

The Potter "Al-Siwan" New look through a signature being published for the first time

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Abstract:

It is known that the regions of the Islamic state in the Middle Ages from China in the east to Morocco and Andalusia in the west were not isolated from each other, as the political borders that are now known did not exist, and the Muslims moved through these vast regions easily, and wherever they settled, they are in the land of Islam.

In addition, craftsmen moved completely freely between the various Islamic regions, and their movements were in search of stability, safe living and the abolition of giving from art sponsors from the rulers and others. The art of making and decorating Islamic ceramics in the Middle Ages did not depart from this rule, as makers and artists of ceramics industry and decoration played a major role in transferring artistic, industrial and decorative styles during their continuous movement from one place to another.

The few remaining examples of the Muslim potters signatures, that they recorded on some of their products is consider the main source for identifying them, their proper names, their original homeland, their artistic styles, specializations, and status among the other craftsmen. As the contemporary historical literature rarely mentioned the definition of the artisans and artists, or their history. Mamluk ceramics characterized by recording the signatures of their manufacturers. This paper aims to shed lights on an unknown potter called "Al-Siwan" depending on his signature, which found on an unpublished fragment of pottery, now stored at the Gayer Anderson/Bait al-Kiritliyya Museum in Cairo (No. 164).

Research importance:

The research deals with the study of a completely new topic that never studied before, the pottery "Al-Siwan" through his ceramic production, who has signed it.

Research Methodology: Descriptive - Analytical - Comparative - Documentary.

Key words:

Mamluk era, Pottery, Al-Siwan, Ibn Al-Siwan Al-Shami.