

# **Evolution of glass in Early Islamic times in Syria, based on new excavation finds**

**Prof. Dr. Heinz Gaube (Archaeology, Tübingen)**

**Dr. Andrea Becker (Museum for Islamic Art, Berlin)**

**Dr. Boaz Paz (Archaeometry, Bad Kreuznach)**

**Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schüßler**

**Since 2008**

**Supported by the German Science Foundation**

## **Summary**

The archaeological situation of the ancient cities of Raqqa and Madinat al-Far/Hisn Maslam as well as the very large number of well stratified glass finds there allows for a detailed analysis of glass production in Syria of the 8th and 9th century AD, i.e. shortly after the Islamic conquest. Over 40 years of government of the Abbaside Khalif Harun ar-Rashid, Raqqa was a prospering city with an intense production of glass to satisfy the requirements of the khalif court and the rapidly increasing number of inhabitants. Glass finds from the khalif palace are compared with those from local glass production sites to distinguish between local and imported glass, to get information about the proportion of imported glass and, including regional comparison, to get information about the provenance of imported glass.