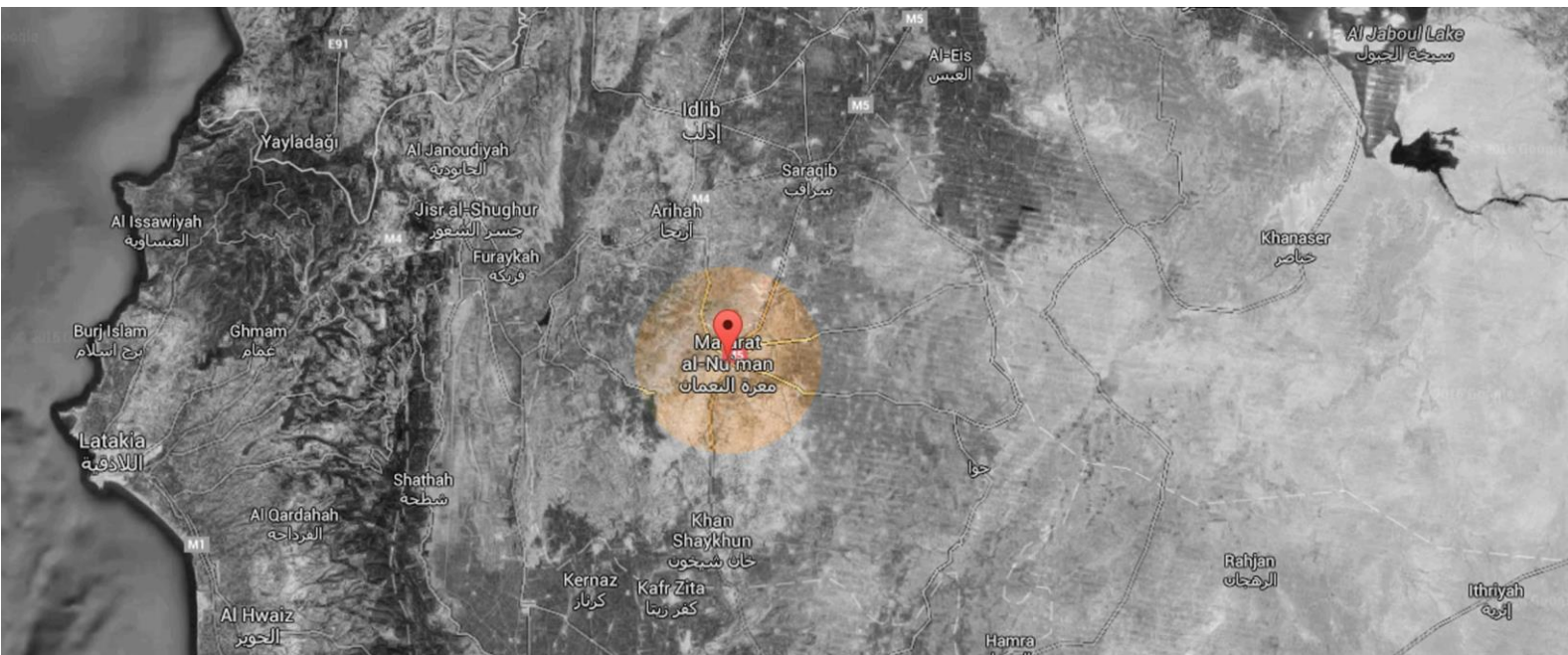


The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative

Development and Education Project

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop Report

Idlib February 2019



Name of Workshop: Teaching Arabic Calligraphy

Location: Center for Syrian Cultural Heritage Protection in Idlib, Idlib Governorate

Implementing Agency: Center for Syrian Cultural Heritage Protection, The Day After-Heritage Protection Institute

Sponsor: Institute for Digital Archaeology

Start Date: 14/2/2019

End Date: 17/2/2019

Workshop Duration: 4 days only

Introduction:

The Arabic language is one of the most important languages in the world, boasting over 422 million speakers globally. In terms of its lingual composition, it contains a enormous variety of vocabulary, syntax, and grammatical concepts. One of its particularities is its distinguished history of calligraphy. Arabic letters can be written in multiple ways, and the art of writing them is referred to as *Arabic-Calligraphy*.

