THE CATALOGUE
I. «AL-QURAN AL-KARIM» - THE QURAN WITH THREE COMMENTS

This manuscript contains the text of Quran, the interlinear translation on Persian, two "tafsirs" - the comments in Arabic and tafsir «Moghall al-als» ("The high gifts") of Khasan Ibn Ali al Vaz al-Kashifa (refer to Ms. Inv. No. 9109, 216). The last tafsir is devoted to Alisher Nacoii (refer to Ms. Inv. No. 3479 etc.). The authors of Arabic tafsirs "Al-Djalali" ("The tafsir of two Djalalis") are Djalaliaddin Ibn Ahmad al Mudjalli ash-Shafii (864H/1459-60) and Djalaliaddin Abderrahman Abu-Bakr as-Sugati (911H/1505-06). The author of the Persian translation is unknown. The date of the creation is approximate 18th c. The basic text is written on a thin and qualitative silk paper of cream shade. There are more thin paper sheets, between the folios of the manuscript, protecting text from damages. Ff.: 2+239+4. Ms.: 31x54.5 cm. The basic text and interlinear translation are located on the middle of the page. Text: 15x7 cm. Lines: 34. The text is bordered with an ornamental strip for 1.3 cm. The text of the Arabic comments is written in internal margin for 15.7x3.5 cm in size and framed with gold and dark blue lines, make the strip for 0.6 cm. Lines: 61. There are square-shaped ornamental headpieces in the top, the middle and the end of the text. The Persian tafsir is written on an outer margin of 23.2x5.3 cm in size. Lines: 64. The basic text is written in nashī style on a gold background with the black ink. The Persian translation - with cinnabar in Nastaliq style. There are square-shaped ornamental headpieces in the top, the middle and the end of this text too. The text of Arabic comments is written in nashī style with black ink, the highlighted words - in cinnabar. The comments in Persian are also written by black ink, the highlighted words - in cinnabar with Nasta’liq style. The binding is of card, covered by ornamental painting and lacquer for both internal and external sides. Binding: 31.3x55.8 cm.

The manuscript is unique both by its content, as well as by its high level of artistic illumination. There is a bilateral ornament "shams" on ff. 1r-2r. In the folio center it is written with handwriting "sulh", that it is necessary to read the Quran, to study and propagandaize it. There is a note in Uzbek in the end of the book, informing that the book was presented to Allakhelt khan in 1256H. There are the autograph and the signature of the governor of Khiva Muhammad Rahim Sani Firuz on f. 3o and 238r, informing that he gives this manuscript as "sahif" to the madrasah constructed by himself, with the condition that every day madarris will read one part of Quran, which will be devoted to His Majesty and his deceased relatives. Here is his seal and the date of 1301H. There is a magnificent frontispiece on ff. 3r-4r. There is the text of a prayer in Arabic on f. 1r, which is read after the end of Quran reading. There are "paqiris" - the catchwords in the end of each folio. The beginning of each sura is marked with an ornament, the title is written with a turquoise paint.

Inv. No. 1226.
The language is Arabic and Persian.

Literature:
Миржимов А. Хабибуллаев А. Текст конференция «Ислам и проблемы межнационального взаимоотношения», М., 1992, 12-13 мк.;
II. «NASR UL-LAOLIY» —
«THE GRAVEL OF PEARL»

He was a great scientist and poet of Central Asia, the creator of the several tracts in Persian, lived in the period Khorezmshah’s rule. The date of copying is 16th c. The place of copying is Herat. The paper of first sheet and the bases of the text are of the Samarqand origin. The lines of «Hadis» in Arabic, which are written in large «sult» alternate in the text with its poetic translation in Persian, which is written in italic nastaliq. Ff.: 6°+18+A. Ms.: 21.2x27.3 cm. The text is framed with black, gold and dark blue lines. Text: 13.6x21.8 cm. Lines: 13 (sult — 3. Nastaliq style — 10). There are six seals and fine inscriptions on f. 1v. The name of the composition is written here too. There is an invan on f. 1r, executed in the first half of 16th century by a foreman from Herat. The paper of other folios is toned with a cream and light yellow. The initial illumination was not completed. The decorated margins are added later, in the 18th century. The calligrapher is Sultan Muhammad Handan. There are two headpieces on f. 3r and colophon with the signature of calligrapher on f. 18r. The binding is of card, late, covered from outside with a coloured fabric pattern. The inner side is covered with a «marble» paper. Here is an inscription in Persian: «This book is a property of Said Hamid khodja». Binding: 22x33 cm.

