



Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia

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“The Coin Chronicles: Numismatics of the Islamic World” Photo Exhibition

18th February – 16th April 2020

Open Space Gallery, Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia

Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur

The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) is pleased to present **“The Coin Chronicles: Numismatics of the Islamic World”** photography exhibition, which will be opening its doors to the public beginning 18th February 2020 until 16th April 2020.

The Coin Chronicles: Numismatics of the Islamic World explores the history of coins from Muslim dynasties in relation to the expansion of political influence, power, religion, and significance of Islamic art.

The people in the Arab regions mainly accepted and used Byzantine and Sassanian coins prior to the arrival of Islam. The first truly recognised Islamic coin was introduced during the reign of ‘Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan, the fifth ruler of the Umayyad dynasty, who inscribed the *shahadah* (proclamation of faith) on his coins. Such a major change became the favoured design for Islamic coins over centuries.

Over time, as Islam spread beyond the Arab world, the design of Islamic coins also embraced the diverse cultures of the people who accepted Islam. This in return stimulated the development and adoption of various forms and symbols associated to the Islamic faith. The exhibition thus showcases

how the different breakthroughs Islamic art were indeed brought forth through the design of coins, as can be seen in the various types of calligraphy and iconography explored.

Chronologically arranged to ease the visitor's understanding of the storyline, the exhibition is amplified by the photographs of coins and artefacts from the collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia. The beauty of the exhibition lies not only in strength of the historical narratives but also in the versatile use of coins as decorative elements in their own right, as used in weaponry and jewellery. The signs and symbolic images used on the coins are also reflected on architectural façades.

In conjunction with this exhibition, the IAMM Education Department has planned an exciting "**Make Your Own Currency**" workshop which will be held on **Sunday, 15th March 2020**. The workshop is suitable for children 5 years and older and opened for families (4 pax maximum per family; minimum 1 adult 1 child). The commitment fee is RM 25 per family. Participants of this workshop will have the opportunity to showcase their artistic skills and creativity to bring home their own hand-made currency.

You can contact the Education Department via email at education@iamm.org.my, or call 603-2092 7031/7032/7033/7034/7038. For further information, please visit our website at iamm.org.my/education. Please follow our social media page (Instagram: [@iamm.kl](https://www.instagram.com/iamm.kl)) for regular updates of the programmes.

Instagram: @islamicartsmuseummalaysia
: @iamm.kl

Facebook: Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia
Twitter: @IAMM_KL

THE ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA

The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia is a non-profit organisation dedicated to being a custodian, preserver and educator of Islamic art. It is located at Jalan Lembah Perdana, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, neighbouring the National Mosque and the Islamic Centre. It is within walking distance from the National Museum, National Planetarium, Orchid Garden, Butterfly Park and Bird Park. Opening hours are from 9.30am to 6.00pm, daily. The 12 permanent galleries in the museum comprise of; Architecture, Qur'an & Manuscripts, India, China, Malay World, Textiles, Jewellery, Arms & Armour, Coins & Seals, Metalwork, Ceramics & Glass and Living with Wood.

For more information, log on to www.iamm.org.my

