

## Islamic Art: Middle East and North Africa Study Sheet

Look at *Page from the Koran* (Iran, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> century, 51.37.3). What adjectives would you use to describe the script?

Now look at *Page from the Koran* (Mamluk dynasty, about 1350, 51.37.21). What adjectives would you use to describe the script? How is this page different from the first one?

What types of motifs are used to embellish the second page?

Based on what you see, how do you think the compositional differences in use of text and decoration affect how you look at each page?

Look at *Bowl* in the corner case (Kashan ware, Seljuk period, 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century, 50.46.431). How does the surface detail enhance the shape of the object and unify it?

Now look at *Ewer* in the case to your left (Kashan ware, Seljuk period, 12<sup>th</sup> century, 50.46.429). List two or three ways in which the ewer is visually related to the bowl above.

Pick a ceramic object (dated between 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> c.) that appeals to you from one of these two cases. What attracts you to it? Describe its motifs, colors, and form.