

Arabic Heraldry



**By HL Taran Saraev m.k.a. Charles Hill
known by the Mongols as Ungen Gal**

Notice

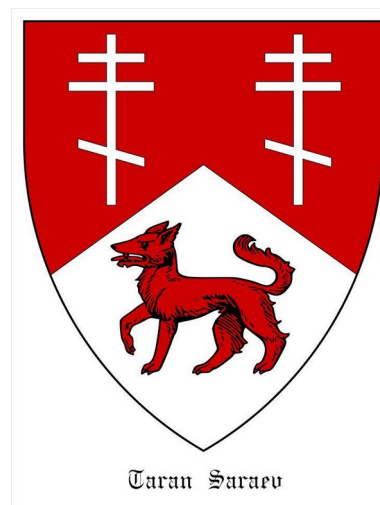
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Hello I'm HL Taran Saraev

- I am Taran Saraev, a Mongol of the 13-14th century at the height of the empire. I love learning and teaching. I am interested in period nomadic life and the cultural/knowledge exchanges via the Pax Mongolia! My concentration is on The Mongolian Steppes, China, & Russia. In addition I am also in love with the period sciences especially astronomy and alchemy. I enjoy heraldry, herbalism, and research in general. I have dabbled in brewing and venting, leather working, the arts, heavy weapons, archery, and the like.
- Mka Charles Hill
- taranhill@gmail.com

Areas of Concentration

- Pre 17th c. Astronomy
- Pre 17th c. Alchemy
- Mongol Persona
- Heraldry



<https://astger.blogspot.com/>

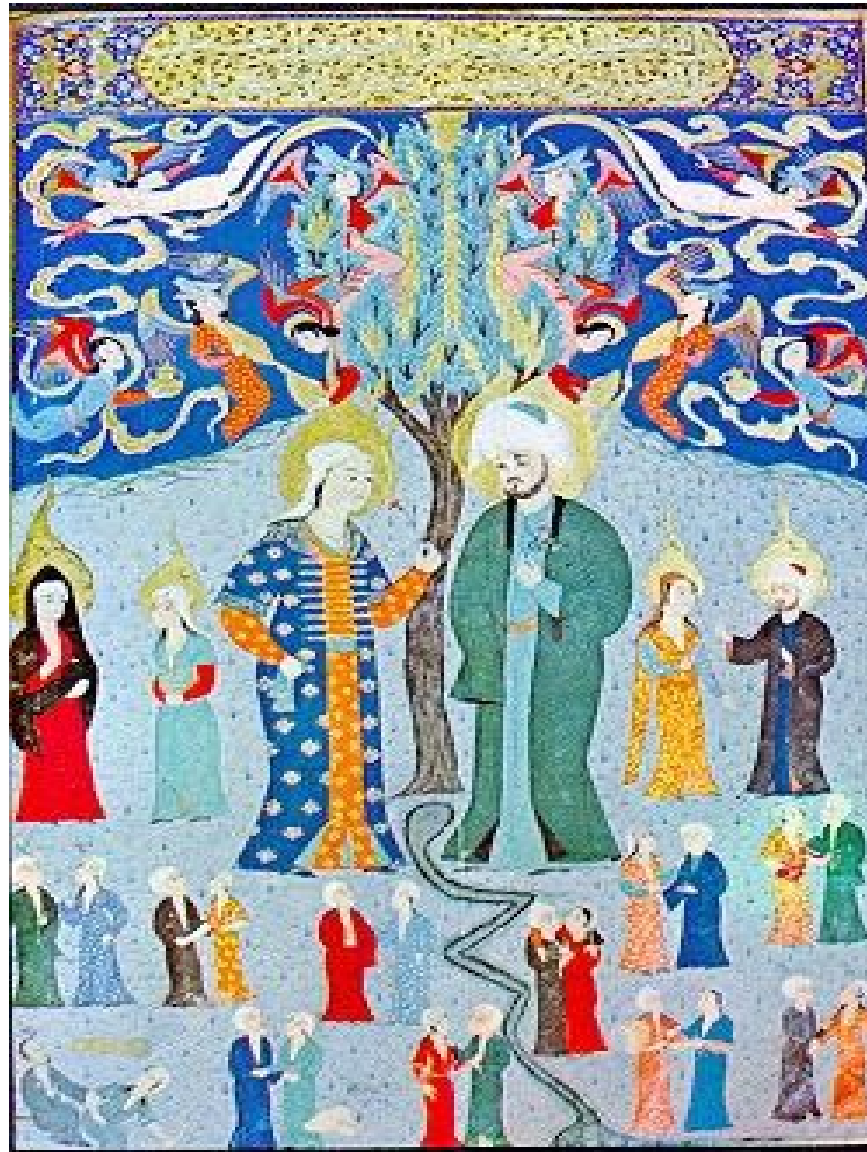
What is Heraldry?

