Oriental Manuscripts
and Miniatures

Indian miniatures and Company School paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries including natural history illustrators and a scroll painting of the mirrors of the Darz Dashat Palace at Serampore. Persian and Turkish miniatures including a Shiraz miniature of c.1900 depicting a scene at the Isfah and three Turkish portraits of c.1820. Qajar and Ottoman oil paintings including a portrait of Prince Muhammad Ali Mirza Qajar and a Qajar painting of two court dancers. A fine selection of Qajar lacquer including 19th century pen boxes signed by Mira Isba and Sadegh. Calligraphy and fermans including an album page signed by Qotb al-din and a gold-decorated Mughal fermans. Qat’uns and Qur’ans leaves from the 9th to the 18th century including a selection of Mamluk Qur’ans, three finely illuminated Safavid Qur’ans, a large illuminated Indian Qur’an, a rare Chinese Qur’an section, and a small Qajar Qur’an written on gessoed skin.

Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts including a rare maghribi manuscript commissioned by the Almuidid Sultan Ali Ibn Abu Bakr Tashkuli, three fine illustrated Persian manuscripts, one with miniatures of the school of Behzad and a rare Indian manuscript of a multilingual love poem dated 1750, written and illustrated by the author Muhammad Amin.

Day of Sale
Wednesday 28th April 1993 at 2.30 pm
In the Large Gallery
34-35 New Bond Street, London W1

On View
Friday 23rd April 1993, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
Sunday 25th April 1993, 12 noon to 4.00 pm
Monday 26th April 1993, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
Tuesday 27th April 1993, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Absentee Bids
Please use sale code: "TOLAN93"
Fax (for bids only): (071) 495 8255
Catalogue £15.00 at the gallery,
£18.00 by mail UK, £21.00 overseas

The Cover Illustration shows Lot 148 (slightly enlarged)
Important information for buyers

Sotheby's Card
A Sotheby's identification card has been issued to regular buyers who bring this with you to all auctions to simplify the paddling registration process detailed below.

Absence Bids
If instructed we will execute bids and advise interested purchasers. This service is free. Lots will always be bought as cheaply as is allowed by other such bids and reserves as are on our Best Bids. In the event of identical bids, the earliest will take precedence. Always indicate a “top limit” – the amount to which you would bid if you were attending the auction yourself. “Buy” or unlimited bids will not be accepted. Orders, when placed by telephone, are accepted only at the same hour as that before the sale by letter or fax. Fax number for bids only: (0171) 495 8225. To make a satisfactory sale to the buyers, we urge you most strongly to seed bids so that we receive them at least 24 hours before the sale.

Paddle Bidding
To assist the progress of the sale, all intending buyers are asked to hold a paddling paddle before the commencement of selling. All intending purchasers who do not have a Sotheby’s card should bring with them some means of identification. The numbered padding will be given to the bids of the auction within the sale. Should there be more successful buyer of any lot, please ensure that your bid paddle can be seen by the auctioneer and that it is your number that is called out. Should there be any doubts as to price or buyer, please draw the auctioneer’s attention to this immediately. All lots sold will be invoiced to the name and address given against the issue of the numbered paddle and cannot be transferred to names and addresses. Please do not mislay your paddle; in the event of loss, inform the Sales Clerk. At the end of the sale, return your paddle to the registration desk.

This system does not apply to order bidders.

Advice to Bidders
Further advice to bidders and purchasers follows the bidding slip printed after the last lot in this sale.

Buyer’s Premium and VAT
With the exception of both Wine and Coins a buyer’s premium at the rate of 15% on the first £30,000 of the hammer price and at a rate of 10% on the amounts by which the hammer price exceeds £30,000 payable by the buyers of all lots, together with VAT on such premium.

For Wine and Coins a buyer’s premium at the rate of 10% on the amounts by which the hammer price exceeds £30,000 (plus VAT) by the buyers of all lots together with VAT on such premium.

Payment of Sale Proceeds
Sotheby’s shall remit the sale proceeds to the seller not later than 35 days after the auction, subject to all such settlements being made in accordance with our Conditions of Business printed at the back of the catalogue. Sotheby’s shall offer all sellers alternative modes of payment to a Sterling cheque. This includes a facility to buy currency forward at the rate of exchange prevailing on the next working day after the date of sale. A charge of £10 will be deducted from the proceeds for sale of any payment other than by Sterling cheque.

Property for inspection and valuation
Sotheby’s will be pleased to give valuations and guidance regarding property brought in for inspection and/or for sale by agreement. Sotheby’s will not take in goods with value smaller than £500.

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The provision of written valuations for insurance, inheritance tax (Probate), sale by private treaty, or other purposes, is an important part of Sotheby’s service. Valuations can be obtained through any of our international offices or solicitors in London or Bilingshurt. Valuation fees vary according to the nature and amount of work to be undertaken, but will always be highly competitive.
Important notice to buyers of furniture, carpets, large works of art, sculpture and clocks

On the afternoon of the sale purchase lots will be sent to Sotheby's, King's House Warehouse, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9AS. Tel: (081) 565 1901 and will be subject to a removal and handling charge of £1.00 per lot or part thereof if not collected within twelve working days from the date on which the lot or part thereof will be listed for the next two weeks and thereafter a charge of £0.50 per lot or part thereof will be incurred.

Lots will only be released to the purchaser or his authorized representative if full payment has been received by Sotheby's together with settlement of any removal, handling and storage charges due.

It will not be necessary to obtain release notes prior to collecting lots from King's House. Payment for storage charges should be made directly to Sotheby's at King's House Warehouse but payment for removals should be made to the Carriers at Sotheby's at 34-35 New Bond Street, W1.