Arabic-Calligraphy is the art of writing words and sentences that uses the twenty-eight Arabic letters. The most important thing in the design of Arabic calligraphy is the intertwining of the letters, which gives it flexibility in its formation.

The origin of Arabic Calligraphy is attributed to the origin of the Arabic Nabataean script. It was then further developed by the Kufic and Hijazi schools, which worked to establish these scripts.

Of all of these styles, the Kufic script is the most widely known and circulated. It is characterized by the hardness and definition of the letters and was not dotted until Abu al-Aswad introduced points to the letters.

The Workshop Agenda

Day 1

There were 20 participants in this workshop and included children from the local community as well as displaced members from the town of Al-Bara. In order to prepare for the workshop, the participants were assessed on their previous knowledge of *Arabic-Calligraphy*. The initial average score of the questionnaire was 55%.

The types of *Arabic-Calligraphy*, periods, and topics of each script's use throughout history, and a full description of each style of calligraphy were explained. Ample examples of each style were provided for the participants.

Attendance Sheet

NO	Name	First day	Second day	Third day	Fourth day
1	Ilaf Yahia	a	a	a	a
2	Amoun Qanas	a	a	a	a
3	Safa Al-Meri	a	a	a	a
4	Humam abaas	a	a	a	a
5	Husam abaas	a	a	a	a
6	Amjad abass	a	a	a	a
7	Husain Murad	a	a	a	a
8	Mustafa Hamidi	a	a	a	a
9	Abd al-Qasum	a	a	a	a
10	Tareq Raslan	a	a	a	a
11	Ali Qasoum	a	a	a	a
12	Ahmed Al-Biri	a	a	a	a
13	Abd Aabaas	a	a	a	a
14	Muhamd hamdi	a	a	a	a
15	Mahmud qanas	a	a	a	a
16	Musa hamidi	a	a	a	a
17	Sedra abrash	a	a	a	a
18	Raghda abrash	a	a	a	a
19	Nour qadour	a	a	a	a
20	Mhamd qanas	a	a	a	a

