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The Coins from Ẓahal Square Tunnel, Jerusalem

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The salvage excavation in Ẓahal Square Tunnel, located outside the northwestern corner of the Old City walls of Jerusalem, yielded a total of 26 coins (see Weksler-Bdolah, this volume). Of these, 21 coins could be identified (see Catalogue, below),[1] all of which are bronze, except for Cat. Nos. 17–19, which are silver. The coins were retrieved from two of the four strata identified in the excavation: Stratum II (Mamluk period; thirteenth–fifteenth centuries CE) and Stratum I (late Ottoman period; nineteenth–twentieth centuries CE).

The Coins

The coins date between the Early Roman (late first century BCE) and the late Ottoman (late eighteenth–early twentieth centuries CE) periods. Four of the coins (Cat. Nos. 1–4) were residual finds, retrieved from contexts with ceramic material of the Mamluk and Ottoman

Fig. 1. The coins.

[1] The coins were cleaned in the IAA laboratories, headed by Lena Kupferschmidt, and were photographed by Clara Amit of the IAA photography studio.

CATALOGUE

Cat. No.[i]	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date	Mint	Reference	IAA No.
HERODIAN **Herod I (37–4 BCE)**											
1	5028	50069	0.90	14 × 16	6	[---] Anchor	[---] Double cornucopiae with caduceus between horns		Jerusalem	Cf. *TJC*:222, No. 59	97878
UMAYYADS **Post-Reform (AH 77–133/696–750 CE), *fals***											
2*	3011	30025	1.90	17		In center: لاالة/الا الله/ وحد	In center: محمد/رسول/الله To r. palm branch In margin: ضرب (بطبرية)		Tabariyah	*SNAT* 1993:32, No. 347	97882
AYYUBIDS, *fals*											
3	4008	40023	0.41	13		Illegible	Illegible	13th c.			97874
4	5028	50070	0.55	15 × 17		Illegible	Illegible	13th c.			97879
MAMLŪKS **Al Nāṣir Nāṣir al-Dīn Muḥammad, 3rd reign (AH 709–741/1310–1341 CE), *fals***											
5*	5028	50067	2.95	20		In center: الملك الناصر	In center: concave five-petalled rosette In margin: ضرب بدمشق سنة [---]	AH 730/ 1329 CE	Dimashq	Cf. Balog 1964:162, No. 261	97877
6	5028	50073	2.47	17		In center: الملك الناصر	In center: concave five-petalled rosette In margin: [ضرب] بدمشق سنة تلتين [---]	AH 730/ 1329 CE	Dimashq	Cf. Balog 1964:162, No. 261	97880

[i] Coins bearing an asterisk are illustrated in Fig. 1.

CATALOGUE (cont.)

Cat. No.[i]	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date	Mint	Reference	IAA No.
Al-Saliḥ Isma'il 'Imād al-Din (AH 743–746/1342–1345 CE), *fals*											
7	3015	30055	1.11	10 × 20		In center: السلطان [---]/ صالح	In center: [بالقاهرة]	AH 745/ 1343 CE	Al-Qahirah	Cf. Balog 1964:172, No. 285	97871
Al-Ẓāhir Sayf al-din Barqūq, 2nd reign (AH 792–801/1390–1399 CE), *fals*											
8	3020	30118	3	19 × 22		In center: السلطان/ الملك/ الظاهر	Illegible	Undated	Iskandariya	Cf. Balog 1964:265, No. 587	97872
9*	5027	50068	3.41	20 × 23		In center: لظاهر السلطان الملك/ ابوسعيد [---]	In center: fleur-de-lis chalice In margin: [---] و تسعين/ و سبعماية	AH 798/ 1395 CE	Dimashq	Cf. Balog 1964:266, Nos. 590, 591	97876
Mamluks 14th–15th c., *fals*											
10–13	5011 3010 3014 3015	50030 30024 30046 30053				Illegible	Illegible				97875, 97868, 97869, 97870
14	W304	30102	1.83	15		In center: arabesque ornament; below: املعيل	In center: السلطان الملك	14th c.(?)			97881
OTTOMANS Aḥmed I (AH 926–974/1603–1617 CE), *manghir*											
15*	3005	30006	9.25	17		In center: arabesque ornament	In center: مصر المحروسة	AH 1012/ 1603 CE	Misr al-Mahrusa (Egypt)	Valentine 1911:30, No. 14	97867

CATALOGUE (cont.)

