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# Nada Debs' Spiritual Carpets Transcend Boundaries of Culture Through Design

Inspired by centuries old architectural iconography, the acclaimed Levantine designer explores the inter-connectedness of faith with a new collection of prayer carpets

by *Pratyush Sarup*



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prayer rug is a sacred object that brings together culture, religion and design. 'Transcendence', the new collection of prayer carpets born from a

**A** collaboration between Lebanese designer [Nada Debs](#) and Zuleya by [FBMI](#) is divine both in its message and impact. Engaging carpet weavers in Afghanistan, mainly women, Debs connects people and places, histories and identities, creating a collection that is beautifully emblematic of Islamic culture and yet, is globally resonant.



Transcending boundaries and borders with a design that is universal, the carpet's defining moments – handwoven archways and domes – are architectural elements that unite religious architecture evident in mosques, minarets, shrines and ancient churches rooted in Byzantine building traditions, as early as the 7th century.

Meticulously hand-woven, the carpets feature an alternating linear pattern, evoking a sense of depth that is intended to transport the onlooker into another dimension of spiritual harmony. The architectural passage is beautifully interspersed with a floral pattern – an updated rendition of traditional Persian designs. The different textures on the carpet serve to awaken tactile senses as one attends the call of prayer or meditation, suited to his or her religious inclination.



“The idea behind the Transcendence Prayer Carpet is to go beyond the boundaries of religion through spirituality and design,” says Nada Debs. “I wanted to find the commonality amongst different religions and the arched pathway achieves that objective through design and purpose.”



A conscious collaboration to support unprivileged communities, at the heart of the 'Transcendence' collection is a distinctive Arab orientation. Together, the concepts behind the collection speak of a post-pandemic design philosophy wherein objects will bring together different cultures and tell stories of their mindful creation.



The prayer carpets are available in four shades: Navy blue and beige, Black and grey, Maroon and red, and Green and cora, all inspired by traditional Islamic colors. For the Ramadan season, the rugs is presented in special, limited-edition gift boxes – also designed by Debs – adding to the rituals associated with spiritual practices.

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