The Political Significance of the Implications of the Coins

of Bani Mahdi and Bani Rasul in Yemen through Two Silver Dirhams Coined in Zabid

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The research focuses on the political significance of the contents inscribed on the dirhams of Bani Mahdi and Bani Rasul in Yemen, through the study of one Dirham of each of the two nations. The first is a Bani Mahdi's Dirham (coined in Zabid 566 AH / 1162 CE): with the phrase "Ali Wali Allah" engraved on one side while "Imam Shams The Law of Islam" is engraved on the other. The researcher will consider these two phrases and their political implications which reveal the identity, beliefs, and political regime of the nation. The other coin belongs to the nation of Bani Rasul (coined in Zabid as well 864 AH/1265 CE) with the phrase "Al Imam Al Musta'sim Be Allah Amir al-Mu'minin" engraved in the margin of the reverse: It is well known that this Caliph passed away eight years before striking this dirahm. Then, what is its political significance, and what is the role it has played in the legitimacy of the State of Bani Rasul, and in deciding its foreign policy, especially with the state of the Mamluks in Egypt, and the Abbasid Caliphate in Cairo?