Cat. No.[i]	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date	Mint	Reference	IAA No.
17th c.											
16	3020	30128	7.71	17		Illegible	Illegible		Misr-al Mahrusa	Cf. Valentine 1911: Nos. 13–15	97873
Musatafa III (AH 1171–1187/1757–1774 CE), *para*											
17	3009	30013c	0.27	15		Tughra	In center: صرب في اسلمبول		Istanbul	Pere 1968:216, No. 639	
Selim III (AH 1203–1222/1789–1807 CE), *para*											
18	3010	30023	0.28	15		Tughra	In center: صرب في مصر		Misr	Pere 1968:232, No. 717	
Abdul Mejid (AH 1255–1277/1839–1861 CE), *yirmi paralik*											
19	3010	30023	0.28	15		Tughra	In center: [صرب في] قستنطنية		Qustanti-niyeh	Pere 1968:259, No. 888	
20	3006	30012	4.90	28		Tughra	In center: ١٠ In margin: عذ نصره صرب في قستنطنية سنة ١٢٥٥		Qustanti-niyeh	Pere 1968:261, No. 905	
18th–19th c.											
21	3006	30019	0.44	12		Tughra	In center: [---] قستنطنية		Qustanti-niyeh		

periods: a small bronze from Herod's reign (37–4 BCE), an Umayyad-period *fals* (696–750 CE) and two thirteenth-century CE Ayyubid-period *fulus*.

Ten Mamluk-period *fulus* (Cat. Nos. 5–14) were found in fills that sealed the Ayyubid-period defensive moat, which presumably went out of use in 1219–1220 CE (see Weksler-Bdolah, this volume), and in soil accumulations from late Ottoman-period buildings that overlay these fills. The fills sealing the Ayyubid-period moat contained Mamluk-period bowls, jars and jugs (thirteenth–fifteenth centuries CE; see Vincenz, this volume: Fig. 2). The Mamluk-period *fulus* comprise three coins dated to the reign of Al Nāṣir Muḥammad (1329–1343 CE; Cat. Nos. 5–7); two coins dated to the reign of Barqūq (1390–1399 CE; Cat. Nos. 8, 9); and five coin fragments, from the fourteenth–fifteenth centuries CE (Cat. Nos. 10–14).

Seven Ottoman-period coins were retrieved from various contexts of a large structure in Area C, some of which were *in situ*; this structure was originally located along the road leading to the Old City Jaffa Gate. The coins include two small silver currencies, a *para* and a *yirmi paralik*, uncovered from an earthen floor (L3010), and dated, respectively, to the reigns of Selim III (1789–1807 CE; Cat. No. 18) and Abdul Mejid (1839–1861 CE; Cat. No. 19); they were found together with imported and locally-produced vessels of the eighteenth–nineteenth centuries CE (see Vincenz, this volume: Fig. 3:6–12). Five coins from a floor (L3005) and two fills (L3006 and L3009) in the northern rooms of this structure comprise two early seventeenth-century CE copper *manghir* minted in Egypt (Cat. Nos. 15, 16), and eighteenth/nineteenth-century CE silver and copper currencies from the reigns of Musṭafa III (1754–1774 CE; Cat. No. 17) and Abdul Mejid (1839–1861 CE; Cat. Nos. 20, 21); these coins were accompanied by Ottoman-period pottery (see Vincenz, this volume: Fig. 3:1–5).

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