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“1001 Inventions” exhibits at 2008 London Book Fair

Further to its recent success at the 2008 Abu Dhabi Book Fair, the second edition of **1001 Inventions: Muslim Heritage in Our World** comes to the UK capital to exhibit at the 2008 London Book Fair, Earls Court.

With Chief Editor of **1001 Inventions** and *Chairman of the Foundation for Science, Technology & Civilisation (FSTC)*, Professor Salim T S Al-Hassani present, as well Co-Editor, Miss Elizabeth Woodcock, book signing ceremonies will be taking place throughout this prestigious three day event, from 14th – 16th April 2008 at stand J705.

This year the market focus for the London Book Fair has been allocated to the **Arab World** which fits in tandem with **1001 Inventions**. The internationally acclaimed book reveals best-kept secrets and over a thousand years of scientific contributions made by early Muslim scholars that helped form the foundations of modern civilisation.

The book forms part of the groundbreaking global educational initiative called **1001 Inventions** that also features an international touring interactive exhibition, school materials and educational posters. Originally published in March 2006, this fascinating and illustrative 376 page book has received over whelming response from around the globe with the first edition sold out within three months of its publication. The book was showcased at the London Book Fair beside a **giant cubic structure** that displayed hundreds of historical contributions, some of which include:

- Inventing the camera and the foundations of modern optics.
- The crank shaft, used today in every car and motor engine.
- The first successful manned flight and manned rocket projection.
- Industrial paper making and the fountain pen.
- Birth of the modern hospital and hundreds of surgical tools.
- Navigation devices and charting world maps.
- Making soap and shampoo, found today in every home.
- Discovering coffee and developing the art of coffee drinking.

Professor Salim T S Al-Hassani, Chief Editor of the **1001 Inventions** book and *Chairman of the Foundation for Science Technology and Civilisation (FSTC)*, said that, “*there is at present a widespread misconception that science and technology went into decline during the period known as the ‘Dark Ages’.*”

He further adds, “*1001 Inventions aims, through a process of education and learning, to challenge this myth and celebrate the fact that Muslim Civilisation was actually flourishing and contributed to the advancement of our society today.*”

For example he says, “*If you ask the average person where their spectacles or camera or fountain pen come from, few people would say Muslims. This book takes you on a journey through a thousand years of Muslim contributions in medicine, mechanics, cartography, chemistry, education, engineering, architecture and astronomy.*”

The book is split into seven main zones: home, school, market, hospital, town, world and universe. In doing so it aims to encourage, inspire and motivate young readers to pursue careers in science, engineering and technology, a lack of which is not only taking place currently in the UK.

It has since been endorsed by the likes of Adam Hart-Davis, *Photographer, Writer and TV Science Presenter of BBC Series, ‘What the Ancients Did for Us’* as well as Ms Bettany

Hughes, *Renowned British TV Presenter* and Professor Jim Al-Khalili, *British Theoretical Nuclear Physicist, Academic, Author and Broadcaster*.

Professor Salim T S Al-Hassani explains how *“the international demand for this book is a testament that the extent to which Muslims have contributed to building the foundations of modern civilisation is generally unknown. Yet these early scholars from the Islamic world gave us many of the everyday things we use today.”*

1001 inventions is an educational initiative supported by the UK based academic organisation FSTC. The non-profit project is funded by an international group of sponsors some of which include the British Government Home Office, Foreign Office, Department for Trade and Industry with support from *the BA - British Association for the advancement of science*, the University of Manchester, Manchester City Council and the following UK museums and relevant councils who have showcased the 1001 inventions exhibition and book: Manchester Science Museum, Glasgow Science Centre, Museum of Cardiff, Thinktank Birmingham and currently the Museum of Croydon.

1001 inventions has also received much support and acclaims from the following governmental figures and royalties: *The Right Honourable MP for North Warwickshire & Bedworth and Government Minister*, Mike O'Brien, *QC Solicitor General of former Prime Minister Tony Blair*, HRH Prince Mohammed bin Nawaf, *Saudi Ambassador*, Afzal Khan, *former Lord Mayor of Manchester*, *Deputy First Minister* Nicola Sturgeon MSP, *Lord Provost of Glasgow Councillor* Allan Stewart, *Mrs Micheline Calmy-Rey, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Former President of Switzerland*, HRH Sheikh, *Dr. Sultan Al-Qassimi, Ruler of Sharjah*, HRH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed, *President of the UAE*, His Highness Sheikh Faraj bin Hamouda of Abu Dhabi, HRH Prince Khalid Faisal, *Governor of Mekkah District & HRH Prince Faisal bin Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Abdul Aziz, Head of Al-Aghar Group Think Tank, Saudi Arabia* and HE Dr. Abdullah Al-Obied, *Minister of Education KSA*.

For further information contact: info@1001inventions.com

PICTURE 1:

Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair and HRH Prince Mohamed Bin Nawaf Al-Saud, Saudi Ambassador to the U.K, endorsing a copy of the 1001 Inventions Book.

<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/feedbackuploads/picture11.jpg>

PICTURE 2:

Left to right: Kirk Ramsay, CEO of Glasgow Science Museum, Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Lord Provost of Glasgow Councillor Allan Stewart, Chairman of FSTC & Chief Editor Professor, Salim Al-Hassani & Señora Nuria Medina Co-ordinator of Programmes Casa Arabe, Madrid.

http://www.1001inventions.com/img/site_020/VQ7M3381_Line_up_at_Opening_in_Glasgow_23_October_07.jpg