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# The Ottoman and Alawite Coins at the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen

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## Abstract:

This article examines a hoard of about 1,572–1,576 silver coins discovered in December 2015 in Aïn Garaba, near Tlemcen, during water-channel excavation work, and later studied by a team at the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen. After defining the term "sikka" and reviewing coin types (dinar, dirham, fils), the study divides the hoard into two groups: Ottoman coins minted in Algeria (Sultans Mustafa III and Abdul Hamid I), tracing their evolution from Zayyanid to Ottoman style and listing their denominations and honorific titles (Sultan, Khan, Khagan); and Alawite Moroccan coins from the reign of Sultan Muhammad III ibn Abdullah, bearing consistent religious/Qur'anic inscriptions. The conclusion notes the shift from religious to honorific Ottoman inscriptions, the absence of Dey/Pasha names, the distinctiveness of Alawite designs.

**Keywords:** Ottoman coins, Alawite coins, sikka, Aïn Garaba hoard, Tlemcen, Sultan Mustafa III, Sultan Abdul Hamid I, Sultan Muhammad III ibn Abdullah, Zayyanid state, mint (dar as-sikka), Islamic numismatics, royal titles and inscriptions

## INTRODUCTION

The circumstances of discovering the coin collection at the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen date back to December 2015. They were found in the municipality of Aïn Garabâ, when the public works team was digging and extending drinking water channels. They stumbled upon a jar (Image 01) and (Image 02) containing a collection of coins, totaling



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approximately 1572 pieces. After receiving the coin collection, the museum administration began working on it. Professor Dr. Saleh Ben Qorba, at the invitation of Mr. Nour El-Din Ben Azza, the director of the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, visited the museum and contributed to reviewing and correcting the guide material. This scientific article will be an opportune occasion to clarify the work in which Professor Dr. Saleh Ben Qorba, may God have mercy on him, participated and supervised the writing of the guide. Despite his busy schedule and commitments, he did not hesitate to provide guidance to the museum mission and devise an action plan to reach the hands of specialists and enthusiasts in the field of Islamic antiquities, particularly Islamic coins.

Mr. Ben Azza Nour El-Din, the museum director, expressed his desire to introduce the importance of this numismatic treasure by forming a specialized scientific research team in archaeology, namely Mr. Abdeljalil, head of the preservation and restoration department at the museum, and Miss Ben Aïcha Khalidia, head of the inventory, preservation, and restoration department at the museum. They commenced the inventorying and working on the coin collection through several sessions."

### 1. Definition of "Sikka" (Stamped Currency Piece)

Ibn Khaldun sees the closest meaning of "sikka" as the stamp on dinars and dirhams used by the general public, with an iron stamp on which images or inverted words are engraved. It is struck on the piece, revealing and imprinting designs and inscriptions on it (Abdul-Rahman, 1377, p. 285). As for Al-Mawardi, he says: "Sikka" is the stamped piece on which dirhams are imprinted, hence the name "sikka" for stamped dirhams (Al-Mawardi, 1973, p. 197).

"Sikka" is a plural term for "sikka" or "masakik," and it refers to two meanings. The first is the engraved iron stamp on which coins are imprinted. The second meaning refers to these stamped coins (Khalifi, 2011, p. 46), indicating metallic monetary pieces of various types, weights, and metals used by people in their various commercial and financial transactions (Al-Nabrawi, 1988, p. 125).

The "sikka" is an official document that cannot be easily challenged. It is one of the most important sources of history, revealing many hidden aspects and historical facts that historians have either accidentally or intentionally overlooked, despite its importance in chronological order and political life (Qorba, 2005, p. 15).

### 2. Types of Currency

- **Dinar:** It is a word derived from the Latin term "dinarius" and refers to coins made of gold (Mousa, 2006, p. 05). It was known to the Arabs and used by them before and after Islam. Many linguists agree that the words "dinar" and "dirham" are borrowed in Arabic, but they differ in their origin (Al-Mazandarani, 1988, p. 05).

- **Dirham:** It is the silver currency, a word of Greek origin adopted by Arabs. It is said that Arabs took the name "dirham" from the Persian word "zadram" (Mousa, 2006, p. 05).

- **Alfils:** A Greek word meaning "money bag." It refers to all non-gold and non-silver metal coins, collectively known as "sikka" in Arabic (Mousa, 2006, p. 05).