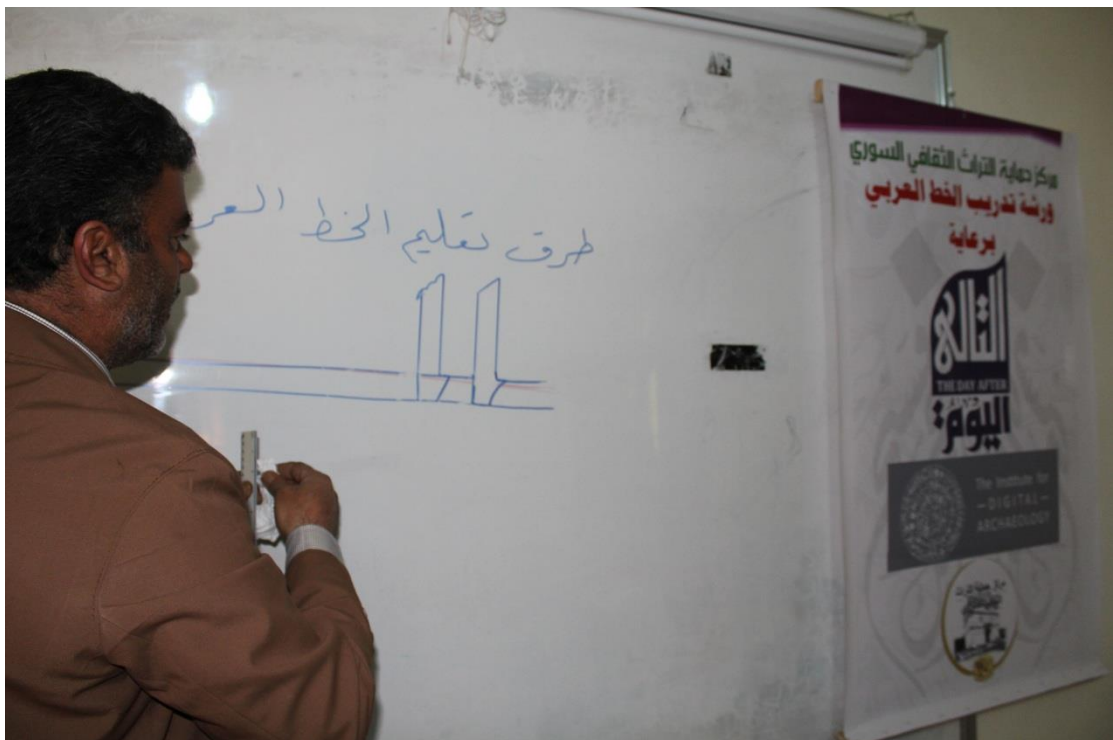


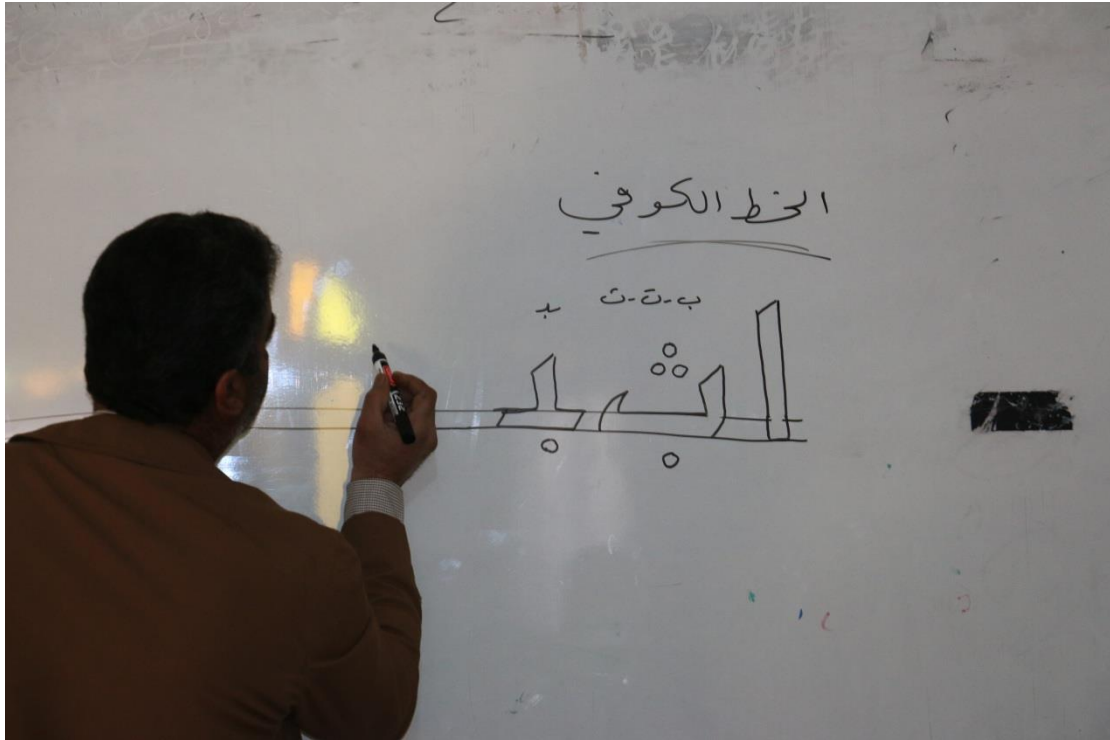




Day 2

The Kufic script was selected to be presented and taught to the participants to do training and practice its implementation. The trainer began by explaining the stages of writing the script, starting with letters and how to write each letter.





