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IhsanIshan Design is a brand that works for religious, cultural, and ethnic unity by connecting across global cultures through art and design, told through the art of Arabic Calligraphy.

Created by artist/designer Sangeetha Kowsik (the only person in the world doing this : A Hindu, Indian American woman creating Islamic/Arabic Art, it launched to go along with her Arabic Calligraphy exhibition titled “Allah Swami” up at NYU, an interfaith art exhibit to celebrate Islam and Hinduism, their shared traditions, fight negative stereotypes and perceptions, educate, and bring about understanding.

The brand has evolved to fight for all minority/misrepresented communities including Black Lives Matter, Amazigh (North Africa), and immigrant communities, partnering with numerous charities.

Every piece of IhsanIshan’s art/design work has a strong, powerful, meaningful message behind it to educate, and build a more understanding, harmonious, compassionate, just world and global change in thinking.

IHSAN

Ihsan (Arabic: إِحْسَان 'Iḥsān, also Romanized *ehsan*), meaning "to do beautiful things" (Ara. *husn*).

BEAUTY IS OMNIPRESENT

ISHAN

Ishan (Sanskrit: इशान "Īśāna roots in "Isha"), meaning "lord, omnipresent, and omnipotent".

MEANING OF IHSAN / ISHAN

Ihsan translates to "do beautiful things" in Arabic.

According to the Hadith (sayings of the Prophet, peace be upon him), Ihsan means to worship God as if you saw Him, for even if you cannot see Him, He can see you. Ihsan is the perfectly sincere worship of God, when knowledge and will have completely merged with the Divine. Ihsan is primarily associated with intention and to approach and carry out everything in the most beautiful way possible. It is generally believed that a person can only achieve true Ihsan with the guidance of God, who governs all things.

Ishan means "omnipresent or omnipotent" in Sanskrit.

Ishan has its roots in the word "ish," which means "the invisible power that governs the universe." Several words in Sanskrit contain "ish" including "Ishwar" (referring to the third eye of Lord Shiva) and "Ishaan" (translates to a master or ruler)

My interpretation of combining Ihsan and Ishan is

"Faith is Beauty. Beauty is Omnipresent. Knowledge is Beauty."

– Sangeetha Kowsik
@ihsanishandesign



She was the former head designer for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has worked extensively in the world of fashion, beauty, luxury, museums, skateboarding/street wear, is an established gallery artist and has a deep love and appreciation for all world cultures, religions, and art history.

She is the Hindu Chaplain/Spiritual Advisor of NYU and Columbia Universities, founder of NYU Hindu Center, interfaith chaplain, works with communities of all faiths/backgrounds to empower women, POC, and LGBTQI groups. She is a founding member of NAHCA (North American Hindu Chaplain Association).

Her unique life story as it influences her work. Her work is rooted in faith, activism, fashion, design, and social justice.

She hopes to bring her message of peace and education through art and design to a wider audience and demographic and to build a more understanding, compassionate, just world and global change in thinking.



SUBHANALLAH (GOD IS PERFECT)

Inspired by classical South Asian music, the Subhanallah series highlights the shared traditions of Hinduism and Islam.

India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Iran, Afghanistan, all across the globe people played the shared instrument Tabla. When constructed in India the black part is put in by Hindus, leather worked on by Muslims (Hindus can't work with leather).

Both Qawwali and Bhajan (Devotional Music of Islam and Hinduism) point their fingers up in the air to symbolize "One God"
"Heaven to your heart God is there" "God is all around"

Nadhaswaram a traditional South Indian Classical Instrument used in Hindu Temples for worship, generations a family of Muslims have played it.



MEANINGFUL ART & DESIGN!

Each piece has a powerful story and concept behind it, to educate, inspire, celebrate global cultures and religions, spread positivity and compassion.

IhsanIshan Design's work appeals to a wide audience of all age groups, backgrounds and demographics.

Combining Faith. Fashion. Education. On a

Mission to build a more understanding, compassionate, just world.