

Journey Through Islamic Heritage Syed A Irfan



Invites you to an Exclusive Miniature Solo Exhibition

"Journey Through Islamic Heritage"

by

Syed A. Irfan
Pakistan

Exhibition Opening on Munday 18th, October 2023 at 11:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibition will Continue till 4th, November 2023

The FirstOntario Arts Centre Milton

Address: 1010 Main Street East, Milton, ON, Canada, Ontario.

Phone: +1 (647) 786-9290

Website: www.firstontarioartscentremilton.ca

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SABA ARI GALLERY Toronto

ISLAMIC HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Islamic heritage and culture are deeply intertwined and have evolved over centuries, reflecting the diverse and rich traditions of the Muslim world. Here are some key aspects of Islamic heritage and culture:

Religious Practices and Beliefs:

Islamic culture is primarily defined by its religious beliefs and practices. The Five Pillars of Islam, which include the declaration of faith (Shahada), prayer (Salat), almsgiving (Zakat), fasting during Ramadan (Sawm), and pilgrimage to Mecca (Hajj), are fundamental to the Islamic way of life.

Islamic Art and Architecture:

Islamic art and architecture are renowned for their intricate geometric designs, calligraphy, and decorative motifs. Mosques, with their stunning domes and minarets, are iconic architectural symbols of Islamic culture.

Islamic Calligraphy:

Calligraphy is highly regarded in Islamic culture, and Arabic calligraphy, in particular, is considered an art form. Quranic verses and other religious texts are often beautifully rendered in calligraphy.

Arabesque and Geometric Patterns:

Islamic art frequently features intricate geometric patterns and arabesque designs, which can be found in everything from textiles and ceramics to architecture and manuscripts.

Literature and Poetry:

Islamic literature includes a wide range of genres, from religious texts like the Quran and Hadith to poetry and historical works. Prominent poets like Rumi and Hafez have had a significant impact on Islamic literary tradition.

Music and Poetry:

Islamic cultures have a rich tradition of music and poetry. Musical forms like qawwali and nasheed are enjoyed across the Muslim world, while classical poetry has been celebrated for centuries.

Cuisine:

Islamic cuisine varies widely across regions, but it often includes staples like rice, bread, lamb, chicken, and a variety of spices. Influences from North Africa to South Asia have contributed to the diversity of Islamic culinary traditions.

Holidays and Festivals:

Islamic holidays, such as Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, are celebrated with special prayers, feasts, and community gatherings. These festivals vary in customs and traditions across different Muslim cultures.

Islamic Education:

Islamic heritage places a strong emphasis on education. The establishment of madrasas (religious schools) has played a significant role in preserving and transmitting Islamic knowledge and culture.

Traditional Crafts:

Islamic cultures have a long history of producing intricate crafts, including pottery, ceramics, textiles, carpets, and metalwork. These crafts often feature decorative Islamic motifs.

Language Diversity:

While Arabic is the language of the Quran and a unifying factor in Islamic culture, the Muslim world is linguistically diverse, with numerous languages spoken across different regions, including Urdu, Persian, Turkish, and Malay.

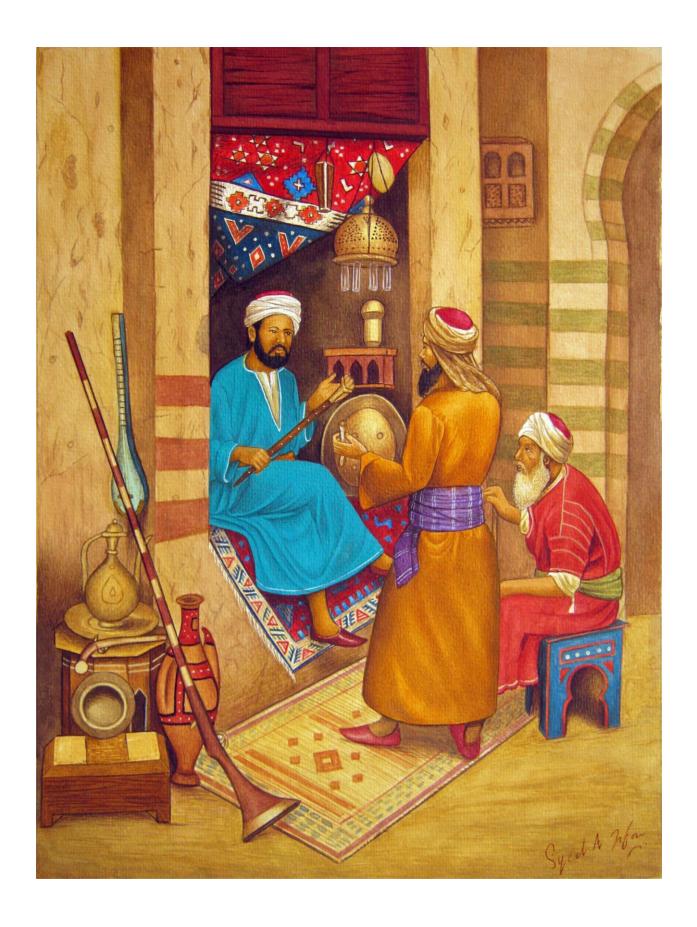
Cultural Diversity:

