# Water | Water Management

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In order to withstand the aridity of the region it was crucial to devise ways of channelling naturally occurring springs and collecting rainwater for later usage. This was particularly important along the pilgrimage routes, at the khans, caravanserais and wikalas along the route, and it was the duty of the Muslim governor to ensure a water supply was available, and that travel to sacred destinations was safe.



**Name:**
Solomon's Pools

**Dynasty:**
The construction of the first and second pools dates to the second half of the 1st century BC. The third, lower pool was built between hegira 865–72 / AD 1461–7
The first and second pools date to the Roman period, the third dates to the Mamluk period

**Details:**
Bethlehem, Palestine*

**Justification:**
A huge water reservoir, made up of three connecting pools that had immense capacity for collecting water, and which was then carried by aqueduct to Jerusalem.

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**Name:**
Column capital

**Dynasty:**
Hegira 101–5 / AD 720–24 Umayyad

**Details:**
Jordan Archaeological Museum
Amman, Jordan

**Justification:**
One of 18 stone column capitals that belonged to the water reservoir at the Umayyad palace at al-Muwaqqar. An inscription reveals that the reservoir was built by order of the caliph Yazid II (r. AH 101–5 / AD 720–4).

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**Name:**
Citadel of Amman (Water Reservoir)

**Dynasty:**
Around hegira 110 / AD 728 Umayyad

**Details:**
Amman, Jordan

**Justification:**
Within the Umayyad Citadel to the east of the palatial complex there is a round water cistern, 6-m deep with a diameter that exceeds 17.50 m, and which could hold up to 1,300 cu m of water.

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**Name:**
Sahrij Swani (Basin of the Norias)

**Dynasty:**
Hegira 11th–12th centuries / AD 17th–18th centuries Alawid

**Details:**
Meknès, Morocco

**Justification:**
This huge artificial basin was built by the Alawid Sultan Mulay Isma'il (r. 1082–1139 / 1672–1727) in order to guarantee a water supply during droughts or military sieges. He built another one specifically for cattle.