

COINS FROM THE AL-WAṬĀ QUARTER, SAFED (ΖΕΦΑΤ)

ARIEL BERMAN

The 2002 excavations in the Ḥâret al-Waṭā quarter, Safed (Ζεφατ) yielded a few out-of-context finds: a Late Roman coin from the fourth century (Cat. No. 1), a Fatimid silver coin from the eleventh century (Cat. No. 2), and a single Ayyūbid copper coin from the end of the twelfth century (Cat. No. 3). More important for the dating of the site are a small number of coins from the Mamlūk and Ottoman periods (see Cohen, this volume).

The Mamlūk Period

Seven copper *futūs* (Cat. Nos. 3–10), minted at Dimashq and Iskandariya, represent the main Mamlūk period of the site, apparently spanning about two centuries, from the thirteenth up to the fifteenth centuries. However, recirculation of old copper *futūs* in the market was common during the Mamlūk period, and this phenomenon should be taken into consideration, as it may reduce significantly the duration of this phase at the site.

The Ottoman Period

Five copper *manghir* (Cat. Nos. 11–15), minted at Dimashq and Egypt in the sixteenth century, represent a relatively short phase during the early Ottoman period.

CATALOGUE

1. Reg. No. 1036, L26, IAA 99977.

Fourth century CE.

Obv.: Bust r.

Rev.: Effaced.

1.60 g, 13 mm.

2. Reg. No. 1013, L11, IAA 99967.

Eleventh century CE.

Effaced on both sides.

Æ fraction of dirham, 0.57 g, 15 mm.

3. Reg. No. 1040, L24, IAA 99974.

Al-'Azīz I 'Uthmān Abū 'l-Faṭḥ 'Imād al-Dīn, Dimashq, AH 594/1197/8 CE.

Obv.: عثمان / العزيز الملك

Rev.: سيف / بن الملك الناصر / بو

Æ fals, 0.57 g, 15 mm.

Cf. Balog 1980:112, No. 222.

4. Reg. No. 1065, L37, IAA 99980.

Al-Ashraf Khalil Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn (AH 689–693/1290–1293 CE), Dimashq.

Obv.: صلاح الدين [---]

Rev.: والدنيا والدين /

Æ fals, 1.00 g, 17 mm.

Cf. Balog 1970:128, No. 154A.

5. Reg. No. 1045, L25, IAA 99976.

Al-'Ādil Kitbughā Zayn al-Dīn (AH 694–696/1294–1296 CE), Dimashq.

Obv.: الملك / العادل / [زين الدين]

Rev.: والدين / كتبغا / [ضرب بدمشق]

Æ fals, 1.05 g, 15 mm.

Cf. Balog 1970:129, No. 160.

6. Reg. No. 1022, L11, IAA 99970.

Al-Manṣūr Abū Bakr Sayf al-Dīn (AH 741–742/1341 CE), Dimashq.

Obv.: سنة / واربعين [---]

Rev.: ضرب / دمشق / بـ

Æ fals, 3.80 g, 18 mm.

Cf. Balog 1964:164–165, Nos. 267–268.

7. Reg. No. 1018, L11, IAA 99969.
 Al-Muẓaffar Ḥājjī II Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn, Dimashq,
 AH 791/1389 CE.
Obv.: المنصور / السلطان / [---] الملك
Rev.: Hexagram.
 Æ fals , 2.05 g, 14 × 17 mm. Double struck.
 Cf. Balog 1964:246, No. 532.
8. Reg. No. 1024, L22, IAA 99973.
 Al-Ẓāhir Barqūq Sayf al-Dīn, 2nd reign (AH
 792–801/1390–1399 CE), Iskandariya.
Obv.: Effaced.
Rev.: ضرب [سکن] / ریة [صرب]
 Æ fals , 3.24 g, 15 × 18 mm.
 Cf. Balog 1964:265, Nos. 586–587.
9. Reg. No. 1011, L12, IAA 99971.
 End of fifteenth century CE.
Obv.: [---] السلطان / [---]
Rev.: Effaced.
 Æ fals , 3.12 g, 17 × 20 mm.
10. Reg. No. 1051, L31, IAA 99979.
 Fifteenth century CE.
 Effaced on both sides.
 Æ fals , 1.93 g, 15 mm.
11. Reg. No. 1016, L15, IAA 99972.
 Sulaymān I (AH 926–974/1520–1566 CE),
 Miṣr al-Maḥrusa.
- نصره ضرب / [في مصر] / المحسنة
Rev.: Arabesque ornament.
 Æ manghir , 5.66 g, 16 mm.
 Cf. Valentine 1911:30, No. 8.
12. Reg. No. 1017, L11, IAA 99968.
 Selīm II (AH 974–982/1566–1574 CE),
 Dimashq.
Obv.: السلطان سليم / [بن سليمان]
Rev.: ضرب / دمشق
 Æ manghir , 0.86 g, 12 mm.
13. Reg. No. 1047, L29, IAA 99978.
 Sixteenth century CE, Dimashq?
Obv.: Illegible.
Rev.: [---] عز نصره
 Æ manghir , 1.20 g, 15 mm.
14. Reg. No. 1067, L37, IAA 99981.
 Sixteenth century CE.
Obv.: Illegible.
Rev.: Within linear square palm branch.
 Æ manghir , 0.95 g, 16 mm.
15. Reg. No. 1040, L24, IAA 99975.
 Sixteenth century CE, Miṣr.
Obv.: [---] عز نصره / ضرب / مصر سنة
Rev.: Eight-petaled rosettes.
 Æ manghir , 1.17 g, 13 mm.

REFERENCES

- Balog P. 1964. *The Coinage of the Mamlūk Sultans of Egypt and Syria* (Numismatic Studies 12). New York.
- Balog P. 1970. The Coinage of the Mamlūk Sultans: Additions and Corrections. *ANSMN* 16:113–171.
- Balog P. 1980. *The Coinage of the Ayyūbids* (Royal Numismatic Society Special Publications 12). London.
- Cohen M. This volume. Remains from the Mamluk and Ottoman Periods in the al-Waṭa Quarter, Safed (Zefat).
- Valentine W.H. 1911. *Modern Copper Coins of the Muhammadan States*. London.