Islamic culture is incredibly diverse, reflecting the various ethnic, linguistic, and regional backgrounds of Muslims around the world. This diversity is celebrated in the different customs, traditions, and cultural expressions within the Muslim ummah (community).

Islamic Heritage Sites:

The Muslim world is home to numerous heritage sites, including the Haram Mosque in Mecca, the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, and the Alhambra in Spain, among many others.

Islamic heritage and culture are vibrant and continue to evolve, adapting to the changing times while preserving the core values and traditions that are central to Muslim identity and way of life.



Title: The Merchant

Detail: Arab merchants have a long and storied history, dating back centuries to the early days of trade and commerce in the Arabian Peninsula and the broader Middle East. These merchants played a crucial role in shaping the region's economy, culture, and historical development.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 9" x 12" Inch

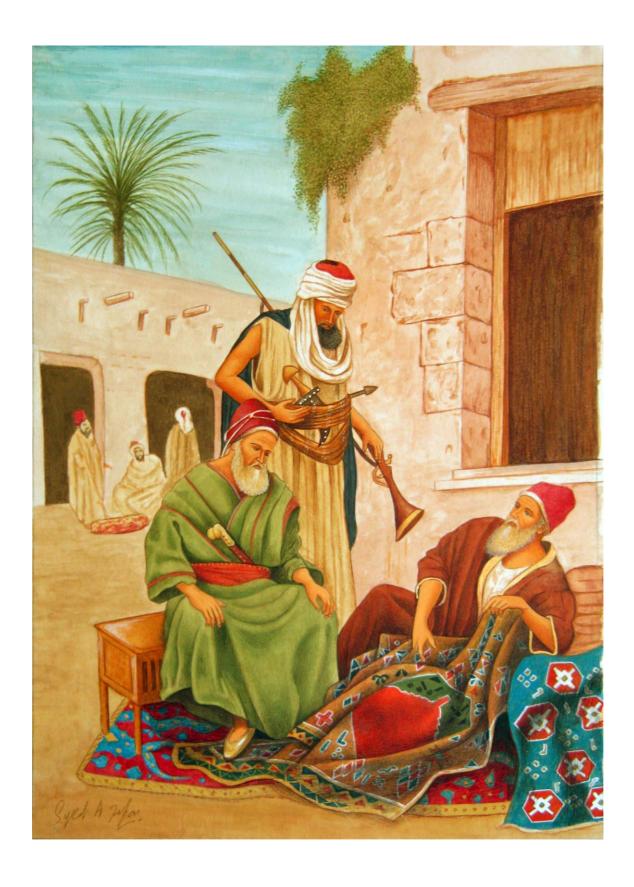


Title: Abbasid Caliphate Baghdad

Detail: The Abbasid Caliphate, centered in Baghdad, was one of the most significant Islamic dynasties in history, lasting from 750 CE to 1258 CE. During its peak, the Abbasid Caliphate was a major center of political, cultural, and intellectual achievements in the Islamic world.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 12.5" x 9" Inch



Title: Arab Market

Detail: Old Arab markets, often referred to as "souks" (or souqs), are traditional marketplaces that have been a central part of Arab and Middle Eastern culture for centuries. These markets are known for their rich history, vibrant atmosphere, and diverse array of goods and commodities.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 9.5" x 13.5" Inch