- HERALDRY(common) - the study of the art & science of armorial bearings (Modar 2006)
- HERALDRY(SCA) – What Heralds do.
- HERALDRY(us) – the study of the art & science of heraldic practices within the SCA including but not limited to name research and registration, armory research and registration, and scribal arts focused on the creation of SCA award scrolls.

Terms for our Purposes

- ARMORY - any design that the College of Arms registers or protects, including devices/arms and badges. This includes various important non-SCA armory from the real world and may also include trademarks, logos, and other graphic symbols that resemble heraldic bearings. (Modar 2006)
- Scroll Work – the art & study of making award scrolls within the SCA

Names



Main Source = PERIOD ARABIC NAMES AND NAMING PRACTICES by Da'ud ibn Auda
(David B. Appleton) © 2003 <http://heraldry.sca.org/names/arabic-naming2.htm>

Middle Eastern Names

- Middle East a Melting pot
- Focusing primary on Arabic and Jewish names in the Arabic context.
- Not Covered –
Coptic, Mongol,
Greek, Aramac,
Turkish, Persian, etc.



Arabic Names

- "Giving a name, indeed, is a poetic art; all poetry if we go to that with it, is but a giving of names."
(Carlyle)
- Sound, flow, poetry
- Appropriate for person and "language of angels"
- PERIOD ARABIC NAMES AND NAMING PRACTICES by Da'ud ibn Auda (David B. Appleton)
- Jewish Names in the World of Medieval Islam Compiled by Yehoshua ben Haim haYerushalmi (MKA Zachary Kessin)
- Jewish Women's Names in an Arab Context: Names from the Geniza of Cairo by Juliana de Luna (Julia Smith)

Arabic Name Elements

- 1. ism (pronounced IZM) – proper, personal name, given three to seven days after birth. Not used by adults as it is a slight to use an ism to refer to an elder or parent. ex. *Musa*, [Moses] *Muhammad* [Mohammed]
- 2. kunya (pronounced COON-yah) – a surname or honorific, as the father or mother of someone. Mothers (And sometimes fathers) are quite often named after their first son. ex. *Umm Ja'far Aminah* [the mother of Ja'far, Aminah]

Arabic Name Elements

- 3. nasab (pronounced NAH-sahb) – A pedigree
ex. *ibn 'Umar* [the son of Omar], *bint `Abbas*
[the daughter of Abbas] follows ibn/bint +
parents ism. Can go on for generations, usually
no more than four ex. *Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn*
Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Ja'far ibn al-
Haddad. When the parent in a nasab is
referred to by his kunya, the word abu becomes
abi, ex., Muhammad's son-in-law was '*Ali ibn*
Abi Talib, 'Ali the son of Abu Talib, or 'Ali, the
son of the father of Talib.

