326 Farhad carrying Shirin and her horse. Shiraz style, c. 1575

329 Majnun comforted by his father. Shiraz style, c. 1575
338 f. 273a Bahram Gur and the princess in the White Pavilion. The faces of Bahram and two of the attendants have been damaged and clumsily redrawn. The outer edge somewhat blackened. 19.5 x 13.5 cm (plus some in upper margin).

339 f. 274a The marriage of Iskandar and Rusaanak: her face and that of one of the attendants are damaged, and the outer edge somewhat blackened. 21.5 x 17 cm.

340 f. 275a Presentation of gifts from King Kaid of Hind to Iskandar. The face of Iskandar is slightly damaged, and the outer edge somewhat blackened. 18.5 x 17 cm.

341 f. 276a Iskandar and the Seven Sages, one of whom, at the foot of the throne, holds an astrolabe. The colours have oxidized in several parts of the miniature. 19.5 x 14.5 cm.

[Note: William Jones's note on f. 278: 'I bought this fine copy of Vat. 264 for 100/- R. (i.e. Indian Rupees) the seller having at first demanded 200. 11 April 1788. W. Jones']

342 f. 276b Ahli Shirazi: Kuliyat

(Tipa MS)

Manuscript 5751. Eb 1432

Modern red half-marocco binding (loose), the original covers bound in. 35.5 x 23.5 cm. The outside surfaces of the original covers (bound in as doublets) are of finely painted lacquer and on the whole in a very good state of preservation. Together they form a single composition of an outdoor court scene with two young princes enthroned in a small pavilion, attended by numerous courtiers, servants preparing and carrying food, dancers, musicians, and groups with led horses. The ground is green, with flowers and plants outlined in gold and the sky is blue. The style and period are the same as those of the miniatures (see below). The doublets are of stamped and gilt leather with medallions, corner-pieces, and border panels of cut-out work on coloured backgrounds, in the usual Shiraz style of the period.

277 f. Nasta’liq script; 2 centre columns of 10 lines, and 2 marginal columns of 24 lines each, to the page. W.S., gold-speckled, 21 x 12 cm. The text decorated throughout with panels of floral designs on gold and blue stripes painted with floral scrolls. Ff 1b and 2a are splendidly illuminated in late sixteenth-century Shiraz style. The original colophon, on f. 277a, gives neither the scribe’s name nor the date, but it has been flanked at a later period with palpably false inscriptions in inferior ink and script stating that the manuscript is the poet’s holograph, written in 920/1514 for his patron, Shah Isma’il.

The miniatures are excellent examples of the Shiraz style of c. 1575:

342 f. 278a, 29a Double-page composition within an illuminated border. On f. 278a a game of polo is depicted, and on f. 29a an archery competion, with competitors shooting at a golden ball set on a pole. Bad condition. Each half 9 x 7 cm. See illustration.

343 f. 279a (top right-hand margin). A hunting-scene: the principal figure wears a baton turban. 8.5 x 10.5 cm.

344 f. 280a (right-hand margin). A game of polo. 16 x 5 cm. See illustration.

345 f. 281a (left-hand margin). An indoor court-scene with lighted candles. 16 x 5 cm.

346 f. 282b (lower right-hand margin). Interior scene with lighted candle; a learned discussion, with one young man reading a book. 15 x 6 cm.

347 f. 283b (right-hand margin). A fete champêtre, with nine figures in a green landscape. Very slightly damaged. 16 x 5 cm.

348 f. 284b (central area). Filling water-skis at a well in a courtyard; among the figures are several ducks. 9 x 7 cm.

349 f. 285a (central area). Several men paying respect to a tomb in an innumerable. The upper part of the tomb has been stuck over with a piece of semi-transparent paper. 9 x 7 cm.

[Note: Outer margin of Nos. 348 and 349 painted in gold with plants, trees, animals and birds.]

350 f. 286b (top right-hand margin). A group of men drinking in a tavern: two are embracing, and another (seen from behind) plays a bowed instrument. 9 x 10.5 cm.

351 f. 287a, 166a (central area). Double-page composition of a learned discussion between two men seated in a room in a circle, and attendants
Double-page composition depicting polo and archery. Shiraz style, c 1575
Particulars of the miniatures are as follows:

366 f. 21r The taking of Zahhad's palace by Faridun and his troops (W.I.168). A large and crowded composition in the middle of which Faridun secures Zahhad watched by the sisters of Jamhid and surrounded by a general melee. In the foreground, the assaulted troops rise up to the walls discharging arrows, the defenders returning their fire and, disarming down reversed heads. A little rubbing, and slight discoloration along the top edge. Artist B. 33 x 19.5 cm. See illustration.

367 f. 49b Rustam kills the White Demon (W.II.99). Rocky landscape with a large tree and numerous demons, two of them among small variegated clouds in the gold sky. Artist B. 32 x 20.5 cm. See illustration.

368 f. 140b Rustam comes upon the druid soldiers of his grandson Barzun and the two-headed demon Qhara. This is the end of the Barza Nama (not in W.), just before the beginning of the story of Siyasahu. Landscape with towering wall of mausoleum rock behind: streams and a large tree in the foreground. Gauzed. Artist B. 32 x 20.5 cm. See illustration.

369 f. 189b Reception of Prince Kay Khosraw by King Kay Kau'm, his grandfather (W.II.397). Crowded court scene with large pavilion and paved terrace giving on a garden; courtiers, musicians, two dancing girls (bare-headed), and ladies in the upper windows and on the balcony. Artist B. 31 x 20 cm. See illustration.

370 f. 260a The taking of Arjan's Brazen Fortress by Firdawsi (W.IV.295); it is represented as a large apparently polygonal tower with extensive superstructures partly on fire, in which fighting is still in progress. Meanwhile Inshafyndar leads out his rescued sisters by the central gate, surrounded by armed guards. Gauzed and all faces repainted in India. Artist B? 31 x 20 cm. See illustration.
364. Zalhakan’s palace taken by Faridun. Shiraz style, c. 1580

365. Rustam and the White Demon. Shiraz style, c. 1580
366 Rustam finds the body of Fazru. Shiraz style, c. 1510

369 Rustam shoots Ashkabas. Shiraz style, c. 1510
Rustam attacks the herdsmen of Afrasiyab. Shiraz style, c. 1580

Kay Khusraw sees the wonders of the deep. Shiraz style, c. 1580