



al-Shaykh bin Dammam

**Talisman Booklet
with Petitionary Sufi Prayers**

Manuscript in Arabic

Calligraphy from the Maghreb,
Author al-Shaykh bin Dammam, 1265 H. [1848 AD]

75 leaves, 9.5 x 11 cm, bound in leather, with flap and in ornate leather case

Sufi talisman from the Maghreb with Hawas commentaries in the margins seeking esoteric meanings symbolized by letters, numbers, words, verses in squares in a certain order.

Occultism (from Latin *occultus* 'hidden', 'concealed', 'secret') is a vague collective term for a wide variety of phenomena, practices and ideological systems, whereby occult can be roughly synonymous with esoteric, paranormal, mystical or psychic.

Numerology [number symbolism] is the assignment of meanings to individual numbers or combinations of numbers, whereby the numbers are given a symbolic function that refers beyond their mathematical function. This symbolism is observed, with differences in expression and function, in religion, liturgy, literature, customs and superstition.

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