# Refugee Initial Residence Data from KRM

Apartment Complex	Address	Council District	Languages Represented
Pegasus Place	2504 Larkin Road,	3rd	Nepali, Arabic, Swahili,
	Lexington, KY 40503		Pashto
Fairington Apartments	3501 Laredo Dr,	4th	Arabic, Nepali, Swahili
	Lexington, KY 40517		
Fairway Apartments	3501 Pimlico Parkway,	5th	Swahili, Kinyarwanda
(Leeward Strategic	Lexington, KY 40517		
Properties)			
Backhand Court	Backhand Court,	4 <sup>th</sup>	Swahili
Apartments	Lexington, KY 40517		
Ashford Place	2400 Woodhill Court,	7 <sup>th</sup>	Swahili, Kinyarwanda,
	Lexington, KY 40509		Nepali
Double Tree	1544 Meade Ct,	1st	Swahili, Arabic
Apartments	Lexington, KY 40505		
Augusta Arms	1800 Augusta Ct,	1 <sup>st</sup>	Swahili, Kinyarwanda
Apartments	Lexington, KY 40505		
Lake Shore Drive	156 Lakeshore Drive,	5th	Nepali
(Shorelake Apartments)	Lexington, KY 40502		
Bryan Ave	Bryan Avenue,	1st	Swahili
	Lexington, KY 40505		
Westminster Village	1510 Versailles Rd,	11th	Swahili
	Lexington, KY 40504		
Cross Keys and	1553 Alexandra Drive,	11th	Spanish, Swahili.
Woodbridge	Lexington, KY 40504		Kinyarwanda
Apartments			

From: Isabel Taylor

**Subject:** FW: ESL Fayette County Schools student count for fall 2015

At Fayette County Public Schools there are now **5260 ESL students** as of October 2015; the student count once again went up, from 5150 in February of this year.

I highlighted 4 languages that were not in the list last year and compared them to the master list from 2014. Two of them are new Bisaya (one of the main languages of the Philippines, Cebuano is a variation of Bisaya) and Saurashtra (an Indian language from the region of Gujarat).

October 1, 2015	
Language	Count
Albanian	13
Amharic	12
Arabic	303
Bangla	1
Bengali	7
Bhutanese	3
Bisaya	1
Bosnian	6
Bulgarian	17
Burmese	2
Camaroon English	1
Cambodian (Khmer)	6
Cangobal	2
Catalan	1
Chinese	93
Chinese, Mandarin	81
Chinese, Yue (Cantonese)	1
Creole	10
Croko	1
Danish	2
Dutch	3
Estonian	1
Ewe	3
Fante	1
Farsi	7
French	94
German	2
Gujarati	29
Gumez	1
Haitian, Creole French	4
Hebrew	1
Hindi	24

