

The Muslim West | Science and Knowledge

Religious teaching, the copyists of the Qur'an

Training began with learning how to read, write and recite the Qur'an, as well as studying the Hadiths or words of the Prophet. As books were rare, knowledge was traditionally committed to memory and communicated by word of mouth. For this reason, the ability to write was considered important and valuable as it allowed knowledge and religion to be passed to subsequent generations.



Name:

Inkwell

Dynasty:

Hegira 4th century/ AD 10th century Umayyads of al-Andalus, Caliphate period

Details:

National Archaeological Museum
Madrid, Spain

Justification:

Manuscript copyists were held in the highest esteem, and copying the Qur'an was seen as a meritorious act that enabled devout Muslims to possess their own copies. The pen and the inkwell became emblematic symbols of this honourable activity.



Name:

Writing desk

Dynasty:

Hegira 8th century / AD 14th century Nasrid

Details:

National Archaeological Museum
Madrid, Spain

Justification:

Manuscript copyists were held in the highest esteem, and copying the Qur'an was seen as a meritorious act that enabled devout Muslims to possess their own copies. The pen and the inkwell became emblematic symbols of this honourable activity.



Name:

Manuscript, collection of Hadith

Dynasty:

Hegira 1284 / AD 1868 Alawid

Details:

Royal Library
Rabat, Morocco

Justification:

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