



# London

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## June 2010

*“A groundbreaking Exhibition  
highlighting the relationship of  
Islam with other faiths”*



Exhibition Islam

# INTRODUCTION

## London

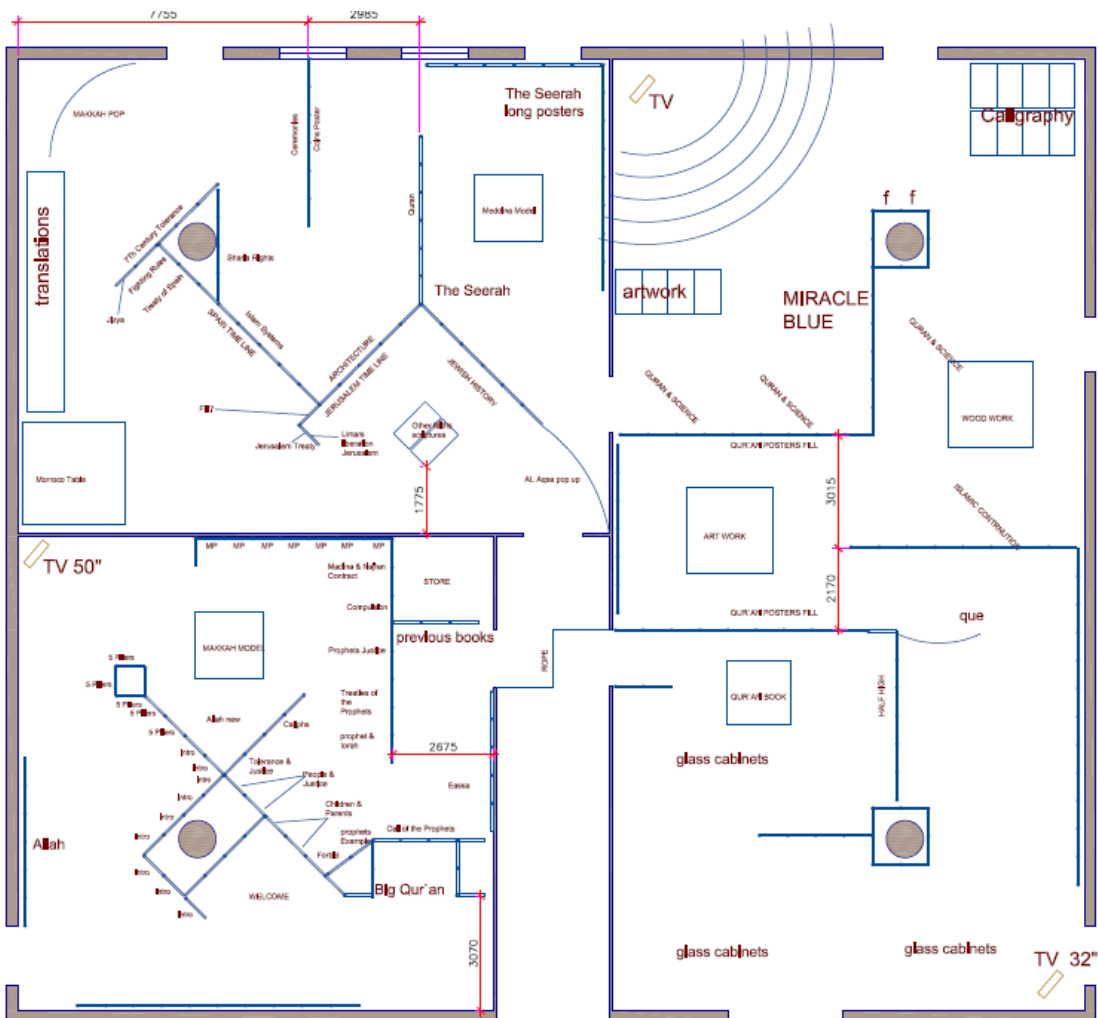
London is a leading world city with a population of 10 million and home to around one million Muslims from almost every part of the world.

