

Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe
el-Fakahani Mosque (109)

382 Technical Section Report
9. Site Visits

B. El- Fakahani Mosque

This mosque, situated on el-Akadyn street and on its north side, Chockadam alley, was built by el Zafer in 543 A.H.; today it is part of the Ahmed Katkhoda el-Kharbouti waqf, the last person to have restored or rather reconstructed the edifice; this reconstruction goes back to, according to an inscription *in situ*, the year 1148; all the ruins from the old mosque have been dispersed or destroyed and the current mosque presents no interesting elements save the wooden door leaves belonging to the west and north doors. Their ornaments are finely carved and go back to an old era, they testify to what remains of the mosque and the reconstructions.

The Technical Section does not show interest in the edifice but suggests that the door leaves be classified among the monuments to be conserved and to proceed with their cleaning.

Cairo, 24th of February 1908

Bibliographic reference:

Bahgat Ali, Patricolo Achille. B. Mosquée el-Fakahâni. In: *Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe*. Fascicule 25, exercice 1908, 1909. pp. 18-19.

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.3406/ccmaa.1909.7249>

www.persee.fr/doc/ccmaa_1110-6824_1909_num_1908_25_7249

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B. Overview of the executed works

V. al-Fakahani Mosque Door Leaves

(543 A.H.= 1148 A.D.)

These door leaves, as mentioned in the Comité file number 25 (p. 18,19), belonged to the az-Zafir mosque, built in 543 A.H., on the same site occupied by the current mosque. They are placed in the north and west portals of the edifice. Their ornaments, very finely carved, [have been covered by several layers of paint](#), underneath which [the details of the old drawings have almost disappeared](#). Certain [parts of the woodworks have been severely deteriorated or have been deformed](#).

In 1919, the Comité had [commissioned repairs for the woodwork as well as the removal of the layers of paint](#). The latter has returned the piece to its previous allure (glamour).

Cairo, 20th of February, 1915

Bibliographic reference:

Patricolo Achille. V. Vantaux de porte dans la mosquée al-Fakahâni (543 H. = 1148 A. D.) . In: *Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe*. Fascicule 32, exercice 1915-1919, 1922. p. 38.

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.3406/ccmaa.1922.15530>

www.persee.fr/doc/ccmaa_1110-6824_1922_num_1915_32_15530

Carved woodwork, probably from the mosque built by Caliph az-Zahir (Cliché C.M.A)

Detail of a carved panel (cliché C.M.A)



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6. Site Visits

(1) al-Fakahani Mosque

We have unanimously decided to complete the classification of the door leaves- which were already classified as early as 1908- with that of the entire monument, because it is an interesting specimen of the Ottoman era.

Cairo, 10th of March 1937

Bibliographic reference:

Simāika Marcus H., Greg Robert Hyde, Home John, Ghalib Kamil Osman, Farid 'Aly, Pauty Edmond, Ahmad Mahmud. (a) Mosquée d'al-Fākihāni. In: *Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe*. Fascicule 38, exercice 1936-1940, 1944. p. 68.

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.3406/ccmaa.1944.13246>

www.persee.fr/doc/ccmaa_1110-6824_1944_num_1936_38_13246