

November 2014

Qur'an

Follow this and additional works at: http://ecommons.udayton.edu/rosebk_commentary

Recommended Citation

"Qur'an" (2014). *Commentaries on the Exhibit's Works*. 46.
http://ecommons.udayton.edu/rosebk_commentary/46

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Imprints and Impressions: Milestones in Human Progress at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Commentaries on the Exhibit's Works by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlange1@udayton.edu.

Reflections on the various works in the exhibit

Imprints and Impressions: Milestones in Human Progress

Highlights from the Rose Rare Book Collection, Sept. 29-Nov. 9, 2014

Roesch Library, University of Dayton

Qur'an

- Kashmir, 1864
- An illuminated manuscript, copied by Aziz Khan Kashmiri et al.

This is an unusually large and extensively illuminated manuscript of the Islamic holy scripture. This manuscript, completed in *naskhi* calligraphy on polished paper, contains not only the original Arabic text of the Holy Qur'an, but also the *Tafsir al-Qur'an*, which is Qur'anic exegesis. It includes Persian translation in blue and additional inscriptions in the margins, written in red and surrounded by foliate decoration in gold, giving the number of verses, words, and letters in each *sura* (chapter). What is interesting about this particular script is that the Qur'anic commentary is written horizontally, diagonally, and vertically.

Furthermore, this copy gives information about the different "readings" of the Qur'an among important centers of Islamic learning, such as Mecca, Medina, Kufa, Basra, etc. This manuscript is unique in a way that although the author was from the Kashmir region, which is in India, the exegesis was written in Persian and not in the vernacular language of the author. Also, based on a note on the last page of the *Tafsir*, the exegesis is that of Husain Wa'iz al-Kashifi, a prominent Muslim scholar who wrote his *Tafsir* (Exegesis) in 1491.

–Jusuf Salih, PhD, Assistant
Professor, Religious Studies

Work cited

Islamicmanuscripts.info