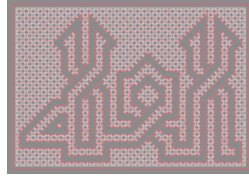


Spring 2021 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
The Power of Images in Asian Art: Making the Invisible Visible
Sponsored by the *Society for Asian Art*

Mathematics and the Divine in Islamic Art



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Key Concepts and Terminology

<i>al-'Aḥad</i>	The One (i.e. God)
<i>Allāh</i>	God (in Arabic), term used by Muslims and Arab Christians
<i>Amthāl</i>	(pl.) examples/similes/parables
<i>Āqīdah</i>	creed
<i>Basmala</i>	In the name of God, most merciful, most compassionate
<i>Bāṭin</i>	hidden/esoteric
<i>al-Dhāt</i>	essence
<i>al-Ghayb wa'l Shahāda</i>	invisible and visible/hidden and manifest
<i>al-Jalāl</i>	divine majesty
<i>al-Khaṭṭ</i>	Arabic calligraphy
<i>al-Ilāh</i>	god
<i>'Asmā' al-Ḥusnā</i>	"Beautiful Names [of God]" (99 names)
<i>al-Muḥīṭ</i>	circumference
<i>al-Nukṭa</i>	point/center point/dot
<i>Nūr</i>	light/"Light of God"
<i>Qur'ān</i>	Islamic scripture
<i>Shahāda</i>	attestation "There is no god but God; Muhammad is the Prophet of God"
<i>Tafsīr</i>	exegesis
<i>Tanzīh</i>	Islamic religious concept of transcendence. Cf. <i>tashbīh</i>
<i>Tashbīh</i>	Islamic religious concept of closeness. Cf. <i>tanzīh</i>
<i>Tawḥīd</i>	Doctrine of Unity

Ṭa'wīl

esoteric interpretation

Zāhir

manifest/apparent/evident/outer/exoteric

Key Philosophers/Theologians

al-Ghazālī (d. 1111, Tus)

Ibn 'Arabī (d. 1240, Damascus)

Ikhwān al-Ṣafā' (c. 10th c. Basra)

Molla Sadra (d. 1635/40, Basra)

Shahrestānī (d. 1153? Khorasan)

Suhrawardī (d. 1191, Aleppo)

Key Monuments

Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem

Tomb towers, Kharrāqān, Iran

Minbar, Aleppo, Syria/Jerusalem

Gonbad-e Kabūd, Marāgha, Iran

Tower at Jam, Afghanistan

Taj Mahal, Agra, India

Suggested Readings

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