SOTHEBY'S

Islamic and Indian Art
Oriental Manuscripts and Miniatures

LONDON
WEDNESDAY 29TH AND THURSDAY 30TH APRIL 1992
Islamic Works of Art
Day of Sale
Wednesday, 29th April 1992 at 10.30 am
Oriental Manuscripts and Miniatures
Day of Sale
Thursday, 30th April 1992 at 11.00 am
Indian, Himalayan and South-East Asian Art
Day of Sale
Thursday, 30th April 1992 at 2.30 pm
In the Large Gallery
34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

On View
Thursday 23rd & Friday 24th April 1992, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
Sunday 26th April 1992, 12 noon to 4.00 pm
Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th April 1992, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Wednesday, 29th April 1992, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
(Oriental Manuscripts and Miniatures and Indian, Himalayan and South-East Asian Art only)
Thursday 10th October 1991, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Absence Bids
Please use sale code: "BARB" 
Fax (for bids only): (071) 495 8255

Catalogue £25.00 at the gallery,
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The Front Cover Illustration shows lot 52
The Back Cover Illustration shows a detail lot 306

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The United Nations embargo penalties as from accepting bids from any person in Iraq (including any body controlled by Iraqi nationals or companies, wherever carrying out business), or from any other person where we have reasonable cause to believe (i) that the lot(s) will be supplied or delivered to or to the order of a person in Iraq or (ii) that the lot(s) will be used for the purposes of any activity carried on in or operated from Iraq. Acceptance of any bid by the auctioneer is conditional upon the above being inapplicable.

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2. EMBARGO ON IMPORTATION OF PERSIAN/I RANIAN WORKS OF ART AND CARPETS TO THE U.S.A.

Would those clients considering purchasing Persian/Iranian works of art or carpets with the intention of importing them to the U.S.A. please contact a member of the Islamic or Carpet Department PRIOR to bidding as some lots cannot be imported into the U.S.A.

3. Clearance of Lots for this particular Sale

After 5pm on the day of the Sale, large works of art and all carpets will be transferred to our warehouse and will be subject to our usual charges.

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THURSDAY 30TH APRIL 1992
Morning Session at 11.00 am: Lots 250-361

All lots are offered subject to the Conditions of Business printed in the back of this catalogue and to reserves All lots marked ‡ are subject to 17½% V.A.T.

All Purchasers are requested to read the Important Notice on Page 6

ART REFERENCE BOOKS

250

Strzygowski, Josef, Die Indischen Miniaturen in Schloss Schonbrunn, numbered copy of 300 printed, folio, Vienna, 1923
£400-600

Sakissian, A.B., La Miniature Persane du XII au XVII Siecle, text in French, 2 colour plates, 191 black and white plates, leather binding, folio, Paris and Brussels, 1929
£400-500

Gray, B., and Godard, A., Iran, Persische Miniaturen (UNESCO), large folio, New York, 1956
£70-100

251

£250-350

255

Diez, E., Islamische Kunst, 8vo, Vienna, 1944
£30-50

256

Spuler, Friedrich, Islamic Carpets and Textiles in the Keir Collection, English text with 49 colour and 102 black and white plates, 4to, London, 1978
£200-300

257

Robinson, B.W. (editor), Islamic Painting and the Arts of the Book, some colour illustrations, original cloth, dout jacket, 4to, London, 1976
£80-100

258

Strzygowski, Josef, Die Indischen Miniaturen in Schloss Schonbrunn, numbered copy of 300 printed, folio, Vienna, 1923
£400-600

Sakissian, A.B., La Miniature Persane du XII au XVII Siecle, text in French, 2 colour plates, 191 black and white plates, leather binding, folio, Paris and Brussels, 1929
£400-500

Gray, B., and Godard, A., Iran, Persische Miniaturen (UNESCO), large folio, New York, 1956
£70-100

260

Sarre, F. and Martin, F.R. (editors), Die Ausstellung von Meisterwerken Munennendisnischer Kunst in Munchen 1910, 3 vols, text in German, with 88 black and white plates, large folio, Munich, 1912
£2,000-3,000

For further details of the Company paintings from the Fraser Collection see the sale in these rooms 29th April, 1992, lots 2-5. £7,000-9,000

263

Bhai Veer Singh, a highly renowned and charitable man in the time of Raja Heera Singh, holding court on the banks of the Sutlej and distributing food to the poor. Amritsar or Lahore (Galer or Kanga artist), c. 1850

gouache with some gold, inscribed in bottom border in English ‘Bhai Veer Singh, a highly renowned and charitable man in the time of Raja Heera Singh and afterwards killed in the civil war of Sikhs’, 375 by 553mm.


