“Islamic Art: A Journey through Time and Contemporary Expression”

CURATED BY | FAHIM SOMANI
The Mumtaz & Sada Cumber Foundation graciously presents the Heritage Collection, a curated assortment of cherished artifacts and cultural treasures.
Mohammed Hussain graciously presents the Heritage Collection, a curated assortment of cherished artifacts and cultural treasures.
"Burqa" or "Kiswa."

The Kiswa, also known as the covering of the Kaaba, is a remarkable piece of fabric measuring 27 x 14 feet, adorned with intricate gold thread inscriptions on a black background. Dating back to the Ottoman times, this magnificent cloth is used to drape the Kaaba in Mecca. Crafted in Cairo, the Kiswa is a masterful display of embroidery, featuring exquisite calligraphy in the elegant Tuluth style, executed with both gold and silver wires. Its rich history and artistic significance make it a cherished cultural treasure.

Since the Ottoman times, the door of the Kaaba has been adorned with an exquisite casing made of pure white silk, which undergoes a meticulous process of dyeing to achieve its striking black hue. Intricately embroidered onto this ebony canvas are verses from the Quran, meticulously crafted using shimmering gold and silver threads. This beautiful and sacred artwork adds to the reverence and magnificence of the Kaaba, serving as a testament to the artistic and religious heritage of the region.

The tomb of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, is adorned with a magnificent covering made of rich red silk, accentuated by a striking zigzag pattern. Impeccably inscribed in the elegant Tuluth calligraphy, the script alternates between wide and narrow bands, creating a mesmerizing visual effect.

Prominently displayed on the wider band, the profound declaration "There is no God but God, and Muhammad PBUH is His Prophet" stands as a testament to the core belief of Islam. Surrounding this central proclamation, verses from the Quran are meticulously written on the narrow bands, offering a sacred and reverent atmosphere to the tomb.

This splendid artwork symbolizes the deep reverence and love that Muslims hold for the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and serves as a focal point for countless believers who visit the tomb to pay their respects and seek blessings.

Islamic Arts Society