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The Coins from Ge'alya

Robert Kool

Eight coins were unearthed during the excavations; five were identified.[1] All are small-denomination copper *fulus* of the Mamlūk period, used in daily transactions. The earliest datable coin is of al-Ẓāhir Sayf al-Dīn Barqūq (Cat. No. 1), minted during his second reign (792–801 AH/1390–1399 CE) in Alexandria. The latest datable *fals* was minted during the reign of the Mamlūk sultan al-Ashraf Abu Nasr Qā'itbāy (873–901AH/1468–1495 CE; Cat. No. 3).

All the coins were discovered in Area C, some 100 m north of the excavated Mamluk-period cemetery. In this area, the excavators identified the remains of alleys, walls and stone floors, which attest to the existence of a Mamluk-period village.

The only stratigraphically significant coin find is the copper *fals* of Qā'itbāy (1468–1495 CE), lying on the floor of a structure in Area C together with small metal artifacts and pottery, dated between the twelfth and the end of the fourteenth centuries (see Gorzalczany, this volume).

Catalogue

1. Reg. No. 5097, L531, IAA 119158.
Al-Ẓāhir Sayf al-Dīn Barqūq, 2nd reign, Alexandria, 1390–1399 CE.
Obv.: center / السلطا الماك الظاهر…
Rev.: center ضرب / سكند/ رية
Æ, 3.87 g, 16 mm.
Cf. Balog 1964:265, No. 587.

2. Reg. No. 5137, L537, IAA 119157.
Al-Naṣir Sā'ādat Faraj, 2nd reign, 1412–1416 CE.
Æ, 3.98 g, 20 mm.
Cf. Balog 1964:292, No. 662.

3. Reg. No. 5068, L512, IAA 119159.
Al-Ashraf Abu Naṣr Qā'itbāy, 1468–1495 CE.
Obv.: center قايتبا
Rev.: center, petalled ornamentation.
Æ, 2.13 g, 18 mm.
Unpublished.

4. Reg. No. 5021, L500, IAA 119155.
Mamluk, Damascus, end of 14th century CE.
Obv.: center بد[مشق]
Rev.: center ...الظ
Æ, 2.13 g, 15 mm.

5. Reg. No. 5125, L532, IAA 119156.
Mamluk, end of 14th–15th centuries CE.
Æ, 3.52 g, 22 mm.

NOTE

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