Arabic Name Elements

- 4. laqab (pronounced LAH-kahb) – a descriptive by name, usually religious ex. *Harun al-Rashid* [Aaron the Rightly-guided] One type of ism using the pattern of *Abd* or *Amat al-X* and one of the nintynine names of Alah is some times used in the place of an ism. Ex. '*Abd al-Mun'im ibn Idris ibn Sinan* and *Amat Allah* (Amatullah), (female) servant of Allah

Arabic Name Elements

- 5. nisba (pronounced NISS-bah) – A byname used following the ism or the nasab three types
 1. Occupational – ex. *Muhammad al-Hallaj* [Muhammad, the dresser of cotton]
 2. Of descent – ex. *Yusuf al-Ayyubi* [Joseph the Ayyubid, Joseph of the family line of Ayyub]
 3. Geographical – ex. *Yaqub al-Dimashqi* [Jacob of Damascus]
- If more than one used the Geographical comes last

Common Arabic Construction

- ism 'son of' ism ex. *Yusuf ibn Ayyub*
- ism 'son of the father of' Hakim ex. *azid ibn Abi Hakim*
- Ism + nisba ex. *Ayyub al-Sakhtiyani* [masculine]
Mariyah al-Qibtiyah [feminine]
- ism 'son of' ism [one generation nasab] + nisba
ex. *Ahmad ibn Sa'id al-Bahili*
- ism + two generation nasab ex. *Umamah bint Hamdun ibn Isma'il*

Not in Arabic names

- no double given names
- No unmarked patronymics
- Almost no metronymics few exception best known *Isa ibn Maryam*, Jesus the son of Mary



Arabic/Jewish Names

- It appears that the Jewish communities of the Arab world showed some degree of assimilation with their Muslim neighbors at least linguistically. Jews would not be giving their children Arabic names. The names the Jews of the medieval Islamic world were giving their sons and daughters were Arabic in form with no Jewish tradition behind them as well as classical Jewish names and their Arabic cognates.
- Examples - Rahil [Rachel], Harun (Haroun) [Aaron], Da'ud [David], Yunus [Jonah], Yusuf [Joseph], Zakariya' [Zacharias], Musa [Moses]
- When forming Jewish names in Arabic names all the parts must be in Arabic. Must use 'bint' not 'bat'

ARABIC EQUIVALENTS OF SCA TITLES OF NOBILITY

Male Titles of Nobility

King	Malik/Sultan
Prince	Amir
Duke	Mushir (Musaitir)
Count	Qadi
Viscount	Naquib (Naqib)
Baron	Shayk (Sheik)
Knight	Faris
Master	Mu'allim(Maulan)
Lord	Sayyid

Female Titles of Nobility

Queen	Malika/Sultana
Princess	Amira
Duchess	Mushira(Musaitira)
Countess	Qadiya
Viscountess	Naquiba (Naqiba)
Baroness	Shayka (Sheika)
Knight	Farisa
Mistress	Mu'allima (Maulana)
Lady	Sayyida

Armory

Main Source =
ISLAMIC HERALDRY
An Introduction
by Da'ud ibn Auda
(David B. Appleton)
[http://
www.appletonstudios.
com/
MamlukHeraldry2001
.pdf](http://www.appletonstudios.com/MamlukHeraldry2001.pdf)



Supporting Source = Middle
Eastern Heraldry
By Thomas Barnes/Lothar
van Katzenellenbogen
[https://www.s-gabriel.org/
docs/saracen-heraldry.html](https://www.s-gabriel.org/docs/saracen-heraldry.html)

