Metalwork from the 10th to the 13th Century. Catalogue

Cat. No. M1
HN M 05.03.86, see Fig. 1
Vase, Khorasan, 8th–10th CE
High-tin bronze; cast
Size (cm): h. 13.2; w. 0.15; d. 7

Small vase with lobed, high neck and elongated body; flat base; flat everted rim. On the lower body from just above the base to c. 1.5 cm below the neck a row of standing leaves (lotus) followed by a network of interlaced lozenges.

Cat. No. M2
HN M 03.14.86, see Fig. 2
Large jug, Khorasan, 8th–10th CE
High-tin bronze; cast
Size (cm): h. 14.7; d. 12.5
Jug with bulbous, polyhedral body; flat shoulder, conical, fluted neck; everted rim; round, vertical handle below shoulder; flat base.

Cat. No. M3
HN M 01.04.86, see Fig. 3
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered
Size (cm): h. 6.3; d. 35.5
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. No decoration.

Cat. No. M4
HN M 01.05.86, see Fig. 7
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; incised, punched
Size (cm): h. 6.5; d. 36.7
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Incised and punched decoration based on circles. Centrally placed, three-petaled rosette, surrounded by alternating groups of punched dots forming a wavy line or a lozenge respectively; outer framing band with diagonally placed lines of punched dots.

Cat. No. M5
HN M 01.07.86, see Fig. 8
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; punched
Size (cm): h. 5; d. 33
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Incised and punched decoration, based on circles. Centrally placed three-petaled rosette surrounded by alternating groups of punched dots forming a wavy line or a lozenge respectively; outer framing band with diagonally set lines of punched dots.

Cat. No. M6
HN M 01.26.86, see Fig. 4
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; turned
Size (cm): h. 4.2; d. 25.2
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Outside: traces of turning. Inside: three incised concentric circles.

Cat. No. M7
HN M 01.03.86
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered
Size (cm): h. 3.7; d. 37.5
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Decoration hardly visible due to corrosion: punched (?). Six-pointed star composition.

Cat. No. M8
HN M 01.18.86, see Fig. 9
Tray with incised and punched decoration
Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; punched
Size (cm): h. 4.4; d. 26.3
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Incised and punched decoration: three concentric circles forming a frieze. Narrow outer band filled with punched roundels. In the central area three incised circles form three lozenge-shaped elements framed by punched circles.

Cat. No. M9
HN M 01.31.86a
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; incised, punched
Size (cm): h. 5.2; d. 24.7

Cat. No. M10
HN M 01.32.86
Tray, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Shallow tray with flat base and straight wall. Incised and punched decoration: three-petaled rosette, framed by punched dots, spandrels filled with dots; framing band with punched dots.
Cat. No. M13
HNM 01.16.86, see Fig. 12
Bowl with chased and engraved decoration (Khorasan, 10th–11th CE)
High-tin bronze; cast; engraved, punched
Size (cm): h. 4.9; d. 17.2
Bowl with low wall and slightly concave base.
Incised and punched decoration on outer wall: central roundel with six-lobed rosettes, framed by eleven triangles with inscribed circles; triangles framed by half-circles; followed by a pearl band border and a series of alternating vertical strokes and circles.

Cat. No. M14
HNM 01.17.86, see Fig. 5
Hemispherical bowl with incised and punched decoration, (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; incised, punched
Size (cm): h. 9.5; d. 19
Hemispherical bowl with round bottom. Traces of turning in- and outside.

Cat. No. M15
HNM 01.21.86, see Fig. 10
Hemispherical bowl with incised and punched decoration, (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; incised, punched
Size (cm): h. 12; d. (rim) 26
Hemispherical bowl, slightly rounded base.
On the outer wall incised and punched decoration: wall: narrow intersecting triangles filled with punched dots and circles, upper framing border with punched dots and circles. Bottom: six-pointed star.

Cat. No. M16
HNM 01.28.86, see Fig. 6
Hemispherical bowl with incised and punched decoration, (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
High-tin bronze; sheet metal, hammered; turned; punched, incised
Size (cm): h. 7.5; d. 18
Hemispherical bowl without footing. Circular traces of turning inside.

Cat. No. M17
HNM 04.03.886, see Fig. 13
Hemispherical bowl with incised and punched decoration (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
High-tin bronze; cast; hammered, incised, punched
Size (cm): h. 11.8; d. 29
Hemispherical bowl with round based.

Incised and punched decoration outside and inside.
Outside: a. centrally placed four-pointed star framed by a quadrangle. Hollow circles aligned in two concentric rings. The whole composition is framed by a frizée of punched circles.
b. wall is densely covered with a broad band of vertical, oblong, pointed elements, framed by series of hollow and punched circles.
c. band of crosswise hatching inside.
d. decoration is cast. Central pattern of four circles surrounded by a line.