Title: Bayt al-Maqdis Fathe Salahuddin Ayyubi

Detail: The "Bayt al-Maqdis" (also spelled "Bait al-Maqdis" or "Bayt al-Muqaddas") is an Arabic term that refers to Jerusalem, specifically the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, which are considered among the holiest sites in Islam. The conquest of Bayt al-Maqdis by Salahuddin Ayyubi, often known in the West as Saladin, is a significant event in Islamic history.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 12" x 9.5" Inch

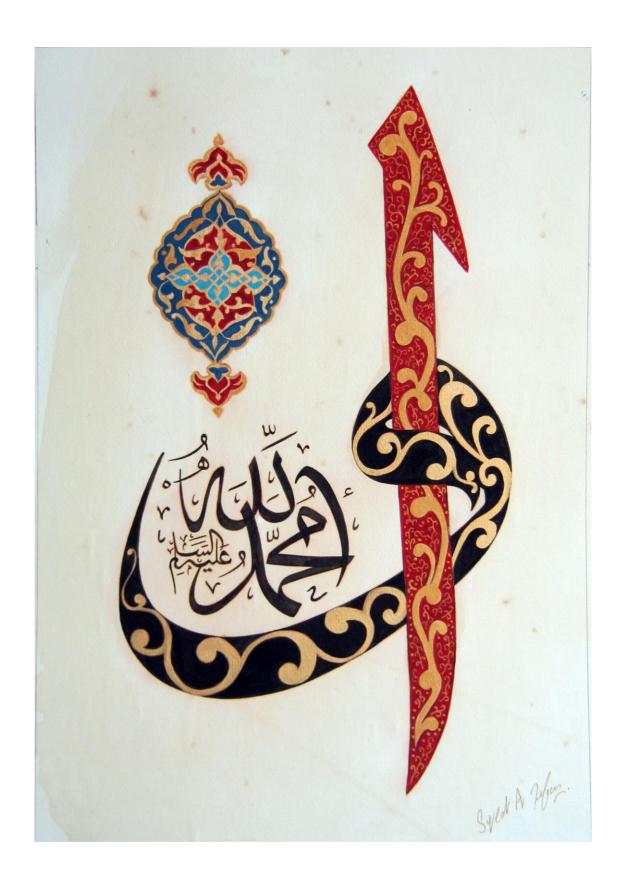


Title: Buzkashi Afghan Traditional Game

Detail: Buzkashi is a traditional and popular sport in Afghanistan and some other Central Asian countries. It is often referred to as the "national sport" of Afghanistan due to its deep cultural significance and popularity among the Afghan people. Buzkashi is a rugged and physically demanding game that combines elements of equestrian skill, teamwork, and strategy.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 12.5" x 10" Inch



Title: Calligraphy 1

Detail: Islamic calligraphy with illumination, often referred to as "Islamic illuminated manuscript," combines the art of calligraphy with intricate decorative elements and embellishments. It is a highly refined and visually stunning form of Islamic art.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 9" x 13" Inch



Title: Calligraphy 2

Detail: Islamic calligraphy is a unique and highly regarded art form within Islamic culture. It involves the artistic practice of writing Arabic script, particularly verses from the Quran, using various styles and techniques.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 12" x 9" Inch



Title: Carpet Sellers

Detail: Arab carpet sellers have a rich history in the Middle East and North Africa, where carpet weaving is an ancient and highly esteemed craft.

These sellers are often associated with traditional markets, known as souks or bazaars, and they play a crucial role in preserving and promoting the art of carpet-making.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 13" x 10" Inch

