

New Addition to the Money of King Al Saleh Ismael bin King Al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun that Was coined in Cairo in 745 H.

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Summary:

This research is about studying the money of king AL Saleh Ismael bin king Al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun that was coined in Cairo in 745 H whether the ones that were published by Paul Balogh or other researchers and were all classified under one style that was previously published, also there are 18 fils kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo that were never studied or published before and they are being published for the first time in this research. The general shape of that style has been described in addition to analyzing its writings and decorations with pointing at the money of king AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Damascus, Aleppo, Hama and Tripoli.

In this research a new fils for AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H., has been studied and published and it was never published or studied before, or publishing anything that resembles it. That fils is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo and is different from the only known style for AL Saleh Ismael money that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. and was mentioned at this research, the general shape of that style has been described in details then analysis of its writings and decorations under the light of the different circumstances of king AL Saleh Ismael in the year 745 H. then handling the other 18 filous that are being linked to the same style and are kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo, explain the weight, diameter, number and recording of each fils of them. Also pointing at two filous that are being kept at the American association in New York and were published by Paul Balogh and they are being attributed to the same style.

A comparative study between its style and the only known style of the mentioned money of king AL Saleh Ismael. We have reached the fact that this fils represents a new style of king AL Saleh Ismael money that was coined in Cairo in 745 H... Hence this fils is considered one of its kind and unique in its style and represents a new and significant addition to the money of king AL Saleh Ismael bin king Al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. particularly and for the navy mameluke money in general.

Key Words:

AL Saleh Ismael- money- Cairo.

Introduction:

There are many filous that were coined by the Mameluke Sultan AL Saleh Ismael bin king Al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun (743-746 H./1342-1345AD.) at the coinage house in Cairo in 742H. most of them have been published at Paul Balogh's collection and were found at a treasure in the year 1959 AD., also the collection inside the museum of the American numismatics association in New York ANS. In addition to many other filous that have never been published and were kept inside the Islamic art museum in Cairo. All those kinds represent a single style

that is characterized by the general round shape of the face which consists of centric writings located inside two parallel circles with the same center, the outer one is made of separated, contactless granules, while the inner one is linear and has semicircular knob from the top and the bottom, the upper knob is in its right position, while the lower knob has its arch located downward, each one of those knobs is based on the inner circle at both sides so each one has become more like the shape of triangle that has its base towards the circle with a little ball inside of it. While the back is characterized by the presence of two parallel circles that have the same center, the outer one is made of contactless granules that encloses the linear circle within it with a round shape that looks more like an octagon and a shape that looks like a heart links between each two sides at every direction of the original main four directions, between each two hearts, at the point of intersection of each two sides of the other four sides there is a small circle that two halves of one palmy fan gets out of it, one to the right and the other is to the left, that means the shape of the heart is followed by the two halves of the palmy fan alternatively, so the shape of the heart and the palmy fan two halves are being repeated four times, and the back writings are inside that semi polygonal shape.

The writings and decorations of that style came as the following:

The face	The back
Ismael	coinage
Al-sultan The king a	Cairo
l Saleh	Forty five

The initial name "Ismael" was written at the first line inside the semicircular upper knob, at the second line the two titles "the king" and "the Sultan" were written, sultan means oppression that's why the governor carried that title, that word was mentioned at many Quran verses meaning proof and the word was taken from the two languages the Aramic and the Syriac, the title has appeared at the Arabic papyrus since the 1st century H./ the 7th century AD. such as the gathering for the sultan, the money house of the sultan and it means the authority of the government, governor, or the ruler then the greatest of the country carried that title which was firstly used during the time of the Abbasid caliph Haroun Al-Rashid (170-193H.)⁽¹⁾