Inv. No. 2261.
The author is Rashidaddin Vatvat. His full name is Muhammad Ibn Abdulljalil al-katib al-umari al-Balhi (1088-1182).

Literature:
III. «MAHZAN AL-ASRAR» — «THE TREASURY OF SECRETS»

Inv. No. 46.
From the Collection of the Museum of Literature.
The author is Nizami Gandjavi.

For this subject, please refer to Ms. Inv. No. 662. It is the first poem of «Khamseh», consisting from 20 makola and stories appendices. The date of copying is 1558-1560. The place of copying is Central Asia. The paper is dense glazed, of cream shade and of Sarakhsdian origin. Ff.: 78+1.
Ms.: 14x21.2 cm. The text is written in two columns with precise beautiful Nasta’liq style by black ink and framed with black, gold and dark blue lines. Text: 7.6x16 cm. Lines: 14. There is an undecorated tawwun on f. 1r. The binding is late, of a dark red leather with an embossed ornament, where the name of mullah Nazar Kashmiry iskhaf is fixed.

Binding: 13.2x21.4 cm. The manuscript is used; there are some folios, which are dropped out. There were kept four miniatures of the Central Asian school, which are injured because of the wrong manipulations. The decoration of the manuscript is not completed. The colophon is absent.

1. MADJIS

Ms.: 11x11 cm, f. 35r.

The miniature is illustrating the story to the fourth makola.

On the glade before a tent near a pond the governor and his grandees are feasting. There are several jugs and trays with an entertainment, standing on a carpet before them. The clothes of the people are red, blue, white and golden, their faces are erased.
2. THE MEETING BETWEEN RIDERS
Min.: 10.6x12 cm, f. 39v.

The miniature is illustrating the story to the sixth mukhala.

On the dark background the silhouettes of a palace, walls and dome can be seen. To the left a rider in emerald robe mounted on a black horse is shown. In the centre another rider in red clothes. To the right there is a servant on a black horse. The paints in the image of the majority of details of miniature have been dropped out.

4. MIRADJ — THE ASCENDANCE OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD
Min.: 11.5x13 cm, f. 77v.

The miniature is illustrating the story to the seventeenth mukhala.

On the background of a dark blue sky, the prophet Muhammad with closed face mounted on the winged horse Burqaq with a female head is flying. Ahad the angel Jibril in red robe with a red banner in his hand is shown. Around the background of the gold clouds the images of the angels in multi-coloured clothes, golden headresses and signs of the zodiac can be seen. In the right top corner of the miniature there are six lines, below — four lines of the text.

3. THE CHILDRENS PRANKS
Min.: 11x11.4 cm, f. 77v.

The miniature is illustrating the story to the sixteenth mukhala.

In the background of a lilac hill six playing boys are shown. In the centre a boy in red robe is holding his head. To the left there is a man in brown robe, looking with interest at the children. The sky is gold.
IV. «SHAH-NAME»

Inv. No. 156.
From the Collection of H. S. Sulaimanov.
The author is Firdawi.

For this subject, please refer to Ms. Inv. No. 1811. According to the paleographical signs the manuscript might be dated back to 17th century. The place of creation is Central Asia. The text is written in four columns in Nastaliq style, with black ink and framed with dark blue red and gold lines. The titles and highlighted words are written in crimson ink. Ff.: 222. Ms.: 20.5x30 cm. The paper is of Samarqandian origin, dense of a cream shade. Text: 16.5x27 cm. Lines: 31. There is a consecutive pagination in the manuscript, starting with 7 and finishing with 447 numbers. There is a late uneven of the end of 19th c. in the beginning of the manuscript. The binding is of card, covered with a black leather. Binding: 21x29 cm. The manuscript is decorated with 2 miniatures of 17th century. Cond.: the decoration is not completed. The manuscript was in personal library of orientalist V. Belyaev.

1. MANUCHEHR AND ZAL

Min.: 10.7x16 cm, f. 20v.

Manuchehr is presenting a honorable robe to Zal.
In solemnity, on the terrace, decorated with a flower pattern and covered by a green carpet, Manuchehr in yellow dark blue clothes and crown is sitting on a rectangular throne. Zal in black red clothes and white turban with black lengthened kalakh is standing before him. The blackbearded grandee in blue grey clothes is giving him a honorable robe from the skin of a snow leopard. The grandees and servants are shown around. There are the trays with jugs and cups on the carpet.

