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Indian Islamic art on show

ABOUT 180 pieces of Sultanate and Mughal Indian works of art from the collection of the National Museum of India in New Delhi will be on display at the Islamic Arts Museum in Kuala Lumpur from March 30.

The Islamic Art of India exhibition will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. The exhibition hopes to promote a better understanding and appreciation of Indian Islamic art and culture as well as its parallels, and influences on the art of the Islamic and the Malay world.

The artefacts include historically significant illustrated manuscripts depicting the annals and the antiquities of the Mughal emperors, illuminated royal decrees, calligraphy, glittering miniature paintings, masterpieces of decorative arts as well as lavishly ornamented jewellery, luxurious textiles and gold coins.

Some of these masterpieces have never been displayed outside of India and will, for the first time, be exhibited at the museum. The exhibition which will last for three months, is in collaboration with the National Museum of New Delhi.

* A seminar "Secular Heritage of Indian Art" by Dr Nasim Akhtar, head of the National Museum of New Delhi, will be held at the Islamic Arts Museum on March 31 at 10am. Admission is free.

(END)