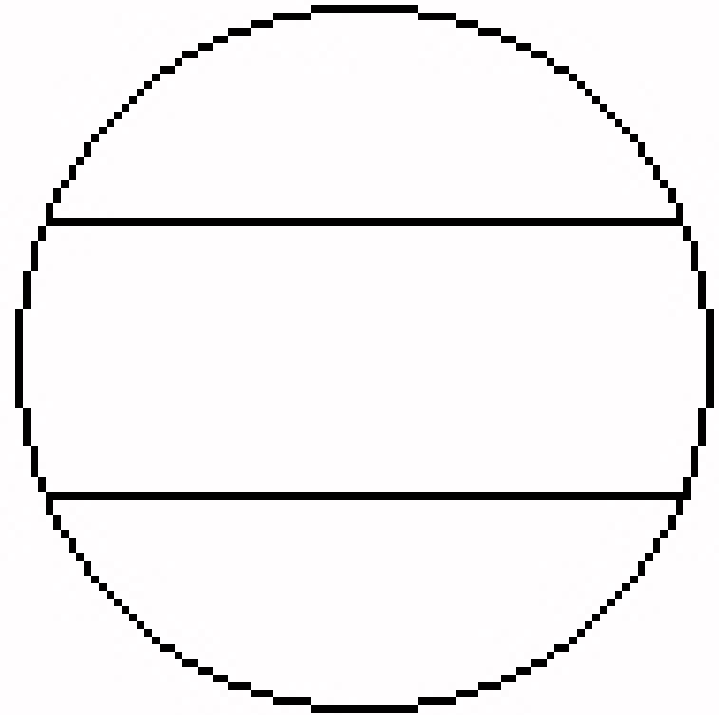
Arabic Armory



- Heraldry in the Medieval Arabic not like that in the west but can be brought into compatibility with the SCA
- Badge Style Armory, an honor but not protected
- Restricted to Emirs, reflected past service

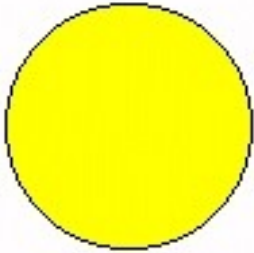
Display

- Common display a circle/roundel
- Other shapes seen include the delf, modified “heater” and “kite” shield shaped fields, and various geometrics, including pentagonal, oval, and four or six petalled rosettes.

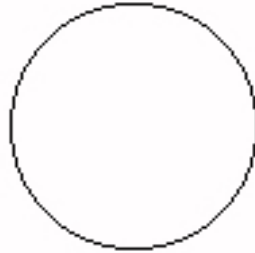


NOTE: Field Treatments are rare. Found only rarely, they are “checky”, “barry”, and “bendy”.

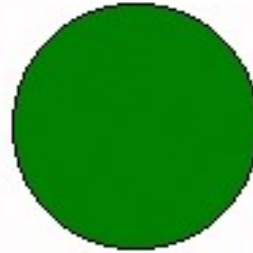
Tinctures



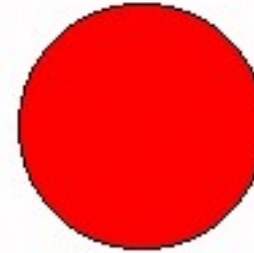
or



argent



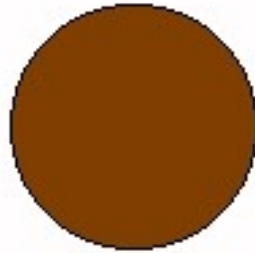
vert



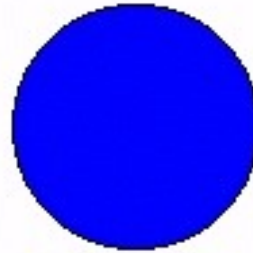
gules



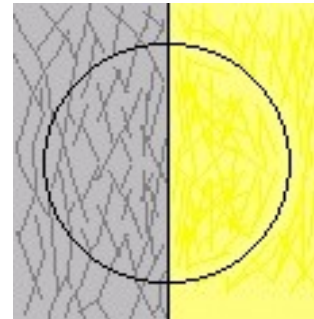
sable



brown



azure



Self Colored

Charges - Animals & Misc.

- Many different Charges were used in Arabic heraldry
- Animals were very popular like the lion and the falcon
- We also see symbols familiar to the west like the fleur-de-lis



Charges - Past Service

LIST OF POSITIONS AND CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THEM POSITION	ARABIC	CHARGE	WESTERN EQUIV
Secretary	dawadar	pen box	n/a
Armor Bearer	silandar	bow, sword	bow, shamshir
Superintendant of Stores	tishdar	ewer	chalice
Master of Robes	jamdar	napkin	lozenge
Marshal	amir akhur	jawash	horseshoe
Crescent	qubbah	n/a	n/a
Cup Bearer	saqi	cup	chalice
Polo Master	jukandar	polo sticks	n/a
Taster	jashnigar	table w/plate	roundel
Bowman	bunduqua r	bow	bow
Standard Bearer	alamdar	standard	standard and pole
Drummer	tabldar	drum and sticks	n/a
Postman	baridi	3-fielded shield	tierced per fess
shoe bearer	bahsmaq dar	shoe	

