

**The Islamic Manuscript Association
May 2011 Newsletter**

RESOURCES

The App for Oriental Books: Oriental treasures of the Bavarian State Library – available on iPhones and iPods.

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek invites you to browse:

The wonders of creation, an Arabic illustrated manuscript, dated 1280, *The prayer book of Düzdidil*, a Turkish and Arabic manuscript from 1845 and the renowned *Book of Kings*, written in Shiraz between 1550 and 1600. This App contains digital copies of some of the Staatsbibliothek's most outstanding items, and can be downloaded free of charge in Apple stores.

For further information e-mail: Helga.Rebhan@bsb-muenchen.de

WORKSHOPS

Cambridge Muslim College

Calligraphy Workshop with Zainab Hui



Workshop in Arabic calligraphy in the Chinese style.

Cambridge Muslim College, 14 St. Paul's Road Cambridge

Saturday 4th June 2011 11.00am - 4.30pm

£50.00 per person

Cambridge Muslim College is offering an exclusive one day workshop of Arabic-Chinese calligraphy. The day will include an introductory talk on Islam in China, an opportunity to prepare your own calligraphy pens, learning to write basic strokes in Chinese, and learning to write Arabic words or phrases as well as 'Allah' in Chinese and Arabic. Participants will also be able to prepare a piece to take home and have the tools to take away in order to continue practising at home.

The teacher: Zainab Anhui was born in China in the city of Xi'an in a family which has strong artistic roots. Her uncle is a renowned contemporary watercolour painter Daud Maliang who encouraged her interest in calligraphy during her childhood when she would practice for hours. Zainab subsequently attended the China calligraphy and Painting College in Xi'an where she studied for three years and gained a diploma in Chinese Calligraphy. She also began to learn Arabic calligraphy after being inspired by the beautiful historical mosques in her hometown. She then advanced her Arabic calligraphy while studying at the International Islamic University in Malaysia where she has had exhibitions in Singapore and Malaysia. With years of study and practice, her work presents a beautiful fusion of Arabic and Chinese calligraphy on rice paper and silk. Zainab now works in North London and continues to practice her Arabic calligraphy in Chinese style.

E-mail: Atif Imtiaz at ai@cambridgemuslimcollege.org

Islamic Manuscript Illumination

18-22 July 1030-1730

Shoreditch Library, London

This practical course will introduce students to the traditional geometric and floral designs that are used to adorn illuminated pages. Students will learn about paper preparation and traditional painting and gilding techniques used in Islamic manuscript illumination

Adults £350; Concessions: £280; Members: £315

Tutor: Ayesha Gamiet

E-mail: enquiry@psta.org.uk

VACANCIES

Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation & Dar al-Kutub Manuscript Project

Assistant Director

Cairo

The Foundation is seeking to fill a full-time assistant director position at the Project's office in Cairo, Egypt. The contract is for one year. Employment in Cairo will be through the Foundation's representative company Tradigital, which is based in Cairo, Egypt. The salary will be £35,000 gross per annum plus a monthly housing allowance of 5500 EGP.

Main duties of the job

- Assist the director with the day-to-day administration of the Project
- Assist the director with managing the Project's twelve-person team
- Write formal correspondence and regular Project reports in English
- Work with the director and Project staff to organise events such as training courses, lectures, and exhibition openings
- Maintain Project records

Essential skills, experience and qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in Art History, Islamic History, Islamic Studies, or a related field
- Excellent spoken and written English
- Proven management and administration experience, including events coordination
- Excellent interpersonal skills and phone manner
- Excellent IT skills: competency with word processors, spreadsheets, databases and email clients
- Willing to travel internationally

Desirable skills, experience and qualifications

- Knowledge of Arabic
- Knowledge of other foreign languages, especially Persian and/or Turkish
- Knowledge of museology, a discipline relating to the care and management of manuscript collections (e.g. cataloguing, conservation or digitization), and/or codicology an advantage

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter – in English – explaining your suitability for the position, as well as an English resume, to Prof. Ada Romero Sánchez at: ada@tradigital-cairo.com.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History.

Kalamazoo College, Michigan State, USA

Full-time, one-year appointment, September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012; non-renewable. PhD in Art History preferred; ABD required. Full-time teaching experience preferred, with ArtStor or other digital image database experience a plus. Teaching load is two courses for each of three terms, six courses total, and the supervision of senior independent research projects in the fall and winter. Participation in departmental and some college-wide responsibilities and activities is expected. Required courses, with some flexibility, include two introductory surveys (Western-based or comparative), a methodologies seminar, a 19th or 20th century survey, and two electives of the instructor's choice, with modern as the preferred focus.

For further details please visit:

https://www.h-net.org/jobs/job_display.php?id=42511

FELLOWSHIP

AKU-ISMC Research Fellowship Programme 2011-2012

Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, London

The duration of the Fellowship is one calendar year, commencing September 2011. During this time, Fellows are expected to carry out research projects which relate to one of the Institute's major research themes and to coordinate a research workshop leading to a publication. For 2011/12 the theme addressed will be *the Construction of Knowledge about Muslim Cultures and Societies*. Within this broad theme, Research Fellows are sought who will carry out research related to the topic: 'Remembering the first century of Islam.' Potential areas of research include:

- Examining the roles that memories about the first century are playing in building national, regional, ethnic, religious, and other forms of solidarity and belonging;

- Outlining strategies that create and also destroy shared memories about the first century in a wide variety of mediums, including those that appeal to mass audiences, such as film and the internet;
- Contributing to theoretical reflection on memory, identity, and knowledge about the past.

Fellows will pursue their research projects and contribute to the organisation of a workshop and subsequent publication.

During the course of this academic year, the Institute will facilitate scholarly dialogue among the Research Fellows and AKU-ISMC Faculty. During the course of their Fellowship, Fellows will be expected to participate in the educational and research programmes of the Institute by delivering occasional lectures and seminars.

REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should have: a PhD in the Humanities or Social Sciences; a high degree of experience, interest and competence in the research area outlined above; a high level of proficiency in communication skills, written and verbal. Fellows should ideally have a research interest in early Islamic history and a willingness to engage with the theoretical literature relating to memory.

For further information please e-mail: ismc@aku.edu
