

MY MUSHAF: EXHIBITION AT IIT

My Mushaf - a timeless collection of memories and thoughts about the copy of the Qur'an that has had an impact on your life.

Do you have a Mushaf that has a place in your heart or your memory? Perhaps it was handed down from your grandparents, or survived a war or conflict? Perhaps it was your first copy even before you became Muslim?

Whatever it is, we want you to share the story of your Mushaf as part of Islamic History Month! Please send it by e-mail to iit@islam.ca

Simply write a brief (500 words) blurb about what makes it interesting. We will publish it on our website and on social media and display some of the more interesting stories as part of our exhibition for IHMC. As Alex Kronemer, one of the founders of Unity Productions Foundation said recently said - " ..as Muslims we need to tell our own narratives".

Here's a story that I would like to share:

I got my personal Mushaf in 1979 when I was a teenager. It was an award for my participation at an Islamic Camp in the County of Berbice, Guyana. It was a green, hardcover edition with Arabic and English translation by Marmaduke Pikhall. It was special because it was awarded by one of the most influential men in my life: Br. Ahmad Ehwass of Libya (may Allah have mercy on him).

My father started using it and made a number of notations in the margins and the inside back cover. I remember him reciting from it in Ramadan and falling asleep while still holding it with an iron grip. It was the Mushaf that I used to teach him Tajweed, enabling him to enter into and receive an honourable mention in a national Quran competition in Guyana - something quite amazing for his generation who recited with no rules and largely using Urdu pronunciation.

It was one of the few things that came with us when we migrated to Canada in 1990. Often when I visit him I would take it and feel the the pages and re live some of the beautiful memories.

My dad has a Mushaf from his father; quite old now but still carrying the peacock feather that serves as a book marker.

May Allah bless all those who protect the Quran and cause us to live by it. (Br. Farhad)