Charges - Past Service



Cup



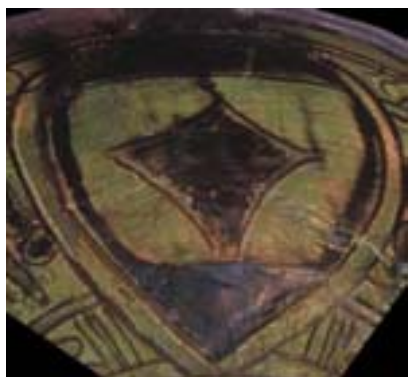
Pen box



sword



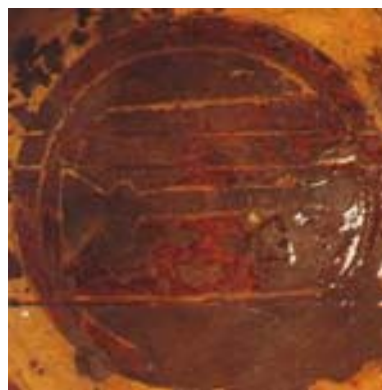
bows



napkin



Polo sticks



Trumpet



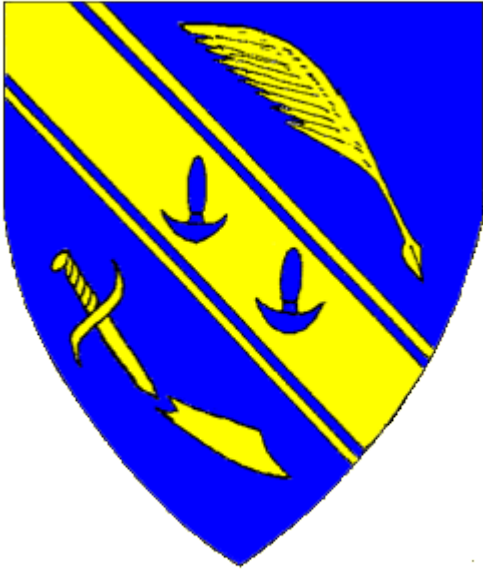
Axe

Charges - Misc



- Some Charges were of importance to Islam or of figurative description
- charges which were adopted from the Mongols or Turks tamgha
- Arabic letters and phrases

Examples



Recommendations for SCA Usages

- Remembering the preceding information design a Arabic like device (arms)
- Use charges easily reconcilable in European Heraldry
Simple geometric charges are good
- Remember to be creative and flexible
Get ideas from history, story, and personal interest.
- Remember it must be blazon-able by European Heraldry.

Scroll Work



- 1. Мусульманский кодекс (шариат) - Крым, X в.
- 2. Псалтирь (шариат) - Крым, XIV в.
- 3. Курбанчица (шариат) - Крым, XIV в.
- 4. Курбан (шариат) - XIV в.
- 5. Столбец (шариат) - Крым, XV в.
- 6. Псалтирь для женщин (шариат) - Крым, XV в.

Arabic



- Changed over time and region
- The primary (only) language of the Koran (perfect Arabic)
- Spread to prominence with the rise of Islam
- Not original language of most of Middle East