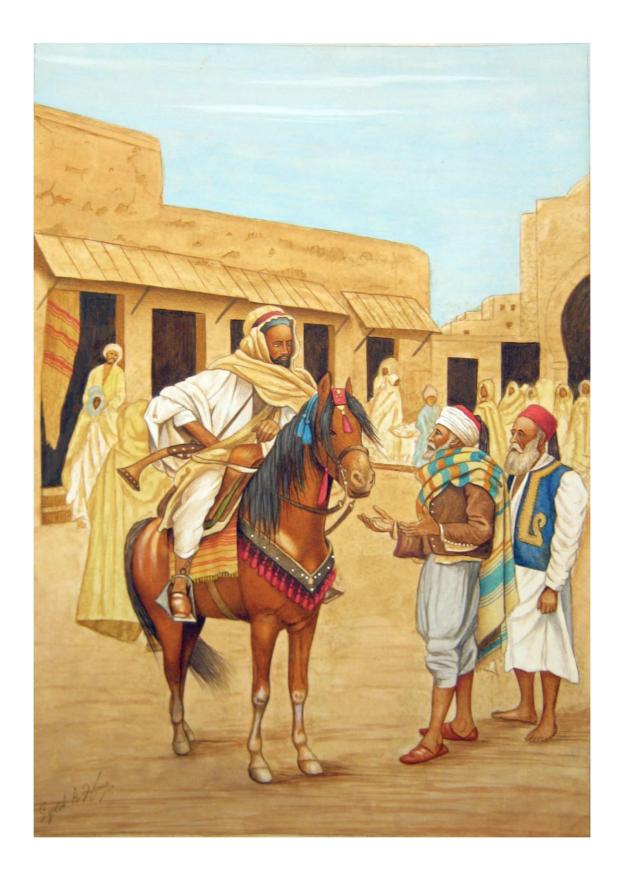


Title: Famous Muslim Scientists Abu Nasr Al-Farabi & their Inventions

Detail: Abu Nasr Al-Farabi, also known as Alpharabius in Latin, was a prominent Muslim scientist, philosopher, and polymath who lived during the Islamic Golden Age. He made significant contributions to various fields, particularly philosophy and music theory. While Al-Farabi is not known for specific inventions in the way that scientists today might be, his intellectual contributions and ideas greatly influenced the development of various disciplines.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 11.5" x 9.5" Inch



Title: Guest Arrival

Detail: In Turkish culture, welcoming guests is a cherished tradition, and hospitality is highly valued.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 9.5" x 12.5" Inch



Title: Mughal Emperor King Akbar

Detail: Akbar the Great, born on October 15, 1542, and died on October 27, 1605, was one of the most famous and influential Mughal emperors of India. He ruled from 1556 to 1605 and is remembered for his remarkable contributions to the empire's administration, culture, and religious tolerance.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 5.5" x 7.5" Inch

