



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1000 YEARS OF MISSING HERITAGE

Discover the Muslim Heritage in our World
Exhibition opening Saturday 26 May 2007

A groundbreaking exhibition uncovering the lost history of Muslim contributions to science and invention comes to Thinktank, Birmingham science museum this May.

1001 Inventions: Discover the Muslim Heritage in Our World is a unique travelling exhibition revealing 1,000 years of the rich scientific and technological heritage of the Muslim community. The exhibition comes to Thinktank as part of a UK-wide tour, having already received great critical acclaim at The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester and National Museum of Wales in Cardiff.

The 1001 Inventions exhibition brings to life an often overlooked golden age of discovery and innovation from the 7th to the 17th centuries. Outstanding scholars from the Islamic world are believed to have discovered and developed many everyday items that are taken for granted in the modern world, such as coffee, soap, clocks and surgical instruments.

"I am delighted that the 1001 Inventions touring exhibition arrives at Thinktank in Birmingham at this time," comments Professor Salim Al-Hassani, Chairman of Foundation of Science Technology and Civilisation. "This unique exhibition demonstrates role models of great inventions and innovations that still affect our daily lives. Muslim inventions are all around us; in the home, in the school, in the market, in the hospital and in the knowledge we have about the earth and the universe. I am sure that, like in other great cities, Birmingham people will enjoy and celebrate this exciting exhibition."

The 1001 Inventions exhibition will be supported by themed events and activities. For younger visitors, this includes; Art, Science and Islam, a hands-on workshop exploring the scientific techniques used to create Islamic artwork; Islamic Astronomy Planetarium Shows; Storytelling with popular tales from Islamic culture; and an interactive family science show. And for adults there will be a programme of Islamic Astronomy Evening Talks and Topical Science Evening Events involving Islamic contributions to science and technology.

1001 Inventions will be staged outside the entrance to Thinktank at Millennium Point and will be FREE to visit.

For Thinktank ticket prices and bookings, call 0121 202 2222 or visit www.thinktank.ac. Thinktank is open seven days a week (except 24, 25 and 26 December) 10.00am- 5.00pm

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Notes to Editors

1. The 1001 Inventions exhibition was initiated by the Foundation for Science, Technology and Civilization (FSTC), and is supported by international institutes and organisations including the British Home Office, the British Foreign Office, British Department for Trade and Industry, The BA, The Wellcome Trust, Muslim Heritage Consulting, Muslim Youth Foundation, Northwest Development Agency, El-Rahma Trust, ICONS and National Science Week, Muslim Council of Wales, National Museum Wales, Manchester University, Abu Dhabi-based Bin Hamouda Group and Dubai-based International Holdings Group.
2. 1001 Inventions is a non-religious and non-political exhibition. For more details about the content of the exhibition, please refer to www.1001inventions.com
3. For additional background facts on Muslim Heritage, please refer to www.Muslimheritage.com.

Photographs

1-3 are taken from the first venue of the 1001 Inventions exhibition at Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester (MSIM). Photographs 4-7 are of the exhibition.

1. Professor Salim Al-Hassani*, Chairman of FSTC, and Afzal Khan, Lord Mayor of Manchester both holding up a replica of the 9th Century flying machine of Abbas Ibn Firnas. <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture1.jpg>
2. Professor Ekmellidin Ihsanoglu, Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Countries. <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture2.jpg>
3. The Right Honourable Mike O'Brien, QC Solicitor General speaking at the MSIM launch on behalf of Prime Minister Tony Blair. <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/picture4.jpg>
4. Boy looking at the interactive element for the World Zone pod. (970 KB) <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/image02.jpg>
- 5 The Blood Circulation exhibit at the 1001 Inventions Exhibition. (900 KB) <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/image03.jpg>
- 6 The animated manuscript exhibit on Celestial Sums in the Universe Zone. (930 KB) <http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/image04.jpg>

7. The al-Jazari scribe clock exhibit in the Home Zone. (630 KB)
<http://www.MuslimHeritage.com/imagelibrary/image05.jpg>

*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.