



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Coloured Ceramics of the Caliphs: A new look at the Abbasid pottery finds from the old Gözlükule excavations at Tarsus

Bagci, Y.; Bagci Y.

Citation

Bagci, Y. (2017, November 29). *Coloured Ceramics of the Caliphs: A new look at the Abbasid pottery finds from the old Gözlükule excavations at Tarsus*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/55980>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/55980>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/55980> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Bagci, Y.

Title: Coloured Ceramics of the Caliphs: A new look at the Abbasid pottery finds from the old Gözlükule excavations at Tarsus

Issue Date: 2017-11-29

CURRICULUM VITAE

Yasemin Bağcı (Colombus, U.S.A., 1984) studied at the Fine Arts department of the École Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs de Strasbourg (France). She specialised in drawing, video and sound installations. She also followed ceramic courses at the Ankara Hacettepe University (Turkey). She has a master's degree in Anatolian Civilisations and Cultural Heritage Management at Koç University (Turkey). She wrote her MA thesis with Prof. Scott Redford about a collection of late medieval ceramics of Cilicia and the Antioch region belonging to the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. Her PhD thesis, which was supervised by Prof. Frans Theuws, Prof. Peter Akkermans and Dr. Joanita Vroom, focuses on the early Islamic pottery finds of the 1935-1947 excavations conducted on the Gözlükule mound in Tarsus.

Her research interest covers the art and archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean and the Islamic world, material culture and ceramic studies, connectivity, ethnoarchaeological studies, digital archaeology, visualization techniques and museum studies. Furthermore, she is more and more involved in exploring new methods to make archaeology available to a wider audience, in particular how new technologies can be used in exhibition practices.

NOTES ON TRANSLITERATIONS

Arabic words were transliterated following the IJMES (*International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*) Transliteration System with the generous help of Alexandra Pleša.¹ In order to facilitate their identification, names of towns and archaeological sites were generally given in their contemporary English form when possible (e.g., Samarra or Antioch). In the cases where an English form is absent, the Turkish toponyms are cited (e.g., Gözlükule or Kırşehir). A similar approach was adopted for technical terms which have an accepted English spelling found in the Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, these were used in their English forms (e.g., jihad, sheikh).

IJMES TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM FOR ARABIC, PERSIAN, AND TURKISH														
CONSONANTS														
A = Arabic, P = Persian, OT = Ottoman Turkish, MT = Modern Turkish														
	A	P	OT	MT		A	P	OT	MT		A	P	OT	MT
ء	ʾ	ʾ	ʾ	—	ز	z	z	z	z	ك	k	k or g	k or n	k or n
ب	b	b	b	b or p	ژ	—	zh	j	j				or y	or y
پ	—	p	p	p	س	s	s	s	s				or ğ	or ğ
ت	t	t	t	t	ش	sh	sh	ş	ş	گ	—	g	g	g
ث	th	ṡ	ṡ	s	ص	ṡ	ṡ	ṡ	s	ل	l	l	l	l
ج	j	j	c	c	ض	ḍ	ḍ	ḍ	z	م	m	m	m	m
چ	—	ch	ç	ç	ط	ṭ	ṭ	ṭ	t	ن	n	n	n	n
ح	ḥ	ḥ	ḥ	h	ظ	ẓ	ẓ	ẓ	z	ه	h	h	h ¹	h ¹
خ	kh	kh	h	h	ع	ʿ	ʿ	ʿ	—	و	w	v or u	v	v
د	d	d	d	d	غ	gh	gh	g or ğ	g or ğ	ي	y	y	y	y
ذ	dh	z	z	z	ف	f	f	f	f	ة	a ²			
ر	r	r	r	r	ق	q	q	q	k	ال				

¹ When h is not final. ² In construct state: at. ³ For the article, al- and -l-.

VOWELS													
ARABIC AND PERSIAN							OTTOMAN AND MODERN TURKISH						
Long	ا	or	آ	ā			ā	{ words of Arabic and Persian origin only					
	و		ū				ū						
	ي		ī				ī						
Doubled	آ		īy	(final form ī)			iy	(final form ī)					
	آ		uww	(final form ū)			uvv						
Diphthongs	أ		au	or aw			ev						
	إ		ai	or ay			ey						
Short	أ		a				a or e						
	أ		u				u or ü / o or ö						
	إ		i				i or i						

For Ottoman Turkish, authors may either transliterate or use the modern Turkish orthography.