It is a major tourist city attracting 15 million visitors annually with many places to visit, the Islamic Cultural Centre near Regents Park and London Zoo being one of the many attractions.

## The London Central Mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre

Built in 1977, the London Central Mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre is amongst the leading and most widely recognised Islamic institutions within the United Kingdom. Based in the centre of London, it is visited by Muslims from all over the city.

It hosts many national and international seminars and exhibitions, with Exhibition Islam having held the Islam Exhibition, the Life of the Prophet (peace be upon him) exhibition and the Qur'an Exhibition at this venue in recent years.



The layout of the exhibition spanned across three halls and included posters, video presentations, art workshops and interactive models of the holy city of Madina during the time of the prophet and another interactive model of the holy Ka'aba.

A preview of the forthcoming publication, "The Magnificent Qur'an" was also available.

## CONCEPT

### Islam & Other Faiths

There are many negative stereotypes about Muslims and the Islamic faith. Intolerance is one of those stereotypes, with many people regarding Islam and an intolerant and forceful faith. What most people do not know is that during the Islamic Rule, the Muslim nation was the most tolerant to other faiths, providing a safe and secure place for people of other faiths to live and freely practice their faith. This allowed other faiths to flourish without having to hide their faith or be persecuted because of it as was the norm in the middle ages especially across Europe.

This exhibition took over four years to collate and bring together Manuscripts of all three major faiths; Qur'ans, Torahs and Bibles from across the Islamic World, which illustrate the degree of religious freedom citizens of all faiths were given to practice their respective faiths.



The aim of this exhibition was to foster greater understanding and promote community harmony.

As part of the exhibition, rare and precious Manuscripts of all three major faiths; Qur'ans, Torahs and Bibles were displayed, all of which had been written in the very open and tolerant, accepting and hospitable Islamic World.





## THE GRAND OPENING



*Above: The 'Islam's Relationship with Other Faiths' Exhibition was opened by Sir Sigmund Sternberg (The Three Faiths Forum), The Revd Deacon Meliton Oakes from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain, Mr. Abdul Rahman Ghanim Al-Mutaiwee - Ambassador of The United Arab Emirates.*

### **Our Guests and visitors included...**

Wayne Lawley  
*Advisor to Deputy Mayor of London*

Dr Rainer Lassig  
*Counsellor from the German Embassy*

Revd Dr Marcus Braybrooke  
*World Congress of Faiths*

Dr. Joy Barrow  
*The Methodist Church*

Cllr Margaret Keverian Ali  
*World Peace Federation*

Karen Buck MP  
*Member of Parliament for Westminster North*

Lord Sheikh Of Cornhill  
*Muslim Conservative Peer*

Muhammad Ali  
*CEO of Islam Channel*

Sajed Versi  
*The Muslim News*

Shiekh Faisal Boadi  
*Islamic Scholar*

Sir Richard Stone  
*Alif Aleph UK*

Mehri Niknam  
*The Joseph Interfaith Foundation*

...And many religious bodies and organisations  
as well as many imams, priests and rabbis.

## THE GRAND OPENING



*Lord Sheikh was presented a book, *The Islam Guide*, by Shahid Munir, Imtiaz Alam and Dr Hamza Alam, from the management team of Exhibition Islam.*



*There was ample opportunity for people of different faiths to discuss aspects of their faiths whilst looking through the posters.*



*Dr Harriet Crabtree - Director The Inter Faith Network for the UK looks through the flagship book by Exhibition Islam, *The Islam Guide*.*



## VISITORS & TOURS



Visitors were given the opportunity to browse through the exhibits



On display were Qur'an manuscripts from different eras and regions of the world.



In addition to posters, there were also models of the Ka'aba in Makkah, with a cut out section allowing visitors to see the inside...