### 3. Location of Coin Discovery

The currency treasure was found in Ain Garaba, a municipality within the municipalities of Tlemcen. Ain Garaba is located about 25 km away from the capital of the province. The municipality of Ain Garaba, known for Bani Hadil, is situated in the northwest of the city of Tlemcen. It is bordered to the north and east by the municipality of Tirnine Bani Hadil, to the south by the municipality of Sbdou, and to the west by the municipalities of El Azail and Bani Bahdel of Bani Sanous. The municipality was established in 1984 according to administrative division and is part of the Mansoura district, covering an estimated area of 102 km<sup>2</sup>.

### 4. Laboratory Work on the Discovered Coin Collection

As previously mentioned, in the interest of preserving and documenting this discovered coin collection, Mr. Ben Azza Nour Al-Din, the museum director, formed a scientific team. The team commenced their work by inventorying the collection multiple times before conducting a detailed study. A total of 1576 coins were counted, with a combined weight of 1424.42 grams. Due to the presence of oxide layers adhering to the coins (Image 03), they were immersed in a distilled water bath to remove the substances clinging to the pieces. Subsequently, they were cleaned using other materials without affecting the inscriptions. This process took a considerable amount of time (Image 04). The next phase involved determining the net weight, which amounted to 1237.97 grams, with a difference of 186.45 grams. The team then individually weighed each coin, ranging from 0.35 grams to 3.43 grams, identifying the type of metal used for the coins, which was silver (The National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, 2020, p. 26).

### 5. The Discovered Coin Collection

Coins have been a means of financial exchange among nations since ancient times, serving as a significant source for historical, archaeological, and Islamic civilization studies. They hold great importance in all aspects of life and are considered a prominent area of study for archaeologists and historians. Through the study of coins, we can uncover historical facts and deduce the following civilizational insights:

The coin is an official document in historical studies and is one of the most important emblems of a state. It bears the names of significant emperors, rulers, governors, princes, titles, cities, and the coin's date of issuance. It helps us understand the symbolism and recognize the transitional stages from Byzantine coinage to Arabization and the associated transactions and exchanges.

All of these cultural data apply to the numismatic collection of the National Museum of Art and History in the province of Tlemcen, which dates back to the Islamic period. The collection is divided into two different numismatic groups. The first group consists of Ottoman silver

coins minted in Algeria, while the second group consists of Alawi silver coins minted in Morocco (The National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, 2020, p. 16).

#### First Group

- **Sultan Mustafa III:** (16 Safar 1171 AH/30 October 1757 CE to 8 Dhu al-Qi'dah 1187 AH/21 January 1774 CE).
- **Sultan Abdul Hamid I:** (8 Dhu al-Qi'dah 1187 AH/21 January 1774 CE to 10 Rajab 1203 AH/7 April 1789 CE). (Image 05)

### 6. Ottoman Currency in Algeria

The Algerian currency underwent a transitional phase from the Zayyanid era to the Ottoman era in both its form and content. During this period, the appearance of the coins remained in the Zayyanid style, with the addition of the names of Ottoman sultans, their titles, and supplications to them. This continued for over half a century until a new style emerged, differing from its predecessor in weight, shape, and content. Consequently, the weights, minting centers, and written inscriptions changed to reflect the loyalty of the rulers of Algeria to the Ottoman Empire (Laaraj, 2011).

The Ottoman currency in Algeria varied in terms of materials, dimensions, names, and values. The minting centers also differed, witnessing significant transformations in their styles, written inscriptions, and decorations (Laaraj, 2011). During the era of the Beyliks, various types of gold, silver, and copper coins were minted in Algeria. However, they were confined to two distinct styles (Driass, 1989, p. 90).

#### 6.1 Minted Currency in Tlemcen

This type of currency was minted at the mint (dar as-sikka) located in Tlemcen until the early 17th century (Driass, 1989, p. 90). The minted currency in Tlemcen went through two stages (Laaraj, 2011).

- **First Stage:** The currency maintained the Zayyanid style in both form and content before Tlemcen fell into the hands of the Ottomans in 962 AH/1554 CE. During this stage, the city and the Zayyanid rule were under the influence of the Ottomans before Tlemcen's fall to the Ottomans in 1554 CE, as indicated by historical texts (Laaraj, 2011).
- **Second Stage:** This stage begins with Tlemcen being incorporated into the Ottoman provinces and the elimination of Zayyanid rule in 962 AH/1554 CE. During this time, the coins were minted in the Ottoman style in terms of content while preserving the Zayyanid form. This stage continued until the first quarter of the 17th century when the minting activity in Tlemcen came to a complete halt due to neglect (Laaraj, 2011).