¹ https://ijmes.chass.ncsu.edu/IJMES_Translation_and_Transliteration_Guide.

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

List of figures

Fig. 1a Map of the Near East and Egypt (Kennedy 2004, fig. 1)

Fig. 1b Map of Cilicia (from Redford and Blackman 2005, 86)

Fig. 2.1.1.1 Map of Cilicia (Özyar *et al.* 2005, 8)

Fig. 2.1.2.1 Location of the mound of Gözlükule in Tarsus (from Özyar *et al.* 2005, 10)

Fig. 2.1.2.2 Topographic map of the mound of Gözlükule (from Özener *et al.* 2005, 53)

Fig. 2.1.3.1 Topographical and oro-hydrological map of the Tarsus river catchment area and location of the Tarsus plain (Öner *et al.* 2005, 72)

Fig. 2.1.3.2 Stratigraphical formation of the Gözlükule mound (Öner *et al.* 2005, 79)

Fig. 2.1.3.3 Paleographical map of the Tarsus plain (from Öner *et al.* 2005, 76)

Fig. 2.1.4.1 View of Gözlükule in Tarsus (www.tarsus.boun.edu.tr)

Fig. 2.1.4.2 View of the trenches in 2012. In the section of the excavated area, the light-coloured earth extending vertically towards the depression may be the Goldman trenches (www.tarsus.boun.edu.tr)

Fig. 2.1.4.3 Topographical map of Gözlükule showing the section dug by Hetty Goldman's team and the five new trenches to its north (www.tarsus.boun.edu.tr)

Fig. 2.2.1.1a The two editions of Barker's book on Cilicia: *The birthland of Saint Paul, Cilicia: its former history and present state* (1850s); *Lares and Penates* (1853)

Fig. 2.2.1.1b Examples of *terraccottas* from *Lares and Penates* (1853)

Fig. 2.2.1.2 The mound of Gözlükule, at the turn of the 20th century. Below, on the left, probably holes that Langlois dug in the 19th century (Öz 1991)

Fig. 2.2.1.3 Excavation projects in Turkey between 1930 and 1939

Fig. 2.2.1.4 Repartition of team members during the Gözlükule Excavation Project (between 1935-1948) according to their gender (Goldman 1935, 1936, 1938 *passim*)

Fig. 2.2.1.5 The logo of the University of Ankara, the "Hittite Sun Disk" recovered from Alacahöyük and the logo of the Ankara municipality (images from internet)

Fig. 2.2.1.6 Excavations initiated in central Anatolia between 1930-1940 on the basis of Table 2.2.1.2

Fig. 2.2.1.7 Topographic map of the mound in the 1930s (Goldman 1935)

Fig. 2.2.1.8 Nationality of team members (Goldman *passim*)

Fig. 2.2.2.1 Hetty Goldman in 1903 (left) and in 1912 (right) (www.ias.edu)

Fig. 2.2.2.2 Publications of Florence Day between 1935-1962 based on the following table

Fig. 2.2.3.1 Photograph of the Islamic building in section 5 from the East (from Goldman 1935, 549)

Fig. 2.2.3.2a Florence Day's working sheet with pottery terminology (original file from Tarsus Gözlükule Archaeological Project Digitised Archive)

Fig. 2.2.3.2b Florence Day's working sheet with pottery terminology (transcription)

Fig. 2.2.3.3a Example of pottery sheet: piece no. 38.1820 with Kufic inscription, classified as Umayyad (from Tarsus Gözlükule Archaeological Project Digitised Archive)

Fig. 2.2.3.3b Example of pottery sheet: piece no. 38.1820 with Kufic inscription, classified as Umayyad

Fig. 3.2.1.1 (Cobb 2001, fig. 1)

Fig. 3.2.2.1 (Redford 1986, fig. 1)

Fig. 3.2.3.1 Archaeological sites with medieval occupation in Tarsus (after Özyar *et al.* 2005, fig. 2)

Fig. 3.2.3.2 Archaeological sites with medieval occupation in Cilicia and the region of Niğde (after Mondin 2012, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.1.1 Major sites of the Abbasid period excavated after the 1970s. The rectangles show surveys, from West to East, the Amuq plain, Birecik-Carcemish Dam, Kurban Höyük, Lidar Höyük and the Balikh survey (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.1 Vessel shapes and decorative motifs of White Opaque Glazed Ware with cobalt blue decoration (from Mason 1997)

