Firdausi. *Shahnama* (down to the death of Rustam, and including part of the *Garshasp Nama*), illustrated Persian manuscript on paper copied by Sa'far Ali Qajar, Persia, dated A.H.1231 (530)A.D.1853

281 leaves, 28 lines written horizontally and diagonally in four columns of nasta'liq script in black ink, double intercolumnar and single interlinear rules in red throughout, margins ruled in red, blue and gold, catchwords, occasional illuminated devices in borders, two illuminated headpieces in colours and gold, borders of folios 1b-2a richly decorated with intertwining floral motifs in colours and gold, thirty-one miniatures, slight discoloration, edges frayed, short tears repaired, floral lacquer binding, covers decorated with bullocks amidst flowers on gold ground, chipped, doublures with central medallions containing a family and hunting scene, 4½ by 263mm.

Miniatures are as follows:

f.2a Enthronement of Tahmurat
f.7a Battle of Tahmurath and the divs
f.8a Enthronement of Jamshid
f.10a Zahak tempted by Ilbis
f.11b Battle of Jamshid and Zahak
f.16a Battle of Turk son of Shidasp and the Indians
f.19a Garshasp kills a dragon
f.21b Garshasp kills a tiger that has killed his horse
f.23a Blank space with faint sketch- Garshasp kills Mahwi
f.79b Suhrab about to kill Rustam
f.80b Rustam and the dying Suhrab
f.100b Fire ordeal of Siyawush
f.104b Captive Siyawush brought before Afrasiyab
f.105b Murder of Siyawush
f.122a The Persian army observed from a mountain by Farud
f.124a Farud shooting at “Div” from the mountain
f.123a Battle of Karman and the Persians
f.146b Rustam grasps the tail of Chingsh’s horse
f.153b Shangul flees before Rustam
f.153b Gahar slain by Rustam
f.156b Combat of Rustam and Kafur the man-eater
f.156b Kafur slain by Rustam
f.190b Combat of Guraza and Siyamak
f.190b Combat of Furuhl and Zangula (carrying off his head)
f.218b Combat of Hajir and Sipshram
f.218b Combat of Zanga and Akhrust
f.229a Combat of Gurgin and Andariman
f.229a Combat of Barta and Kuhram
f.229a Combat of Rekam and Barman
f.239b Combat of Bizhan and Rum
f.256a Combat of Fairburz and Kuluab
f.256b Combat of Gw and Garwi

£4,000-6,000

Seyahatnama (a travel account), Turkish manuscript on paper commissioned for Sultan Mahmud II (reigned 1808-39), Ottoman, dated A.H.1254/A.H.1838

38 leaves including 1 blank, 17 lines to the page written in divan'i script, margins ruled in gold, catchwords in wide margins, significant sentences or words picked out in red, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold, slightly creased, short tears in borders, red morocco with stencilled paper boards, 24½ by 160mm.

£300-400
296 Kitab Hamlat-i Haidari, Persian manuscript on gold-sprinkled coloured paper copied by the scribe Muhammad Husain bin Muhammad Ja’far al-Kashani, Qajar, dated A.H.1278/A.D.1861

328 leaves including 15 blanks, 25 lines to the page written in four columns of nasta’liq script, catchwords in wide margins, headings in red, blue or green, in good condition, floral lacquer binding, some chipping, cracked, doublures with central medallions containing floral arrangements, on red ground decorated with interwoven floral motifs in gold, 290 by 190mm.

£600-800

297 Muhammad Baqir bin Muhammad Taqi. Zad al-Ma’ad (prayers and observances on special and ordinary days of the year according to the practice of the Imam rite), Arabic manuscript on paper, in floral lacquer binding signed by Mirza Baba, dated A.H.1226/A.D.1811, Shiraz, dated A.H.1219/A.D.1804

272 leaves, 24 lines to the page written in clear naskhi script, interlinear Persian translation in elegant chikasteh supplied to certain chapters, interlinear gilt rules throughout, margins ruled in gold, catchwords, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold, borders of folios 18-22 richly decorated with arabesques in colours and gold, erased, edges slightly frayed, fine floral lacquer binding with covers decorated with sprays of flowers, inscribed in gold ‘Jami’-at-ahmarne Mirza Baba ahar ahar A.D.1226’, doublures decorated with interwoven floral motifs on red ground, chipped, 210 by 140mm.

£800-1,200

298 Muhammad Baqir bin Muhammad Taqi. Zad al-Ma’ad, Persian and Arabic manuscript on paper copied by Ali Reza ibn Muhammad Ali al-Ishahasi, commissioned for Farajallah al-Fabrizi, Qajar, dated A.H.1249/A.D.1833

328 leaves, approximately 12 lines to the page written in clear naskhi script, significant words picked out in red, interlinear double rules in gold throughout, margins ruled in gold, catchwords, illuminated devices in margins, one double page of illumination in colours and gold, creased, corners rather thumbed, black buckram, slightly worn, 220 by 137mm.

£300-1,000

299 Sa’di. Gulistan, Turkish manuscript on paper copied by the scribe Ibrahim al-Nazif al-Edernaz Ottoeau, dated A.H.1255/A.D.1839

100 leaves, 15 lines to the page written in naskhi script, significant words picked out in gold throughout, margins ruled in red and gold, catchwords in wide margins, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold, contemporary red morocco with central panels of diapered pattern and gold stamped borders, lacking flap, 155 by 110mm.

