

The Muslim West | Andalusian-Maghrebi Art

Zirids and Hammadids: a bridge between East and West.

Hammadid art was a contemporary of Andalusian ta'ifa art and shared a number of decorative motifs, although the techniques used differed between the two. The combination of Andalusian influences and the early appearance of what are clearly Eastern elements, is evidence of the Maghreb's role as a bridge between East and West.



Name:

Capital

Dynasty:

Hegira 406–547 / AD 1015–1152 Hammadid

Details:

Museum of M'sila (National Agency of Archaeology)
M'sila, Algeria

Justification:

These Hammadid pieces were carved with bevelled edges which accounts for the low-relief.



Name:

Cornerstone of an arch

Dynasty:

Hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Hammadid

Details:

National Museum of Antiquities and Islamic Arts
Algiers, Algeria

Justification:

These Hammadid pieces were carved with bevelled edges which accounts for the low-relief.



Name:

Corbel

Dynasty:

Hegira, end of 3rd–beginning of 5th century / AH 9th–11th century Aghlabid–Zirid

Details:

Museum of Islamic Art
Raqqada, Kairouan, Tunisia

Justification:

The fine finish on this Zirid-period corbel from the Kairouan Mosque is reminiscent of other examples from the Great Mosque of Córdoba that have not survived.



Name:

Two fragments of wall-cladding

Dynasty:

Hegira 406–547 / AD 1015–1152 Hammadid

Details:

National Museum of Setif
Setif, Algeria

Justification:

The early use of ceramic tiles with metallic reflections (lustre) as wall coverings is evidence of the Eastern influence on Hammadid art.
