

## Calligraphy

Calligraphy, which means beautiful writing, is the art of elegant handwriting. Calligraphy was first used by Muslims when the Arabs began preparing copies of the Qur'an (the Muslim holy book). The words of the Qur'an were written in calligraphy because only calligraphy was considered worthy of the word of God. As a result, the calligrapher was honored above other artists, and calligraphy was considered the highest form of decoration. Verses from the Qur'an adorned the walls of mosques. Calligraphy was also used to decorate textiles, ceramics, and metal works with inscriptions of worldly wisdom. In Muslim art, the words written in calligraphy are admired for their beauty. The art of calligraphy was taken to such a height because in the early period of Islam, the use of visual images to depict humans or animals was prohibited.