2. THE HUNTING SCENE

Min.: 15.7x19.5 cm, f. 178v.

In a white yellow green hilly landscape, there is a lion and a deer-hunting. Below to the left, a man in dark blue robe mounted on a light red horse is striking the lion’s head with his sabre. To the right in the centre a man in light robe is riding a black horse and throwing a rope on the deer’s neck. To the left a hunter with sabre, lifted above his head, riding a black horse is shown. Below to the right a pedestrian hunter with a bow can be seen.
V. «DIVAN» — «SELECTED VERSES»

Inv. No. 2267.
The author is Amir Khusraw Dehlawi.

For this subject, please refer to Ms. Inv. No. 3317. This well illustrated manuscript includes the poet’s lyrical ghazals. According to the paleographical signs the illumination of the manuscript might be dated back to 18th c.

The manuscript is copied on the dense Samarkand paper in calligraphical Nastaliq style, in black ink. Ff.: 89. Ms.: 15.5x27.0 cm.
The text of 17th century, is located in two columns. The dark blue and gold line of <djadidal> frames the text. Text: 9.3x17.8 cm. Lines: 14.
The margins are painted with the gradual changed bright colours and covered with roughly executed by a gold paint, a vegetative and geometrical pattern, including the images of the people, birds, real and fantastic animals, snakes, celestial stars, the small images and fragments of landscapes, calligraphical inscriptions of later execution.

The binding of the manuscript is of leather, colored in black, partially restored. Binding: 15.5x27.3 cm. Cond.: Some part of sheets and miniatures are lost. The uncut on f. 1r is injured. There are three miniatures in the manuscript. There is a round stamp of the Samarkand State Regional Museum on f. 1v.

1-2. «THE JOYS AND THE GRIEVES OF THE LIFE»

Min.: 26.5x30 cm. ff. 3v-5v.

In a ghazal the poet describes the pleasures of meeting and the sorrows of parting.

The artist deepens the idea of the poem: in the top part of the left half of the miniature — the interrogation of a captive, in the bottom — the quietness within a landscape.

In the left part of spread, two subjects are shown. At the top the servants are conducting and throwing on knees before the governor a bearded bound young captive in dark blue robe. An executioner with a belt fastened curve sword is standing behind him. The governor with his majestically lifted hand is sitting on the gilded throne. Two servants are fanning, and the other two in the left are intensely watching for occurring.

In the bottom a pleasure feast within the landscape is shown. The governor in fancy wound turban, short light dastar caftan and light blue trousers is completely in the authority of captivating dance of a young dancing girl. The melody is absurdly executed by the sitting there three musicians. The straight up cypress and blossoming trees, the grass of glade, on which are placed a tray with a wine device and a vase with flowers, are supporting the poetic atmosphere of the scene.

There are also two scenes placed on the right part of the spread. Above — a group of young people in coloured clothes are preparing the picnic on the bank of a stream, under the canopy of a blossoming almond tree. On the hilly horizon a servant is bringing a plate. An other large plate with cover is already on the glade.

In the lower scene a rich nobleman is carelessly galloping in golden crown on a horse with the accompany of a young bodyguard. In front of him there is a figure of an old dervish or poet. Leaning on a staff, he turns his mournful face towards the nobleman, raising his hand,

Min.: 15x26.5 cm , f. 20v.

This is a three-part miniature. In the top part a scene of lesson within landscape under a blossoming tree is shown. In the centre of composition a teacher with an opened book before him is sitting on a carpet. Three pupils in free disposed postures are actively answering his questions and mutually debating. Behind the light-blue hilly ridge there are light-blue sky and clouds. To the right – an octal structure with a dome on its roof covered with a light-blue colour pattern is shown.

In the centre of composition a group of young men in white turbans are discussing with their teacher in dark blue and light blue clothes and some differently wound turban, sitting separately on a small carpet. The bushes of a blossoming grass are allocated on the black underground.

Below – two young horsemen in short claret and dark blue clothes on the horses of light and red colours are shown in a blossoming foothill steppe with rare trees and cypresses. The area of steppe and hills on the horizon is painted by the strips of dark brown, beige and grey-light-blue colours.