Deep hemispherical bowl, flat base.
Punched and incised decoration outside.
On bottom: a small central roundel framed by three larger ones, in relief.
On rim: four incised roundels.

Small bowl with lobed rim (10 lobes) and a flat, concave base.
The bowl is heavily corroded and the surface disintegrated into several layers at the rim.
No decoration visible. Possibly an inscription runs along the outer rim.
The bowl was excavated by the German Archaeological Mission to Herat in 2005 in Kohandost, Trench 2, see Franke 2015.

Cat. No. M20
HNM 03.12.86a
Large basin with ring handles (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 20; d. 83
Large basin with flat base, conical wall, broad horizontal rim. Rings of four ring handles missing.
Incised decoration on rim. Two rectangular cartouches placed opposite each other, the larger cartouche (20 x 6.5 cm) probably carrying an inscription, the smaller cartouche (13 x 6.5 cm) showing wavy lines and circles. In the rectangular field: two medallions, rather crude incised vegetal motifs. Outer wall: zigzag lines in relief, extension not clear due to corrosion.
On the bottom: one centrally placed six-lobed rosette framed by double line. Three further rosettes regularly placed around the rosette, four-lobed, framed by double-line.

Cat. No. M21
HNM 03.12.86b
Large basin with ring handles (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 19.0; d. 60
Large basin with slightly rounded base, conical wall, broad everted rim.
On rim: four incised roundels.

Cat. No. M22
HNM 03.12.86c
Large basin with ring handles (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 23.5; d. 71
Large basin on flat base with slightly curved wall, everted, broad rim. Two ring handles.

Cat. No. M23
HNM 03.13.86a
Large basin with four ring handles (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast; incised
Size (cm): h. 21.5; d. 79
Large basin with conical wall, flat base, broad, horizontal rim. Four ring handles.
Incised decoration in two cartouches placed opposite each other on rim; inscription, Kufic (A); inscription in opposite field (B).
Between inscription fields two rosettes. On outer wall: four roundels with four-lobed rosettes, framed by double lines. On bottom: three roundels with double framing line and two segments of a circle as field pattern.

Cat. No. M24
HNM 03.13.86b, see Fig. 14
Large basin (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast; incised
Size (cm): h. 19; d. 76.7
Large basin, flat base, conical wall, broad horizontal rim. Two ring handles, rings missing.
Incised decoration on rim, eight cartouches with inscription alternating with eight roundels showing foliated spiral scroll with trefoil leaves. Inscriptions against background of foliated spiral scroll, Kufic (A); repeated in eight cartouches. Outside: two four-lobed rosettes in relief, framed by double lines; alternating with a kind of tree-of-life motif consisting of rows of diagonal lines next to a central vertical double stroke. On bottom: a small central roundel framed by three larger ones, in relief.

A: bi’l-yumn wa’il-baraka wa’l [sic!]

Cat. No. M25
HNM 03.13.86c, see Fig. 15
Large basin with ring handles (Khorasan, 11th–12th CE)
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 25.7; d. 32.5
Large basin with conical wall, round based, broad rim.

[Cat. No. M26
HNM 01.25.86]
Cauldron, Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 22; d. 27; d. (rim) 23
Cauldron with globular body resting on three conical legs, two horizontally placed handles; everted rim. Four groups of three or four incised strokes on rim. Marks of casting are clearly visible on two sides.

Cat. No. M27
HNM 03.07.86a, see Fig. 16
Cauldron, Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 25.7; d. 32.5
Cauldron with globular body, round based, broad rim.


A: amal Abū Qāsim
Cauldron with projecting flanges
Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 20; d. 45
Hemispherical cauldron with three conical legs; everted rim with projecting flanges. Two of them with vertical handles, one with two ribs, probably serving as outlet.

Cat. No. M36
HNM 03.10.86
Cauldron with projecting flanges
Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 15.3; d. 37
Hemispherical cauldron on three conical legs with everted rim and four projecting flanges. Two of them with vertical handles, one with two ribs, serving as outlet.

Cat. No. M37
HNM 03.11.86
Mortar, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 14.5; d. 21
Large basin with globular body, rounded base and horizontal rim.

Cat. No. M38
HNM 01.48.86
Mortar, Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 7.2; d. 9.5
Small mortar with cylindrical body and everted rounded base, broad everted horizontal rim on upper and lower edge of body.
Cat. No. M40
HNMM 03.31.86a, see Fig. 22

Pierced openwork lampstand/incense burner
Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; pierced openwork
Size (cm): h. 15.5; d. (rim) 11.2

Baluster-shaped vessel; bottom disc missing.
Three horizontally arranged friezes (from bottom to top):
a. incised decoration imitating gadrooning
b. pierced openwork decoration of scrolls with five-petaled leaves, encircled in eight-rounds
    c. inscription, Kufic (A), on the shoulder
d. frieze of hollow circles
A: illegible during inspection due to corrosion.

