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THAJUDEEN GETS HIS INSPIRATION FROM OMAR KHAYYAM



THAJUDEEN

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — The romantic poems of Omar Khayyam spurred Syed Thajudeen to a career in art. Thajudeen, 32, a freelance painter and part-time lecturer, finds inspiration and themes for his paintings from his favourite poet.

This is evident in his paintings which generally depict romance, optimism in life and beauty.

Thajudeen, who was born in India but joined his family at the age of 11

in Penang, says: "The surrounding atmosphere is also a source of great inspiration to me."

Hard work and constant practice are his secrets to success, "though interest and liking must be there too," he said.

Thajudeen, who lectures at the Mara Institute of Technology's School of Art and Design, received his early education at the Penang Methodist Afternoon School.

He left to take up Humanities at the University of Madurai after completing his Form Five. He then entered the Madras College of Arts and Craft, obtaining a first class diploma in painting in 1973.

In India, he also completed a post-diploma course in interior decorating.

Solo show

Thajudeen, who returned to Malaysia last year, held his first solo show in Penang in May.

He is now holding his second solo show at the Samat Art Gallery. It ends on Aug. 23.

His current project, which he started in 1971, is an illustration of the epic Ramayana. His immediate plan is to finish it and start on a painting of the Malacca Sultanate — a project which may take five years to complete.

