

# **Kufic Script on the Buildings of Central Asia:**

## **The Rise and Development**

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Kufic script played an important and effective role in the decoration of many buildings and applied arts in Eastern Islamic World in general, and in Central Asia specifically, as it was suitable for decorative purposes especially at the top of Arabic letters, which were flexible in decoration, thus this script was suitable for any surface.

The studies which dealt with Kufic script on buildings according to that perspective were few, and concentrated on the study of this script on a separate building or on the buildings of a city, or carrying out a survey of the monumental inscriptions on early buildings in Iran and Central Asia. The study of Kufic script on the building of Central Asia and its rise and development was very important, as well as understanding the contributions of the artists in the development of its styles in that area.

The study aims at the following:

- Follow stages of development of Kufic script on the building of Central Asia, the rise of each stage and the extent of development;
- Compare the development of the script and its similarities on the applied arts in the same area, showing the similarities and differences between them;
- indicate which was earlier in the appearance of Kufic script, Iran or Central Asia;
- Highlight the most important Kufic script inscribed on the buildings of Central Asia. They varied between simple Kufic script which appeared at the base of the minaret of Prince *Abu l'abass Mamoun ibn Khorezm Shah* at Urgansh dating 401 AH/ 1010 and 1011CE.