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FRITWARE JUG, WITH POLYCHROME DECORATION AND GOLD LEAF IN AND OVER AN OPAQUE, WHITE GLAZE. MINAI TYPE

IRAN, KASHAN; C. 1200

H: 12.4; DIAM: 14 CM

Minai ware was only produced in a short period under the Seljuks and their successors in around 1200. With the Mongols' destruction of Kashan at the end of the 1220s, ceramics manufacture stopped for a few decades.

While Kashan reemerged as a ceramics center and high-quality lustreware was produced once again, colorful minai ware had evidently gone out of fashion. Although Abu al-Qasim al-Kashani (i.e. from Kashan) was able to describe the minai technique in his treatise on ceramics from 1301, he noted that the type was no longer produced.

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