Indonesian         3           Italian         4           Japanese         183           Kannada         2           Kikongo         1           Kimaasai         1           Kinyamurenge         1           Kinyarwanda         29           Kirundi         17           Kiswahili         3           Konkani         1           Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Sesumaili	Indian	2
Japanese         183           Kannada         2           Kikongo         1           Kimaasai         1           Kinyamurenge         1           Kinyarwanda         29           Kirundi         17           Kiswahili         3           Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18<	Indonesian	
Kannada         2           Kikongo         1           Kimaasai         1           Kinyamurenge         1           Kinyarwanda         29           Kirundi         17           Kiswahili         3           Konkani         1           Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528 <td>Italian</td> <td>4</td>	Italian	4
Kannada       2         Kikongo       1         Kimaasai       1         Kinyamurenge       1         Kinyarwanda       29         Kirundi       17         Kiswahili       3         Korean       66         Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25 </td <td>Japanese</td> <td>183</td>	Japanese	183
Kikongo       1         Kimaasai       1         Kinyamurenge       1         Kinyarwanda       29         Kirundi       17         Kiswahili       3         Konkani       1         Korean       66         Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Syahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1		2
Kimaasai       1         Kinyamurenge       1         Kinyarwanda       29         Kirundi       17         Kiswahili       3         Korkani       1         Korean       66         Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Syahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       1         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24 <td>Kikongo</td> <td></td>	Kikongo	
Kinyarwanda         29           Kirundi         17           Kiswahili         3           Konkani         1           Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigingna         1 </td <td></td> <td>1</td>		1
Kiryarwanda       29         Kirundi       17         Kiswahili       3         Konkani       1         Korean       66         Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigina       1	Kinyamurenge	1
Kiswahili       3         Konkani       1         Korean       66         Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Kinyarwanda	29
Konkani         1           Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24	Kirundi	17
Korean         66           Kurdish         3           Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Samoan         3           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Kiswahili	3
Kurdish       3         Liberian English       1         Lingala       14         Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Konkani	1
Liberian English         1           Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Korean	66
Lingala         14           Lugandan         3           Malayalam         9           Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Kurdish	3
Lugandan       3         Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Liberian English	1
Malayalam       9         Mandingo       2         Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Lingala	14
Mandingo         2           Mandinka         4           Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Lugandan	3
Mandinka       4         Marathi       5         Nepali       151         Other       1         Pashto       4         Persian       2         Pohnpeians       2         Polish       2         Portuguese       11         Romanian       2         Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Malayalam	9
Marathi         5           Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Mandingo	2
Nepali         151           Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Mandinka	4
Other         1           Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Marathi	5
Pashto         4           Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Nepali	151
Persian         2           Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Other	1
Pohnpeians         2           Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Pashto	4
Polish         2           Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Persian	2
Portuguese         11           Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Pohnpeians	2
Romanian         2           Russian         35           Samoan         3           Sangho         2           Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Polish	2
Russian       35         Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Portuguese	11
Samoan       3         Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Romanian	2
Sangho       2         Saurashtra       1         Setswana       2         Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Russian	35
Saurashtra         1           Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Samoan	3
Setswana         2           Sinhala         4           Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Sangho	2
Sinhala       4         Spanish       3528         Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Saurashtra	1
Spanish         3528           Swahili         204           Tagalog         18           Tamil         25           Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Setswana	2
Swahili       204         Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Sinhala	4
Tagalog       18         Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Spanish	3528
Tamil       25         Telugu       22         Thai       11         Tigrigna       1         Twi       24         Ukrainian       38	Swahili	204
Telugu         22           Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Tagalog	18
Thai         11           Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Tamil	25
Tigrigna         1           Twi         24           Ukrainian         38	Telugu	22
Twi 24 Ukrainian 38	Thai	11
Ukrainian 38	Tigrigna	1
	Twi	24
Urdu 26	Ukrainian	38
	Urdu	26

Uzbek	3
Vietnamese	33
Waray-Waray	3
Wolof	9
Wotsy	1
Yoruba	5
Grand Total	5260

### Isabel

Isabel Gereda Taylor, JD, LLM Multicultural Affairs Coordinator Tel. 859-258-3824 GLOBAL LEX 859-246-4333 1306 Versailles Rd, Lexington, KY 40504 Dr. Kristen Perry is a University of KY Associate Professor and director of the Cultural Practices of Literacy Study. Her work focuses primarily on literacy and culture in diverse communities, investigating everyday home/family and community literacy practices, particularly among African immigrant and refugee communities. She also researches educational opportunities with respect to ESL, literacy, and higher education for adult refugees. Dr. Perry helped design this survey on behalf of the ESL committee of the GLOBAL LEX and sent the following note:

# "Dear Lexington ESL teachers,

Our committee represent a local partnership between GlobalLex, the Lexington Public Library, faculty at UK and Transyvania University, and other local organizations dedicated to serving Lexington's international and multi-lingual population. As this population grows, we are interested in finding ways to support the incredibly important English teaching that you provide for adult English learners in our community.

Our committee plans to develop a) professional learning workshops, b) curriculum materials, and c) other supports that local ESL instructors can access in order to increase their knowledge and skills and to better support their students' English and literacy learning. In order to develop these opportunities, we need your help! Because ESL programs are diverse and spread across our community, we need information about 1) who you and your learners are, 2) what your teaching currently looks like, and 3) the kinds of knowledge and skills that you need/want to develop. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey before [DATE]...and stay tuned for announcements about professional learning opportunities for yourselves!

