

**Decorative Arabographic Compositions in Bulgaria
(Sacred Pictures-Inscriptions)**

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(Summary)

The main part of the examined decorative arabographic compositions are documented in different mosques during fieldwork on Ottoman architecture and art in the country. All items are produced by Turkish decorators, mostly during the 19th century, and belong to the type of sacred pictures and inscriptions. Because of the lack of a generally accepted term for these compositions, we call them descriptively *decorative arabographic compositions*. Compositions drawn on paper, cardboard and glass are presented.

The article suggests a cultural-historical profile of the compositions. It includes a special accent on the types of manipulations and the kinds of rotations by means of which the compositions are modeled as end product of Islamic art. Parallels are drawn with the Tatar arabographic compositions called *shamail*.

The examined compositions are presented here for the first time and for the first time samples of this kind of art are subject of scientific research in Bulgarian humanities.