engineering and research works mainly in the field of the newest technological achievements, methodology of scientific researches and engineering calculations, the newest trends in the field of education and distance learning. The scope includes the following main issues: engineering materials, materials properties and methodology of research, analysis and modelling of materials structure and properties, materials manufacturing and processing, cleaner production, industrial management and organisation, education, distance learning and research trends. The 17th conference in its highly successful series acquires a new level both in terms of the scope and geographical range. Each time the Conference on Achievements in Mechanical and Materials Engineering is an occasion to meet many specialists from the mentioned thematic fields



from very many countries of the World. Surely, it will be the same this year. The contributors will come so far from the Americas, Asia, Australia, Africa and Europe.

- 15th Jubilee International Scientific Conference on Contemporary Achievements in Mechanics, Manufacturing and Materials Science CAM³S'2009,
- Scientific Conference on Surface Engineering SE'2009. In the framework of that conference the 1st Workshop on "Foresight of surface properties formation leading technologies of engineering materials and biomaterials" concerning the research project FORSURF financed in the framework of the Innovative Economy of the National Cohesion Strategy and the European Regional Development Fund of the European Union will take place,
- Scientific Conference on Computational Materials Science CMS'2009,
- Scientific Conference on Biomaterials and Bioengineering BIO'2009,
- Scientific Conference on Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials NANO'2009,
- Scientific Conference on Polymers' Technologies and Recycling PTR'2009.

The accompanying events of the Congress are:

- Handing honorary awards of the Prof. Fryderyk Staub Golden Owl for 2009 for achievements in promoting the Polish science and higher education on the international arena and for achievements in collaboration with the Polish scientific community of materials engineering. This year those awards are achieved by the outstanding scientists: Prof. Stanisław Rusz from VSB Technical University of Ostrava, Ostrava, Czech Republic, Prof. Emin Bayraktar from Supmecca/LISMMA-Paris School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, St Ouen Cedex, France and Prof. Gilmar Batalha from University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo Brazil.
- Handing the honorary award of the Prof. Jan Adamczyk of the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering for a young scientist for a distinguished PhD or DSc thesis for 2009. This year it is achieved by Dr Marek Kremzer from the Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, Poland.
- Scientific-Technical Conference QMSSEDU'2009 on Certificated and uncertificated quality management systems in education
- The 1st Workshop FORSURF in the framework of the project on "Foresight of surface properties formation leading technologies of engineering materials and biomaterials" financed in the framework of the Innovative Economy of the National Cohesion Strategy and the European Regional Development Fund of the European Union
- The Congress of Students' Scientific Circles COKÓŁ, together with Photovoltaics, Foundry and Quality Days.
- The General Assembly of the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering
- The Annual Meeting of the Metallic Materials Section of the Materials Science Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences

I invite the COMMENT'2009 Congress delegates for the preparation of papers, mainly full ones, which fulfil high editorial requirements, in order to share them with P.T. Readers of the Archives MSE hoping that they will fulfil their expectations. The Journal is constantly at the disposal both of P.T. Authors and P.T. Readers. I wish all the delegates the nice impressions from the stay in Poland and in hospitable Gdańsk, fruitful scientific debates and new constant relationships of scientific cooperation.

Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzański M. Dr hc
Editor-in-Chief of the JAMME
President of the WAMME
President of ACMS&SE

Gliwice, in May 2009