



Press Section  
High Commission for Pakistan  
132 Jalan Ampang,  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel 2161-1370 Fax 2161-0384

### Press Release

#### **Pakistan to Gift a Scale Model of Badshahi Mosque to Malaysia**

Pakistan is all set to gift a scale Model of the Badshahi Mosque to the Islamic Art Museum of Malaysia.

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, who will be in Malaysia to attend the D-8 Ministers' Conference will present the model in an impressive ceremony, being held in the premises of Islamic Art Museum, Kuala Lumpur, on 3rd of November, 2009.

Islamic Art Museum, although has been exhibiting various models from many Muslim countries representing Muslim architectural heritage, but so far, it was incomplete due to absence of model of Badshahi Mosque of Lahore, Pakistan being the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest in South Asia and fifth largest Mosque in the world.

In order to ensure Pakistan's representation in the Museum, Artist Guild of Pakistan, a well known Art House of Pakistan, was tasked by the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Government of Pakistan to prepare a model, capable of meeting the high standards set by the Islamic Art Museum. The model was accordingly prepared and was handed over to the technical staff of Islamic Art Museum for technical evaluation. Islamic Art Museum after carrying out a detailed study has admitted the model for its display in the museum.

Islamic Art Museum established in December 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, has become the home to Southeast Asia's largest museum of Islamic art and culture, wherein, more than seven thousand artifacts are exhibited. The art objects on display range from the tiniest pieces of jewelry to one of the world's largest scale models of the Masjid al-Haram in Mecca, besides, maintaining an exceptional library of Islamic-art books.

The Badshahi Mosque with great historic, cultural and religious value and representative of the great Mughal architect will be a valuable addition in the Islamic Art Museum's collection, and would introduced Pakistan to the scores of Malaysian and foreign tourists who throng the museum daily.

Badshahi Mosque built by the Great Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb Alamgir, in 1671, is capable of accommodating 10,000 worshippers in its main prayer hall and 100,000 in its courtyard and porticoes.

It is a most famous landmark of Pakistan's second largest city, Lahore and is a major tourist attraction epitomizing the beauty, passion and grandeur of the Mughal era.

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 30th Oct, 2009**