

**The Appearance of Nasrid motto on the doorknobs
of Ahmad Salem's Mosque known as Elsainy in Alexandria**

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The unique appearance of Nasrid motto "*Lâ ghâlib ilâ Allâh*" (there is no victor other than God) on the doorknobs in Ahmad Salem Mosque, which was built in 1930, by Italian architects and designers, reflects the influence of the Andalusian art on the Islamic buildings. Many reasons could explain this influence, as the historical and religious relationship between Andalusia and Alexandria, by numerous immigrants who came to the city and became the most famous Imams in the city. Moreover, the Italian architects and designers who were managing the largest part of the construction business in Alexandria, during the first decade of the twentieth century, their studies of the Islamic Art in their country before they moved to Egypt, concentrated on the Andalusian art, and due to that their work in the Islamic religious buildings was influenced by the Andalusian art.

Through a concentrated study in the meaning of the motto, and relating it to the conditions of constructing Ahmad Salem Mosque, and taking into consideration the remaining inscriptions in the Mosque, it becomes clear that one of the main reasons of inscribing the Nasrid motto was a reflection of Ahmad Salem's status after building the Mosque, showing and telling everyone that God helps everyone with good intent, and He helped me in constructing this Mosque. Which means that this motto was not just copied words and art from Alhambra Palace, in Turkey; but it was selected intentionally by the owner and the designer of the Mosque.