

News Essentials

Political, religious news of the day from around the world

Muslim legacy



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A replica of the first person said to have flown with wings is displayed at the science museum in central London. The debt owed by European scholars to their Muslim counterparts on everything from water pumps and blood circulation to engineering and map-making was unveiled in a London exhibition.

Professor Salim al-Hassani, one of the main organisers of “1001 Inventions: Discover the Muslim Heritage in Our World” hopes to illuminate 1,000 years of neglected science from north Africa to China that provided a bridge between ancient and Renaissance scholarship. The exhibits span from about 700 to 1700 AD, which Science Museum director professor Chris Rapley described as a time of “exceptional scientific and technological advancement in China, India, Africa and the Arab world.