

Table of Contents

Table of Figures	VII
Abbreviations and transliteration.....	VIII
Reference works	VIII
Institutions.....	VIII
Notes to the Reader	IX
Acknowledgements.....	X
1. Introduction.....	1
1.1 State of research	5
1.2 The structure of this book.....	11
2. Physical properties of pendant Korans and related manuscripts	15
2.1 Codicological features of the main types of pendant Korans.....	23
2.1.1 Small and miniature Korans in Abbasid-era scripts	24
2.1.2 Small and miniature Korans from the Maghreb and Andalusia	27
2.1.3 Miniature Koran manuscripts in a vertical codex form.....	30
2.1.4 Miniature manuscripts only containing parts (<i>qjzāʿ</i>) of the Koran	32
2.1.5 Octagonal Koran manuscripts	34
2.1.6 Miniature Koran scrolls	40
2.1.7 Exceptions and outliers	47
2.2 The content and paracontent of miniature Korans	50
2.3 Other Islamic miniature books	54
2.4 Non-Islamic miniature books.....	56
3. Production and miniaturisation	61
3.1 Bindings and writing supports	61
3.2 Miniature writing	69
3.2.1 <i>Ghubār</i> script in Arabic sources	69
3.2.2 <i>Ghubār</i> calligraphers.....	72
3.2.3 Display scripts and reading aids in miniature Korans.....	79
3.3 Page layout and illumination.....	83
3.4 Interpreting the octagonal shape	87
3.4.1 Octagons in architecture	87
3.4.2 Octagonal amulets, amulet cases and other objects	88
3.4.3 Numerology	90
3.4.4 Craftsmanship, pragmatism and manuscript production	91
3.5 Amulet and Koran cases.....	94
3.5.1 Leather cases for codices	95

3.5.2 Metal cases for pendant Koran scrolls and octagonal codices.....	96
3.5.3 Banner Koran cases	102
3.5.4 Religious implications of Koran cases.....	103
4. The magico-religious context of miniature Korans	105
4.1 Islam and magic	106
4.2 Magic and religion	110
4.3 Magico-religious beliefs and practices in the Middle East	115
4.3.1 Solid objects with an amuletic function	115
4.3.2 Amuletic manuscripts and their cases	117
4.3.3 <i>Bāzubands</i>	120
4.3.4 Other talismanic practices	123
4.4 Explaining the magical functions of pendant Korans from the context...	125
5. The usage of pendant Korans and similar manuscripts	127
5.1 Wearing a <i>muṣḥaf</i> around one's neck	129
5.2 Reciting from and reading pendant Korans.....	133
5.3 Pendant Korans as 'pocket books' and amulets.....	135
5.4 Pendant Korans in rituals and on public display	140
5.5 Banner Korans.....	149
5.6 Explaining the purpose and functions of pendant Korans.....	157
6. Summary	163
6.1 Forms	163
6.2 Functions.....	167
Works cited	173
Primary sources, including eyewitness reports and related works	173
Catalogues and related publications	175
Secondary sources	177
Index	187
Appendix	193