



DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

The first issue of the year 2014 reminds us of how much we have accomplished in the past 15 years and invigorates us to look forward to new initiatives for the upcoming years. Consequently, IAMM is looking towards the national and international community to strengthen our commitment in advocating Islamic art and art history.

The cooperation with the Australian High Commission and the Embassy of the United States in Malaysia has given this year, a fresh and fruitful start. Adding Dar al Islam mosque model to our architecture gallery and introducing the art and architecture of the Muslim communities from within the United States and Australia is indeed an educational experience to our visitors. Our upcoming exhibitions touches on the Islamic Faith with an exhibition on the Zakah, the alms giving; a vital component and pillar of Islam. As well as, a breath taking photographic exhibition "Capture the Spirit of Ramadan", and hope to culminate the year with an exhibition on the 19th & 20th century books reflecting the wealth of the IAMM's Scholarly Library. I sincerely hope you will enjoy all our initiatives.

Syed Mohamad Albukhary

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**Top page header is the decorative cartouche from the cover of 16th century Ottoman Qur'an*

Boundless Plains

The Australian Muslim Connection



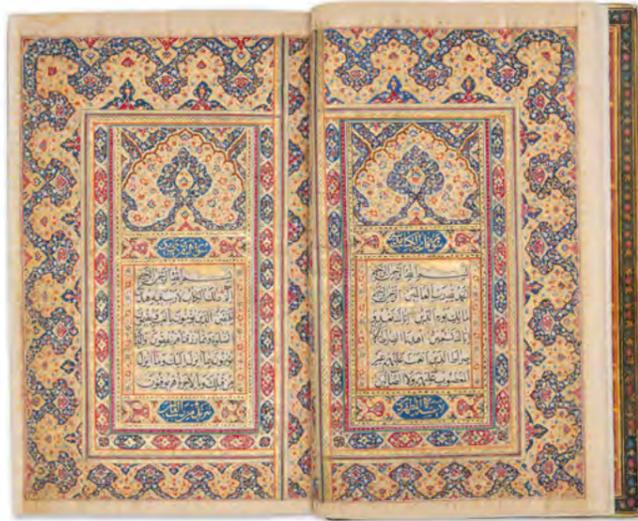
In March 2014, the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia held two major events in quick succession. The first being Boundless Plains: The Australian Muslim Connection photography exhibition and the second being the Dar al Islam Mosque model handover ceremony. Launched on the 3rd of March to coincide with the opening of the Islamic Museum of Australia, the Boundless Plains photography exhibition is a collaborative effort between both museums and funded by the Australia-Malaysia Institute. The ceremony was officiated by our Director, Syed Mohamad Albukhary and the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia, H.E. Rod Smith.

Dar al Islam Mosque



The second event, a permanent display in the Architecture Gallery is a model of the Dar al Islam Mosque, New Mexico by the renowned Egyptian architect, Hassan Fathy. The handover ceremony conducted on the 7th of March and officiated by H.E. Joseph Y. Yun, United States ambassador to Malaysia is the first mosque model from the Western hemisphere and English speaking country.

Single-volume Qur'an Ilkhanid



This Qur'an has visibly undergone successive stages of rewriting and redecoration, and there are inscriptions which provide dates for some of these. On the flyleaves are a number of dated dedication notes and seal impressions. The earliest and most important inscription in the manuscript is the one-line colophon, dated 1291 AD / 690 AH, stating that it was copied by Yaqut al-Musta' simi (d. 1298), one of the most renowned of all Muslim calligraphers. At the time Yaqut was working for the Mongol Ilkhanid Sultan. Unfortunately few of the original folios have survived; but, the restoration work, undertaken at a later stage, is beautiful and was executed with great skill. Among the characteristics of Yaqut's *Naskhi* as seen here is the way in which the three dots which form part of certain letters are executed in a single line rather than forming a pyramid. He also sometimes makes the tail of the letter *ya'* curve backwards. In this *Mushaf* the opening, middle and end double-page openings are illuminated. The use of bold blue and red pigments on a gold ground continued for centuries, even into the late Qajar period (20th century AD / early 14th century AH). The wide margins are decorated with stenciled flower and foliage scrolls in

gold. The beginning of each *juz'* and *hizb* is marked by a decorative device. The rectangular panels of the Surah headings contain small polychrome lobed arches, which extend into the margin.

YAQUT AL-MUSTA'SIMI (1221-98 AD / 618-98 AH)

Known as *kiblat al-kuttab* (model of calligraphers), Yaqut al-Musta'simi is the third prominent figure in Arabic calligraphy after Ibn Muqlah and Ibn Bawwab. He is known as al-Musta'simi because in Baghdad, during the last Abbasid Caliph, Al-Musta'sim, he became a master scribe of the royal court atelier. Yaqut's innovation in refining Ibn Bawwab's six calligraphic scripts granted him fame. He gave a new dimension to the letter shapes by cutting the nib of the reed pen at an angle to produce a more elegant and rhythmic script while adhering to the rules of proportion established by Ibn Muqlah. He is reputed to have copied over 1000 Mushafs in his lifetime.

