#### **NEWSLETTER**



The Art Gallery of New South Wales Australia (AGNSW) has successfully launched its latest addition of exhibitions Beyond words: The calligraphic tradition of Asia on 26th August 2016. The exhibition which displayed the richness of calligraphic traditions of Asia including the Islamic World took a wide range of collaborative efforts from different museums and institutions in Asia. The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) as the leading museum of Islamic Arts in Southeast Asia has been honoured with a special section dedicated to artefacts of Islamic collection. Significant amount of masterpieces from the museum in Kuala Lumpur are loaned to the AGNSW.

Around 40 selected masterpieces from the IAMM are currently on display at the AGNSW Wales until 2017. Among these artefacts, are new acquisitions of the museum and displayed to public for the first time. These artefacts provide an overview on the exquisite workmanship of calligraphy executed in manuscripts, ceramics, metal, textiles and other works of art.

In conjunction with this international collaborative effort, IAMM has published a special publication "Introduction to Islamic Arts from the Collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: Calligraphy" that is available to be purchased in the AGNSW and the IAMM.



Few days ago, interesting statistics about the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia's status in Asia, came to my attention. The findings of which were based on travelers reviews and information gathered through surveys within the last three years, indicated the important status and role the museum plays not only in Malaysia but in Southeast Asia. Today, Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia ranks the top museum in Malaysia, with its outstanding collection, informative display, and superb maintenance. Within two years (from 2014 - 2016) Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia jumped from the 10th place to the 8th top Museum in Asia competing with many renowned institutions. And within Malaysia, it reserves its space as the second most important highlights of Kuala Lumpur.

These statistics indicates that Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia is very much an integral part of Asian museums, and reserves a special status in Malaysia. Having said so, this season our travelling exhibitions reached Australia, as part of Asia's main calligraphy exhibition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. And soon we will culminate the year with a collection of panels from Vienna and its surroundings exposing "Islam in Austria." We also extended our "Dala'il al Khayrat: Prayer Manuscripts from the 16th to 19th centuries" exhibition and accompanying events to the end of year, giving a chance to many visitors from around Malaysia and the world to enjoy the beautiful prayers to the Prophet Muhammad [48].

Next exhibition for the year 2017 is full of new ideas, spreading out to attract different target groups, engaging with a wider audience and presenting our collection in its best manner.

Happy New Year.

Syed Mohamad Albukhary

# THE LAUNCHING OF BEYOND WORDS: CALLIGRAPHIC TRADITIONS OF ASIA AT THE ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA





The exhibition "Beyond Words: calligraphic traditions of Asia" at the Art Gallery of New South Wales (AGNSW) has been officially launched on 26th August 2016, with Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) as one of the collaborative partner. The launching event was attended by Vis Asia Council, the supporters of Asian arts at the AGNSW and the Consul General of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. Youssef Shawki.

The event which was also attended by Suhanya Raffel, the Deputy Director of the AGNSW followed by the brief introduction of the exhibition by Matt Cox, the co-curator of the exhibition. Dr. Heba Nayel Barakat, the Head of Curatorial Affairs Department IAMM conducted the tour guide for the IAMM's collection.

On the next day, a special lecture by Dr. Heba "Islamic Calligraphy: Beauty and Diversity" was delivered at the Centenary Auditorium. In the session, the catalogue "Introduction to Islamic Arts from the collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: Calligraphy" which is published in conjunction with the exhibition was publicly introduced to audiences. The publication provides comprehensive information regarding the IAMM's collection which is currently on displayed in the exhibition.



# IAMM EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

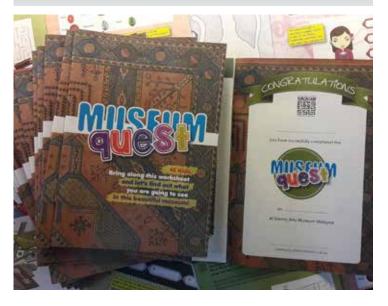


#### **EDUCATION KUFIC ICON**

From now on, Education Department will be using a multi-colour Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) kufic icon as its identity. The icon will be painted burgundy, lime green, turquoise and orange, with both Arabic and its English translation rendered in the same colour.

IAMM Education Department supervises Children's Library and organizes educational activities, art workshops, public lectures and seminars. To view the list of exciting educational activities they offers, please visit www.iamm.org.my

#### **MUSEUM QUEST**

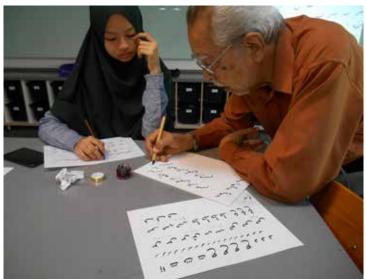


If you are planning an adventurous visit for your children, Museum Quest is the solution you seek. Museum Quest is designed for children to explore Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) and understand history of Islamic arts in exciting way.

The worksheet consists of guides, activities and puzzles which are arranged accordingly to IAMM galleries. Once finished, a stamp will be given to certify the completed worksheet.

Suitable for primary and secondary school students, Museum Quest can be purchased for RM4/pcs at the counter.

#### **KURSUS SENI KHAT & KRAF 2017**



Fulfilling its role as the patron and preserver of Islamic arts, Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) is continuing its yearly workshop: Kursus Seni Khat & Kraf for year 2017.

During the six-month long workshop, participants will be guided to write various style of Arabic calligraphy by experts from the National Islamic Calligraphy Association. By end of the session, participants will be tested in a final examination before certified accordingly.

The registration for Kursus Seni Khat & Kraf 2017 session is now opened to public at RM360 per pax.



