



Inv. no. 4/1996

MIRROR, CAST BRONZE

EASTERN TURKEY; 600 OR 660 H = 1204 OR 1262

H AT RIM: 0.8; DIAM: 24 CM

This might be the most famous mirror from the Islamic cultural sphere. It was published as early as 1811 as being in a French collection and was made for the last Artuqid ruler of the Khartpert line: Artuq Shah. It is difficult to interpret the date, which coincides with either Artuq Shah's childhood or the period after he had been deposed by the Seljuks of Rum.

The outermost border shows the 12 constellations and the heavenly bodies that dominate them: Venus in Taurus, Mercury in Gemini, the Moon in Cancer, the Sun in Leo, Mercury in Virgo, Venus in Libra, Mars in Scorpio, Jupiter in Sagittarius, Saturn in Capricorn, Saturn in Aquarius, Jupiter in Pisces, and Mars in Aries.

Lent to the exhibition

**And all that is in between**

The Islamic Arts Biennale 2025, **AlMadar**, Western Hajj Terminal of

King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia  
January 25 - May 25, 2025

Published in:

- J. von Hammer-Purgstall: "Miroirs arabes de la Collection de M. l'abbé Tersan à Paris" in *Fundgruben des Orients*, 2, 1811, p. 100 and ill.;
- J. T. Reinaud: *Explication de cinq médailles des anciens rois musulmans du Bengale*, Paris 1823, pp. 30-34;
- J. T. Reinaud: *Monumens arabes, persans et turcs, du cabinet de M. le duc de Blacas et d'autres cabinets considérés et décrits d'après leurs rapports avec les croyances, les mœurs et l'histoire des nations musulmanes*, Paris 1828, vol. 2, pp. 404-420, pl. 10;
- Michelangelo Lanci: *Trattato delle simboliche rappresentanze arabiche a dalla varia generazione de'musulmani caratteri sopra differenti materie operati*, Parigi 1845-1846, vol. 1, p. 83; vol. 3, pl. VII;
- Josef von Karabacek: "Zur orientalischen Altertumskunde. I. Sarazenische Wappen" in *Sitzungsberichte der Kais. Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien*, 1907, 157, vol. 1. Abh., pp. 22-23;
- Max van Berchem, Josef Strzygowski: *Amida : matériaux pour l'épigraphie et l'histoire musulmanes du Diyar-Bekr*, Heidelberg 1910, p. 96;
- F. Sarre and F.R. Martin (eds.) *Die Ausstellung von Meisterwerken muhammedanischer Kunst in München 1910*, London 1985, cat.no. 3074, pl. 140;
- Fritz Saxl: "Beiträge zu einer Geschichte der Planetendarstellungen im Orient und im Okzident" in *Der Islam*, 3:1/2, 1912, p. 174, cat.no. 6 and pl. 7, fig. 13;
- Gaston Migeon: *Manuel d'art musulman*, Paris 1927, vol. 1, pp. 393-394 (with wrong ill.);
- E. Bräunlich: "Drei islamische Bronzespiegel" in *Islamica*, 1931, 5, pp. 133-164;
- E. Combe, J. Sauvaget, G. Wiet: *Répertoire chronologique d'épigraphie arabe*, Cairo 1943, vol. 12, p. 67, cat.no. 4491 (owners name wrong);
- D. Storm Rice: "A Seljuq mirror" in *First International Congress of Turkish Arts*, Ankara 1959, p. 289;
- Ernst Kühnel: *Islamische Kleinkunst*, 2. ed., Braunschweig 1963, p. 170, fig. 131;
- Ernst J. Grube: *The world of Islam*, London 1966, p. 97, fig. 49;
- Dominique Sourdel and Janine Sourdel-Thomine: *La civilisation de l'Islam classique*, Paris 1976, ill. 204, p. 630;
- William F. Spengler, Wayne G. Sayles: *Turkoman figural bronze coins and their iconography, I. Artuqids*, Lodi 1992, pp. 120-121;
- Trinity Fine Art: *An exhibition of Medieval Renaissance and Islamic works of art at Newhouse Galleries, New York, 9th - 22nd November 1995*, London 1995, cat.no. 2, pp. 8-11;
- Richard Ettinghausen, Oleg Grabar, Marilyn Jenkins-Madina: *Islamic art and architecture 650-1250*, 2. ed., New Haven 2001, pp. 244-245, fig. 399;
- Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David*

*Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 503;  
Almut v. Gladiss (ed.): *Die Dschazira: Kulturlandschaft zwischen Euphrat und Tigris*, Museum für Islamische Kunst, Berlin 2006, cat.no. 21, pp. 64-65;  
Martina Müller-Wiener: “”Spiegel des Alexander und Weltenbecher“: der Spiegel des Artuq Sâh und die Attribute des idealen Herrschers” in Marion Frenger, Martina Müller-Wieners (red.): *Von Gibraltar bis zum Ganges: Studien zur Islamischen Kunstgeschichte in memoriam Christian Ewert*, 2010, fig. 46, s. 269;  
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David Ekserdjian (ed.): *Bronze*, Royal Academy of Arts, London 2012, cat.no. 66, pp. 159, 264 and 281;  
Nævnt i Yuka Kadoi: “Translating from jing to mir'ât / â'ina: medieval Islamic mirrors revisited” in *Art in translation*, 2013, 5:2, p. 254;  
Sheila R. Canby [et al.]: *Court and cosmos: the great age of the Seljuqs*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New Haven 2016, cat.no. 7, p. 57;  
Kjeld von Folsach, Joachim Meyer: *The Human Figure in Islamic Art – Holy Men, Princes, and Commoners*, The David Collection, Copenhagen 2017, cat.no. 15;  
Christiane Gruber (ed.): *The moon: a voyage through time*, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto 2019, fig. 10, p. 33;  
Ebba Koch: *The planetary king: Humayun Padshah, inventor and visionary on the Mughal throne*. Ahmedabad 2022, pp. 112-113, fig. 55;