Fig. 4.2.2a Distribution of White Opaque Glazed Ware with cobalt blue decoration in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.2b Long-distance distribution of White Opaque Glazed Ware with cobalt blue decoration (after google map)

Fig. 4.2.3a Terminology used for vessel shapes and decorative motifs of Lustrewares (from Mason 1997)

Fig. 4.2.3b Vessel shapes of Lustrewares (from Mason 1997)

Fig. 4.2.4a Distribution of Lustrewares in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.4b Long-distance distribution of Lustrewares (after google map)

Fig. 4.2.5 Distribution of Glazed Relief Ware in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.6 Distribution of White Opaque Glazed Ware with turquoise and other colour in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.7 Distribution of Splash Glazed Ware and Polychrome Sgraffito Ware in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.8 Distribution of Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.9a Distribution of Unglazed Buff Ware in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.9b Distribution of Unglazed Moulded Ware in the Near East and Egypt (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 4.2.10 Distribution of Brittle Ware in the Near East (after Rousset 1996, fig. 1)

Fig. 5.1 Gözlükule mound contour map as published by Goldman, showing section A and section B, scale 1:100, contour interval 1 m. (cross-hatched: modern building; dotted walls: Roman; hatched walls: early first millennium B.C.E; outlined building in section A Hittite; solid wall third millennium B.C.E.) (after Goldman 1950 vol. 1, Plan 1). The limits of the trenches were deducted from original documents such as excavation maps and diaries and therefore these represent estimations. The yellow hatchings in the trenches show the approximate layout of the Abbasid settlement

Fig. 5.2 Goldman's plan of the late Roman level in section B with the indication of the location of the Islamic building in the northeastern part of the section (Goldman 1950 vol. 1, Plan 6). The north arrow is different from that in figure 5.4.1

- Fig. 5.3 Map of trench 5 (section B) drawn by the architect Dorothy Cox (scale probably 1:100) (From Tarsus Gözlükule Archaeological Project Digitised Archive, Virginia Grace, 1935, Trench 5 report)
- Fig. 5.4 Original plan of the “villa” made by Grace (scale c. 1:100) (V.G. “Villa Book” 1935, 251-252)
- Fig. 5.5a Plan of trench 5 in section B showing the early Islamic layer with the late Roman stratum (synthesis of Fig. 5.1, Fig. 5.2, Fig. 5.3 and Fig. 5.4). The limits of the plans on Fig. 5.2 and Fig. 5.3 are different and so are the indications of the north. Therefore, the scale and the north are approximate
- Fig. 5.5b Plan of trench 5 showing the early Islamic layer with the long street (in the centre), rooms/dwellings on each side. The “villa” is on the northeast (synthesis of Fig. 5.3 and Fig. 5.4)
- Fig. 5.5c New plan of the villa, close up of Fig. 5.5b
- Fig. 5.6 Extension 2 from South, wall A to the left, wall P to the right. Photo T470, “Medieval Street from South, Intrusion 16 in foreground” (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.7 Extension 2. Photo T155 “Drain broken through by wall P”, Intrusion 16 in foreground, Intrusion 17 in background (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.8 Islamic building from the East (Goldman 1935, fig. 39)
- Fig. 5.9 Photo T151 “Villa from South/West on April 24 1935”, the marble doorsill of the villa is on the left side of the photo (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.10 Photo T459 “Trench 5, Extension 3, Villa, drainage in “East Room”. Looking from North, well 4 in the foreground (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.11 Photo T152 “Waterworks in ‘East Room’ of villa” with the excavator Virginia Grace. Looking from the southeast of Extension 3 (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.12 Photo T156 with workman “Trench 5, Extension 5, from South showing the 0.50 floor (0.80 floor) and stones”. In foreground is “East Street” before it was excavated (Bryn Mawr Gözlükule Photo Archive)
- Fig. 5.13 Abbasid houses in Susa and Siraf (Iran), Fustat C-house 3-3 (Egypt) and Tarsus (Turkey) (after Hardy Guilbert 1984, fig. 38, 203)
- Fig. 5.14 Find sheet of the stucco piece uncovered in “East Street”. The inventory sheet was completed by Florence Day (Tarsus Gözlükule Archaeological Project Digitised Archive)
- Fig. 5.15 Distribution of the classes of the villa ceramic assemblage according to sherd count (blue) and weight (red)
- Fig. 5.16 Distribution of the pottery in the rooms of the villa according to sherd count (top) and weight (bottom)
- Fig. 5.17 Distribution of the pottery in the rooms of the villa according to sherd count (number of rim, base, handle and body pieces) and weight
- Fig. 5.18 Distribution of the pottery classes in the rooms of the villa (based on sherd count)
- Fig. 5.19 Distribution of the pottery classes in the rooms of the villa (based on sherd count)
- Fig. 6.2.1 Fabric of White Opaque Glazed Ware with cobalt blue decoration
- Fig. 6.2.2 Fabric of Polychrome Lustreware
- Fig. 6.2.3 Fabric of Monochrome Lustreware
- Fig. 6.2.4 Fabric of White Opaque Glazed Ware Imitation

