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2



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6

Indus seals from the
Harappan Civilization
c. 2100-1750 BCE



Mesopotamian
Cylinder seals
c. 2600-2350
BCE





Cretan Seal
c.1550 -1500
BCE

9

Cretan Seal









[11:25] We sent Noah to his people, saying, "I come to you as a clear warner.

[11:26] "You shall not worship except GOD. I fear for you the retribution of a painful day."

[11:27] The leaders who disbelieved among his people said, "We see that you are no more than a human being like us, and we see that the first people to follow you are the worst among us. We see that you do not possess any advantage over us. Indeed, we think you are liars."

[11:28] He said, "O my people, what if I have a solid proof from my Lord? What if He has blessed me out of His mercy, though you cannot see it? Are we going to force you to believe therein?"

[11:29] "O my people, I do not ask you for any money; my wage comes only from GOD. I am not dismissing those who believed; they will meet their Lord (and He alone will judge them). I see that you are ignorant people.

[11:30] "O my people, who can support me against GOD, if I dismiss them? Would you not take heed?"

All Power Belongs to God

- [11:31] "I do not claim that I possess the treasures of GOD, nor do I know the future, nor do I claim to be an angel. Nor do I say to those despised by your eyes that GOD will not bestow any blessings upon them. GOD knows best what is in their innermost thoughts. (If I did this,) I would be a transgressor."**
- [11:32] They said, "O Noah, you have argued with us, and kept on arguing. We challenge you to bring the doom you threaten us with, if you are truthful."**
- [11:33] He said, "GOD is the One who brings it to you, if He so wills, then you cannot escape."**
- [11:34] "Even if I advised you, my advice cannot benefit you if it is GOD's will to send you astray. He is your Lord, and to Him you will be returned."**
- [11:35] If they say, "He made up this story," then say, "If I made it up, then I am responsible for my crime, and I am innocent of any crime you commit."**
- [11:36] Noah was inspired: "No more of your people are going to believe, beyond those who already believe. Do not be saddened by their actions."**
- [11:37] "Build the ark under our watchful eyes, and with our inspiration, and do not implore Me on behalf of those who have transgressed; they are destined to drown."**

He Who Laughs Last Laughs Best

- [11:38] While he was building the ark, whenever some of his people passed by him they laughed at him. He said, "You may be laughing at us, but we are laughing at you, just as you are laughing.**
- [11:39] "You will surely find out who will suffer a shameful retribution, and incur an everlasting punishment."**
- [11:40] When our judgment came, and the atmosphere boiled over, we said, "Carry on it a pair of each kind,* together with your family, except those who are condemned. Carry with you those who have believed," and only a few have believed with him.**
- [11:41] He said, "Come on board. In the name of GOD shall be its sailing, and its mooring. My Lord is Forgiver, Most Merciful."**
- [11:42] As it sailed with them in waves like hills, Noah called his son, who was isolated: "O my son, come ride with us; do not be with the disbelievers."**
- [11:43] He said, "I will take refuge on top of a hill, to protect me from the water." He said, "Nothing can protect anyone today from GOD's judgment; only those worthy of His mercy (will be saved)." The waves separated them, and he was among those who drowned.**

Where Did the Ark Land

[11:44] It was proclaimed: "O earth, swallow your water," and "O sky, cease." The water then subsided; the judgment was fulfilled. The ark finally rested on the hills of Judea.* It was then proclaimed: "The transgressors have perished."

[11:45] Noah implored his Lord: "My Lord, my son is a member of my family, and Your promise is the truth. You are the wisest of the wise."

The Myth of Intercession*

[11:46] He said, "O Noah, he is not of your family. It is unrighteous to ask Me for something you do not know.* I enlighten you, lest you be like the ignorant."

[11:47] He said, "My Lord, I seek refuge in You, lest I implore You again for something I do not know. Unless You forgive me, and have mercy on me, I will be with the losers."

[11:48] It was proclaimed: "O Noah, disembark, with peace and blessings upon you, and upon nations who will descend from your companions. As for the other nations descending from you, we will bless them for awhile, then commit them to painful retribution."