Mamelukes had particularly inherited the title (sultan) from the Ayyubids, they have added a general verbal mandate all over the Islamic world when al-Zahir Baibars in the year 659 H. had revived the Abbasid ruling of Cairo after its fall for three years, then they were delegated with full authority as a substitute for the Caliph. Despite the fact that the title of sultan had turned into general title for rulers at the time of Mamelukes, but sometimes those who carried the crown were called with this title such as the king Khalil bin Qalawun in the year 678H., but it was a general title for the higher governor at the Mameluke age, and that was agreed upon by various historical resources despite their kinds.⁽²⁾

following the title of sultan at the second line in the face, the title the king which is a title for the chief of the highest time authority and it is a well-known title in the Semitic languages, that was mentioned in the ancient Arabic engravings and wasn't known officially at the time of the heart of Islam neither at the Umayyad age, as the highest governor was only named the Caliph or the prince of the believers and the branchial governors were called worker or princes, the Caliph had the highest word upon all Islamic countries, the title continued during the mameluke age but it was called next to the title of sultan and the description of the highest chief of the

country, that title was also used sometimes at the age of mamelukes with adding the letter “Y” the kingly, also that title was in the composition of some compound titles such as “king of Islam” “king of the two shores” “king of the two seas”.⁽³⁾

The two names “Ismael” and “al Saleh” were mentioned at the 1st and the 3rd lines, each one of them is inside the half rounded knob, “Ismael” is located at the upper knob while “al Saleh” is at the lower one, and it is noticed that the letter “a” from the word “al Saleh” was written after the title “the king” at the 2nd line, while the rest of the name was engraved at the 3rd line without the letter “a” inside the lower knob.

Al Saleh Ismael is actually al Sultan the king Emad el-din abo al Fedaa Ismael bin al sultan the king al Nasser Nasser-el din Mohamed bin al sultan the king al Mansour Qalawun who was the 16th sultan of the Turkish kings at the Egyptian homes and the 4th of Qalawun sons. He sat on the throne in Thursday the 2nd of Muharram in year 743H. after removing his brother king al Nasser Ahmed after the agreement of other princes upon that. Al Saleh Ismael used to fast each Monday and Thursday of each week and fill his times with praying and reading Quran, that’s why the princes agreed on making him a king and a sultan, princes and military men took an oath of loyalty for him and he also the mentioned king al Saleh took an oath of never harm anyone, never put a prince in a prison without a guilt that’s why he was called king al Saleh which means “the good king”. He continued ruling the country till he dies in Thursday the 4th of Rbi’ II in the year 746H.

The writings of the back were; coinage- Cairo- forty-five. Those inscriptions didn’t include the words (year or the hundred number of the history of the coinage) that’s why it is indeed the number 700 as that style was coined in Cairo in the year 745H. during the age of king al Saleh Ismael bin king al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun.

Another 18 filous are attributed to that style and were never published or studied before, and they are being published and studied for the first time in this research, those filous are being kept at the Islamic art museum in Cairo, and they are all with the name of king al Saleh Ismael and were coined at Cairo in 745 H. and they are:

- The first fils⁽⁵⁾ - image no. 1- weight 7.13 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The second fils⁽⁶⁾ - image no. 2- weight 6.89 gm. With diameter 23 mm.
- The third fils⁽⁷⁾ - image no. 3- weight 7.12 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The fourth fils⁽⁸⁾ - image no. 4- weight 7.2 gm. With diameter 22 mm.
- The fifth fils⁽⁹⁾ - image no. 5- weight 6.93 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The sixth fils⁽¹⁰⁾ - image no. 6- weight 7.13 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The seventh fils⁽¹¹⁾ - image no. 7- weight 7.17 gm. With diameter 25 mm.
- The eights fils⁽¹²⁾ - image no. 8- weight 6.78 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The ninth fils⁽¹³⁾ - image no. 9- weight 6.88 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The tenth fils⁽¹⁴⁾ - image no. 10- weight 7.11 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The eleventh fils⁽¹⁵⁾ - image no. 11- weight 7.3 gm. With diameter 23 mm.
- The twelfth fils⁽¹⁶⁾ - image no. 12- weight 6.79 gm. With diameter 22 mm.
- The thirteenth fils⁽¹⁷⁾ - image no. 13- weight 7.12 gm. With diameter 25 mm.
- The fourteenth fils⁽¹⁸⁾ - image no. 14- weight 6.95 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The fifteenth fils⁽¹⁹⁾ - image no. 15- weight 7.44 gm. With diameter 23 mm.
- The sixteenth fils⁽²⁰⁾ - image no. 16- weight 7.12 gm. With diameter 24 mm.
- The seventeenth fils⁽²¹⁾ - image no. 17- weight 6.88 gm. With diameter 23 mm.

- The eighteenth filis ⁽²²⁾ - image no. 18- weight 7.13 gm. With diameter 24 mm.