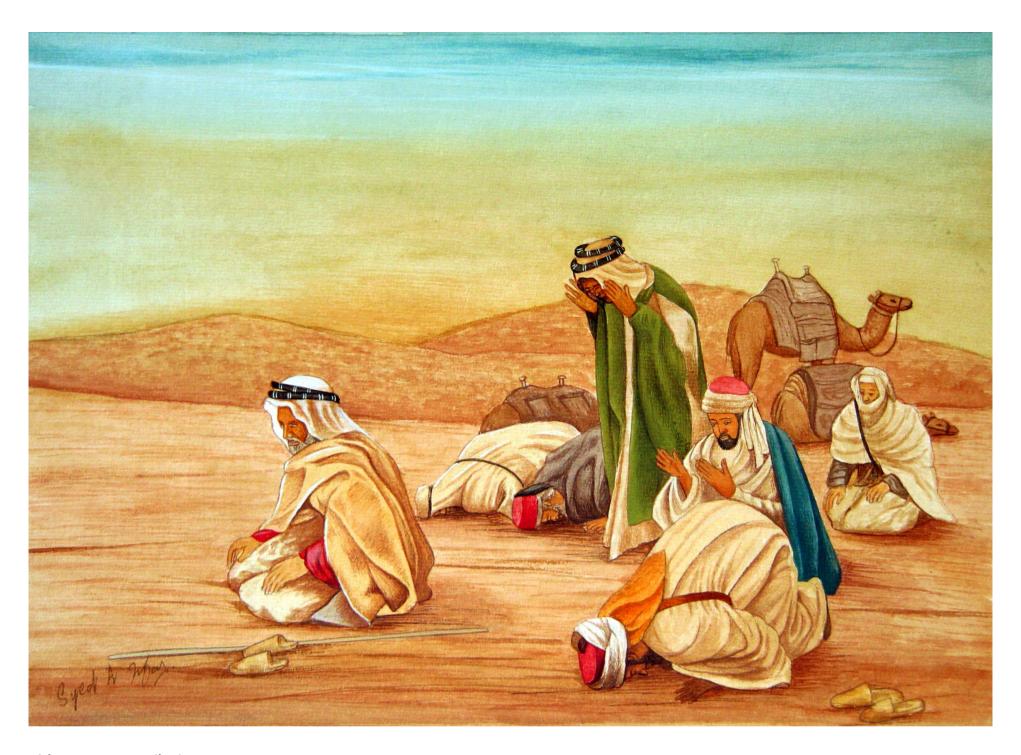


Title: Mughal Queen Jodha Bai

Detail: Jodha Bai, whose full name was Mariam-uz-Zamani, was a prominent and influential queen in the Mughal Empire during the reign of Emperor Akbar the Great. She is often referred to as "Jodha Bai" because of her Rajput lineage.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 5.5" x 7.5" Inch

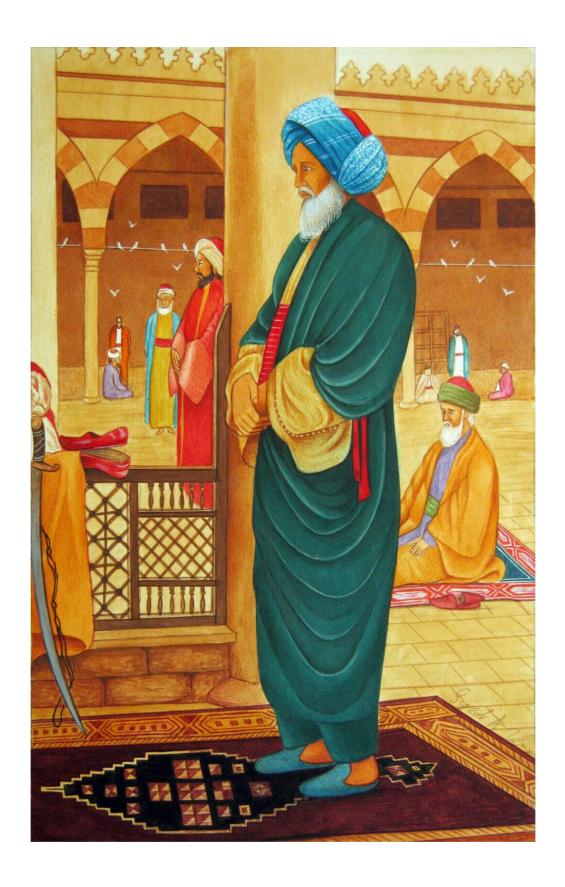


Title: Namaz Magrib Time

Detail: The timing of the Maghrib prayer, also known as the sunset prayer, varies depending on your geographical location and the time of year since it is performed just after the sun sets. The Maghrib prayer is the fourth of the five daily obligatory prayers in Islam.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 12.5" x 9" Inch

