



e-Newsletter

HONORARY CONSULATE GENERAL OF SYRIA

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"Syria, the cradle of civilization and the gateway to history."

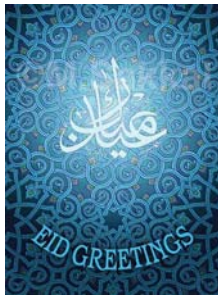
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Happy Eid!



Greetings and Happy Eid to everyone, hope you all had a good summer and a blessed Ramadan! Looking forward to continuing serving all of you in Michigan and beyond.

Joseph Sweid: New Minister for Syrian Expatriates



Last July President Bashar al-Assad issued Presidential Decree naming State Minister Joseph Sweid as Minister of Expatriates replacing Buthaina Shaaban who was appointed as Presidential Advisor for Political and Information Affairs. Mr. Sweid is a lawyer and a member of the Syrian Socialist National Party. We wish him good luck in his new appointment and hope he will visit us in Michigan.

Damascus: Arab Capital of Culture



Damascus continues its celebration for being designated the Arab Capital of Culture with an extensive series of concerts, exhibitions, and cultural events. One event, in particular, that we would like to highlight here is the exhibition of pottery and ceramic masterpieces from the Virginia and Albert Museum (V&A) of London. The exhibition will take place at Khan As'ad Basha one of the most beautiful historical buildings of Damascus, between November 26, 2008 and January 8, 2009. The exhibition explores the history of international ceramics from 3000 BC to the present day, and it will showcase many historic and rare examples that have not been seen outside the V&A since their acquisition.

Syria has been producing ceramics for more than 8000 years, making it one of the world's earliest centers of pottery production. At times, it has exported its finest wares as far as Italy and Spain. At other times, it has imported porcelain from as far away as China and Japan. The story of World Ceramics is of great relevance to the history of Syria, and of Damascus. To celebrate this fact, 12 outstanding Syrian ceramics from the collection of the National Museum of Damascus will join the exhibition at the Khan As'ad Basha.

The exhibition will be sponsored by Shell (Syria).

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