



SYMBOLS OF POWER & BEAUTY: THE ART OF MUSLIM WARFARE FEATURING THE COLLECTION OF THE ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA

Islamic Arms and Armour, being part of the IAMM collection, represents the finest and most exquisite form of art produced in the Islamic world. Despite popular misconception, many of this weaponry were not mainly produced for battles or warfare. They are, in fact, primarily produced as expressions of social status, accessories in ceremonial gatherings and as diplomatic gifts. Furthermore, their decorations reflect the finest workmanship in gemstone setting, intricate calligraphic inscription with gold and silver inlay, as well as in the art of metallurgy. These arms and armour, being the pride of the society, were always portrayed in major epic stories in addition to miniature paintings. The miniature paintings highlight the beauty and effectiveness of Islamic arms, illustrating the tactics and strategies that attest to the pre-eminence of Muslim warfare.

IAMM is publishing a catalogue of 300 objects of arms and armour entitled "Symbol of Power and Beauty: The Art of Muslim Warfare". The artefacts included in this catalogue reflect the arms and armour from around the Islamic dynasties, beautified with elaborate miniature paintings. The catalogue, which measures 24cm (W) x 29cm (H), offers around 220 pages of stimulating journey through the history and culture of the Islamic world.



DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

Greeting from the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia. We had a very busy, exciting and fruitful 2014, and are looking ahead for another wonderful year. We would like to convey our warm wishes to all those who made this year a big success starting with the land mark celebration of Nun Wa al Qalam Contemporary Muslim Calligraphy Exhibition and catalogue followed by Boundless Plains: The Australian Muslim Connection Photo exhibition, the Az-Zakah: Spirit, Realisation and Obligation in conjunction with the Lembaga Zakat Selangor, Capture the Spirit of Ramadan Photo Exhibition, Al-Quran: The Sacred Art of Revelation Photo Exhibition, The Path of Knowledge: IAMM Scholar's Library and ending the year with the spectacular Tradition, Culture & Modernity: Contemporary Art from Turkey, a selection from the collection of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey.

This year our architecture gallery was enriched with three new Islamic edifices: The Dar al Islam Mosque, New Mexico, USA, The Great Mosque of Djenne, Timbuktu, Mali, as well as the Court of the Lions historical palace of Alhambra, Spain.

With a great number of educational activities, events and VIP visits, we feel that our mission was well reached for the year and wish everyone a Happy New Year and blessed Maulidur Rasul.

Syed Mohamad Albukhary

The launching of an exhibition 'Tradition, Culture & Modernity: Contemporary Art from Turkey'



The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) proudly presents 'Tradition, Culture & Modernity: Contemporary Art from Turkey' Exhibition, a showcase of 26 painting pieces by 17 Turkish artists. These artworks are a part of a larger collection housed by the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey. The exhibition, curated by Prof. Dr. Mumtaz Saglam, summarised the development of Turkish paintings that offers a critical approach and insight into the context of tradition, culture and modernity within the Turkish society. The opening ceremony was launched by the Chairman of Tourism Malaysia, YBhg. Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Ng Yen Yen, accompanied by respected guests: the Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Erdem Basci; the Ambassador of Republic of Turkey to Malaysia, H.E. Mrs. Basak Turkoglu; and the Chairman of Albukhary Foundation, Tan Sri Syed Mokhtar Albukhary. The exhibition is on display until the 31st of January 2015 at the Special Gallery 1, IAMM.

'The Path of Knowledge: IAMM Scholar's Library Exhibition'



The exhibition brings a collection of rare books from the Scholar's Library of Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) to the public. It allows visitors to experience an extraordinary journey into the adventurous travel of travellers and historians on Islamic arts from the past. The exhibition, which has been on display since 24th October 2014, will end on 12th January 2015 in Special Gallery 2, IAMM.

*Top page header is a model of The Court of the Lions, the Alhambra Palace.

Great selections@Museum Shop



SQUARE COASTER

Square coaster with Islamic geometric design. An in-house production made of porcelain tile and comes with eight selected designs featuring the Islamic geometric pattern. Selling at RM 15.00 per piece.



IZNIK JAR

Multi-size limited edition Ceramic Jar featuring an Iznik design. A product from Turkey. Price ranges from RM 490.00 to RM 1,200.00.