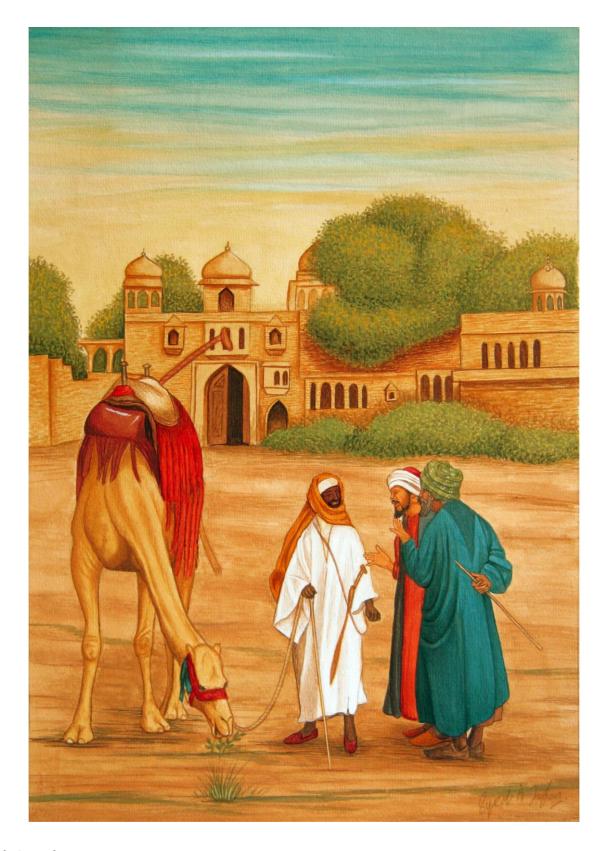


Title: Prayer Time

Detail: Muslim Arab man's prayer, commonly known as Salah or Salat. Muslim prayer is a fundamental aspect of Islamic worship and involves specific rituals and movements.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 8.5" x 12" Inch

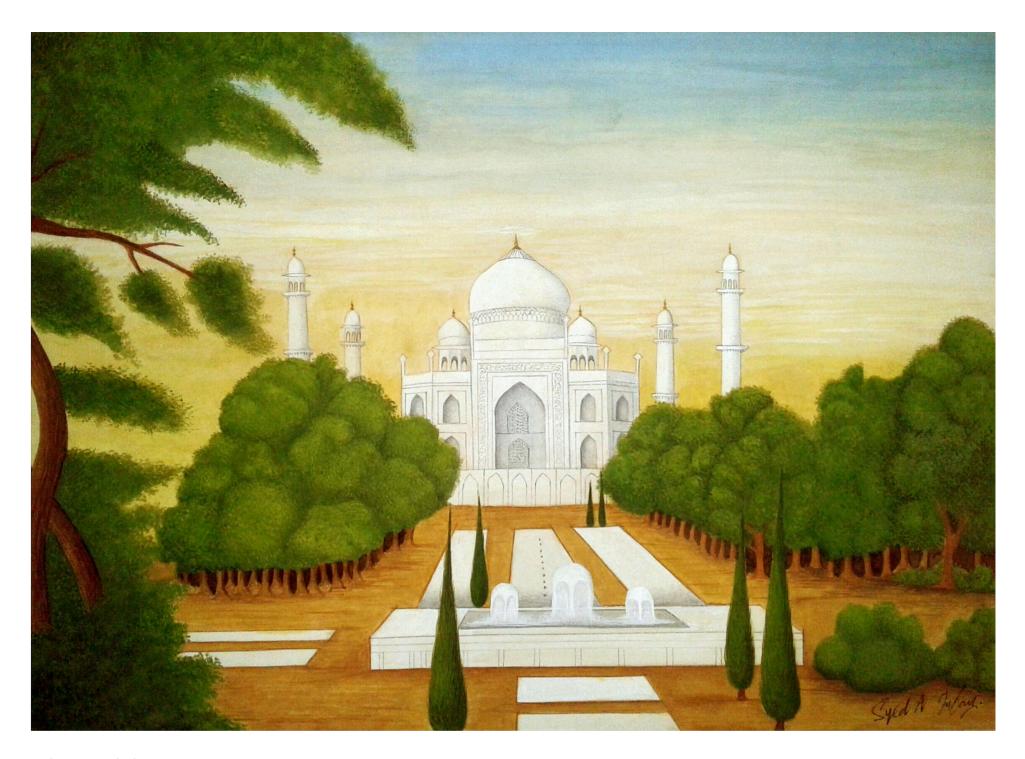


Title: Stay and Meeting with Camel

Detail: When it comes to arranging a stay and a meeting with Arab hosts, whether for business or social purposes, it's important to be aware of Arab customs and etiquette to ensure a successful and respectful interaction.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 9" x 13" Inch



Title: Taj Mahal

Detail: The Taj Mahal is one of the most iconic and renowned monuments in the world, located in Agra, India. It is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture and is celebrated for its stunning beauty and historical significance.