#### 6.2 Minted Currency in Algiers

The Ottoman currency in Algiers adhered to the metal content, value, and weight according to the standards set by the Ottoman official mint in Istanbul. The coins minted at the mint

(dar as-sikka) in Algiers bore the name of the Ottoman sultan, starting from the annexation of Algiers to the Ottoman Empire in 1518 CE until the French occupation in 1830 CE.

### 6.3 Types of Ottoman Coins

We mention the Ottoman coins in Algeria in the order of their value, from the most valuable to the least, in the Algerian currency scale as follows:

- **Sultan:** A gold coin that was rarely circulated due to its high value. Ottoman dinars were known as "Sultanis" because the Ottoman rulers were titled Sultan, and their gold dinars became famous as Sultanis. They were known by this name in most Ottoman territories (Al-Azzawi, 1958, p. 135). The Sultan was initially 3.4 grams in weight, later reduced to 3.1 grams. Due to being made of gold, it had limited circulation. Its production declined in the 19th century. It was also known as "Sikke-i Sultan" or "Fendeq Alton" (Laaraj, 2011). Europeans referred to it as "Sikke of Algeria."
- **Bujo:** Made of silver.
- **Zoj Bujo or Algerian Dirham:** A small silver coin. The Arabic term "Bujo" means the coin. Arabs referred to it as the Algerian Dirham.
- **Rabi:** A quarter of a Bujo.
- **Aqja:** The smallest unit of Ottoman silver coins, often mentioned as "Iksha" in Egyptian historical sources. The Turkish word Aqja linguistically means "struck to whiteness" (Sabban, 2000, p. 20). The first Aqja was minted under the name "Orkhan" in 739 AH / 1328 CE. These coins were similar to those struck by the Seljuks, resembling the Byzantine style. The word "Aqja," used for this coin in Asia Minor, translates to "white" and was common in Byzantium since the 4th century AH / 10th century CE (El-Sayyid, 2001, p. 79).
- **Sayyima:** A round-shaped coin.
- **Mawzuna:** A small artistic piece, equivalent to twenty-six Aspers, used for exchange, paying salaries, and daily transactions. These coins were in circulation between Algerians until 1847 CE. It's important to note that the coin known as "Bu Midafe" was issued by Prince Abd al-Qadir and was not Ottoman.

### 6.4 Titles and Inscriptions on Ottoman Coins in Algeria

Ottoman coins in Algeria exhibited a variety by combining the circular shape distinctive to Islamic coinage until the end of the Almoravid era and the square shape characteristic of the Muwahhid dinars. Some coins integrated both shapes.

Regarding the content, a radical change occurred in the Ottoman style, removing all religious texts and replacing them with honorary titles and prayers for the Ottoman Sultan. Notably, Algerian coins during the Ottoman era displayed a multitude of titles, sometimes reaching up to five titles on a single coin. Among the most significant titles were "Malik al-Barein wa al-Bahrayn wa al-Sham wa al-Iraqayn" (King of the Two Lands, the Two Seas, Sham, and Iraq), "Sahib al-Nasr wa al-Adl, Saman al-Sultan" (Master of Victory and Justice, Sultan's Standard-

bearer), and "Dharib al-Darr, Sahib al-Az wa al-Nasr fi al-Bar wa al-Bahr" (Striker of Harm, Possessor of Glory and Victory on Land and Sea), "Sultan al-Barein wa Khakan al-Bahrayn" (Sultan of the Two Lands and Khan of the Two Seas), "Sahib al-Barein wa al-Bahrayn" (Master of the Two Lands and the Two Seas), and others (Driass, 1989, p. 256).