# **Section 1: You and Your Learners**

- 1. With which program are you affiliated?
- 2. How long have you been teaching ESL (with this program and any other you've taught with in the past)?
- 3. What kinds of formal or informal training have you had
  - a. In general teaching?
  - b. In teaching English specifically?
- 4. How many English learners do you teach?
- 5. What is their approximate level of
  - a. Oral English?
  - b. Written English?
- 6. What are your learners' countries of origin?
- 7. What language(s) do they speak at home?
- 8. Describe your students' typical attendance patterns:
- 9. What do you perceive as your learners' greatest needs?

# **Section 2: Your teaching**

- 10. Who determines what gets taught in your class?
  - a. Program/director/coordinator determines what I teach
  - b. I mostly or entirely have control over what I teach
  - c. Other (describe):

- 11. Is your teaching based on a pre-packaged curriculum, or do you design the majority of your materials and lessons yourself?
  - a. If pre-packaged: Which program(s) do you use?
  - b. If mostly self-designed: Where do you find the materials that you use?
- 12. What role do learners have in determining what gets taught in your class?
- 13. Please describe how you assess students' learning needs:
- 14. How do you assess learners' progress in learning to speak, read, and write English?

# **Section 3: Your own learning needs**

- 15. What is your biggest challenge in teaching English to your students?
- 16. What resources do you need in order to make your teaching easier and/or more effective?
- 17. Given your current teaching situation, what potential workshop topic(s) would be most useful to you?
- 18. Given your current teaching situation, what kinds of curriculum materials would you like to be able to access?
- 19. We are considering a variety of formats for professional development workshops. Please rank your interest/preference for each of these options:
  - a. Face-to-face workshop on weekday evenings
  - b. Face-to-face workshop on weekends
  - c. Face-to-face lunchtime brown bag workshops
  - d. Live online webinars
  - e. Online webinars that I can access at any time
  - f. Paper based-materials that I can access at the library or at the GlobalLex office
  - g. Other (describe): "

# Southsider magazine

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# Fit for a King: One-on-one with royal artist Haydar Hatemi

POSTED ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
BY CANDACE CHANEY



Iranian-born artist Haydar Hatemi | Photo by Sarah Jane Sanders

In a quiet suburb of Lexington, Iranian-born artist Haydar Hatemi enjoys the kind of work arrangement that most artists can only dream of. Like Michelangelo and great classical painters who preceded him, Hatemi's work is funded by a rich patron – a king, no less.

Hatemi has been working on commissions from the royal family of Qatar since 1997, receiving up to seven figures for larger pieces made in the classic Ottoman style, an intricate

and opulent style of painting that traces back to the ancient Ottomon and Persian empires. His works – some of them more than 20 yards wide in scale – adorn palaces and other important buildings in Qatar, whose royal family has used its wealth to make Qatar an international center for the arts, accumulating and displaying some of the world's greatest art.

Hatemi, who blends classical Oriental styles and mixes in some modern elements as well, is not allowed to work for any other royal family, but he can work for other wealthy patrons and his work is coveted by collectors in Turkey and throughout the Middle East.

"He travels to Turkey and Qatar, throughout the Middle East, all the time," said Hatemi's son Lachin, who sometimes serves as his father's translator.

While Hatemi and his work are relatively under the radar in Lexington, where he and his wife, Shams, moved in the mid 1990s so that their sons Lachin and Aydan could attend the University of Kentucky, he has been profiled in a bevvy of international media outlets, including Al Jazeera and BAKU Magazine, a Conde Nast

publication owned by the president of Azerbajan. From the outside, the family's home in Hartland looks fairly modest for a neighborhood that boasts some of Lexington's most expensive properties, but the interior boasts walls full of paintings that one might expect to see inside a fine art museum or even a royal palace. This series of oil paintings depicts various views of Istanbul from the Ottoman Palace. OverlaysShareTweet Story continues: page 1 page 2 page 3 COPYRIGHT 2014 SMILEY PETE PUBLISHING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. G+1



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# Fit for a King: One-on-one with royal artist Haydar Hatemi

POSTED ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
BY CANDACE CHANEY



Overlays Share Tweet

One of the first pieces that Hatemi and his son shared on a recent visit is a breathtaking large dining table that Hatemi built by hand and then painted with sweeping and meticulously detailed landscapes of Istanbul, Turkey, where the family lived for years after fleeing Iran's Islamic Revolution of 1979.

