

News Release

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On October 30, 2008, the John Carter Brown Library will open an innovative exhibition, titled “Islamic Encounters: America, Europe, and the Middle East before 1835.”

The kingdoms, principalities, and republics of Europe and even the much younger United States have a long record of contact with the Islamic world. Although the John Carter Brown Library's collections focus on the colonial period in the Western Hemisphere (1492-ca. 1825), the library possesses a surprising array of materials that illuminate early contact of various kinds between the West and the Islamic lands and peoples, from North Africa and Ottoman Turkey to South Asia.

This exhibition, prepared by Dennis C. Landis, Curator of European Books at the John Carter Brown Library, will focus on some of those contacts—from war and piracy to travel and intellectual exchange. The exhibition will open simultaneously with an online version which may be viewed from the Library's home page <www.jcbl.org>.

The John Carter Brown Library is a private, non-profit, independently funded and administered institution for advanced research in history and the humanities, founded in 1846 and located at Brown University since 1901.



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