Bhai Veer Singh offered a powerful threat to the authority of the Sikh throne in the time of the regency of Maharaja Dalip Singh (1837-93). Bhai Veer Singh, in addition to retaining 1,500 men at arms, had a great following among the Sikh peasantry. In 1844 the Sikh armies were turned on the forces of Bhai Veer Singh and he was killed in the ensuing skirmish. His reputation survived him, and this picture is a posthumous celebration of his reputation for generosity.

For a companion picture of Rani Jindan with Dalip Singh as a child riding in a carriage, see T. Falk et al., Indian Painting, London (Colinagh), 1978, no.90. £8,000-12,000

262

Mir Muhammad Pirzada seated with Mir Nasir, Hakim Mirza Husain of Mashhad, Maulavi Abd al-Samad and others, Delhi, c.1820

watercolour with gouache on paper, Persian inscriptions of identification on cover-paper, inscribed in the hand of James Baillie Fraser: ‘The King’s Peer, or holy attendant Meer Mohammud Peerzada’, framed, 298 by 494mm.

PROVENANCE
From the collection of James Baillie Fraser (1783-1856) and his brother William Fraser (1804-1835). By descent to Malcolm Fraser, his sale in these rooms 7th July, 1980, lot 18.

PUBLISHED
Thakur Daulat Singh-ji of the tribe of Radaur seated with his courtiers and officers in attendance, resting his hands on his shield, his sword and smoking a hookah near at hand, attributed to Ghulam Ali Khan, Company school, Delhi, c.1825
gouache with gold on paper, figures identified in Persian characters, borders green and gold and black, border damaged from former framing, framed, 275 by 383mm.

From the collection of Brigadier General Arthur Howarth Pryce Harrison who served with a Punjab regiment in the North West Frontier area, circa 1900.

Thakur Daulat Singh and many of his companions in this picture are described in the inscriptions as being of the Radaur tribe. Radaur is in the Ambala district of the Punjab, near Saharanpur, not far from Hansi where Colonel James Skinner lived. Another slightly less elaborate version of this group portrait was sold in these rooms 22nd May, 1986, lot 9.

The artist Ghulam Ali Khan was employed by Colonel Skinner in the 1820s, two of his largest works being the 'Takab al-abna' written in 1825 and the 'Takab al-ammar' of 1830, both illustrated with his miniatures (British Library, Add.27255 and 27254). The vogue for this type of group picture had been established between 1815 and 1830 under the patronage of William and James Baillie Fraser. A number of the pictures painted for them by Ghulam Ali Khan and other Delhi artists were group portraits of rulers who visited Delhi with their entourages, notably the Raja of Patna. See M. Archer and T. Fulk, India Rescued, The art and adventures of James and William Fraser, 1801-35, London, 1989, pls.99-101, 137-8; sale in these rooms 29th April, 1991, lots 2-5.

£6,000-8,000

See illustration on page 115

266

A Goosander (Mergus merganser) with rufous head and grey back, the breast and underside white, standing on grassland by water, painted for Major James Nathaniel Rind, Company school, Calcutta, c.1790

watercolour on European paper, framed, 380 by 550mm.

Major James Nathaniel Rind (d.1814) was in India from 1776 until 1801, serving with the 11th Native Infantry. He was employed on survey duty from 1785 to 1789 with headquarters at Calcutta. Many of the natural history drawings from his collection were sold in these rooms 15th July, 1971, lots 1-48, this drawing lot 20.

£1,000-1,500

267

A Sulphur-crested Cockatoo with white body and yellow crest, chained to a wooden perch with two feeders, Company school, Calcutta, early nineteenth century

watercolour on European paper, inscribed in English 'Small Cockatoe', framed, 490 by 570mm.

From a series of bird drawings published by C. Erwart, Forty nine Indian watercolour drawings of birds, London, 1790, this drawing no.20. The whole series was evidently made for a servant of the East India Company, as yet unidentified. Others of the series were sold in these rooms 13th April, 1976, lots 1-7.

£2,000-3,000
RAJASTHANI MINIATURES

268
A hunter on an elephant attacking a tiger, the elephant using his tusks and the hunter aiming an arrow down at the tiger, Kotah, first half of eighteenth century
drawing on paper with some gouache, defects at corners, framed, 195 by 310mm.