Fig. 6.2.5 Fabric of White Opaque Glazed Ware Imitation with turquoise and other decoration

Fig. 6.2.6a Fabric of Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware (finer)

Fig. 6.2.6b Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware (coarser)

Fig. 6.2.7 Fabric of Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware with green and black

Fig. 6.2.8 Fabric of Splash Glazed Ware

Fig. 6.2.9 Fabrics of Polychrome Sgraffito Ware

Fig. 6.2.10 Fabric of Monochrome Green Ware with stamped decoration

Fig. 6.2.11 Other Monochrome Wares: fabric of green glazed jars and of monochrome turquoise wares

Fig. 6.2.12 Fabric of Yue Ware

Fig. 6.2.13 Fabric of Glazed Moulded Ware

Fig. 6.2.14 Fabric of Glazed Relief Ware: yellow and pink

Fig. 6.2.15 Fabric of Unglazed Buff Ware, Light Utility Wares

Fig. 6.2.16 Fabric of Unglazed Buff Ware, Heavy Utility Wares

Fig. 6.2.17 Fabric of Unglazed Buff Ware, Heavy Utility Wares (stamped lids)

Fig. 6.2.18 Fabric of Unglazed Buff Ware, Heavy Utility Wares (lid with incised decoration)

Fig. 6.2.19 Fabric of Unglazed Moulded Ware

Fig. 6.2.20 Fabric of Brittle Ware

Fig. 6.2.21 Fabric of Soft-stone Imitations

Fig. 6.2.22 Fabric of amphorae, on the left side the bag-shaped amphora, on the right the unknown one

Fig. 6.3.1 Distribution of the post-Roman ceramics according to sherd number and weight (early Islamic, medieval and post-medieval periods)

Fig. 6.3.2 Distribution of the unglazed and glazed pottery in the assemblage (weight and sherd count)

Fig. 6.3.3 Distribution of the function: other (OTH), amphorae (AMP), coarse ware (CW), heavy utility wares (HU), light utility wares (LU), table wares (TW) (sherd count and weight)

Fig. 6.3.4 Distribution of the different pottery according to function: table wares (TW), light utility wares (LU), heavy utility wares (HU), coarse ware (CW), amphorae (AMP), other (OTH) (sherd number)

Fig. 6.3.5 Distribution of shapes according to function: table wares (TW), light utility wares (LU), heavy utility wares (HU), coarse ware (CW), amphorae (AMP), other (OTH) (sherd number)

Fig. 6.3.6 Distribution of the different pottery parts according to open and closed forms (sherd number)

Fig. 6.3.7 Distribution of the imports, regional and unknown ceramics (sherd number)

Fig. 6.3.8 Interchange of shape and decoration between Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware (left) and Unglazed Buff Ware (right)

Fig. 6.3.9a Interchange of shape and decoration between Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware (bottom) and Monochrome Green Ware (top)

Fig. 6.3.9b Interchange of shape and decoration between Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware (left) and Monochrome Green Ware with stamped decoration (right)

Fig. 6.3.10 Similar shape and decoration between Iraqi and non-Iraqi wares

Fig. 7.1 Pseudo-Galen, *Kitab al-Diryaq*, Iraq, 1199 (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 2964, old page 22) (from Ettinghausen 1977, 84)

Fig. 7.2 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1237 (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 5847, fol. 139v) (from Grabar 1984, 96)

Fig. 7.3 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Baghdad?, c. 1225-1240 (Saint Petersburg Scientific Academy, MS.C-23, page 22, fol. 12r) (from Petrosyan 1995, 144-145)

