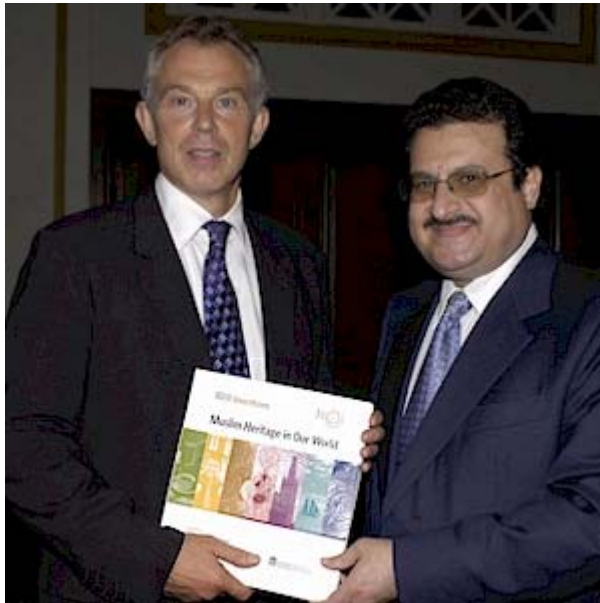




**October 2006**

### **U.K. Prime Minister endorses Muslim Heritage**

Tony Blair accepts *1001 Inventions* book at special meeting of Arab ambassadors



Tony Blair gratefully accepts a copy of the acclaimed work *1001 Inventions* from HRH Prince Mohamed Bin Nawaf Al-Saud, Saudi Ambassador to the U.K.

U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair has embraced the Muslim community with his endorsement of the pioneering book *1001 Inventions: Discover the Muslim Heritage in Our World*.

The book was produced by Dubai-based Muslim Heritage Consulting in association with the Foundation for Science Technology and Civilisation (FSTC) in the U.K.

Muslim Heritage Consulting is set to hold a unique lecture in Dubai on Tuesday, October 17 featuring high-profile, celebrity speakers held at the Madinat Theatre, Souk Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai.

Based around the themes in the book, the talk will reveal how everyday items such as coffee, tablets and carpets and common words like magazine, mattress and sugar come to us through a shared heritage with the Muslim world.

This is the first time a lecture of such calibre and cultural prominence will be held in the Emirate during the Holy month of Ramadan. The organisers - who provided the historical research that brought Muslim inventions back to life at Dubai's Ibn Battuta Mall - have championed similar cross-cultural events in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.



The book given to the Prime Minister forms part of the groundbreaking 1001 Inventions project that also features a touring educational interactive exhibition, teachers' pack, posters and conference.

Since its initial publication in March, both organisations have been inundated with requests for copies from governments, academic institutions and corporate interests around the globe.

The British Government has championed the cause of the *1001 Inventions* project, with generous sponsorship from the Home Office, Foreign Office and the Department for Trade and Industry.

Blair received his copy of 1001 Inventions at a special ceremony at the ruling Labour Party political conference in Manchester in the U.K. Blair hosted all Arab and Islamic Ambassadors on the sidelines of the conference. The subject of Muslim heritage in our world came up high on the discussion.

In recognition of the enormous contributions of Muslims to science and technology, the Prime Minister posed in front of cameras holding one of the last remaining copies from the first edition. Due to popular demand for the unique publication, a second edition of 40,000 copies is being printed and is expected to be available shortly.

### **Editors' Note:**

'Discover the Muslim Heritage in our World' is being held at 9pm on Tuesday, October 17 at the Madinat Theatre, Souk Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai.

After a phenomenally-successful launch of the *1001 Inventions* exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester, U.K. earlier this year, *1001 Inventions: Discover the Muslim Heritage in our World* is set to tour over 20 nations in Europe, the United States, the Middle East, the Far East and Australasia.

It is due to continue its U.K. tour at the National Museum Cardiff on October 24th 2006, with an official opening event of selected VIPs and local community on October 26th to celebrate the arrival of the exhibition.

**For further information contact Richard Brown on +9714329 2421 or richard@1001Inventions.com**



## **Notes to editors**

Download pictures to use with this press release from here:

**PICTURE 1:** Professor Salim Al-Hassani, Chairman of FSTC, and Afzal Khan, Lord Mayor of Manchester both holding up a replica of the 9<sup>th</sup> Century flying machine of Abbas Bin Firnas.

<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture1.jpg>

**PICTURE 2:** School children watching a demonstration of how to use a 10<sup>th</sup> Century Astrolabe.

<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture3.jpg>

**PICTURE 3:** The Right Honourable Mike O'Brien, QC Solicitor General speaking on behalf of Prime Minister Tony Blair.

<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture4.jpg>

**PICTURE 4:** A school girl using a 10<sup>th</sup> Century Astrolabe

<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture5.jpg>

- **1001 Inventions** is a non-religious and non-political exhibition.
- **1001 Inventions** is a strategic partnership between four pivotal organisations:
  1. Foundation for Science, Technology & Civilisation (FSTC)
  2. Museum of Science & Industry in Manchester (MSIM)
  3. The University of Manchester (UoM)
  4. Muslim Heritage Consulting (MHC)

with numerous associated partners and sponsors.

- For more details about the content of the exhibition, please refer to [www.1001inventions.com](http://www.1001inventions.com).
- For additional background facts on Muslim Heritage, please refer to [www.Muslimheritage.com](http://www.Muslimheritage.com).
- \*Professor Salim Al-Hassani is emeritus professor of Mechanical, Aerospace and Manufacturing Engineering Department at UMIST and currently a residing professor at the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, University of Manchester.