From the Heeramanek Collection, sold in our New York rooms 2nd November, 1988, lot 52. For the style of elephant drawing compare Tupfield and Beach, Indian Paintings and Drawings from the collection of Howard Hodgkin, New York, 1991, no.36. £1,500-2,000

269
Two elephants fighting in a staged situation with a wall between them, their mahouts and supporters on foot encouraging them, Kotah, eighteenth century
drawing on paper, slight waterstaining in foreground, framed, 270 by 325mm.

From the Heeramanek Collection, sold in our New York rooms 2nd November, 1988, lot 56. £800-1,200

270
Patamnjari Ragini of Bhairava raga, by Jai Kishen, Malpara, c.1736.
four lines of nagari characters above the miniature giving the identification of the ragini and the Bengali text for Patamnjari ragini, applied borders of plain paper, 206 by 160mm including text, 294 by 290mm including paper border

Published: T. Faulk and B. Lynch, Images of India, London (Parrish Fine Arts), [1989], no.29
Patamnjari (from patamajari or 'first blossom') is a musical mode identified by poets with a lovestick lady. The presence of the flower garland refers to blossoms or flowers which, like love, can so readily wither away with lack of attention.

Other pages from this ragamala series are to be found in various collections: Edwin Binney 3rd, San Diego Museum; Fogg Art Museum; Freer Gallery of Art; Victoria and Albert Museum; Reizsgunder Museum; Custodia Foundation and elsewhere. As another ragini in the Fogg Art Museum bears a colophon giving the name of the artist Jai Kishen, who prepared the series for Raja Moti Ram of Malpara in V.S.1813/A.D.1756, £3,000-4,000
271 Maharaja Chattarsal of Kotah shooting lions from
the cover of a hunting pavilion, other animals in
the jungle beneath a dawn sky, Kotah, c.1870

gouache with gold, slight flaking, borders trimmed, 260 by
200mm.

Maharaja Chattarsal ruled at Kotah from 1863 to 1888.
Miniatures illustrating hunts taking place at the same
location are in the Cleveland Museum of Art and the
Kanoria Collection, Patna, see M.C. Beach, Rajput
painting at Bundi and Kota, Agra, 1974, figs. 102 and
103. I.Y. Leach, Indian miniature paintings and drawings:
The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, 1986, no. 77.
£1,000-1,500

272 Sri raga: a prince listening to a bearded vina player
on a terrace, maidens and musicians to either side,
Jaipur, c. 1760

gouache on paper, yellow panel at top with six lines of nagari
script, orange and gold borders with nasta'liq inscription in top
right-hand corner, mounted, 221 by 154mm., and another
miniature
(2)
£700-900

273 A lady kneeling before a king who is enthroned
outside his audience chamber, the lady's orange
palanquin arriving and crossing the courtyard on the
left, Jaipur, late eighteenth century

gouache with gold, blue and red borders, in mount, 240 by
373mm.

274 Five illustrations to the Ramayana with scenes of
Rama and Lakshmana in the forest and Sita
undergoing the trial by fire, Jodhpur, late eighteenth
century

gouache with gold on paper, identifications on painted surface,
red borders with seal at top, 190 by 325mm, including borders
(3)
£1,000-1,200

PAHARI MINIATURES

275 Two maidens seated on a pavilion terrace on a windy
day, Pahari, c. 1840

gouache on paper, blue and pink borders, slightly worn at edges,
drawn on card, mounted, 179 by 133mm.; and two other
miniatures
(3)
£600-800

276 A portrait of Raja Dharam Pal of Kutlehr, dressed
in green, kneeling against a pink cushion smoking
a hookah with globular base, Guler, c.1740

gouache with gold on paper, background uncoloured, identified
at top in n Sara and takes characters: 'Kutlehraa Dharam Pal',
old paper reconverting, a few wormholes, in mount, 200 by
135mm.

The Guler style of this portrait is that associated with
the artist Parasit S, father of Nainsukh and Manaku.
For a summary of works attributed to him see Goswamy
Raja Dharam Pal ruled at the small state of Kutlehr
from c. 1730 until 1780. A Kangra version of this
portrait was formerly in the Lambagraon Collection,
published in Archer Indian Painting of the Punjab Hills,
the thinness of the hookah stem and the positioning of
the right arm as not typical of the Kangra style. In all
probability the present picture is the original on which
the Lambagraon version was based.

£2,500-3,500

276 (enlarged)