

NORMAN D. NICOL

SOME ADDITIONS TO A CORPUS OF FAṬĪMID COINS

Since the publication of *A Corpus of Fāṭimid Coins* (Trieste, 2006), a number of dates and types have come to the author's attention which are not found in the book, either by way of notices from collectors and auction firms or because public and private collections previously not studied have been made available to the author. A few of these are listed herein. The arrangement follows that found in the Corpus in all respects.

**Ismāʿīl al-Manṣūr billāh (334-341 AH/946-953 AD)**

**205a. AV Quarter Dinar, Ṣiqilliyah 337**

A2 بصقلية سنة سبع و ثلاثين و ثلثمائة

Berlin (no number, 15, 1.04). All other known coins of this mint and date are type A1.

**Nizār Abū al-Manṣūr al-ʿAzīz billāh (365-386 AH/975-996 AD)**

**656a. AR Half Dirham, Aṭarāblus 380**

A1 باطرابلس سنة ثمانين و ثلثمائة

S. Album (18, 1.42). The date is new for this mint.

**Abū ʿAlī al-Manṣūr al-Hākīm bi-Amr Allāh (386-411 AH/996-1021 AD)**

**894a. AV Dinar, Barqah 404**

N1

برقة سنة اربع و اربع مائة

SA 262:97434 (20, 3.51). The mint of Barqah is very rarely seen and this coin represents a newly discovered date.

**952aa. AV Quarter Dinar, Ṣiqillīyah 404/405**

**Type X9**

Centers as X1:

الأم	الأم	الأم	الأم
المن	المن	المن	المن
صو	صو	صو	صو
علي	علي	علي	علي
امر	امر	امر	امر
مير	مير	مير	مير
مئین	مئین	مئین	مئین

Margins:

بسم الله ضرب هذا الدينير بصقلية سنة  
اربع و اربعمائة

بسم الله ضرب هذا الدينير بصقلية سنة  
خمس و اربعمائة

RT (no data). With only the photo images as reference, it can be seen that this coin is a hybrid type, resulting from the combination of two dated obverse dies of the millwheel design.

**956a. AV Quarter Dinar, (Ṣiqillīyah) 407**

**Type X4a**

Centers as X1:

ابو	ابو	لا	لا
علي	علي	الله	الله
كم	كم	محمد	محمد
المن	المن	رس	رس
صو	صو	علي	علي
مير	مير	الله	الله
الأم	الأم		

Margins:

Qurʾān IX:33

بسم الله ضرب (هذا الدينير بصقلية) سنة سبع و اربعمائة

Berlin (=Grote 1879, 13.5, 1.024). Another variant of the millwheel type, the above coin is the first to be confirmed for this date from Ṣiqillīyah.

**1227a. AV Quarter Dinar, al-Mahdīyah 400**

I1

بالمهدية سنة اربعمائة

Berlin (=Guthrie 1876, 12, c0.954). This specimen is a new date for al-Mahdīyah in the name of al-Hākīm.

**Abū al-Ḥasan ʿAlī al-Zāhir al-Aʿzāz Dīn Allāh (411-427 AH/1021-1036 AD)****1399ab. AV Dinar, Dimashq 414**

A1 بدمشق سنة أربع عشرة و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Guthrie 1876, 21.5, 3.982). This is a previously unknown date for this rare series from Damascus.

**1399c. AV Dinar, Dimashq 420**

H3 بدمشق سنة عشرين و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Acc. 358/1917). Only a few other issues from several mints are known for this type and this specimen is the first known for Damascus.

**1413a. AV Quarter Dinar, Ṣiqillīyah 420**

A2 بصقلية سنة عشرين و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Guthrie 1876, 14, 0.906). All other known coins of this type for this mint and date also have a month included.

**Abū Tamīm Maʿadd al-Mustaṣfir billāh (427-487 AH/1036-1094 AD)****1694a. AV Quarter Dinar, al-Iskandarīyah 487**

E1 بالاسكندرية سنة سبع و ثمانين و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Gagarin 320, 1885, 15.5, 1.027). This unusual fractional dinar from the end of al-Mustaṣfir's reign seems to have the unit of the date recut from ست to سبع .

**1777a. AV Quarter Dinar, Ṣiqillīyah 436**

P3 بصقلية سنة ست و ثلثين و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Guthrie 1876, 15, 0.973). The type for this coin has been carried over from the previous year.

**1810a. AV Quarter Dinar, Ṣiqillīyah 450****Type X13**

Centers as X1:

الامر نام  
المنصور  
ابو  
تميم  
امير  
المؤمنين

و لي  
محمد  
رسول  
الله  
علي  
الله

Margins:

... سنة ... هذا الدين ب... سنة ...

Qurʾān IX:33

X13 بصقلية سنة خمسين و اربعمائه

Berlin (=Acc. 251, 1883, 14, 0.975). The type is new variant of the millwheel design for al-Mustaṣfir and this mint and date.

**2186a. AV Third Dinar, Maṭṭah 472****Type S1a**

الامام  
المستنصر بالله  
امير المؤمنين

الله  
لا اله الا  
محمد رسو لله (sic)

**Margins:**

بسم الله ضرب هذا الدينار بملطة سنة  
ثمان و سبعين و اربعمائة

Qurʾān IX:33 (with errors)

**S1a**

بملطة سنة ثمان و سبعين و اربعمائة

RT (now in Central Bank of Malta, 18, 1.30). Although the Fāṭimids ruled Malta for about two centuries, this is the first known coin with the name of the island as the mint. It is probable that coins from Sicily and North Africa were commonly used in Malta. The coin described here is dated from the time when the Fāṭimids were loosing control of Sicily, but still trying to maintain their hold on Malta. The 'S' type coins of al-Mustansir come only from mints in Sicily and North Africa, so use of the type would seem logical for a Maltese issue.

**Abū ʿAlī al-Manṣūr al-Āmir bi-Aḥkām Allāh (495-524 AH/1101-1130 AD)****2559a. AV Quarter Dinar, al-Muʿzzīyah al-Qāhirah 518**

A هذا الرباعي بالمعزية القاهرة سنة ثمان عشر و خمسمائة

Berlin (=Acc. 47, 1902, 16, 0.833). Beginning in this year, full dinars of this mint are fairly common, but a fractional dinar was only previously known dated 522.

**Abū Muḥammad ʿAbd Allāh b. Yūsuf al-ʿAḍid li-Dīn Allāh (555-567 AH/1160-1171 AD)****2686a. AV Dinar, al-Iskandariyah 566**

B بالاسكندرية سنة ست و ستين و خمسمائة

Berlin (no no., 21.5, 3.658). This coin is the last known date for Alexandria or any of the other mints still controlled by the Fāṭimids prior to the demise of the dynasty and the beginning of Ayyūbid rule.

PLATES



205a



656a



894a



952aa



956a



1227a



1399ab



1399c



1413a



1694a



1777a



1810a



2186a



2559a



2686a

