



Inv. no. 27/1978

FRITWARE DISH, PAINTED IN BLUE AND BLACK UNDER A
TRANSPARENT GLAZE

TURKEY, IZNIK; C. 1575

H: 7.3; DIAM: 35.5 CM

Chinese porcelain was used in the sultans' household. Much of it has been preserved in Istanbul in the Topkapi Palace complex's museum, which holds one of the world's finest collections of Chinese celadon and blue and white ware. This costly porcelain served as an ideal that the potters in Iznik also tried to copy very directly.

The decoration with fleshy peonies and leaves of different shapes was adopted from Chinese Ming-dynasty porcelain. This is also true of some of the decoration on the rim. The Turkish potter, however, highlighted its repeated wave motif with spirals in black, which is not found on Chinese blue and white ware.

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