



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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San Diego Public Library

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BIBLE AND DEVOTIONAL BOOK EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS BIBLES THROUGH THE AGES

San Diego, CA... A new exhibit, "Bibles and Devotional Books through the Ages: The 'Good Word' through the Printed Word," is FREE and open to the public through Sept. 15, 2007 at the San Diego Public Library. It is located in the Central Library's Wangenheim Room, 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

The Bible is the most printed book in the world. The Wangenheim Room owns over 100 rare and unusual Bibles and devotional books. Many of these works were a part of Julius Wangenheim's original donation, but other valuable items from other collector's libraries have also been added to the room as well as generous gift funds that have made possible the acquisition of more rare and beautiful Bibles.

Represented in this exhibit are some of the finest examples of Bibles and devotional works ever made from one of the largest- a 17th Century French prayer book- it's over 2 feet tall and weighs 45 pounds to one of the smallest - The Lord's Prayer measuring 3.5mm x 3.5mm.

The Wangenheim collection has many Bibles and spiritual works in many different languages—Arabic, Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Russian, French, German, Italian—some of which are on display.

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Bibles and devotional works were also one of the favorite subjects for rare, unusual, and beautiful bindings. Embroidered velvet, tortoise shell, and elephant ivory bindings are some of the fine examples displayed in this exhibit from the collection.

The Wangenheim Room, which holds collections of rare books and other valuable items, is on the third floor of the Central Library. The room is open to the public from Monday through Saturday, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 619-236-5852 or visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiegolibrary.org>.

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