
Haji Noor Deen Mi Guangjiang

— Linking Arabic Calligraphy and
Chinese Calligraphy —

Who is he?

- Islamic calligrapher
- From Shandong
- Expert in Sini Calligraphy
- First Chinese Muslim to be awarded the Egyptian Certificate of Arabic Calligraphy and to be admitted as a member of the Association of Egyptian Calligraphy.



Works



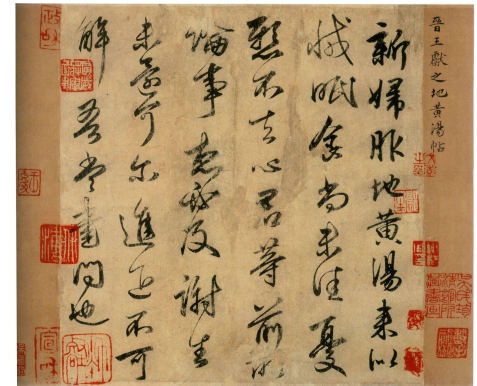
The Silk Road

- China, was affected by the spread of Islam.
- Islam has been practiced in China since the 7th century
- At the time, China was very open minded towards Muslims.
- Chinese speaking Muslims such as merchants and soldiers with Arab and Persian ancestry would marry into the Han Chinese, creating a unique identity.
- During the Yuan Dynasty, Chinese Muslims incorporated their own calligraphy into Chinese items, simultaneously evolving a new style of Arabic script called 'Sini'



Cultural Views about Calligraphy

- Both cultures heavily value calligraphy as art forms
- Both value proportionality and “balance”
- Rhythm and cadence are vital.
- Chinese calligraphy is based on movements of strokes and inks,
- Arabic Calligraphy repeats and arranges the words with the same inclination.



What makes Sini Calligraphy so different?

- Not as constrained, more free than Arabic calligraphy
- Features thick and tapered effects like in Chinese calligraphy



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

This image shows the Basmala (Bismillah) written in Sini calligraphy. The script is highly stylized and expressive, with thick, tapered strokes and a fluid, cursive flow. The letters are interconnected, and the overall appearance is dynamic and artistic, reflecting the influence of Chinese calligraphy.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

This image shows the Basmala (Bismillah) written in traditional Arabic calligraphy. The script is more formal and structured, with clear, distinct letters and a balanced, symmetrical layout. The strokes are uniform in thickness, and the overall appearance is clean and precise, reflecting the traditional standards of Arabic calligraphy.

Other works:



Sources

- <https://www.bahath.co/calligraphy>
- <https://www.hajinoordeen.com/sini-calligraphy>
- https://www.cflac.org.cn/ArtExchange/yishujiaoliu201802/yishujiaoliuzazhi201802/201901/t20190109_432004.htm#:~:text=The%20Chinese%20and%20Arabic%20calligraphy,words%20with%20the%20same%20inclination.