**Table (01):** Representing the most important names of the Ottoman Sultans and their titles

| Sultan Names             | His titles found on his coins include:                                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Abu Muhammad Abdullah II | Al-Mutawakkil 'ala Allah (Relying on God)                               |
|                          | Amir al-Mu'minin (Commander of the Faithful)                            |
| Abu al-Rabee Suleiman    | Al-Mutawakkil 'ala Allah Amir al-Mu'minin                               |
| Abu Abdullah Muhammad    | Darrab al-Nadr, Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr<br>Sultan Khan |
| Suleiman the First       | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Sultan, Shah                                                            |
|                          | Darrab al-Nadr, Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr<br>Sultan Khan |
| Suleiman the First       | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Sultan, Shah                                                            |
|                          | Darrab al-Nadr, Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                |
| Suleiman II              | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Malik al-Barein wal-Bahrain wa al-Sham wa al-'Iraqayn                   |
|                          | Sahib al-Nasr wal-Adl wa Saman al-Sultan ibn al-Sultan                  |
|                          | Malik al-Barein wal-Bahrain wa al-Sham wa al-'Iraqayn                   |
| Murad III                | Sahib al-'Izz al-Mum                                                    |
|                          | Sultan ibn al-Sultan                                                    |
|                          | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Darrab al-Nadr, Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                |
| Muhammad III             | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Darrab al-Nadr, Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                |
| Muhammad III             | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan              |
|                          | Sultan, Khan                                                            |
|                          | Sahib al-Barein wa al-Bahrain                                           |
| Ibrahim I                | Sultan, Khan                                                            |

|                                                                         |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                         | Sultan Khagan al-Barein wa al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
|                                                                         | Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                         |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan, Khan |
|                                                                         | Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                         |
| Muhammad IV                                                             | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
| Ahmed III                                                               | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
|                                                                         | Sultan                                                           |
| Mahmud I                                                                | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
| Osman III                                                               | Sahib al-'Izz wal-Nasr fil-Barr wal-Bahr                         |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
|                                                                         | Sultan                                                           |
| Mustafa III<br>The silver coins that were found date back to his reign  | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
| Abdülhamid I<br>The silver coins that were found date back to his reign | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain Sultan ibn al-Sultan       |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
| Selim III                                                               | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
| Mustafa IV                                                              | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
| Mahmud II                                                               | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain                            |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |
|                                                                         | Sultan al-Barein wa Khagan al-Bahrain                            |
|                                                                         | Sultan, Khan                                                     |

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on (Driass, 1989, p. 256)

It is worth mentioning that all coins minted in Algeria bore the name of the Ottoman Sultan and never carried the name of the Dey. The coinage in the name of the Ottoman Sultan served as a symbol of loyalty to him. This is indicated by the radiant language of Khayr al-Din Barbarossa in Algeria, as he stated, "I have come to the conclusion that we should rely on the protection of this city through the obedience to the great Sultan, our master, Selim, may God grant him victory. He will provide us with the money, men, and all the tools of jihad that we need. This will only be achieved by pledging allegiance to him and striking the coin in his name" (al-Tilimsani, 2017, p. 107). It is worth noting that the currency in circulation in Algeria during the Ottoman period was not entirely locally produced, but rather had two types: local currency and imported currency of foreign origin (Saeedoni, 2012, p. 179).

All of the supplications were expressed in short and simple phrases, emphasizing dignity, support, victory, and the eternal reign of the king. Examples include "May his reign be eternal" and "May his victory and support be glorified." In addition, the supplications included mentioning the Sultan's name and the minting city (Driass, 1989, p. 261). In conclusion, Ottoman coins did not bear lengthy supplications. They typically carried the Sultan's name, his father's name, the name of the mint, the date of minting, and occasionally short supplications like "May his reign endure" and "May his victory be glorious."

### 6.5 Meanings of the Inscriptions on the Discovered Coinage

- **Sultan:** A title indicating the highest rank, written individually or inscribed in phrases like "Sultan bin Sultan," "Sultan of Islam," "Sultan of the Muslims," "Sultan of land and sea," "Sultan of the two lands," or "Sultan of the world" (Driass, 1989, p. 261).
- **Khan:** Ibn Battuta mentioned that the term "Khan" signifies authority among the Mongol kings in Persia and Iraq. It is sometimes appended to "A'zam" or "Adil" (Battuta, 1956). This term refers to the chief or head. It was used by the Mongols and chiefs of Turkish tribes in the first and second centuries of Hijra, approximately the 7th century AD (Battuta, 1956, p. 126). It denoted rulers in Eastern states and the princes of Crimea (Sabban, 2000, p. 95).
- **Khagan:** It means the supreme ruler (al-Ansi, 1900, p. 233). Its origin is "Khaan Khaan" or "Khaan of Khans," then "Qaghan" (al-Karmali, 1939, p. 134). It is said to be the Arabic representation of the title "Khagan," which the Turkish sultans used. They were rulers of ancient, deep-rooted peoples who referred to themselves as Turks since the 6th century AD. They adopted this title from their ancestors (Barkat, 2000, p. 19).
- **'Az Nasroh** ("عز نصره"): It is a short and simple phrase expressing a prayer, emphasizing support and victory.