Another filis is being attributed to this style ⁽²³⁾ image no. 19 which has never been published or studied before and it is being published for the first time in this research by the name of king al Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo and dated to the year 745 H. that filis was coined twice at the face and at the back, from the second coinage at the face appears the initial four letters of the name “al Mansour” may be that filis was re- coined with an old mold that was attributed to the time of king al Mansour Qalawun.

Many filous that were published before are belonging to this style, 190 pieces have been published by Paul Balog ⁽²⁴⁾ most of them are from a treasure from the year 1959 AD. and the rest are from his private collection, the weights of the filous ranging from 2.50 gm.-3.40 gm. and the diameter is around 23.18 gm.

Also there are two models that are being attributed to that style are kept at the American numismatics association in New York and also have been published by Paul Balog ⁽²⁵⁾.

Filous of that style are noticed to be the oldest filous that have reached us and were coined by king al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Cairo and dated to the year 745 H. and the first one to point at them was Balog. Also there are some filous of that style have reached us and were coined in Cairo, dated to the year 746 H. which was the final year of the ruling of king al Saleh Ismael as he passed away during that year. There are three models of Balog’s collection ⁽²⁶⁾, those 3 models are from 1959 AD. treasure, two of them have diameter of 20mm. and the third one has a diameter of 21mm.

Can’t ignore mentioning the fact that there were no filous that have reached us with the name of king al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Cairo during the first two years of his ruling which are the year 743-744 H. all we have got are filous that were coined in 745-746 H.

On the contrary filous of king al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Damascus and dated to the years 743⁽²⁷⁾ - 744⁽²⁸⁾ -746⁽²⁹⁾ H. there are many models of the ones which were coined in 743 H. such as the model at the British museum in London ⁽³⁰⁾, 3 models kept at the Egyptian books house in Cairo ⁽³¹⁾, 2 models in Balog’s collection and others.

While the filous that were coined in 744H. there are many models of them, 2 models in Balog’s collection, a model at the British museum in London ⁽³²⁾, a model that is kept at the Egyptian books house in Cairo ⁽³³⁾ and others.

The filous that were coined in 746H. only one filis has reached us and it is found in Balog’s collection ⁽³⁴⁾.

No filous have reached us from the coinage house in Damascus dated to the year 745H. also Damascus’s filous differ in their general style and shape from the ones belonging to Cairo, Aleppo and Tripoli.

Also some filous of king al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Aleppo during 743⁽³⁵⁾ -744⁽³⁶⁾-745⁽³⁷⁾. And none of filous of al Saleh Ismael that were struck in Aleppo in year 745H. have reached us, and those filous differ in their style from those in Cairo, Damascus, Hama, and Tripoli, but there were filous that were coined in Aleppo and dated to 746H. that resemble filous of Damascus (38).

Also some were coined in Hama during the time of king al Saleh Ismael, some of them aren’t dated (39) and the others are dated to year 746 H. (40) those filous are different in their style from the filous of Cairo, Damascus, Aleppo and Tripoli.

But we haven't found any filous that were coined in Hama that are dated to 743,744,745 H. Also we have reached a fils that was coined in Tripoli by the name of al Saleh Ismael that is dated to 744 H. the style of that fils which carries a drawing of an animal is considered different from styles of filous of Cairo, Damascus, Aleppo, and Hama.

It is noticed that we haven't reached any filous of al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Cairo during the years 743-744H., in Damascus in the year 745 H., in Aleppo during the year 745 H., in Hama during the years 743-744-745 H., and in Tripoli during the years 743-745-746 H.

It is also noticed that large number of filous king al Saleh Ismael have reached us which were coined in Cairo in 745H. but we haven't reach any filous that is dated to this particular year and were produced in coinage houses of Levant in Damascus, Aleppo, Hama and Tripoli, which might prove that king al Saleh Ismael had focused his attention in coining his money in the year 745 H. at Cairo coinage house and hadn't coined any at the previously mentioned Levant's coinage houses. The opposite is also correct as we haven't got any money by the name of al Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo during the years 743-744 H. but we find models of those filous dated to the previously mentioned couple of years and were coined in Damascus, Aleppo, and Hama, may be king al Saleh Ismael had focused on coining his money during the mentioned years at Levant's coinage houses and didn't coin them at Cairo's coinage house but he only did in Damascus, Aleppo, and Tripoli.