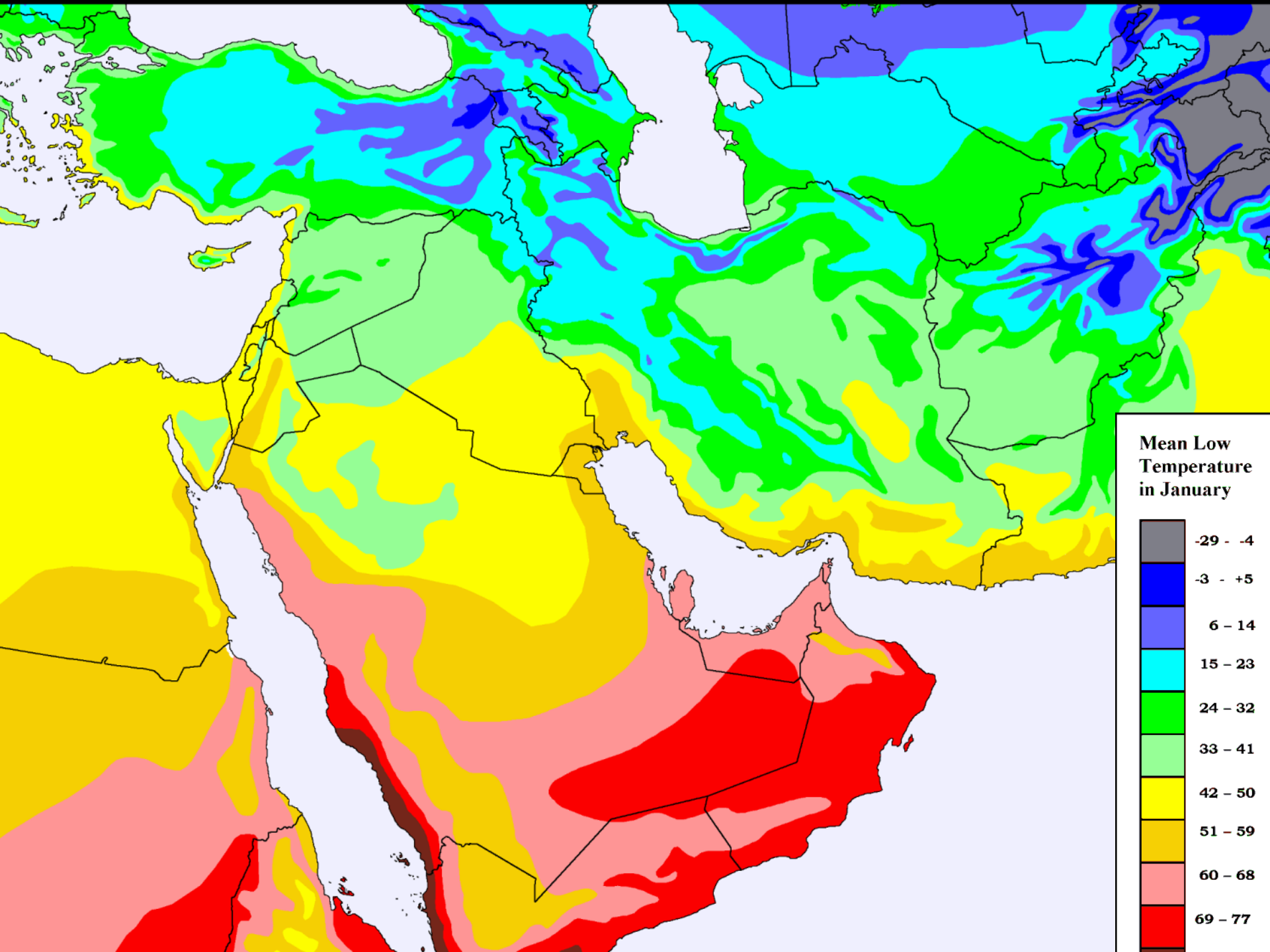
[11:49] This is news from the past that we reveal to you. You had no knowledge about them - neither you, nor your people - before this. Therefore, be patient. The ultimate victory belongs to the righteous.

