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# THE WORD

— INK & BLOOD —  
DEAD SEA SCROLLS TO GUTENBERG

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## THE WORD: Ink & Blood Opens at MUZEO Featuring Dead Sea Scrolls to Gutenberg

Anaheim, CA – January 2, 2012 – Take a journey back 5,000 years to trace the written history of our existence as it was preserved through the ink of scribes and the blood of martyrs. *THE WORD: Ink & Blood* making its first ever west coast debut, is the world's largest, most comprehensive exhibition on the history of the Bible and the origins of written language. This unprecedented collection of artifacts, which includes authentic Dead Sea Scroll fragments, ancient biblical manuscripts and 5,000-year-old pictographic clay tablets from ancient Mesopotamia, opens February 3, 2012 at MUZEO in downtown Anaheim.

"This is a landmark exhibit; relevant to anyone who treasures history, and especially those in the religious community," states John Scola, MUZEO executive director. "Our visitors from throughout the region will have the rare opportunity to see and experience how the modern English Bible evolved from ancient Hebrew text and learn how so many fought and died for the Bible – the most widely read document in the world," he concluded.

Totaling more than 100 artifacts, in addition to the Dead Sea Scroll fragments and 5,000-year-old clay tablets, the collection includes Hebrew Torahs, ancient Greek texts, Medieval Latin manuscripts, original pages from Gutenberg's Bible and rare English printed Bibles. The exhibition also includes a working life-size reproduction of the most significant invention of the last millennium, Gutenberg's Printing Press with moveable type. Live demonstrations of the printing press are planned as part of the exhibition experience.

The Dead Sea Scrolls are the centerpiece of the exhibit featuring four pieces of the Scrolls recovered from Cave 4 in Qumran with text from the books of Genesis, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. In addition to the Scroll fragments themselves, the collection includes the entire contents of a 1st Century B.C. cave. The Scrolls are only part of the history *THE WORD: Ink & Blood* traces. Origins of the written language which began as pictures more than 5000 years ago in ancient Sumer or what is now modern-day Iraq are a centerpiece of the exhibition. The oldest known examples of writing incorporate a pictographic script dated before 3000 B.C., called proto-

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cuneiform. This primitive script soon developed into a syllabic language, called Cuneiform. *THE WORD: Ink & Blood* displays four proto-cuneiform tablets dating to 3200 B.C. and five cuneiform tablets dating from 200 B.C.-1500 B.C.

Visitors will be able to examine authentic leaves from Gutenberg's original Bibles, leaves from the Fust & Schoeffer Bible (1462), and a fragment of the Egyptian Book of the Dead from 1,200 B.C. The exhibition also features a working replica of Gutenberg's printing press, which brought books – and specifically the Bible – to the masses in the 15th century with a profound impact on society.

*THE WORD: Ink & Blood* is an archaeological, historical exhibition that chronicles the birth and growth of Western Civilization using the transmission of the Bible as its roadmap. Dr. William H. Noah, curator of the exhibition, worked for years with Biblical scholars from around the world to gather the authentic artifacts. The pieces together tell a unique story; the complete history of the Bible, with an emphasis on the Bible in English version. The exhibition also contains material relevant to students of English literature, Spanish and Hebrew as well as American and European history, art and archaeology.

"These priceless, ancient texts continue to inspire us today, and they came to us at a tremendous cost," said Noah. "Many died in order that we might be able to read their words today, but few know their names. And, as the name *Ink & Blood* implies, the Bible has been transmitted to us through the ink of diligent scribes and the blood of martyrs," he concluded.

*THE WORD: Ink & Blood* will run from February 3, 2012 – September 9, 2012 at MUZEO.

MUZEO is planning an array of special events and programs to accompany the exhibit including special guest lectures, family concerts and celebrations. Check the web for programs and dates.

Admission to MUZEO is \$13 for adults, \$9 for children 12 and under. 3 and under is free. Group tour discounts (for groups of ten or more) and senior discounts are also available. Admission allows visitor access to both *THE WORD: Ink & Blood* and *Resonating Fields: Photography by Lois Greenfield* located in the adjacent Carnegie Building. *Resonating Fields* encompasses incomparable images of the precision and power of the human body.

MUZEO is located in the heart of downtown Anaheim, at 241 S. Anaheim Blvd., just two miles from the Disneyland Resort. Validated parking is available in the parking structures on Center Street Promenade. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets online go to [www.muzeo.org](http://www.muzeo.org), or call 714-956-8936.