The Atabegs and Ayyubids | Travelling and Trading

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Under the leadership of the Atabegs and Ayyubids, cities in Syria and Jazira became important political, economic and cultural centres. Soldiers, scholars, traders and craftsmen were all attracted to the region making it a vibrant social hub for Arabs, Persians, Turks and Kurds. This resulted in a rich multi-ethnic and multi-lingual society.

Name: Jug
Dynasty: Hegira 7th century / AD 13th century Ayyubid
Details: Burrell Collection, Glasgow Museums
Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom
Justification: Raqqa was the main centre for the production of underglaze-painted pottery. These wares travelled as far as the east coast of the Mediterranean.

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Name: Ewer (ibrik)
Dynasty: Hegira 627 / AD 1229 Zangid (Atabeg)
Details: Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts
Sultanahmet, Istanbul, Turkey
Justification: An example of inlaid metalwork produced in Mosul in the early 7th / 13th century. A much prized technique, the craftsman of this vessel probably came from Khurasan in flight from the Mongol invasions.