Below is a table featuring some examples of the discovered Ottoman silver coins exhibited in the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen.

**Table (02):** Some examples of the discovered Ottoman silver coins exhibited in the National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen

| number 01 Model                                                                           | number 02 Model                                            | number 03 Model                                                           | number 04 Model                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Obverse: sultan abdul hamid khan, az naseer (a the " meaning title ("supporter of triumph | Obverse: sultan mustafa                                    | Obverse: sultan abdul hamid khan, glory to his victory                    | Obverse: sultan mustafa                                    |
| Reverse: struck in Algeria                                                                | Reverse: struck in Algeria                                 | Reverse: struck in Algeria                                                | Reverse: struck in Algeria                                 |
| Year: 1189 (hijri year)                                                                   | Year: 1185 (hijri year)                                    | Year: 1191 (hijri year)                                                   | Year: 1184 (hijri year)                                    |
| Diameter: 2 cm                                                                            | Diameter: 1.8 cm                                           | Diameter: 2 cm                                                            | Diameter: 1.6 cm                                           |
| Weight: 3.40 grams                                                                        | Weight: 1.71 grams                                         | Weight: 3.43 grams                                                        | Weight: 1.70 grams                                         |
| Ornaments: a fruit plate, a ,lily flower, a circular motif .and geometric patterns        | Ornaments: a fruit plate, a lily flower, a .circular motif | Ornaments: a fruit plate, a lily flower, a circular motif, and .crescents | Ornaments: a fruit plate, a lily flower, a .circular motif |

**Source:** Prepared by the researcher based on (The National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, 2020)

## Second Group:

This group includes Moroccan Alawi silver coins minted during the reign of Sultan Alawi Muhammad III, whose rule lasted from (20 Safar 1171 H / 3 November 1757 CE / 24 Rajab 1204 H / 9 April 1790 CE) (The National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, 2020, p. 17).

Muhammad III bin Abdullah was born in 1710 CE and passed away in 1790 CE. He was a Moroccan sultan from the Alawi dynasty, ruling from 1757 CE to 1790 CE. Sources state that he ruled for 44 years. He was sworn in as Sultan in Marrakesh in 1171 H. Al-Salawi said: "People from Marrakesh and the tribes of the region crowded to support his swearing-in. Delegations from Sus also came... and the people of Fez, including scholars, dignitaries, and various other notable figures, as well as Berber tribes, mountain dwellers, and frontier people... Then the swearing-in in Fez was unanimous among the elites and the common people." He assumed power in challenging circumstances right after a period of unrest<sup>1</sup>.

The Alawites trace their lineage to their honorable ancestor, descending from Imam Ali ibn Abi Talib (may Allah be pleased with him). They settled in Sijilmasa in Tafilalt, Morocco, coming from an area called Yanbu in the Hijaz. From there, they embarked on building their state,

### 1- For more information, see:

- Ahmad al-Slaoui, "Al-Istiqsa' li Akhbar Duwal al-Maghrib," edited by Othman Muhammad, Dar al-Kutub al-Ilmiyah, published by Muhammad Li Beydoun, Beirut, Lebanon.
- Abu al-Faraj al-Isfahani (died 365 AH), "Kitab al-Aghani," edited by Ihsan Abbas and others, vol. 1, Dar Sader, Beirut, Lebanon, 2002 CE.

which is considered the third Sharifian state after the Aghlabids and the Saadians (Mohamed & Al-Rahmani, p. 212). Historical books mention that the Alawites began to exercise their authority starting from the year 1640 CE, in the region of Sijilmasa. The inhabitants of Fez only recognized their authority during the rule of Moulay Muhammad in 1649 CE. The Alawite dynasty contended with the Ottoman Empire that ruled over Algeria (Maarrish, 1989, p. 191). The inscriptions on Alawi coins showed similarity despite differences in place and time of minting. The most important Qur'anic references on the coins were from Surah Al-Isra, Hajj, Shura, and Al-Ma'ida. The inscriptions on Alawi coins included:

– Allah is One / Allah is One / Allah is the Truth, the Supporter of Truth, the Manifest / The Caller to Truth / The Guide to Truth / The Victorious for Truth / Son of the Messenger of Allah / Born of the Master of Messengers / The Sharif, the Prophetic / The Executor of Allah's command / Al-Hasani / The Sharif.

Historical books mention that the inscription "One Allah" was recorded by the Prophet (peace be upon him) on the flags of the Muslims during the Battle of Hunain in 8 H (Al-Tabari, 1968, p. 295).