Medium: Watercolor & Gold on Wasli

Size: 11" x 8" Inch

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION:

- o B.Com from Karachi University 2003
- o 1 Year Diploma in Digital Media from ABC Computer Institute 2005 (Graphic Designing, Digital Media and Web Designing)

PERMANENT DISPLAY:

- 2022 Display at Andalusian Studies Center, Tlemcen, Algeria.
- 2022 Display in India Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- 2020 Display at Abraj Al Mansi Hotel, Dubai.
- 2020 Display at St Margaret's Church, Halliwell, Manchester England
- 2019 Display at CF Toronto Eaton Center, Canada.
- 2019 Display at Coca Cola Head Office, Dubai.
- 2019 Display at iTextile Head Office, Karachi.
- 2017 Display at History Museum Bursa Turkey.
- 2012 Display in Pakistan Embassy in Delhi India.
- 2007 Displayed Work (Golf Club, Dubai).
- 2007 Display in Efroze Chemicals Industries Pvt. Ltd. Karachi.
- 2004 Displayed Work (London).

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 2022 Second Prize in Miniature & Illumination Art Festival, Tlemcen, Algeria.
- 2007 Best Performance Award in PTV (Pakistan Television)
- 2006 Special Prize in Sadequain Award Exhibition
- 2001 First Prize in All Degree College Art Exhibition

WORKSHOP:

- 2022 Miniature Workshop at Andalusian Studies Center, Tlemcen, Algeria.
- 2016 Miniature Workshop at NCA Lahore, Pakistan.
- 2017 Miniature & Illumination Workshop at Klasik Turk Sanatlari Merkezi, Turkey.
- 2019 Miniature Workshop at NCSA Karachi, Pakistan.

ART CURATOR:

- 2022 Curator Group Exhibition at Full Circle Art Gallery Karachi.
- 2021 Curator Miniature Group Exhibition at ArtCiti Gallery Karachi.
- 2021 Curator Students Exhibition at Art One62 Art Gallery Karachi.
- 2019 Curator Miniature Group Exhibition at Art Kaam Art Gallery Karachi.
- 2019 Curator Miniature Group Exhibition at Studio Seven Art Gallery Karachi.
- 2017 Two Person Miniature Exhibition at Art Chowk Art Gallery Karachi.
- 2009 Curator Paintings Exhibition "Color of Dimension" at Art Council of Pakistan, Karachi, Pakistan.



Syed A Irfan Miniature Artist Pakistan

EXHIBITIONS: SOLO EXHIBITION: 2022 Solo Exhibition at Poetic Strokes Gallery. Dubai. 2021 Solo Exhibition at Art Scene Gallery, Karachi. 2020 Solo Exhibition at Gallery One62. Karachi. 2014 Solo Exhibition at Citi Gallery. Karachi. 2010 Solo Exhibition at Citi Gallery. Karachi. 2005 Solo Exhibition at The Art Gallery, Karachi. INTERNATIONAL SHOW: 2022 Display at Andalusian Studies Center, Tlemcen, Algeria. 2022 Group Exhibition at Global Art Show at, Dubai. 2021 Portrait Exhibition at Lamasatt Gallery, Cairo, Egypt. 2021 Group Exhibition at Poetic Strokes Gallery at, Dubai. 2021 Group Exhibition at Gallery One62 at, Sydney, Australia. 2020 Group Exhibition at Poetic Strokes Gallery at, Dubai. 2020 Group Exhibition at Art 4 You Gallery at, Dubai. 2018 "World Art Dubai 2018" with Art Zest Gallery at, Dubai. 2018 Group Exhibition at with Art Zolo Gallery at, New Dehli, India. 2017 Group Exhibition "Migration & Empathy" at Bursa, Turkey. 2017 "World Art Dubai 2017"at Dubai. 2016 Group Exhibition at Town Hall Manchester. 2016 Group Exhibition Mask 7 at Istanbul, Turkey. 2016 Group Exhibition "World Art Dubai 2016" at with Art Zest Gallery, Dubai. 2015 Group Exhibition "Art for All" at Art Zest Gallery, Dubai. 2015 Group Exhibition Mask 6 at Istanbul, Turkey. 2014 Participate Turkey Art Competition 2014 at Istanbul, Turkey. 2014 Group Exhibition at Art Fear 2014 Dubai. 2013 A Travelling Group Show of Pakistani Young Artists Karachi to Houston, New York and Washington. 2012 Group Exhibition at Ana Special Mall Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. 2008 Group Exhibition at Dubai Auditorium. 2008 Miniature Group Exhibition at I.I.C Art Gallery, Delhi, India.



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