Cat. No. M41
HNMM 03.30.86a, see Fig. 23

Pierced openwork lampstand/incense burner
Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; pierced openwork
Size (cm): h. 16.5; d. 23.3; d. (rim) 12.7

Baluster-shaped vessel; bottom missing.
Three horizontally arranged friezes (from bottom to top):
a. incised decoration imitating gadrooning, knotted band
b. pierced openwork, pairs of split-leaves arranged regularly
c. Kufic inscription (A) on shoulder
d. band of hollow circles
A: al-barkhā ... al-ṣāḥibi ... al-salāma ...
    bi ʾl-ḥabībī

Cat. No. M42
HNMM 03.05.86a, see Fig. 25

Ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; engraved, silver inlay
Size (cm): h. 28; d. 14.3

Ewer on high, splayed foot, pear-shaped body, torus moulding, separating body and neck, conical neck; long horizontal spout, curved handle, polyllobed (8) body; flat shoulder.

Inscription under spout, Kufic (A), inlaid in silver.
A: Bākīr bin ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz
B: ʿaml al-Sijzī

Cat. No. M43
HNMM 07.003, see Fig. 24

Bottle, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; engraved
Size (cm): h. 15.5; d. 7.7

A: illegible during inspection due to corrosion.

Cat. No. M44
HNMM 03.05.86a, see Fig. 30

Ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 20; d. 11

Ewer on high splayed foot; pear-shaped body, conical neck, bulbous head with long spout. Body, bottom, and neck cast separately. Incised roundel on body.

Cat. No. M45
HNMM 03.05.86c, see Fig. 31

Ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 22; d. 12.5

Ewer on high splayed foot, pear-shaped body, conical neck, bulbous head with long, horizontal spout; lid preserved. Presumably two techniques combined: neck made separately, joints visible from within; cast; bottom and foot hammered from sheet metal?

Cat. No. M46
HNMM 03.05.86d, see Fig. 27

Ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): h. 25; d. 11

Ewer on high, splayed foot, pear-shaped body, flat shoulder; conical neck; globular head; high, curved spout; curved handle with thumbrest. Handle probably not original.

Cat. No. M47
HNMM 01.14.86, see Fig. 28

Fragmented ewer, Khorasan, 11th–13th CE
Copper alloy; brass; cast; incised
Size (cm): h. 11.5; d. (rim) 11; d. (base) 9

Fragmented body of ewer with globular body and everted base; bottom disc missing. Incised and inlaid decoration; roundels with copper inlay.

Cat. No. M48
HNMM 01.23.86

Ewer, Khorasan, 11th–13th CE
Copper alloy; brass; cast; incised
Size (cm): h. 11.1; d. 10.8; d. (rim) 8.2

Fragment of ewer with globular body and everted base; bottom disc missing. Detailed description of decoration during inspection not possible due to corrosion.

Cat. No. M49
HNMM 02.13.86, see Fig. 29

Ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; incised
Size (cm): h. 23.4; d. 12; d. (base) 10.3

Vessel on splayed foot, pear-shaped body, conical neck, globular upper part with flattened sides and outlet. Bottom disc made separately and fixed. Incised decoration (from bottom to top):

a. foot: series of vertical strokes
b. body: three roundels, filled with cross-shaped composition of split leaves and palmettes; right and left of central roundel vase-shaped element with five buds; slightly fluted neck; on both sides of globular headpiece: rosettes

Cat. No. M50
HNMM 02.11.86, see Fig. 26

Neck of ewer, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; engraved, black substance
Size (cm): h. 18.5; d. (base) 7.5

Fragmented neck of ewer, tubular, with high rising spout; small rings fixed to the right and left of the spout. One of the rings is missing. Engraved decoration covering almost the entire surface, consisting of friezes framing vegetal scrolls; spandrels and medallions likewise showing vegetal motifs.

Cat. No. M51
HNMM 03.01.86

Vase, Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast
Size (cm): d. 13

Fragmented vase on conical foot, pear-shaped, polylobed (8) body; torus moulding separating body and mouth. Flaring mouth, lobed, eight-petaled rim. Vertically placed inscription on body (A); second inscription (B) probably added later, incised vertically.
A: ʿaml al-Sijzī
B: illegible during inspection due to corrosion.

Cat. No. M52
HNMM 02.11.86c

Fragmented support of vase
Khorasan, 11th–12th CE
Copper alloy; cast; pierced
Size (cm): h. 5; d. 18.7


Cat. No. M53
HNMM 02.18.86b

Base of vessel (V), Khorasan, 10th–11th CE
Copper alloy; cast; pierced
Size (cm): h. 5.5; d. 17.7

Base of vessel, everted rim, dome-shaped body. Traces of soldering, measuring c. 7 cm in diameter.
Pierced openwork decoration around the body; foliated scrolls. Framed on the lower side by narrow frieze with strapwork.