

Display of Shiite Beliefs on the Timurid Period Coins

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Abstract

The Timurid were non-Iranian and Sunni people whose reign was based on moderateness founded on Islamic thought. Coins were considered as valuable tools to display the rulers' power and thoughts. The significance of the present study is to investigate the religious politics of the Timurid period by the approach to the coins of that era. This paper seeks to answer the following questions: How had different forms of Shiite beliefs been reflected on the coinage of the Timurid period? Based on what factors did the Timurid rulers use the ritual of Shiism on coins? The results indicate that five types of Shiite rituals had been featured on the coin of the Timurid era using written and visual elements. Reverence for Imams by the Timurid rulers, paying attention to the Shiites to gain legitimacy, the attitude of Hanafi to the Ahlul Bayt and the Imams, and the presence of the Holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in the main realm of Timurid encouraged them to interact with the followers of Shiite religion in the society under their sovereignty. The data were gathered through library style and direct observation of works and the research method was analytical-comp

Keywords

Timurid period, Coins, Shiite beliefs, Dar al-Zarab