

# Object Summary



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## Pierced Copper Ceiling Lamp with Glass Inlay

19th - 20th century

Egypt or Syria

Ottoman

Metalwork/Pierced copper alloy with red glass

Overall: 7 3/8 x 9 3/4 in. (18.7 x 24.8cm) (without chains)

A trade in antiques from Islamic lands was established in the mid-19th century. This was due, in part, to the rising interest of collectors, travelers and museums in Europe and America. At the same time, European goods flooded Middle Eastern markets, replacing local products. Local craftsmen embraced an entrepreneurial approach to meet the growing demand for Islamic antiques by reviving the aesthetic of an earlier era — the Mamluk dynasty, which ruled Egypt and Syria from 1250 to 1517. Objects in this style, including lamps, basins, and kursi (quran stands), were sold in the cities' suqs, or markets, in Egypt and Damascus. Images of these marketwares piled high in suqs became a favorite subject of Orientalist painters, who depicted these interactions through the perspective of Western encounters with Islamic lands.