



Inv. no. 16/1972

MOSAIC CONSISTING OF PIECES OF CUT, GLAZED TILE

IRAN, ISFAHAN; BEGINNING OF 16TH CENTURY OR LATER

H: 91.5; W: 145 CM

Under the Timurids and Safavids, large parts of the monumental buildings in Iran, Central Asia, and Afghanistan were decorated with colorful tile mosaics like this one. By using pieces cut from individually fired, monochrome ceramic tiles, a far greater variation in color could be achieved than if several glazes had been fired at the same temperature. The richness of color compensated for the time-consuming mosaic technique.

The museum's panel has a pendant in the Harun Vilayet complex in Isfahan, built in 1512. Technical tests have shown that the panel contains both old and new pieces, and there is no doubt that it has been restored.

Published in:

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