Then students were divided into groups and were given pens, card stock, rulers, and paper to begin practicing.



Day 3

The explanation of how to write letters, collect letters, and write words continued from the previous days.

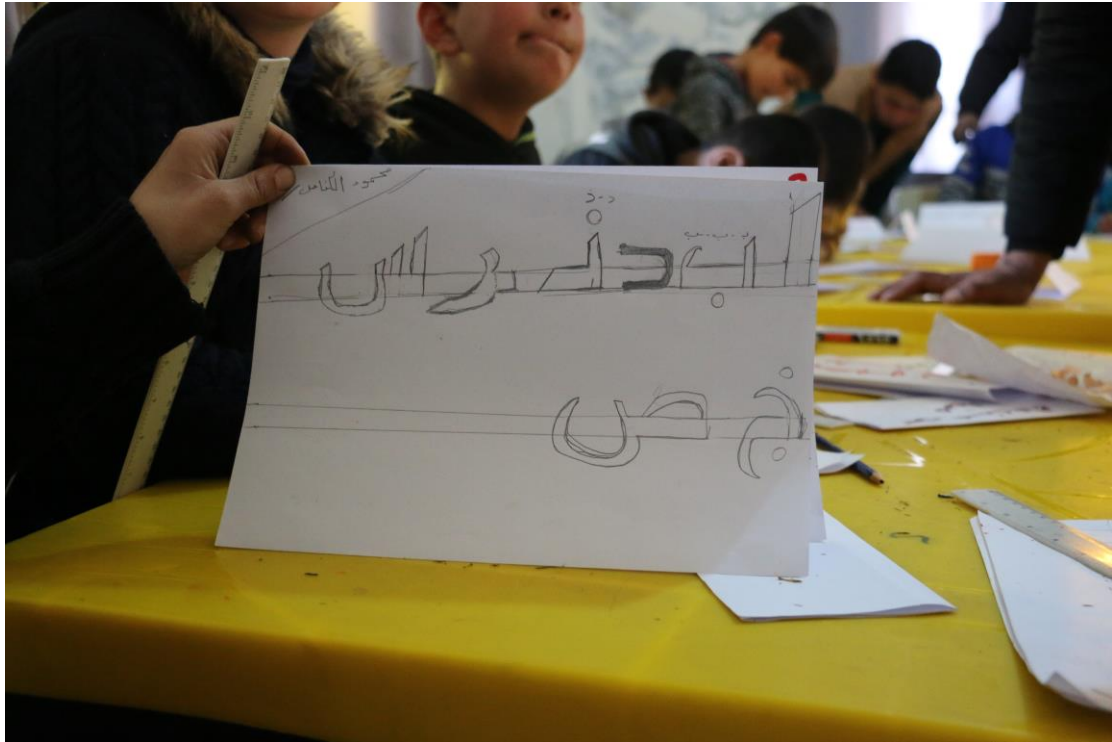
Graph paper and the appropriate tools were then presented to students for them to attempt the calligraphy.





Day 4

After completing the instruction portion of the workshop participants were given samples of the calligraphy they learned about, and the opportunity to write them correctly. The workshop participants were then reassessed on their knowledge and understanding of *Arabic-Calligraphy*. The results of the final questionnaire yielded an average of 84%.





After completing the workshop, the children were assigned homework as a workshop project to be submitted after two days. Upon submission, the participant would receive a reward.



Conclusion:

Through this workshop, 20 children were enriched in theoretical and practical experience in the field of *Arabic-Calligraphy*. They were introduced to the basic principles of writing.

Suggestions were received from the children, most of which requested to repeat the workshop for a longer period of time.

Team Members:

Abdul Rahman Al-Yahya - Nayef Al-Qaddour - Ahmad Al-Anan - Muhammad Al-Batal - Mowaffaq Al-Tuwair - Akram Al-Qassum - Firas Al-Yahya - Muhammad Tata'a

Reported by:

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Project Coordinator

Dr. Amr Al-Azm

