

الجمعية الملكية لحماية البيئة البحرية The Royal Marine Conservation Society JREDS









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Arabic Calligraphy

Introduction by

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Arabic calligraphy is the art of designing and producing beautiful lettering in a language that uses Arabic script. Arabic alphabet is characterized by being always cursive, which makes obtaining various geometric shapes through elongation, shortening, rounding, angling, interlocking, knotting and combination of the letters possible. The art of calligraphy is associated with Arabic decoration used to adorn mosques and palaces. It is also used in the illumination of manuscripts and books, especially copies of the Holy Quran. Due to the restrictions on depicting people and animals, especially in relation to the Holy Places and the Koran, the majority of Muslim artists were calligraphists.

Arabic calligraphy is one of the most important art forms that Islam has produced. Different cultures have influenced Arabic calligraphy. But this art movement received its finishing touches during the reign of the Ottoman Empire. It is assumed that the origin of this special art form goes back to the early days of Islam. According to Islamic understanding, practicing this art deepens a person's relationship with God, and allows for contemplating the meaning of individual Quranic texts.

This tutorial by Yasser Al-Jaraba'a and Ali Aljizawi provides a simplified way to learn the art of Riq'a script and explains how each letter is written in different positions within words. Riq'a script has unique characteristics that made it the primary choice for decoration. Today, it is an exemplar of calligraphy's power to produce new modes of artistic expression. The shape of each letter is determined by a specific number of rhombic dots that standardize their proportions in relation to each other.

Supported by:







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Mohammad S. Al-Tawaha

Executive Director – The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS)

We are pleased to cooperate with the local community and to provide the required support for them as well as revealing the works of high quality which are compatible with the outcomes of "Cultural Routes for Sustainable Social and economic Development in Mediterranean (Crossdev)" project, which is being executed by our partner in Aqaba, The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS) and funded by the European Union through the ENI CBC MED Programme.

The Crossdev project focuses on the on the most important new tourism initiatives and products which may help in promoting the project's areas as well as extending the tourists stay in addition to providing the alternatives for them and increasing the tourism competitiveness ability as well as attracting more tourists for the less known areas, and enhancing the experiences of the different cultural tracks through the creation of a tourism framework

for tourism across borders in order to enhance the policies of the sustainable tourism. Moreover, to encourage the tourism related commercial activities and to establish work plans by led the local communities. The project will also work on the increase of skills and know-how which will contribute in improving the tourism practices that benefit the economic and social development, protection of environment and cultural heritage.

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Therefore, JREDS provides support for the organizations and individuals who are able to develop sustainable tourism products which focus on Aqaba cultural, historical and natural products. A number of tourism related sustainable initiatives were accomplished such as elevating the local chefs' abilities to provide meals of seasonal tuna fish, competition of the best handicraft products by using recycled materials, Ramadan annual competition and visits to schools and local community.

This guide, teaching the Arabic calligraphy for non-Arabic speakers, as one of the tourism sustainable products which was produced and developed by some of the local community people in order to present a new tourism product for the foreign tourists which aiming to enhance the cultural side of Aqaba city through teaching the Arabic calligraphy and how to do it to foreign tourists. The program includes complete and full details on how to draw the Arabic calligraphy in a simplified and easy means.

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Introduction

This educational brochure in the art of Arabic calligraphy is the first of its kind in terms of the idea of composition and content, as it aims in its objectives to convey the images of Arabic calligraphy and its geometric forms to non-Arabic speakers in the world, as calligraphy represents a global visual art that is subject to flexibility and formation, and it is considered an important source of heritage for others.

Globally materialistic after UNESCO recognized that in 2021 in Paris, and the aesthetic state of calligraphy with its methods and diversity constitutes a unique case for transforming writing into a global visual art and a cultural tourism product witness to pottery ,pots ,brass ,palaces and places of worship and buildings of an Arab-Islamic character .This brochure helps the student to raise taste ,develop talents and sensitivity, through which he acquires ideals and many skills such as arrangement ,organization ,and accuracy of observation ,balance ,patience and observance of proportions.

He concluded here with the words of the Spanish international painter who said :The farthest point I wanted to reach in plastic art ,I found Arabic calligraphy that preceded me to it a long time ago.

Yasser Al - Jaraba'a



Ali Aljizawi



Definition of the Arabic calligraphy:

It is the art of designing writing in different languages that use the Arabic letters,

The Arabic writing is distinguished as being connected and linked together, which makes it capable of acquiring different geometric shapes through extension, returning, rounding, curving, intertwining, overlapping and combining.

Types of the Arabic calligraphy:

- 1. Naskh.
- 2. Nasta'liq (Persia).
- 3. Diwani.
- 4. Thuluth.
- 5. Rega (Rug'ah).
- 6. kufi.
- 7. Magrebi.
- 8. Jaly Diwani.

It is said in the Arabic calligraphy:

"Arabic calligraphy is a spirit geometry made by human hands"

The Reqa script: [Ar Rug'ah]

It is one of the calligraphy arts invented by the ottoman turks whose rules set out by the Consultant Mumtaz Beck during the time of Sultan Abdul Majeed Khan in the year of 1280 AH.

Probably, It is called Ruq'ah (which is Arabic for patch) because it used to be written on a patch of leather. The most famous Turks calligraphers in reqa is Muhammad Ezzat.

The Arabic calligraphy tools:

- Bamboo or reed Pen. -
- -- Glossy paper (Arabic calligraphy paper)
- Inkwell with silk strings inside,

















































































































