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DOUBLE PARCHMENT LEAF FROM A KORAN WRITTEN IN *MAGHRIBI*

NORTH AFRICA OR SPAIN; 13TH CENTURY

EACH LEAF: 18 × 16.3 CM

This double leaf, like “The Pink Koran,” was written in the tortuous and colorful *Maghribi* script, which dominated in North Africa and Muslim Spain from the 11th century. The spread holds the last verse of *sura* 10 and the chapter heading and first four verses of *sura* 11. The *sura* heading was designed in classical *Kufi* and written in gold. It was further highlighted with a leaf ornament in the margin, but not framed, as was to become common later on.

Parchment was typically used for Korans in the Maghreb and Spain long after paper had become the dominant material farther east.

Fol. 1r - 2v

Published in:

Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat.no. 4;

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. 96;