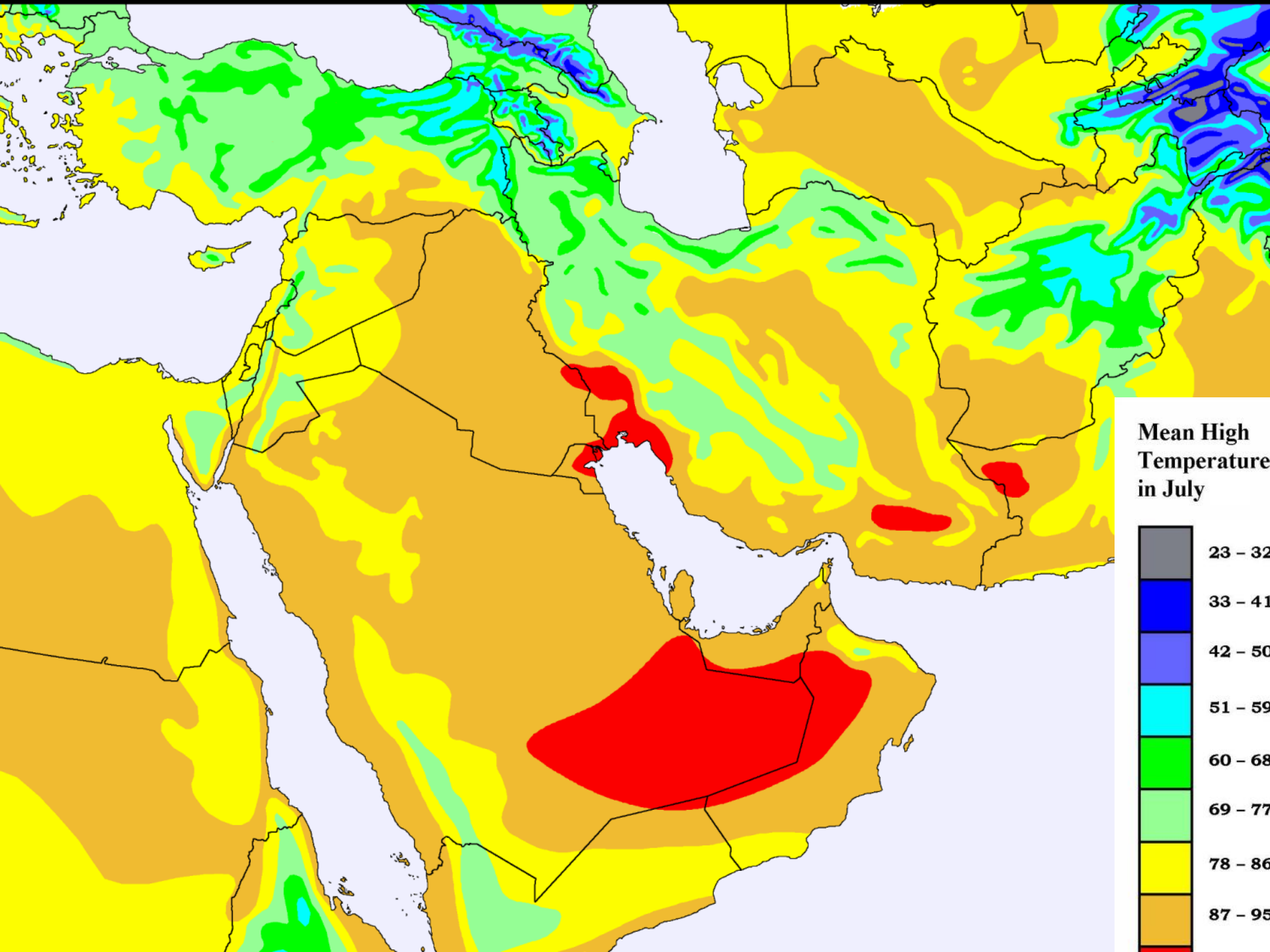


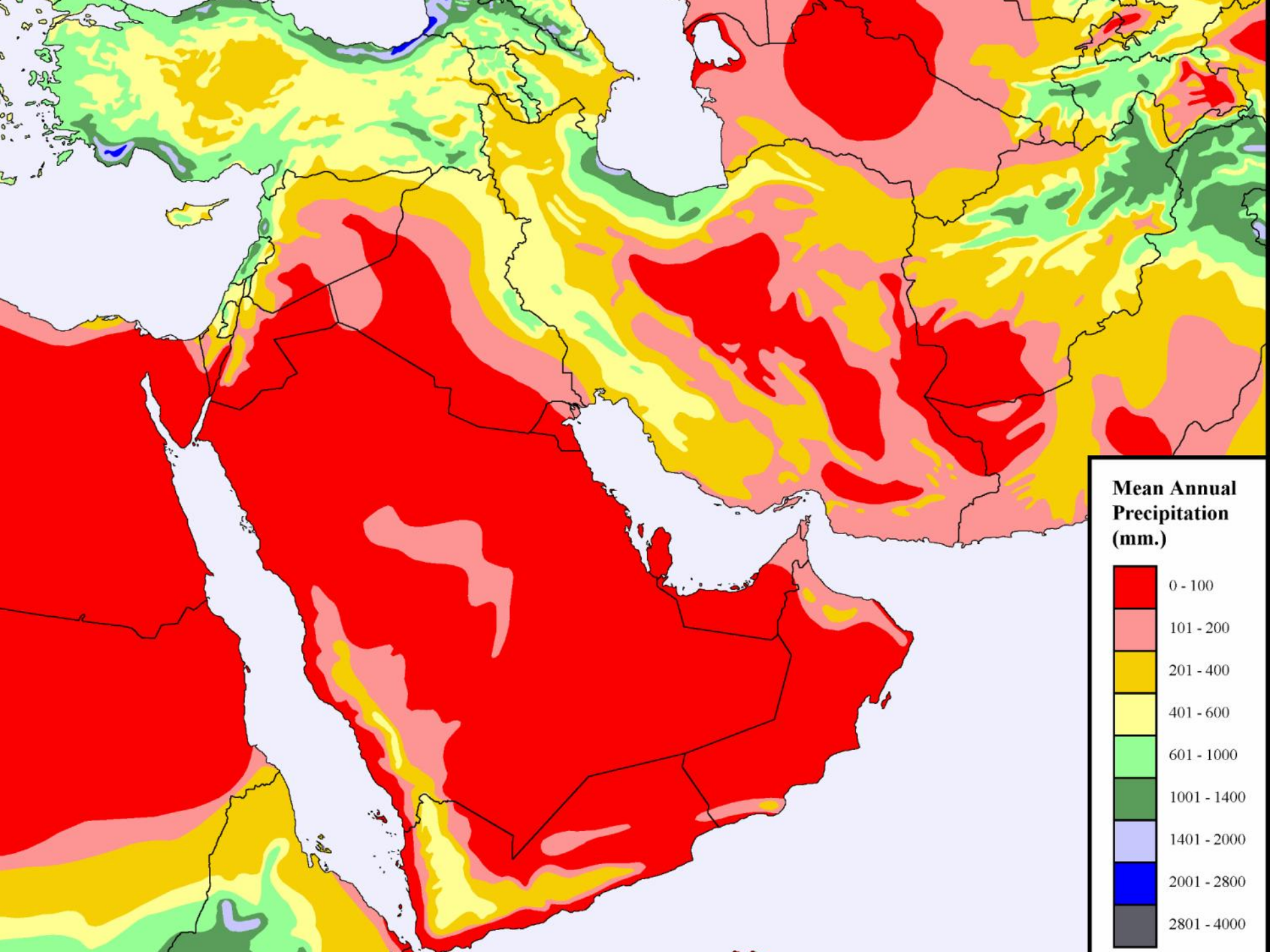
**Nuremberg Chronicle,
Hartmann Schedel
(1440-1514)**











