

# MEDIA RELEASE N 14



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## Who is Chiheb Ben Jaballah?

**Chiheb Ben Jaballah**, is a Tunisian craftsman and he committed himself to vitalize and invigorate by his dynamic presence the Tunisian Pavilion, making a daily demonstration of his subtle art. He was born in Tunis in 1955 of a father himself craftsman. He had unfortunately to give up his studies in 1971 at the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the secondary school as a result then 16 years old – so to look after his mother and his three brothers of architects.

This exciting profession has family from father to son for the father's shop situated in precisely in '*Souk Es-Selah*' more modern district of the the National Office of the Chiheb has obtained in 1984 Show of the Kram (North of 18 pieces in embossed hammer, a compass and a T-Our craftsman is specialized shapes are notably inspired context several specimens of utilitarian and functional one. copper, which have been doors, where all craftsmen Chiheb came to Aichi not about his country and its secular culture and traditions.



in fact been transmitted in the Ben Jaballah generations, and Chiheb has a long time ago left an old city district of Tunis (the Medina), more an area of Bab Jedid and has moved to another capital (*The Bardo*), after having been hired by Handicraft of Tunisia (ONAT).

the First Price at the Handicraft International Suburb of Tunis) after carrying out a smart work Silver, while simply using traditional tools like a square.

in original daggers fabrication, of which the from the Carthaginian style. He created in this this model, mixing the decorative aspect to the Among other creations the thick handfuls in affixed to the Handicrafts Village of Den Den working with ONAT are gathering together. only to show his skill but also to inform more

## What is a Sand Rose?



In the Tunisian Pavilion you shall find many references to conditions of life in the desert, which is occupying, a very large area of our territory, and the Sand Rose represents one of the most original and natural items growing in this outstanding environment. The exquisite delicate sand rose is in fact one of the nature's fascinating quirks: not a flower at all, but a mineral which crystallizes in a unique rosette growth habit. Found in a variety of sizes, some look remarkably like a rose flower with the petals wide open. Others form into beautiful bladed spheres, and still others form large clusters, comprised of many small rosette crystals. They are the color of the sand, usually brown. In order for sand roses to form, an arid environment, a source of CaSO<sub>4</sub> (Calcium Sulfate) and seasonal fluctuation of the water table are required. In terms of geological time, sand roses form rapidly (in ten to hundred of years). In Tunisia, sand roses are found in the flat brine-rich sabkhas which are common. Fluid, rich with brine, seeps underground into the sabkhas and concentrate CaSO<sub>4</sub> which crystallizes into the mineral gypsum (CaSO<sub>4</sub>, 2H<sub>2</sub>O) at the water table. As the water table in the sabkhas rises, evaporates and falls seasonally, the gypsum crystals grow in the intergrain pore spaces, entrapping loose sand. Sand Roses are relatively easy to hunt. They are usually in sand at a depth of one to four feet. The biggest ones (>2 ft) are found in the coarsest sands below the water table.



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