"Half of Istanbul is in Europe and half of it is in Asia, and there are three bridges from one side to the other. This is a version of the old city, when it was called Constantinople," Lachin explained, before showing several serving trays his father had painted, also featuring scenes of Istanbul.

The family lived on the European side of the transcontinental city of Istanbul, and the freeflowing cultural interplay between East and West is reflected throughout their home as well as Hatemi's work. The family speaks four languages, switching back and forth as needed. In a series of works titled "Stories of the Messengers," Hatemi drew inspiration from common teachings from four sacred texts – the Qu'ran, the Bible, the Avesta and the Torah – to express themes of tolerance, cultural understanding and peaceful

coexistence. In his basement, which is also his studio, paintings of Mary and Jesus hang above wooden display cases filled with ostrich eggs that have been intricately painted with the profiles of rulers of the Ottoman empire. Subjects of his works oscillate between the palatial and the every day, from plants and flowers to landscapes and human subjects, with equal care and attention to detail given to them all.

Hatemi, who is humble and genial, hands me a magnifying glass so I can see the details of intricate paintings of flowers that adorn the dining room walls. Executed with the finest strokes of pointillism, the works show off Hatemi's stunning skill working in miniatures, one of his greatest strengths as an artist.

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# Fit for a King: One-on-one with royal artist Haydar Hatemi

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BY CANDACE CHANEY



Hatemi's work depicts all aspects of ancient Ottomon life, from the palatial to the every day. |

Photo by Sarah Jane Sanders

Hatemi's skill and style, not unlike his working arrangement, feel like they are from a distant, earlier time – and indeed, he is sometimes referred to "the last Ottoman painter." He says he was lucky to have been trained by an old master in the classic Ottoman style.

"I trained with an old master of the Ottoman style when I was a teenager," says Hatemi, who continues to teach students in the style today. "I was very lucky because

not long after I finished, he died."

After high school, Hatemi enrolled in the Tabriz Art Academy, where he completed his training before making a splash with Iranian art dealers; he later studied at the Fine Arts Academy at Tehran University.

While Hatemi's commissions are sometimes very specific – he was once commissioned to paint a giant table with the theme of falconry, for instance – he also pursues his own personal artwork, which fills up the walls of his home.

"I get inspired and I work from here," Hatemi says, pointing to his heart. "But sometimes it changes while I am in the middle of a piece. If you look at the old masters, canvas was expensive, and they often painted over their work."

In his kitchen is his latest and most ambitious personal project – another large table, not quite finished, this one painted with the great horses of history, including Triple Crown winners such as Secretariat, War Admiral

and Man O' War.

"Historically, all the Thoroughbred horses came from Turkey," Lachin translates. "There were three Turkish stallions that had been captured by the British, one in Hungary, one in Iraq and one in Syria. They took them to England and then bred them with British mares, so all of the Thoroughbreds can be traced back to Turkey."

"He likes to paint whatever he likes," says Lachin, adding that, "a lot of things he paints don't exist anymore."

Hatemi, who was also an antique dealer in Turkey, often consults old maps, etchings, books and historical paintings for reference before painting a historical work.

He also paints for his wife, Shams, who serves her guests tea and mulberries in their living room on a beautiful silver tray. Pointing at a painting above the sofa that re-creates a scene from her childhood home – Hatemi was her neighbor as a child – she smiles and says, "It makes me so happy to look at it and reminds me of so many memories."

More of Hatemi's work can be seen at www.haydarhatemi.com. ss

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