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WOODEN PANEL, CARVED AND PAINTED

MOROCCO; 12TH-13TH CENTURY

H: 17; L: 103 CM

The Almohads, who were strict in the practice of their faith, are said to have founded some 800 religious buildings in North Africa and southern Spain. Virtually none of them exist today in their original form.

The wooden panel, other parts of which are found in the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, probably comes from one of these buildings. Closely related inscriptions with combinations of *Kufi* script on a background of vegetal ornament can namely be seen on the Almohad city gates in Marrakesh and Rabat.

The text on the panel is part of the Koran's verse 191 in *sura* 3, *Al Imran* ("The Family of Imram").

Published in:

Emil Hannover: *Det danske Kunstindustrimuseums Virksomhed 1920-21*, København 1921, p. 46, fig. 26;

*Art from the World of Islam. 8th-18th century*, Louisiana, Humlebæk 1987, cat.no. 45;

Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat.no. 291;

Kjeld von Folsach, Torben Lundbæk and Peder Mortensen (eds.): *Sultan, Shah and Great Mughal: the history and culture of the Islamic world*, The National Museum, Copenhagen 1996, cat.no. 48;

Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 430;