

# Arabic Calligraphy | Kufic Script

'Kufic script is considered to be one of the most widespread styles of Arabic calligraphy across the Islamic world.'

Kufic script is considered to be the most widely used calligraphic style in the Islamic world, practiced in Spain in the West, to Uzbekistan in the East. It is considered to be the earliest Arabic script, dominating calligraphy during the first two centuries of Islam. It was eventually superseded by other styles, including naskhi and Maghrebi, although none of these new styles reached the imperial level held by kufic script.

**Name:**

Ceramic bowl

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Almoravid or Almohad

**Details:**

Museum of Mértola

Mértola, Beja, Portugal

**Justification:**

The word 'barakah' – blessings or bounty – appears in the centre of this bowl written in kufic script.

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**Name:**

Column capital

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 101–5 / AD 720–24 Umayyad

**Details:**

Jordan Archaeological Museum

Amman, Jordan

**Justification:**

Early kufic inscription commemorating construction work at al-Muwaqqar water reservoir by the Umayyad caliph Yazid II (r. 101–5 / 720–24).

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**Name:**

Geomantic Instrument

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 639 / AD 1241–2 Ayyubid

**Details:**

The British Museum

London, England, United Kingdom

**Justification:**

This unusual divination instrument is decorated profusely with bands of kufic inscriptions on the back-plate.

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