Fig. 7.4 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Baghdad?, c. 1225-1240 (Saint Petersburg Scientific Academy, MS.C-23, page 125, fol. 103v) (from Petrosyan 1995, 151)

Fig. 7.5 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1237 (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 5847, fol. 47v) (from Grabar 1984, 57-58)

Fig. 7.6 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1237 (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 5847, fol. 48r) (from Grabar 1984, 57-58)

Fig. 7.7 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1240s (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 3929, 149r) (from Grabar 1984, 57-59)

Fig. 7.8 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1240s (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 3929, fol. 120r) (from Grabar 1984, 77)

Fig. 7.9 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1240s (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 3929, fol. 179r) (from Grabar 1984, 75-76)

Fig. 7.10 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1240s (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 3929, 165v) (from Grabar 1984, 68)

Fig. 7.11 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1240s (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 3929, 34v) (from Grabar 1984, 47)

Fig. 7.12 Al-Hariri, *Maqamat*, Iraq, 1237 (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, MS. Arabe 5847, fol. 33r) (from Grabar 1984, 47)

Fig. 7.13 Pottery assemblage of “East House” (left) and of “East Street” (right)

Fig. 7.14 Vessel volume comparison Lustreware and Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware, bowls and plates

Fig. 7.15 Lustreware bowl from the Harvey Plotnick Collection University of Chicago (left) (from Pancaroğlu 2007, 46, fig. 5); Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware bowl from Gözlükule, Tarsus (right)

Fig. 7.16 Lustreware tile from the Great Mosque of Kairouan, Tunisia (left); Polychrome Painted Glazed Ware bowl from Gözlükule, Tarsus (right)

List of tables

Tab. 2.1.3.1 Summary of the geomorphological formation of the Cilician plain (Öner *et al.* 2005)

Tab. 2.1.3.2 Gözlükule Relative Chronologies: from the Neolithic to the late Roman Periods (after Goldman 1950, 1956, 1963)

Tab. 2.2.1.1 Foreign Travellers to Cilicia, Tarsus, Gözlükule

Tab. 2.2.1.2 Sites in Turkey investigated between 1930-1939 (after www.une.edu.au)

Tab. 2.2.1.3 Team Members of the old Gözlükule Excavations Project (Goldman 1935, 1936, 1938 *passim*)

Tab. 2.2.1.4 Team members and their future projects

Tab. 2.2.2.1 List of Florence Day’s publications including articles and book reviews

Tab. 3.1.1 Governors of Tarsus (after Stern 1960)

Tab. 3.2.3.1a Parker’s model of “continuum of boundary dynamics” (after Parker 2006, 82)

Tab. 3.2.3.1b A model for the formation of the frontier in Abbasid Tarsus following Parker’s model of “continuum of boundary dynamics” (after Parker 2006)

- Tab. 4.1.1 Abbreviations used in tables in chapter four
- Tab. 4.1.2a Abbasid pottery classes recorded in major sites and surveys in Turkey
- Tab. 4.1.2b Abbasid pottery classes recorded in major sites and surveys in Syria
- Tab. 4.1.2c Abbasid pottery classes recorded in major sites in Iraq
- Tab. 4.1.2d Abbasid pottery classes recorded in major sites in Iran
- Tab. 4.1.2e Abbasid pottery classes recorded in the Levant, Egypt and Africa
- Tab. 4.2.1 “High” and “Low” Samarra Horizon chronology (Northedge 2001)
- Tab. 4.2.2 Typo-chronology of Lustrewares (Hallett 2000; Mason 1997; Northedge 2001; Watson 2004)
- Tab. 5.1 Extensions excavated in trench 5 by Virginia Grace
- Tab. 5.2 Correspondence of rooms between the map of Grace and the new map
- Tab. 5.3 List of coins of the Islamic building (V.G. “Villa Book” 1935, *passim*)
- Tab. 5.4 Abbreviations of the classes of pottery of the villa
- Tab. 6.2.1 Dimensions of White Opaque Glazed Ware with cobalt blue decoration
- Tab. 6.2.2 Dimensions of Polychrome Lustrewares
- Tab. 7.1 Popular dishes of the Abbasid period (from Ahsan 1979 and Nasrallah 2007)
- Tab. 7.2 Serving vessels mentioned in the *Kitab al-Tabikh* (from Nasrallah 2007)