On People, Objects and the Human Nature of Objects in Medieval Islamic Art and Culture

0821-5419-01

סמסטר א’, תשע”ד

פרופ’ חנה טרגן

סמינריון לתואר שני

שעה קבלה של המרצה: בתיאום מראש

טלפון: 052-8665937

dוא”ל: taragan@post.tau.ac.il

vais

The Course

Objects (metal, ceramics, glass, gold, and others) whose origin is in the Islamic world were defined in Western literature as “minor arts” and cataloged in categories of objects for use or for beauty.

Approaches today see these objects as mobile documents, bearers of content, narratives and messages creating dialogues between cultures.

In the seminar, we will discuss the objects whose shape, decoration, and the inscriptions on them make them into paradigmatic tools through which we can define and map ‘moments’ of history, as well as their meaning as texts that serve as evidence of the dynamic nature of pre-modern urban society.

In this context, objects are gifts; patrons, artists, and consumptions; collections in palaces; scenes of objects in miniature paintings; objects as micro-architecture; objects that speak; objects and museums.

“IIIRDIM9...
Western literature defined objects (metalwork, ceramic, glass, ivory, etc.) originating in the Islamic world as “minor” art, and they were catalogued as objects either for use or beauty. Contemporary research approaches view them as mobile ‘documents’, bearers of content, memories and messages, which in their “wanderings” create a dialogue that embraces cultures.

The seminar will engage with objects whose form, decoration, and the inscriptions they bear transform them into paradigmatic artifacts through which we can define and map historic ‘moments’, and also read them as texts that are a testimony to the dynamic character of a pre-modern urban society in the Islamic world.

In this context we shall discuss objects as gifts; objects as an investment; patrons, artists and consumers; court collections; representations of objects in miniature paintings; objects as micro-architecture; hybrid objects; "speaking" objects; objects and museums.

*תמטות*:

Ghada al-Hijjawi al-Qaddumi, ed. & trans., *Book of Gifts and Rarities* = *Kitab al-Hadayah wa al-Tuhaf: Selections Compiled in the Fifteenth*
Century from an Eleventh-Century Manuscript on Gifts and Treasures, Cambridge, MA 1996.