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A verse by the Persian poet Hafiz: "We came this way searching for glory and power."



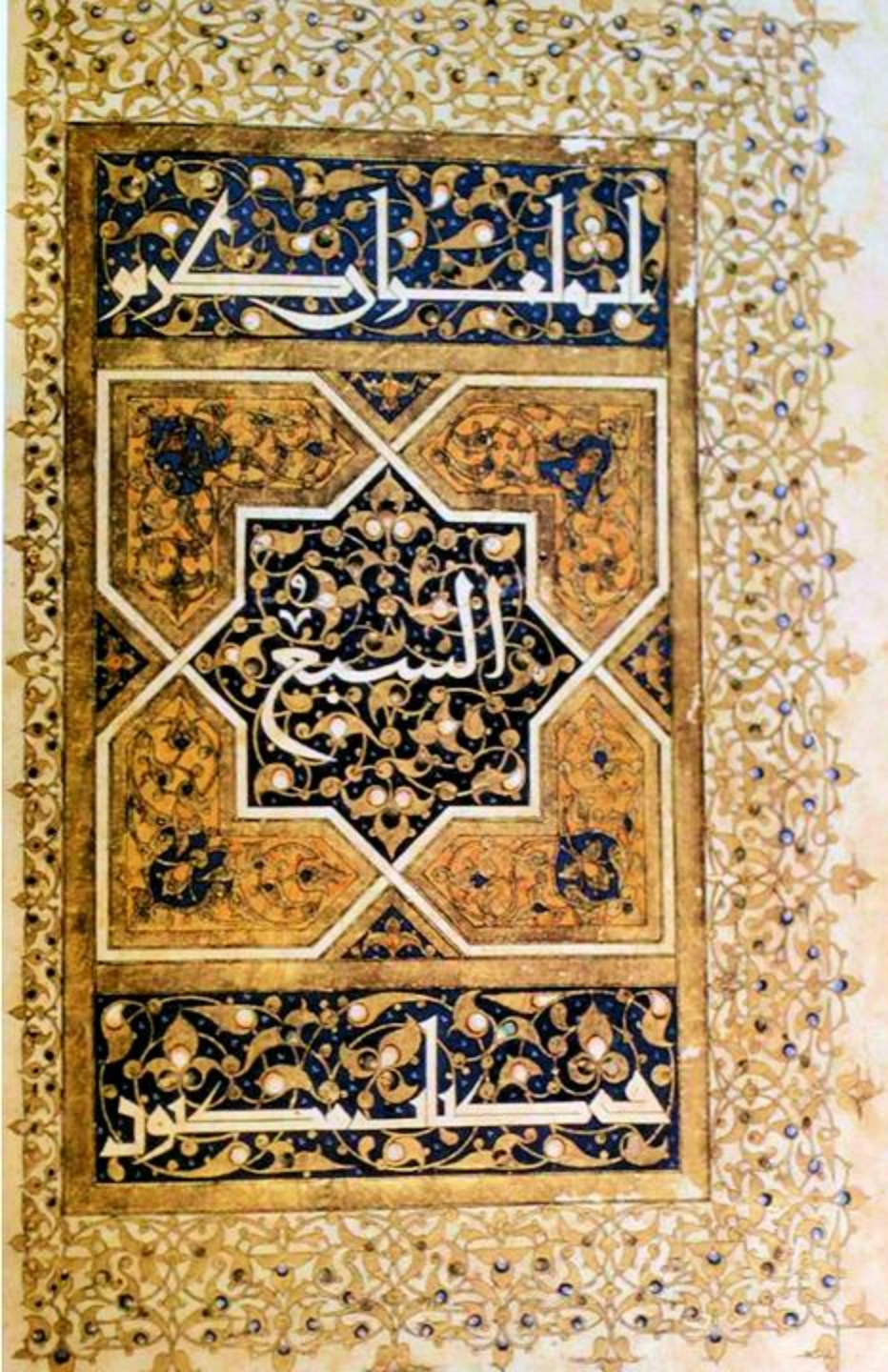
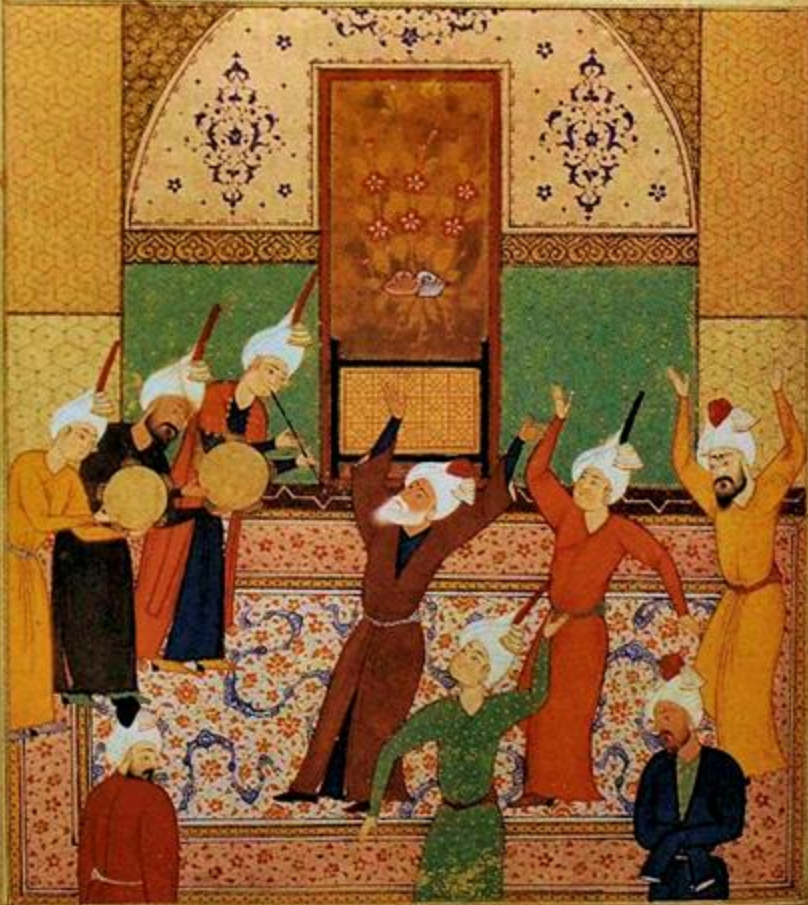


