

The Muslim West | Seats of Power: Palaces

The mint: economic control and symbol of power.

The coins produced by the palace mints, and the mints in the towns upon which royal privilege was bestowed, gave sovereigns control over the production of money they needed to pay the army and civil servants who allowed the state to function. Coinage was one of the sovereign's most obvious symbols of power, as the quality and purity of the noble metal used was a good indicator of their economic and political power.



Name:
Coin (dinar)

Dynasty:
Hegira 537 / AD 1142 Almoravid

Details:
National Museum of Antiquities and Islamic Arts
Algiers, Algeria

Justification:
The coins include the name of the sovereign during whose reign it was minted, the title 'Prince of Believers', the date of minting and the name of the mint.



Name:
Dinar

Dynasty:
Hegira 1020 / AD 1612 Sa'did

Details:
Numismatic Museum of the Maghreb Bank
Rabat, Morocco

Justification:
The coins include the name of the sovereign during whose reign it was minted, the title 'Prince of Believers', the date of minting and the name of the mint.



Name:
Dirham

Dynasty:
Hegira 202 / AD 818 Idrisid

Details:
Numismatic Museum of the al-Maghreb Bank
Rabat, Morocco

Justification:
The coins include the name of the sovereign during whose reign it was minted, the title 'Prince of Believers', the date of minting and the name of the mint.