### **IAMM EDUCATION NEWS**

#### PROPHETIC LEADERSHIP: RAMADAN TALK 2016



Celebrating the spirit of Ramadan, Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) has hosted Sheikh Dr. Tawfique Chowdury on 22nd June 2016 in a talk entitled Prophetic Leadership: Ramadan Talk 2016. The program was a collaboration with Mercy Mission. Sheikh Dr. Tawfique Chowdury shared with the audience his understanding on Prophet Muhammad's qualities and virtues in leadership. The talk started at 12:30 and ended around 2:30 pm.

## THE MOSQUES OF IBN TULUN AND DEMAK: SOME ASPECTS OF HISTORICAL SIMILARITIES



On 20th August 2016, Dr. Ahmed Wahby has shared his insights on the similarity between Mosque of Ibn Tulun and Demak with visitors and Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) staff. The talk was a serial from sharing session with the scholar on Islamic architecture. IAMM has hosted Dr. Wahby from German University in Cairo (GUC) as visiting researcher.

#### **BATU SEREMBAN CHALLENGE**



A collaboration programme with Gin & Jacqie, Batu Seremban Challenge was held on 3rd September 2016. The objective is to promote our local traditional game to younger generation. As many as 14 contestants joined the challenge including foreign visitors. Representative from Gin & Jacqie demonstrated how to play Batu Seremban before the contestants compete.

## DALA'IL AL-KHAYRAT: TALK AND RECITAL CEREMONY



In conjunction with the exhibition: Dala'il al-Khayrat: Prayer Manuscript from the 16th to 19th century, a special talk and recital ceremony has been held at Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) auditorium on 24th September 2016. The ceremony was led by Sheikh Mahmoud MrGlani, a scholar and practitioner of the Shadhili's tariqah. The event, a collaboration with Persatuan as-Shadhiliyah received huge participation from the public.

## TRIPADVISOR AWARDS FOR TOP MUSEUMS IN MALAYSIA AND ASIA 2016

For the year 2016, the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) has been announced as the winner from top 10 museums in Malaysia and top 25 museums in Asia by the TripAdvisor. According to TripAdvisor reviews for this year, the first top 10 museums in Malaysia has been awarded to IAMM, followed by Pinang Peranakan Museum and Baba & Nyonya Heritage Museum in Malacca. For top museums in Asia, the Museum of Qin Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses honoured with the 1st, and IAMM in 8th between National Palace Museum in Taipei in 7th and Hong Kong Museum of History in 9th positions.



#### ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA @ CULTURE EXPLORER APP BY SAMSUNG

The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) has been chosen as one of the location to be featured in Culture Explorer, a recent app developed by SAMSUNG. The app which was launched on July 2016 is a location-based augmented reality app on selected Malaysia's landmarks, food, music, arts and culture. The app which is available on Android platform functioned as a virtual tour guide for people to explore interesting places in Malaysia. Besides the museum, the app also covered other locations such as The Stadthuys in Malacca, Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Tuanku Ja'afar Royal Gallery in Negeri Sembilan and Pinang Peranakan Mansion in Pulau Pinang.





## **SPECIAL VISITS**

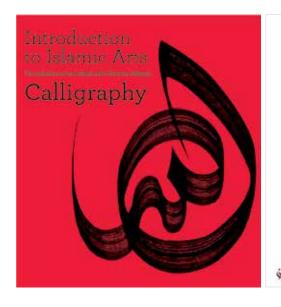
#### July - Sept 2016

- Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya, Centre for ASEAN Regionalism University of Malaya (CARUM)
- H.E. General Raheel Sharif, Chief of the Army Staff, Pakistan Army
- Swedish Women Educational Association (SWEA)
- YAM Raja Dato' Seri Eleena Binti Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfullah
- Malaysia Armed Forces
- Singapore Armed Forces Warrant Officers' School (SAFWOS) 06/2016 Joint Senior Leadership Course (JSLC)
- Malaysian Culture Group
- TALC Camp 2016 (Turgev Albukhary Language & Culture Camp 2016)



A group visit by students from Turgev Albukhary Language & Culture Camp 2016 (TALC) in Albukhary Complex Alor Setar.

# IAMM PUBLICATION





## INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC ARTS THE COLLECTION OF THE ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA: CALLIGRAPHY

Author: Dr Heba Nayel Barakat, Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia

Price : RM65.00

Size : (W)26cm X (H)29cm

Year : 2016

ISBN No: 978-983-2591-13-9

Pages : 112

Introduction to Islamic Arts The collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: Calligraphy presents in four sections some of the most important historical developments, artistic trends as well as selected masterpieces produced within the Islamic world, that took place within a span of 1000 years, covering a vast geographical area from the Iberian Peninsula to Southeast Asia and China. A special attention is given to calligraphy, highlighting the role it played in the design of both religious and everyday arts and crafts, as well as in developing a distinctive visual culture inspired by Islam. The publication features over 50 artefacts with exquisite calligraphy by renowned scribes from royal and private ateliers representing the most important script styles produced during the apogee of Islamic dynasties. It also introduces calligraphy produced on paper, engraved and enamelled on metal, vibrant on ceramics, carved on wood, lacquered on papier-mâché and embellishing sacred textiles. The collection takes us to the 20th century and presents calligraphy in the contemporary and modern world. This Introduction to Islamic Arts The collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: Calligraphy is basic yet a useful resource to newcomers to this field as well as art historians and experts.pages of informative contents about one of the most important manuscript in the Islamic world.



#### **MUSEUM SHOP**



#### MEDIEVAL SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

A reproduction of instruments for nautical or optical use or for astronomical calculation. Price range starting from RM150 to RM4,500



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