

SOUTH

Calligraphy exhibit to open at Beersheba Islamic museum

The Museum of Islamic and Near Eastern Cultures in Beersheba will open an exhibition on the traditional Arabic art of calligraphy on November 23.

The exhibition aims to enhance viewers' understanding of the handwritten craft and its role in Islamic culture. According to the museum, the display will "expose a secret world of written charms for protection and healing, and the combination of letters that bring them force."

The exhibition will feature historical artifacts from Islamic culture alongside international artists from Iran, Japan and Israel who combine the traditional art of calligraphy and contemporary works.

International artists participating in the exhibit include American-Iranian visual artist Shirin Neshat, whose works depict the protest over restrictions on women's bodies introduced during the 1979 Iranian Revolution. Works linking the art form with meditation will also be featured by Japanese calligrapher and ink painter Kazuo Ishii, who lives in Israel.

Along with contemporary works, the exhibition will present works with religious content portraying living figures, despite Islam's ban on depicting such characters in religious art.

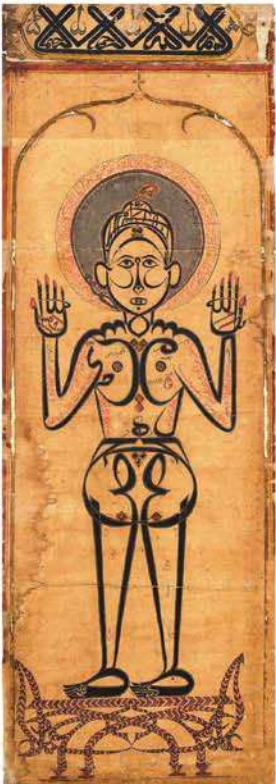
The exhibition notes that Islamic culture preceded European culture with the daily use of paper, which the Muslims brought from China and developed into a large industry.



(Israel Museum)



(Peter Lanyi/Israel Museum)



(Peter Lanyi/Israel Museum)



(Israel Museum)

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(Liron Lavi-Turkanich)

Learn about the handwritten craft of calligraphy and its role in Islamic culture...

... at Beersheba's Museum of Islamic and Near Eastern Cultures.