The Ottomans | Turkish-Islamic Art in Pre-Ottoman Anatolia

‘Following the Battle of Manzikert, Anatolia saw a new political, religious and social formation.’

Following the Battle of Manzikert in 463 / 1071, Anatolia saw the rise of a new political, religious and social formation next to the centuries-old Byzantine Empire. This was the Turks, who had started their journey from the Steppes of Asia, founded the Great Seljuq Empire in Iran, and then settled in Anatolia.



Name:
Star tiles

Dynasty:
During the reign of Sultan Alaaddin ('Ala al-Din) Keykubad I (r. hegira 616–35 / AD 1220–37) Anatolian Seljuq

Details:
Karatay Madrasa Tile Museum
Konya, Turkey

Justification:
The double-headed eagle bears a cartouche inscription representing Sultan Alaaddin Keykubad, symbolising his power.



Name:
Great Mosque (Ulu Cami)

Dynasty:
Hegira first half of the 5th century / AD 11th century Anatolian Seljuq / Artuqid

Details:
Diyarbak#r, Turkey

Justification:
One of the oldest mosques in Anatolia built by Turks, it mirrors the layout of the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus.



Name:
Coin (dirham)

Dynasty:
Hegira 646–7 / AD 1248–9 Anatolian Seljuq

Details:
The British Museum
London, England, United Kingdom

Justification:
Important documentation for the legitimacy of the sultanate of the Seljuq sultans.



Name:
Alaaddin Mosque

Dynasty:
Construction began during the reign of Sultan Mesud [Mas'ud] I (hegira 510 / AD 1116) and was completed during the reign of Sultan Alaaddin Keykubad ['Ala al-Din Kay Qubadh] I (hegira 635 / AD 1237) Anatolian Seljuq

Details:

Konya, Turkey

Justification:
This royal mosque in Konya, the capital of the Anatolian Seljuqs, employs numerous re-used columns.