Under the light of the previous we have found that filous of king al Saleh Ismael that were coined in Cairo in 745H. only have the style that was previously described and luckily there is another fils that is found in Islamic art museum in Cairo by the name of king al Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo also in 745H. ⁽⁴²⁾ that has never been published or studied before which has different style than the previously mentioned style for al Saleh Ismael that was also coined in Cairo also in 745H.

The general shape of the face of that fils (image no.20) is characterized that its writing is surrounded by semicircular shape that looks like a polygon but has not got any shape of knobs from top or bottom but it has the inscriptions that are written on 3 lines. The general shape of the back of that fils is a linear circle that has a rounded shape inside that is pervaded by from the left by a mutated heart shape which its bottom is slightly towards the left, emerging out of the circle some botanic decorations that are mutated from the nature and looks like half palmy fan, half palmy fan is heading right and the other half is towards the left, on the right there is a quadrilateral shape within the frame of the circle, **the inscriptions and writings of that fils appeared as the following:**

The face	The back
Ismael	coinage
Al-sultan The king	Cairo
al Saleh	Forty five

It is noticed that the fils that was coined by the name of king al Saleh Ismael in Cairo in 745H. and is kept at the Islamic art museum in Cairo (image no.20) that has never been published or studied before which has different style than the previously mentioned only recognized style for al Saleh Ismael that was also coined in Cairo also in 745H. regarding the general shape and decorations and scripts and arrangement of the inscriptions of the face.

The general shape of the fils is free of the two semicircular knobs inside the inner circle that encloses the inscriptions of the face as in the previous style. Also the scripts of the writings of the face are different in this fils from the previous style as we recognize that the letter “a” of the name “al Saleh” was at the end of the second line after the word “the king” in the previous style, but in this fils it exists with the name “al Saleh” in the third and final line and the full name appears complete as “al Saleh” also this fils is unique from the other style by the presence of letters “La” after the name “al Saleh” at the end of the third line of the face writings, may be the engraver wanted to record the name Qalawun but he couldn’t find enough space so he only recorded the letters “La” instead. Also the face inscriptions are located inside a rounded shape that is semi polygonal and isn’t surrounded from the outside by a circle of tangible granules as in the previous style.

The back of that fils is also different from the back of the filous of the previously mentioned style regarding the general shape that is surrounding the back inscriptions, also the palmy fans decorations that were précised in the previous style are mutated from the nature in this fils, also there is a quadrilateral that is pervading the inner circle of the fils back from the right which doesn’t exist in the previous style, also this fils has no circle of contactless granules that surrounds the writings of the face and the back from the outside as in the previously mentioned style.

It turns out under the light of all the previous that the fils that was coined by the name of king al Saleh Ismael in Cairo in 745H. (image no.20) and is kept at the Islamic art museum in Cairo that has never been published or studied before which has different style than the previously mentioned only recognized style for al Saleh Ismael that was also coined in Cairo also in 745H. regarding the general shape and decorations and scripts and arrangement of the inscriptions of the face, despite the fact that both styles were coined at one coinage house and carry the same date and the same name of the same ruler.

That’s why this fils represents a new style for the filous that were coined by the name of king al Saleh Ismael in Cairo in 745H. and is totally different from the previously mentioned style, hence this fils is considered unique in its style and represents a new and significant addition of filous of king al Saleh Ismael bin king al Nasser Mohamed bin Qalawun that was coined in Cairo in 745 H.

Images



Image no. 1, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 1\20502.



Image no. 2, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 2\20502.



Image no. 3, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 3\20502.



Image no. 4, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 4\20502.



Image no. 5, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 5\20502.



Image no. 6, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 6\20502.



Image no. 7, Mameluke fils by the name of Al Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 7\20502.



Image no. 8, Mameluke fils by the name of Al Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 8\20502.



Image no. 10, Mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 11\20502.



Image no. 11, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 12\20502.



Image no. 12, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 13\20502.



Image no. 13, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 14\20502.



Image no. 14, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 15\20502.



Image no. 15, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 17\20502.



Image no. 16, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 18\20502.



Image no. 17, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 19\20502.



Image no. 18, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 20\20502.



Image no. 19, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 16\20502.



Image no. 20, mameluke fils by the name of AL Saleh Ismael that was coined in Cairo in 745 H. That is kept at the museum of Islamic art in Cairo.

Recording no.: 9\20502.

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