£300-400

300 Sa’di. Gulistan, Persian manuscript on paper, Qajar, dated A.H.1257/A.D.1841

46 leaves, text written horizontally and diagonally in elegant shikasteh script, significant words picked out in red throughout, double interlinear and intercolumnar rules in gold throughout, catchwords in wide margins, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold, borders of folios 18-22 richly decorated with arabesques in colours and gold, worming restricted to upper corner, slightly creased, black shagreen with stamped central medallions and corners of gilt leather onlay, slightly worn, binding loose, 163 by 107mm.

£400-600

301 Rumi. Mathnawi, Persian manuscript on paper, Qajar, dated A.H.1264/A.D.1847

277 leaves, 25 lines to the page written in four columns of elegant nasta’liq script, double intercolumnar rules in gold throughout, margins ruled in blue and gold, catchwords in margins, headings in red, two illuminated headpieces in colours and gold, slightly erased otherwise in good condition, black shagreen with stamped central medallions and corners of gilt and red leather onlay decorated with floral motifs, slightly worn, 292 by 180mm.

£800-1,200

302 Muhammad Baqir bin Muhammad Taqi. Zad al-Ma’ad (prayers), Persian and Arabic manuscript on paper, Qajar, second half of nineteenth century

233 leaves including 1 blank, 20 lines to the page written in neat naskhi script, interlinear gilt decoration throughout, margins ruled in blue and gold, catchwords in wide margins, illuminated pear-shaped medallions in top margin of each page, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold, some gatherings loose otherwise in good condition, floral lacquer binding, covers with floral motifs and serrated leaves in colours and gold on green ground, doublures with gilt decoration on red ground, 109 by 70mm.

£800-1,000

303 Abu Abdullah Muhammad bin Isma’il al-Bukhari. Sahih, four volumes, Arabic manuscript on paper copied by Ibrahim Al-Shami, Levant, dated A.H.1271-72/A.D.1854-55

Text written in 17 lines of naskhi script to the page, significant words and sentences picked out in red throughout, catchwords in wide margins, in good condition, gatherings detached, red morocco with central medallions and borders tooled in blind, detached, with flap, 230 by 165mm.

£1,000-1,500
304 Al-Jazuli. Dala‘il al-Khayrat, Arabic manuscript on paper copied by the scribe Ubaidallah al-Zahini better known as Hafiz Kalam al-Hadi, a pupil of Abu Bakr al-Rashid al-Qarnawi, Ottoman, dated A.H.1217/A.D.1802

78 leaves, 13 lines to the page written in clear naskhi script, illuminated markers between sentences, margins ruled in red and gold, catchwords, extensive glosses in margins, coloured vases of flowers in margins, headings in white on illuminated panels, two illuminated headpieces in colours and gold, borders of folios 1b-2a richly decorated with arabesques and floral motifs in colours and gold, full page coloured drawing of a spray of honeysuckle, discoloration, contemporary brown morocco, covers with central medallions, cornerpieces and borders richly tooled on gold, with flap, 177 by 102mm.

£3,000-4,800

305 Official illuminated document, Turkish manuscript on paper, in scroll form, Ottoman, late nineteenth century

text written in clear naskhi script in black, significant sentences picked out in red, gold discs between verses, margins ruled in gold, one illuminated headpiece in colours and gold preceded by eight roundels containing the names of Allah, the Prophet Muhammad, the four Pious Caliphs, and the Imams Hasan and Husain, discoloration, edges frayed, 2 meters by 27cm.

£400-600

306 A collection of Jain and Gujarati manuscripts on paper including four illustrated leaves from a sixteenth-century Kalpasutra, Western India, sixteenth century and later

written in black inks with rules and decoration in red or orange, a few with illustrations, 260 by 115mm; and a South Indian manuscript incised on palm leaf, in an ebony box

(a lot)

£300-500

307 Six illustrated leaves from Jain manuscripts of the Kalpasutra, Western India, early sixteenth century

on paper, text in 7 and 9 lines, miniatures in colours and gold, 110 by 260mm.; and three text leaves from Jain manuscripts and four others

(13)

£200-300

308 Leaves from a Jain sutra with coloured illustrations and diagrams, Gujarati, eighteenth century

on paper, 24 leaves, 9-10 lines to the page, 110 by 225mm.; and a quantity of unilluminated leaves from Jain manuscripts, Gujarati, circa 18th century

(a lot)

£200-300

309 A Burmese manuscript in concertina form of a Buddhist text, Burma (Shan State), nineteenth century

140 leaves of stout paper, 12 lines to the page written in black ink, text written on inside of covers with stippled cloud decoration at beginning, slight waterstaining, black lacquered covers with traces of gold decoration, worn, 200 by 408mm.

£300-500
310  A Thai manuscript in concertina form of a Buddhist text with eighteen illustrations of birth tales including the capture of Bhuridatta, Thailand, second half of nineteenth century

97 leaves of stout paper, 5 lines to the page written in black ink, covers lacquered in black and gold with central impressed panel of formal floral decoration, slightly worn, 140 by 680mm.

For an account of Thai illustrated manuscripts see H. Ginsburg, *Thai manuscript painting*, London (British Library), 1989.

£800-1,200

311  A Burmese manuscript of the Kammavaca, a Buddhist monk’s ordination text, written in Pali script on copper, Burma, nineteenth century

16 leaves of copper, 6 lines to the page in black with decoration in gold and red, first and last leaves and wooden covers decorated with panels containing Buddhist deities, some leaves flaking, covers reduced at end, 112 by 530mm.

£200-300

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