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BOWL, REDDISH FRITWARE PAINTED IN BLUE, TURQUOISE, AND OLIVE UNDER A GREENISH, TRANSPARENT GLAZE

IRAN; SHABAN 757 H = AUGUST 1356

H: 11; DIAM: 26.3 CM

The bowl is noteworthy because of its monumental flower-like decoration in the center, surrounded by a band with a love poem written in a cursive script. The band also holds the date 757 (H). This means that the bowl is a fairly late variant of the kind of ceramics known as Sultanabad ware.

The body is not the whitish frit mass typical of Sultanabad ware, however. It is a redder type and the execution is slightly coarser. These features indicate that it was a provincial product whose precise origins are still unclear.

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