Iranian Glazed
Stoneware Bowl
10th cc

Glazed Earthenware
Bowl from Nishapur
10th cc



چون رو داد که بست دکان او و آتش بوزند حضرت رسالت صلی الله علیه و آله و سلم
 رفت و نمودند در آن اثنا شخصی خبر آورد که آن در دمنده که بدو رسیده که شیفته و حیه الکلبی بود
 فوت شد این حدیث را در آن محل فرمودند و بر آن درویش رفت و حالت او را اظهار فرمود
 و حیه الکلبی الامر کرد و اندک آب بر او ریخت و ذوق کرد و درین آخر خدشت مولانا محمد شالیه
 شیفته درویش محمدنایی بودند و در مجلس جماع سقاچی بسیار میکردند و بدن باغ



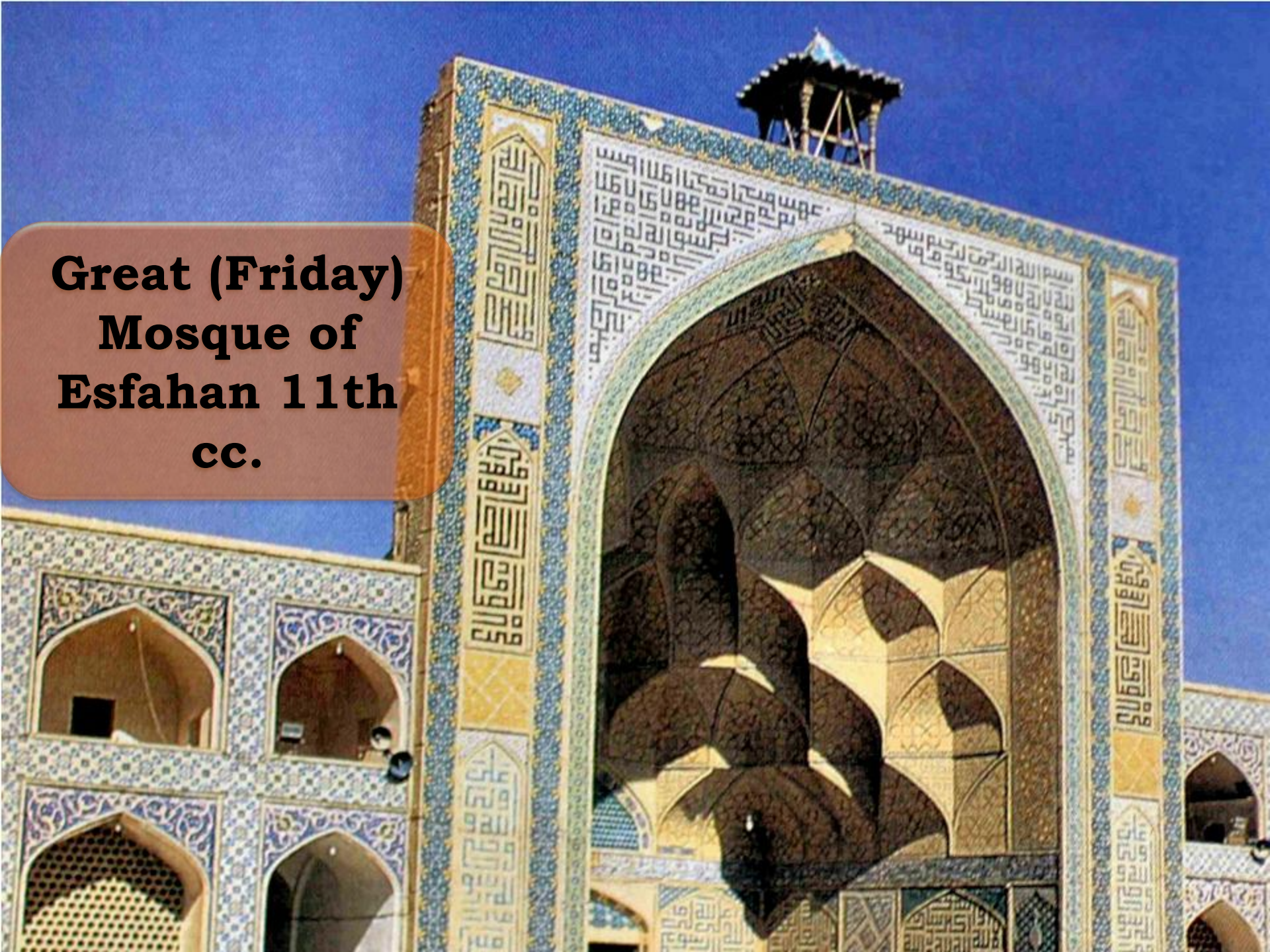


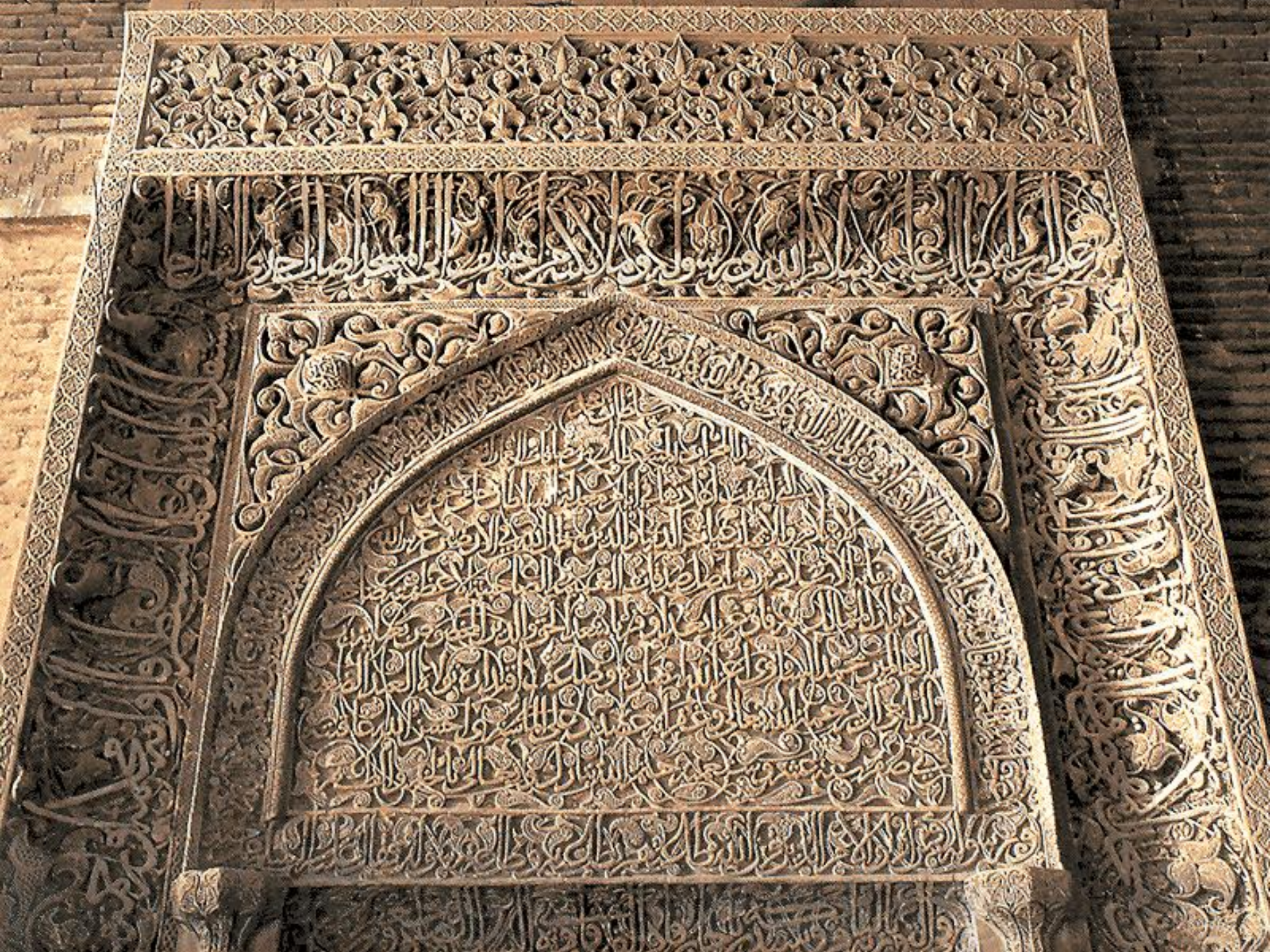
**Basin from 12th century
Sufi Shaykh Ahmad
Yasavi's shrine, c. 1397**