Medieval Koran



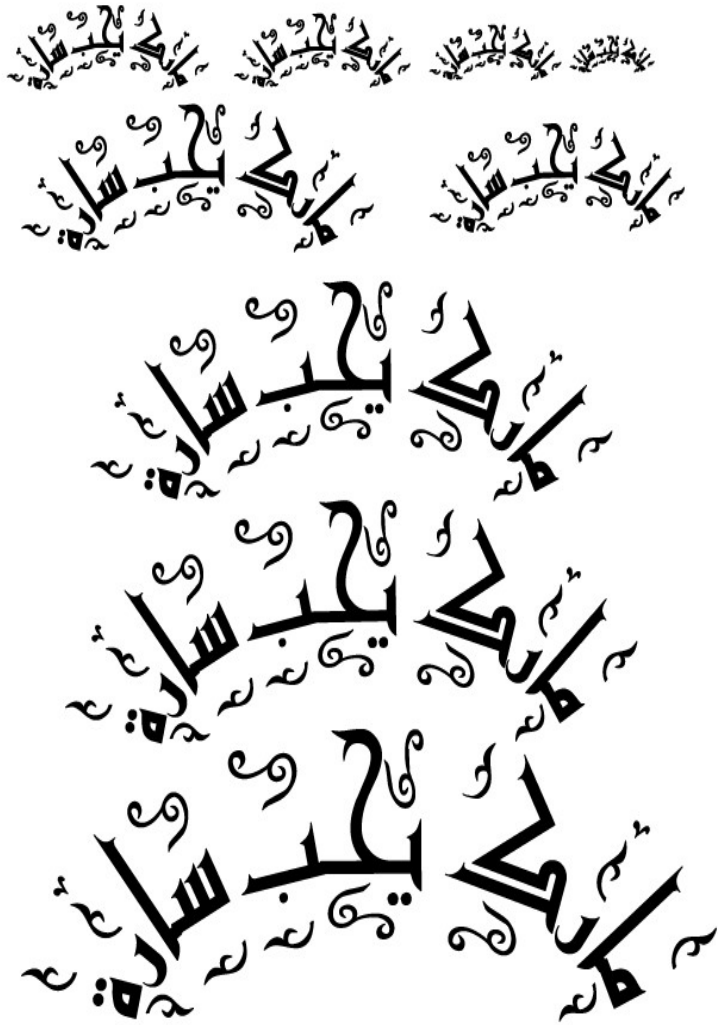
Medieval Koran



Medieval Koran



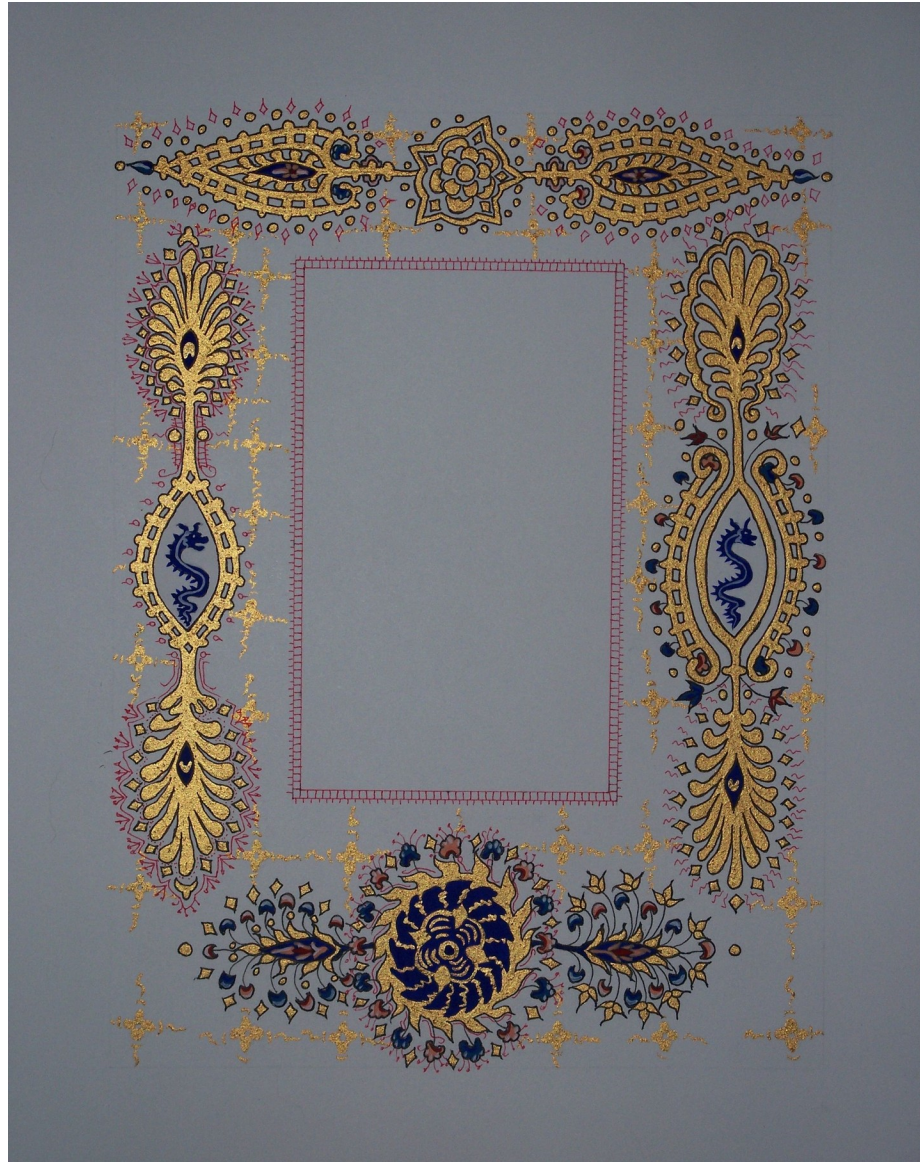
Arabic Calligraphy



SCA Examples

completed having : allanna : that all to known it be k it be
exemplary by demonstrated and forth set requirements to the
having : allanna : that all to known it be
and do forth set requirements to the completed
exemplary Ex x x x x exemplary demonstrated
and industry exemplary exemplary by
graduated has kingdom the to generosity
middle of school pages the the ff from
in september of day 14 this don't end d
the being society the of 37 year in the
reckoning common the by 2002 year