New Acquisitions

Enamel Pen Box made for the Islamic market
China
c. 19th century AD



Seljuk Pen Box with silver inlay
Persia
c. 12th / 13th century AD



Ivory Powder Horn
India
c. 17th century AD



Educational activities

TALK BY MUSTAFA DAVIS 'MOSQUES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: THE DAR AL ISLAM VILLAGE. THE AMERICAN MUSLIM; IDENTITY, COMMUNITY AND WORLDVIEW'
Date: 11th MARCH 2014.



TALK AND DOCUMENTARY SCREENING BY MUSTAFA DAVIS 'CAPTURING DEEN IN MOTION: DOCUMENTING FAITH, CULTURE AND PEOPLE'
Date: 12th MARCH 2014.



Mustafa Davis, an American Muslim filmmaker, photographer and creative director, conducted two quality talks supported by the US Embassy, Kuala Lumpur and hosted by IAMM's Education department in conjunction with the Mosques of the United States of America: The Dar al Islam Complex publication. The other talk was with a local UiTM lecturer, Razeef Mohd of which they touched upon documenting Faith, Culture and People. On each occasion, guests were treated to screenings of his work; "Passing the Baton" a documentary on the legacy of Malcolm X and "In the Hands of God", a film filmed entirely in Malawi.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY: FLAGS STORIES CAMP # 1
Date: 25th JANUARY 2014.



The Museums Connect - Flags Stories: Citizenship Unbound program organized a day camp in January that brought together youth from two rural Orang Asli villages with local participants, staff and facilitators. This successful collaboration with the Islamic Outreach ABIM Center, a neighbouring institution located at the National Mosque was a first of its kind to be held at IAMM. The bi-product of the day camp was the making of several paintings on canvas that highlighted their identity, culture representations and reflections. With two local galleries already interested in showing them, these paintings will go on view for the public in the coming months.

News & events

VISIT BY HRH SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH AL HAJ, THE SULTAN OF SELANGOR
Date: 18th MARCH 2014



MPSK (MANIFESTASI PERDANA SENI KHAT) PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY
Date: 4th FEBRUARY 2014



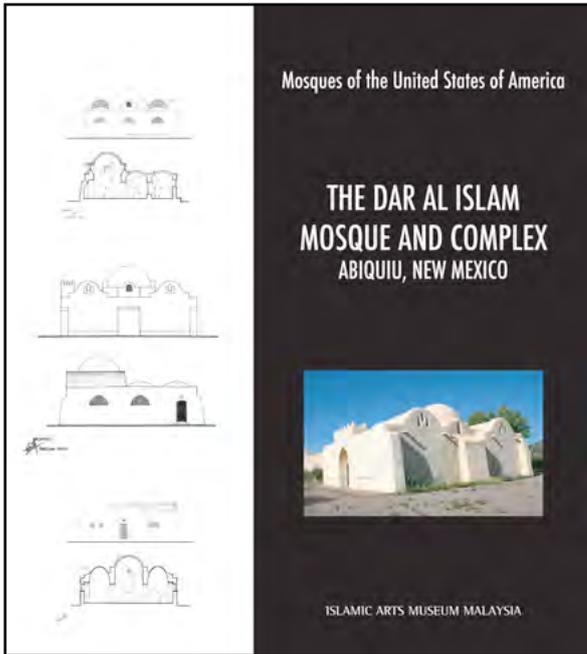
VISITS AT THE IAMM
Date: JANUARY - MARCH 2014

- Parliamentary Legislation and Judiciary Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
- Embassy of the Republic of Korea
- Deputy Minister, Ministry of Awqaf, Kuwait, Mr. Waleed Sulaiman Al Satlan
- Samsung Malaysia & Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea
- Australia Malaysia Institute Advisory Board

JAWI WORKSHOP
Date: 8th MARCH 2014.



Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) organized a Jawi Workshop conducted by a renowned Jawi expert, Ujud bin Sindut. He invented this method based on his 33 years of experience in teaching jawi.



MOSQUES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: THE DAR AL ISLAM MOSQUE AND COMPLEX IN ABIQUIU, NEW MEXICO

This publication, in general is to provide an overview of the history of mosque architecture in the United States of America with a particular emphasis on the Dar al Islam mosque in Abiquiu, New Mexico. It will briefly introduce early types of mosque structures in the US, leading into the 20th and 21st century. The Dar al Islam mosque will be described in detail from the aspect of its development from the initial conception, construction methods, function and current status. The publication will then provide a background of the architect, Hassan Fathy and his contribution to Islamic Architecture as reflected through his last mosque project, the Dar al Islam mosque. This publication, which will consist of around 80 pages, will be accompanied by line drawings, architectural plans, photographs both in black and white and full colour.

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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.



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