**Egyptian enamelled
glass vase, early
14th cc.**

**Great (Friday)
Mosque of
Esfahan 11th
cc.**





**Safavid Royal
Mosque in
Esfahan 17th cc.**



**Ince Minare
Madrasa at Konya
13th cc.**





**Iranian Kashan Medallion Carpet, 16th cc.
Wool, silk, and silver thread**

فقیہا و برکات علیہم بنی یلوجات

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

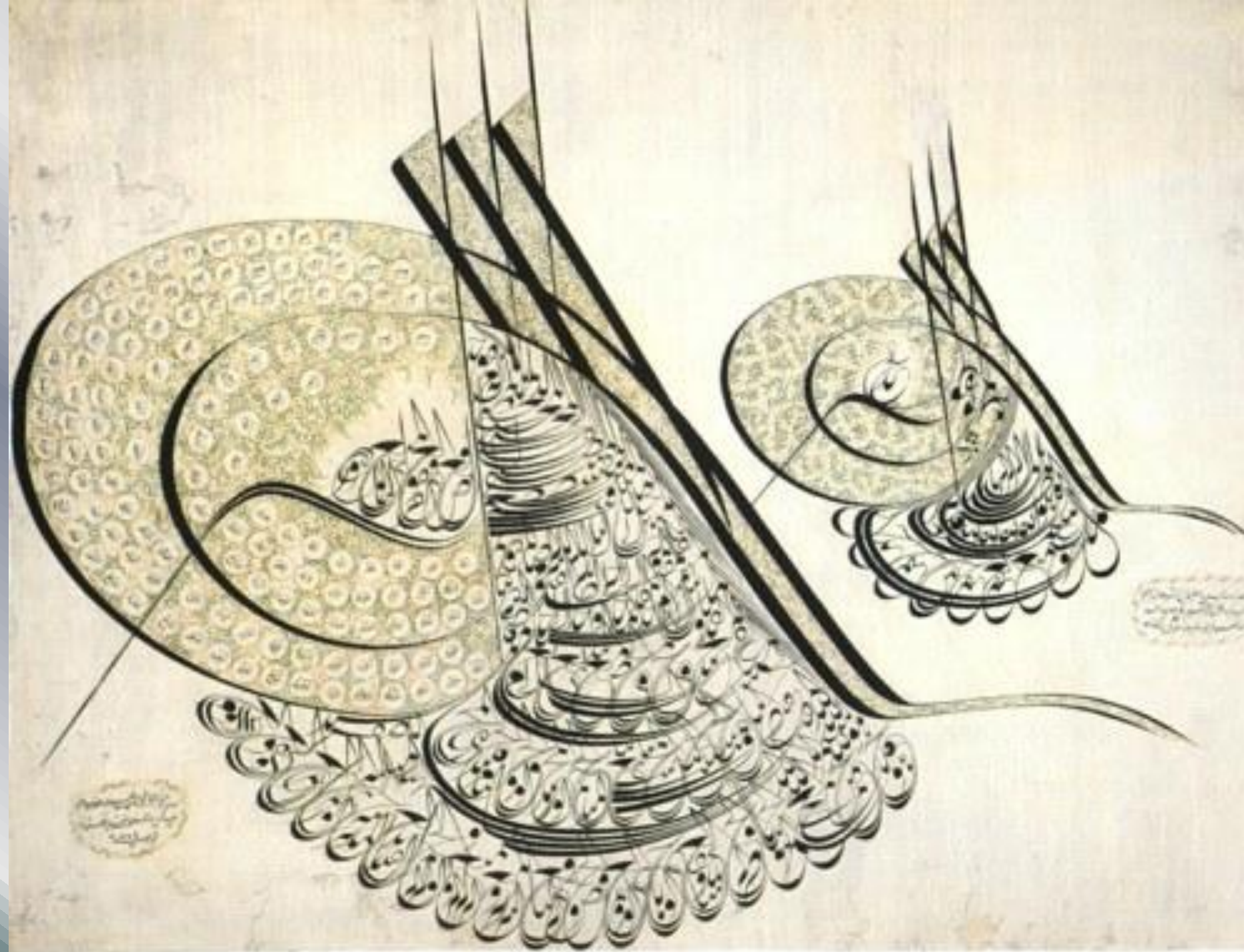


Fragment of a cloth, Spain 15th cc.



**Fernando Yanez
de la Almedina,
16th cc.**



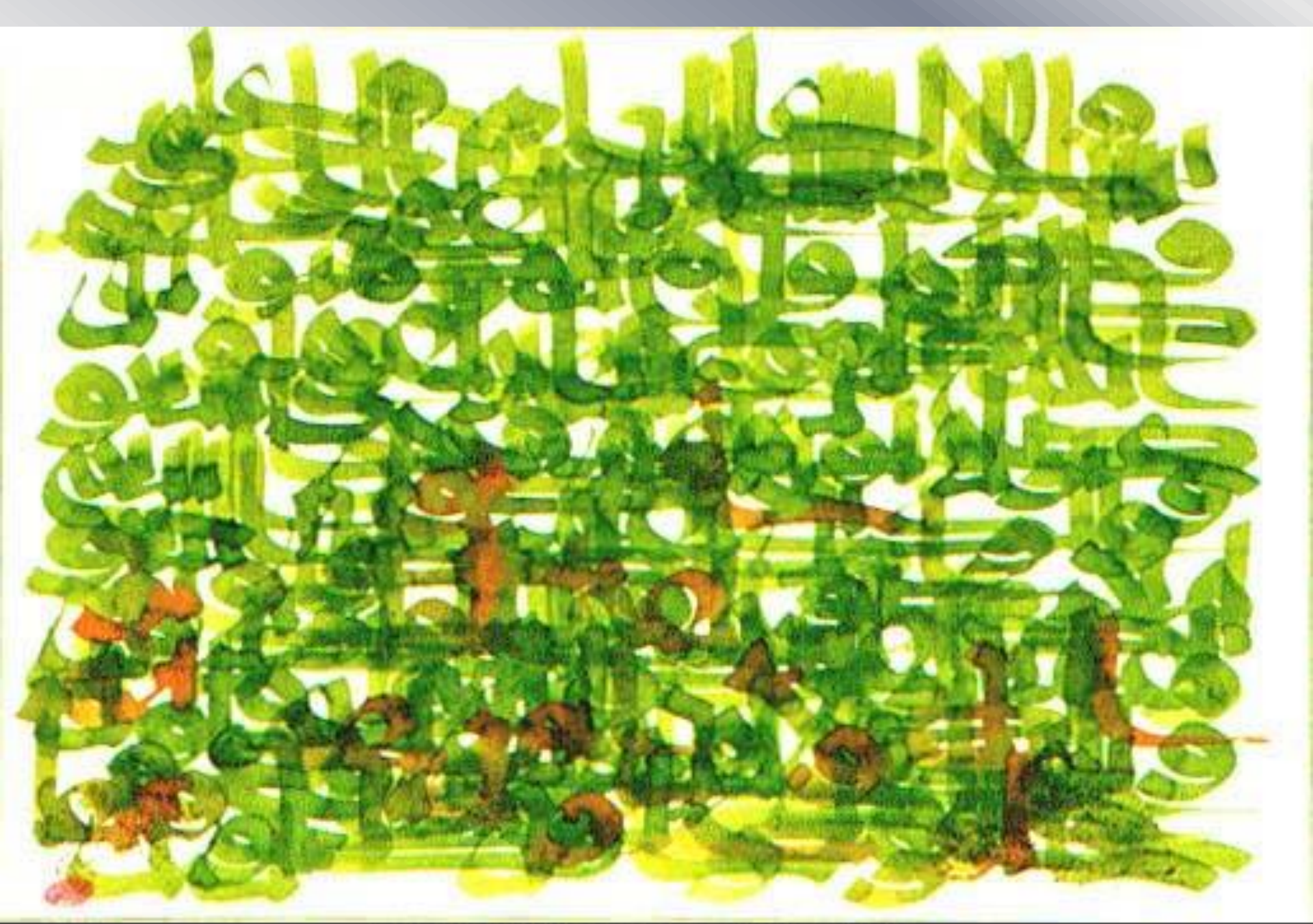


**Nasikh
script in
the form
of a bird,
Iran
17th cc**





Sura Hamd, gouache on board, 25x30 cm



Sura Mo'minoun, ink on board, 50x70 cm