It is reported that Morocco had foreign relations with several foreign countries, especially Portugal, which played an extremely important role. Farthest Morocco was financing them with wheat, while the Portuguese court contemplated sending a gift to Sultan Alawi Muhammad bin Abdullah (the owner of the discovered coins in Ain Garaba). The gift consisted of a set of coin minting tools, as well as a large number of specialists in this craft to teach Moroccans and train them in using these tools (Lourido, 1976, p. 63).

The weight of the discovered Alawi silver coins ranges from 0.35 grams to 3.45 grams. Some examples are shown in the table below: (Image No. 07) and (Image No. 06)

**Table (03):** Some examples of the weight of the discovered coins

| Model number 01                   | Model number 02                                                                                            | Model number 03                               | Model number 04                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Obverse: Fes (Fez) 1192           | Obverse: "La ilaha illallah, al-amr kulluhu lillah" (There is no god but Allah, all matters are for Allah) | Obverse: Struck in Marrakech in the year 1184 | Obverse: Meknes in the year 1190 |
| Ahad " :Reverse One, ) "Ahad (One | Reverse: "Allah Haq Naser al-Haq" (Allah is the Truth, the Helper of the Truth)                            | Reverse: Struck in Marrakech in the year 1184 | Reverse: One of one              |
| Diameter: 1.6 cm                  | Diameter: 1.9 cm                                                                                           | Diameter: 2 cm                                | Diameter: 1.7 cm                 |
| Weight: 0.69 g                    | Weight: 0.71 g                                                                                             | Weight: 2.77 g                                | Weight: 0.69 g                   |

Ornaments: Circular  
motif

**Source:** Prepared by the researcher based on (The National Public Museum of Art and History in Tlemcen, 2020)

## CONCLUSION

Through this study, we have arrived at several key general results, summarized as follows:

- A radical change occurred in the Ottoman style, where all religious texts were removed and replaced with honorary titles and invocations for the Ottoman Sultan.
- The multiple and abundant titles on Ottoman currency in Algeria, sometimes reaching up to five titles on a single piece.
- Absence of the names of deys and pashas on Ottoman coins, only the Sultan's title was present.
- Alawi coins are distinctive for their abundance and variety of models. They can be easily recognized without difficulty, unlike the coins of previous states.
- The similarity of the inscriptions on Alawi coins despite differences in location and time of minting.
- The prevalence of coin mints for Alawi currency. Nine locations in Moroccan cities that had their names imprinted on the coins have been counted. (Map No. 01) and (Image No. 08)

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## Appendices

**Map number 01:** Represents the names of cities of coin minting places engraved on the discovered coins, from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen.

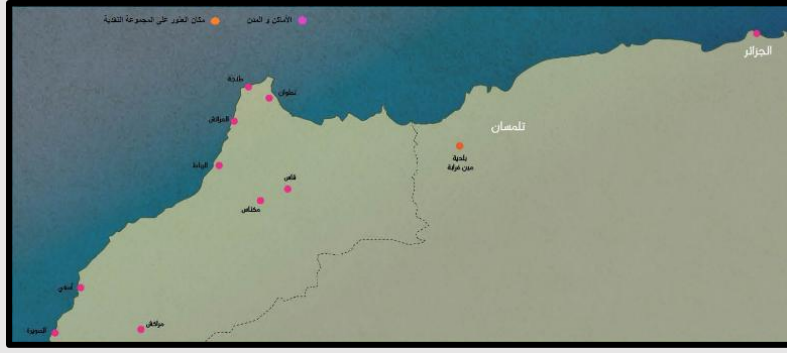


Image number 01: The jar in which the monetary treasure was found (from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen).



Image number 02: Location of finding the coin (from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen).



Image number 03: The coin before cleaning (from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen).



Image number 04: The coin after cleaning (from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen).



Image number 05: Ottoman coin dating back to Sultan Abdul Hamid (1190 AH), from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen.



Image number 06: Alawi coin dating back to Sultan Muhammad III ibn Abdullah (1189 AH), struck in Souira (from the Egyptian National Library and Archives) Catalog number: 1982 504 Record number: 4964.



Image number 07: Alawi coin dating back to Sultan Muhammad III ibn Abdullah (1189 AH), from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen.



Image number 08: Images of silver coins showing different coin minting places in Algeria and Morocco, from the National Museum of Fine Arts and History in Tlemcen.