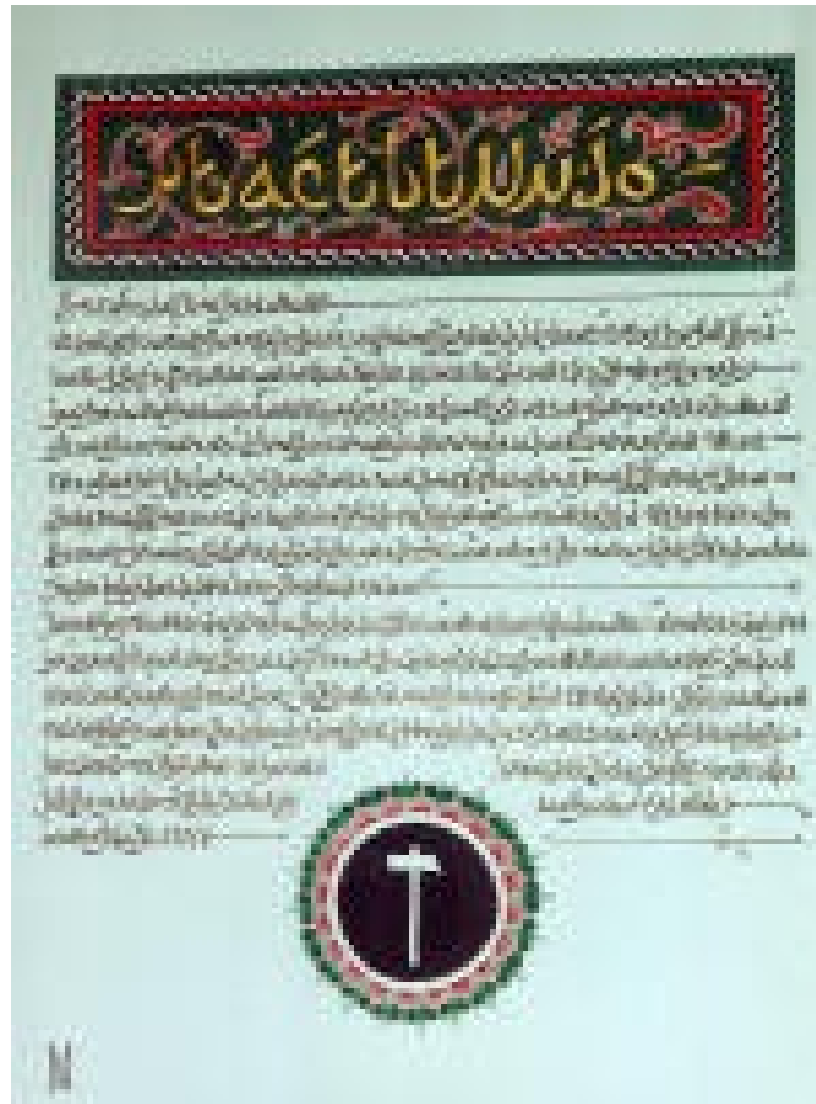
SCA Examples



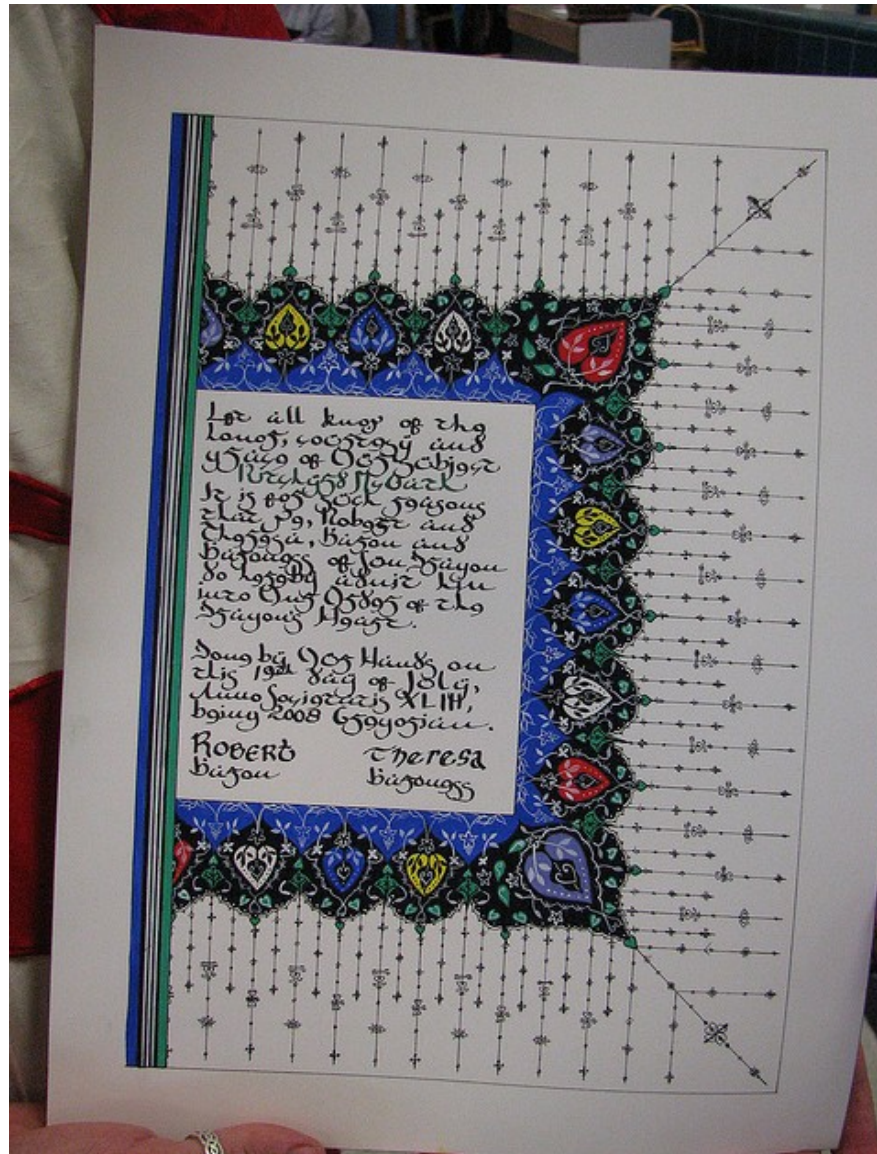
SCA Examples



SCA Examples



SCA Examples



Questions, Comments, or Snide Remarks?

