

Coins from India with names of some Khilji Sultans of Dehli and their relation with the Abbasid Caliphs in Cairo (695-720 AH / 1296-1320 AD)

Abstract

This research presents historical, artistic and analytical study of a collection of coins that had not been published before. The coins date back to the reign of Khilji dynasty in Dehli Sultanate in India. The collection consists of five coins with the name of Sultan Alaaddin Khilji, seven coins with the name of Sultan Mubarak Shah Khilji and two coins with the name of Sultan Khesro Shah. These coins are made of billon or copper; all the inscriptions had been recorded in naskh handwriting. It is quite clear from the analysis of these coins that Sultans of Delhi give a great interest to show their relation with the Abbasid Caliphate in Cairo; the only exception is Sultan Mubarak Shah who considers himself as the Caliph giving himself the title "Caliph of the God of the worlds" and takes the name "Al-Watheq be-Allah"; on the contrary, we find that his father Alaaddin Khilji takes the titles "Right of the Caliph" and "Support of Prince of believers" to show his loyalty to the Abbasid Caliph; also Khesro Shah takes the title "Custodian of Prince of believers". In all of these coins there is a referring to the Abbasid Caliph without mentioning his name explicitly.

Key words

Coin, India, Dehli, Delhi, Sultanate, Caliph, Khilji, Jalaladdin Khilji, Alaaddin Khilji,

Mubarak Shah, Khesro Shah.