

## DISCOVERY OF AMERICA BY MUSLIMS BEFORE COLUMBUS DISCOVERY OF AMERICA TO COLUMBUS

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### **Annotation**

This article provides new information about Columbus, Islamic inscriptions found in the US, and more. Al-Masudi's work "Müruc-uz Zeheb" is considered, which was translated into Turkish under the name "Golden Meadows," which describes how a traveler originally from Andalusia (Cordoba) crossed the ocean, went ashore of the continent located opposite, and returned with valuable trophies. On the map of Al-Masudi it was already possible to observe the American mainland. The fact is also cited that in his memoirs Christopher Columbus mentions the existence of a mosque on a hilltop on the coast of Cuba.

**Keywords:** Christopher Columbus, San Salvador, Amerigo Vespucci, Phoenicians, Vikings, Al-Masudi Map, Mosque, Natives.

The discovery of America is considered an epoch-making event. This event is also called the watershed, when they began to divide the world into Old and New. America became known as the New World. The official discovery of America is attributed to Christopher Columbus, a Spanish navigator who reached the shores of New Land in 1492. His expedition ended up on the island of San Salvador on October 12, 1492, so this date is considered the official day of the discovery of America. However, Columbus himself believed that he opened the way to Asia, more precisely to India, so hence the names of the West Indies, Indians.

In 1499, the Florentine traveler Amerigo Vespucci equips an expedition and goes to the shores of America. Historians argue that it was Amerigo Vespucci who first suggested that the lands discovered by Columbus were not Asia, not islands, but a new huge mainland. In 1507, cartographer M. Waldzemüller proposed that open lands named by America after Amerigo Vespucci - this is considered the moment of the first use of the toponym "America." However, other historians disagree with the view that the discovery of America is connected exclusively with Columbus or Amerigo Vespucci. It is believed that the Phoenicians (in the 4th century BC), Vikings (in the 10th century AD) also reached the shores of America.

Among the hypothetical discoverers, some historians distinguish the Malay Sultan Abubakar II (1330), the Chinese explorer Zheng He (1420) and the Portuguese Juan Corterial (1471). In an article published in authoritative journals in England and France, Starr writes that Columbus, in preparation for his expedition, used data from the works of both al-Biruni and another scientist, Ahmad al-Ferghana.

There are several authors who were among the first to present a version according to which Muslims discovered America before Columbus. The most important of them is the researcher and historian Abu al-Hassan al-Masudi (Ebu'l Hasan el-Mesudi), whose years of life cover the

period from 896 to 956. In his work "Müruc-uz Zeheb," which was translated into Turkish under the name "Golden Meadows," Al-Masudi describes how a traveler originally from Andalusia (Cordoba) crossed the ocean, went ashore of the continent located opposite, and returned with valuable trophies. On the map of Al-Masudi it was already possible to observe the American mainland.

At a meeting with Latin American Muslim religious leaders, President Erdogan literally said this: "Latin America's familiarity with Islam dates back to the 12th century. America was discovered not by Columbus, but by Muslims in 1178. In his memoirs, Christopher Columbus mentions the existence of a hilltop mosque on the coast of Cuba. This means that even before Columbus discovered the American mainland, the Islamic religion developed and spread there. "The school taught us that Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492. But, is that really a lie? Evidence shows that Columbus was aware of Muslim interactions with the New World. Muslim geographers were excellent at producing very detailed and accurate maps. Columbus studied them.

There were al-Masudi (871-957), al-Idrisi (1100-1165), ibn-Batuta (1304-1369), ibn-Mazhid (1430-1500), Piri Reis (1465-1553) and many more Muslim geographers.

Columbus read the book of Roger Bacon (Rojar Bekah) before his first trip. The book contained resources in Arabic indicating geographical regions. Columbus' first voyage consisted of 3 ships - "Nina," "Pinta" and "Santa Maria." It is said that the co-owner of Nina & Pinta - Martin Pinzon - was a Muslim and a descendant of the Marinid Sultan who ruled Morocco in 1366-1366. His brother Vicente. "Columbus" hired two Moroccan Muslim captains (brothers Martin and Janez Pinzon of Vincent).

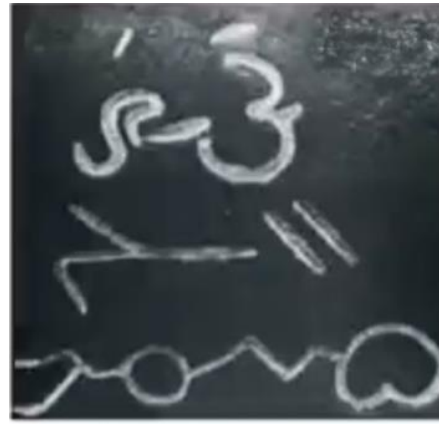
He hired them despite criticism from the Spanish crown, which despised Muslims. Many of the people on his journey were Moriscos who escaped when they went ashore. When Columbus wrote about seeing a masjid (mosque) on a hill in Cuba with Quranic inscriptions. He wrote about the natives of modern Haiti - they talked about how black peoples came to this land with spears made of metal called "kwanin" (Mndinka means "gold"; "gina" is Arabic for wealth).

Hundreds of cities in North America bear Muslim names: Kalifia (California), Allah-Bumya (Alabama), Talla Hasse (Tallahassee), Islamorada, Mecca, Medina, Hazen. Very wealthy Mandin Muslims from West Africa also traveled across the Americas as far as Columbus in the 1300s. They married the natives and left behind letters and inscriptions.