Museum Admission

MUSEUM GALLERIES & SHOP

Mondays to Sundays 10am - 6pm
Public Holidays 10am - 6pm

MUSEUM RESTAURANT

Tuesdays to Sundays 10am - 6pm
Closed on Mondays

MUSEUM GALLERIES

Adults RM14.00
Students (with ID) RM7.00
Senior Citizens (Malaysian 55 and over) RM7.00
Children (6 and under) FREE

Tickets are charged at RM12 & RM6 respectively when the Special Galleries are closed.



Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia
Jalan Lembah Perdana 50480
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 603 2274 2020
Fax: 603 2274 0529
Email: info@iamm.org.my
www.iamm.org.my

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Royal life-size painting of Crown Prince Abbas Mirza of Qajar

This royal life-size painting of Crown Prince Abbas Mirza (1789 -1833 AD) features the young prince dressed in a red robe with a traditional wide waistband, jewelled epaulettes, two medals and a blue silk chest sash while holding his bow and arrow, dagger, and sword. The line of troops is a common theme in Abbas Mirza's portraits, but what is of particular interest here is the single soldier looking directly at the viewer, who is larger in size than the line of soldiers. This indicates that he is a more important status. It is believed that this soldier is a self-portrait of the artist believed to be Muhammad Hassan (1818 AD/1233 AH).

New Acquisitions



A badge depicting a portrait of Nasr al-Din Shah Qajar (r. 1848-96 AD), miniature dated 1878 AD, Persia and France



A diamond-set enamelled gold portrait of Muhammad Shah Qajar (r. 1834-1848 AD), 1835 AD, Persia



A badge depicting a portrait of Nasr al-Din Shah Qajar (r. 1848-96 AD), 1870 AD, Europe



A Lapis-lazuli hilted dagger, signed by 'Abbas Ghulam Shah, 18th century, Iran



A leaf of Firdausi's Shahnameh depicts Rustam killings Isfandiyyar, 16th century, Persia



A diamond-set and gold necklace (Khandi), 1850-1875 AD, North India

Educational activities

THE BOOK BINDING WORKSHOP



In conjunction with the special exhibition 'Path of Knowledge: IAMM Scholar's Library', a bookbinding workshop had taken place at IAMM Education Workshop on the 4th of November and 6th of December 2014. The workshop was led by one of the book-binding pioneers in Malaysia, Mrs. Samsiah Jendol. The short course introduced two types of book stitches, namely the Kettle stitch and French stitch. Furthermore, participants were also provided with the materials kits and certificates.

KIDS PAPER-MAKING WORKSHOP



Homemade paper making is always fun especially for kids. For this reason, the Children's Library of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) had organized a paper-making workshop for the children. It was held on the 8th of November and 7th of December 2014 at IAMM Education Workshop. This hands-on workshop offered kids and their parents a unique experience in the basic concepts of pulp and paper making using natural resources such as newspaper, magazines and flowers.

News & events

ARCHITECTURE GALLERY'S LATEST MODEL: THE COURT OF THE LIONS, HISTORICAL PALACE OF ALHAMBRA



A model of The Court of the Lions, a part of the historical palace of Alhambra, is a new additional structure in the architecture gallery. It was built during the reign of Sultan Muhammad V (1362-1391 AD). The central fountain, made up of 12 lions with water spurting from its jaws, is surrounded with decorated marble columns and carved walls. It functions using a complex hydraulic system that flows into four intersecting water channels in the central courtyard.

SPECIAL VISITS AT THE ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA Date: OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2014

- HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium
- H.E Halimah Binti Yaacob, Parliamentary Speaker of the Republic of Singapore
- Siam Society under the Royal Patronage, Bangkok
- Mrs. Maria Vadillo Le Drian, wife of French Defence Minister
- Mrs. Halen Toolan, Spouse of Commander Marines Force Pacific
- YBhg. Datin Sakdiah Hj. Mohd. Noor, Wife of Admiral, Royal Brunei Navy
- Embassy of the People's Republic of China
- Wife of US Ambassador
- Asia New Zealand Foundation
- Credit Guarantee Corporation (CGC)