Masterpieces from the SSM Collections on the 'Five Hundred Years of Islamic Calligraphy' Exhibition at the National Museum of Bahrain

- The National Museum of Bahrain is hosting an exhibition consisting of masterpieces from the Arts of the Book and Calligraphy Collection and the Painting Collection of the Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. The exhibition called 'Five Hundred Years of Islamic Calligraphy', comprising of valuable manuscripts, samples of Islam calligraphy and binding, documents of diplomacy and imperial orders starting with the Sultan's monogram and materials used by calligraphers will be open between 19 January and 13 April 2014. The exhibition consists of 86 works, oil paintings depicting calligraphy as well as works of the arts of books between the fifteenth and twentieth centuries. Special programs prepared by the education department of SSM and documentaries on the art of calligraphy will be available to the visitors during the exhibition.

- Sakıp Sabancı, founder of the Sakıp Sabancı Museum started in 1970s to collect manuscripts, and especially works of calligraphy and copies of the Holy Koran. From 1989 on, the collection was exhibited in numerous prominent museums, including the New York Metropolitan, Louvre and the Deutsche Guggenheim in Berlin. The enthusiasm the collection was met with, strengthened Sakıp Sabancı's desire to expand his collection and gather all the works under the roof of a museum. In 1998, the Atlı Köşk in Emirgan, the home of the family was allocated to the Sabanci University, together with its collection and furnishings, to be transformed to a museum. SSM's 'Arts of the Book and Calligraphy Collection' utilizes contemporary technology since 2012, thus adding to the knowledge of young generations about this traditional art.

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