As well as an interactive model of Madina encompassing the prophet's mosque and neighbouring houses.



The media and professional filming crew enjoyed taking shots from many angles.



The Imam of London Central Mosque was also available to interact with guests and answer queries.



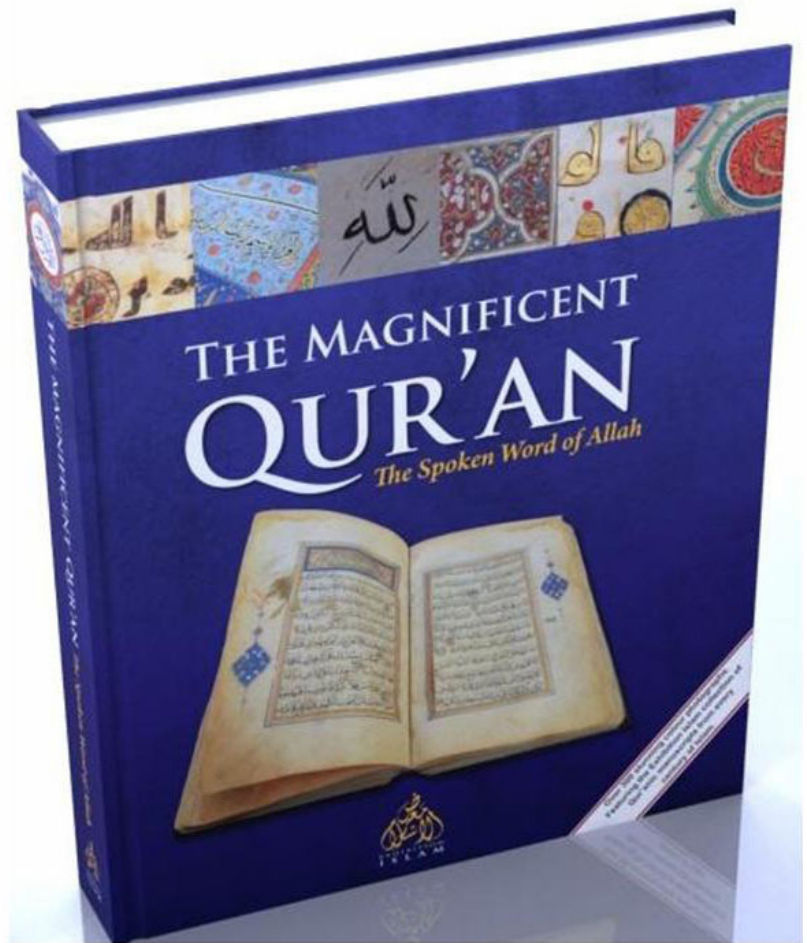
## CONCLUSION

### Achievements of the Exhibition

The success of this exhibition can be measured by the overwhelming support it received from people of all faiths and illustrated the harmony that existed and can exist in the world today.

Lead by the Muslim community, managed by Exhibition Islam and supported by ICC UK, the exhibition was based upon the principles of the Magnificent Qur'an:

***Say: "O people of the Book! come to common terms as between us and you: that we worship none but Allah; that we associate no partners with Him; that we erect not from among ourselves Lords and patrons other than Allah."***  
***[Qur'an, Surah Ale Imraan, 3:64]***



### The Launch of the New Book

The Magnificent Qur'an book was launched during this exhibition. It provides information on the Qur'an through a unique diversity of means, ranging from historical notes, timelines, diagrams and maps.

One of the greatest accomplishments of this publication is to display hundreds of stunning and exclusive photos of Quranic manuscripts from around the World. These rare manuscripts, dating back to the 8th Century have been collected from both the prominent cities and remote communities of the Islamic world. These rare manuscripts have been showcased individually across the world, and for the first time their images are compiled together in this historic publication.

This publication displays manuscripts from Exhibition Islam Collection (UK), Topkapi Palace (Turkey) and the British Library (UK).