Dr. Barry Fell, a linguist and archaeologist, investigated the arrival of Islam in America, according to him, in the 7th century. Perhaps in the era of Caliph Usman. Testify to the presence of Muslims. Let's take a look at some of them. Thanks to archaeological excavations in the western United States (Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Indiana), inscriptions, drawings, diagrams were found. This inscription reads: "In the name of God (Allah)" Fig. 1. It was found on a rock in Nevada and dates back to the 7th century. It is written in Arabic "kufik" style, which is very characteristic of that time period.

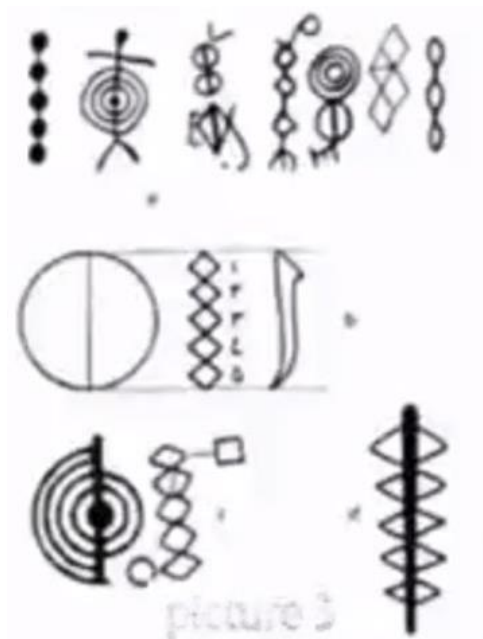


**Fig 1**



**Fig 2**

Fig 2: shows the inscription "Muhammad (peace to him and blessing) the prophet of Allah" also in Arabic script in the Kufic style.

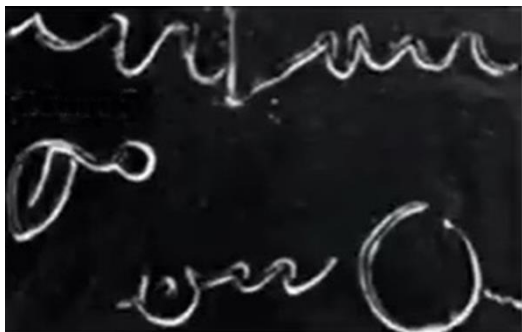


**Fig 3**



**Fig 4**

The inscription shown in Figure 3 reads: "5 diamonds are equal to Alifa" in the North African Arabic style. The inscriptions given in Fig. 4 with the name of the Prophet Muhammad (peace to him and the blessing of Allah) are stored at the University of California. Now, if you look at the A inscription in the upper left corner, you will see that it was found in the 8th and 9th centuries in Morocco. Now take a look at B. This inscription was found in the East Walker River. The one you see: C. that was found in Nevada. Also D: Nevada. F was found in Morocco. G in Libya. And H was found in Cottonwood Canyon.



**Fig 5**



**Fig 6**

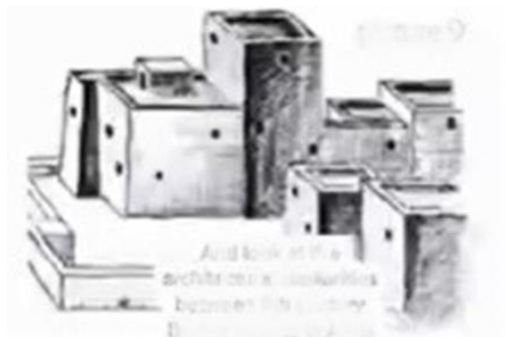
The inscription in Figure 5 in the Kufic style was found in 1951 in Benton, Nevada. It says "Shaitan maha mayan" or "The devil is the source of all lies." The inscription shown in Figure 6 says "Hamed" in Kufi Arabic letters found in the rocks in Nevada.

In 1787, Samarkand dirhams (coins, fig. 7) of the 7th-8th centuries were found in Massachusetts. And it says: "La ilaha il-Allah, Muhammadan rasulillah" (there is no god except Allah, Muhammad is his messenger).



**Fig 7**

And look at the architectural similarities between 9th-century Berber houses in the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and pueblo houses built in New Mexico (Fig. 5.6)



**Fig 8**



**Fig 9**



**Fig 10**



**Fig 11**

And look at the architectural similarities between 9th-century Berber houses in the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and pueblo houses built in New Mexico (Fig. 10, 11). You can't deny the similarities.

Professor Cyrus Thomas of the Smithsonian Institution reported that a small cabin built of piles of rocks was found in Ellenville,



**Fig 12**

New York State (Figure 12). It is the same rock hut built in Aqaba, South Arabia, in the 8th century. Indigenous peoples have lived in the Americas for millennia. But what we're not taught in schools is that Muslims were in America, too, about 700 years before Columbus. They introduced the natives to various crafts, and the natives learned to communicate in Arabic. Muslims communicated with local residents and intermarried. And influenced their clothes, their traditions and customs.

Hundreds of cities in North America bear Muslim names: Kalifia (California), Allah-Bumya (Alabama), Talla Hasse (Tallahassee), Islamorada, Mecca, Medina, Hazen, Mahoney. And why many words come from Arabic, such as: sheriff (sharif), mayor (amir) and many others. Despite all this evidence, Columbus is still credited with discovering America. Christopher Columbus studied Muslim captains on his first voyage.

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