Buyers who have established credit arrangements with Sotheby's may collect purchase prior to payment. Bidders by post and telephone are advised to check on the afternoon of the sale whether they have been successful.

Clearance and Insurance

Purchasers are requested to arrange clearance as early as possible and are reminded that purchasers are only insured for a period of five working days following the day of sale. The loading of furniture onto the vans begins at 2pm. Purchasers wishing to clear their goods on the afternoon of the sale should contact the department's administration at the central office immediately after the sale or in the department before 2pm.

Important notice concerning conditions of lots offered for sale

Sotheby's are pleased to give a condition report on request. Nevertheless intending buyers are reminded that all lots are sold as shown and their attention is drawn to Clause 16 of the Conditions of Business. The absence of reference to conditions of the lot in the catalogue description does not imply that the lot is free from faults or imperfections.

Upholstered Furniture

Whilst every care has been taken in cataloguing upholstered furniture, no guarantee can be given to the originality of timbers covered by upholstery or fabric.

Important notice concerning Electrical Goods

All electrical goods are sold on the basis of their decorative value only and should be assumed not to be operable. It is essential that prior to any intended use, the electrical system is checked and approved by a qualified electrician.

Important note for U.S. buyers - import of ivory

Prospective U.S. buyers intending to import their purchases to the United States are advised to contact Sotheby's Shipping Department prior to the sale.

This sale is subject to the conditions of business printed at the back of this catalogue. Important notice I below and to reserves

Important notices

1. U.N. EMBARGO ON TRADE WITH IRAQ

The United Nations trade embargo prohibits us from accepting bids from any person in Iraq (including any body controlled by Iraqi residents or companies, wherever carrying on business), or from any person wherein where we have reasonable cause to believe (i) that the lot will be supplied or delivered to or at the order of a person in Iraq or (ii) that the lot(s) will be used for the purposes of any business carried on or operated from Iraq.

Acceptance of any bid by the auctioneer is conditional upon the above being inapplicable.

For assistance and further details, please contact a member of the Export Department or the Legal Department PRIOR to bidding.

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

Those clients considering purchasing Persian/Iranian works of art or carpets with the intention of exporting them to the U.S.A., should enquire of the relevant U.S. Government Department regarding the proper importation of such items. The Islamic and Carpet Department does however regret to assist buyers with such enquiries, for as it is practicable. Buyers should be aware that Sotheby's does not represent that this approval will be granted.

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.

Oriental Manuscripts and Miniatures

WEDNESDAY 29TH APRIL 1993 AT 2:30 PM

All lots are offered subject to the Conditions of Business printed in the back of this catalogue and to reserves.

ART REFERENCE BOOKS


£200-250

2. Saliari, A.B., La Miniature Persane du XII au XVII Siecle, text in French, 2 colour plates, 104 black and white plates, red morocco covers, folio, Paris and Brussels, 1929

£500-350

3. Bishr Farès, Une Miniature Religieuse de l'Ecole Arabe de Bagdad (Maitres Pretendants a l'Institut d'Egypte), text in French and Arabic, 1 colour plate, 32 black and white plates, green leather covers, small quarto, Cairo, 1948

£80-100


£180-220

COMPANY SCHOOL PAINTINGS

5. A Pied Mynah perched in the branch of a leafy tree, Company school, Calcutta, c.1820

watercolour on paper, Persian inscription of identification, a few spots, framed, 435 by 285mm.

£500-700

6. A branch of the Custard Apple tree bearing flowers and fruit, with details and a fruit shown in section, Company school, early nineteenth century

watercolour on European paper watermarked J.Whatham, 1826', numbered 13, in mount, 365 by 529mm.

£700-900

7. A Coppersmith or Crimsoon-breasted Barbet singing from a flowering branch, Company school, Bengal, c.1800

watercolour on European paper, with details of parts of the flower, margins ruled in black, contemporary description on reverse in Persian, framed, 500 by 340mm.

From an unusual series of natural history drawings where a bird and plant are depicted together. The focus of interest for the original owner seems to have been the plant rather than the bird, for the Persian descriptive text is concerned primarily with the plant. For this drawing the plant is described as a tall, thick-barked garden tree growing in mango groves. Its uses include the heating of wounds, a remedy for excessive bile, and the strengthening of virility. In addition it can be cooked to bring out its sweetness and it is used for making wine.

(See illustration on folio)

£800-1,200
8  A female Iora perched on a Guava branch with fruits and flowers, Company school, Bengal, c.1800
watercolour on European paper with watermark, margins ruled in black, contemporary description on reverse in Persian, framed, 596 by 340mm.

From the same series.
£800-1,200

9  A Baya Weaver Bird perched on a flowering Mimosa branch by its nest, Company school, Bengal, c.1800
watercolour on European paper with watermark, margins ruled in black, contemporary description on reverse in Persian, text smudged, framed, 483 by 330mm.

From the same series.
£800-1,200

10  A scroll painting of the murals of the Daria Daulat Palace at Seringapatam, recording the Battle of Pollilur in September 1780 in which a British detachment was annihilated by the forces of Tipu Sultan, Company school, Seringapatam, mid-nineteenth century
watercolour and gouache on paper, backed with cotton, floral borders at top and bottom, narrow outer orange margin, 61.3 by 334cm.

In 1780, following the invasion of the Carnatic by Tipu Sultan and his father Haidar Ali, the British at Madras resolved to make a military response to secure their own defence. A detachment under Lieut. Col. Ballie was sent to Conjeevaram where it was intended they should join with other British forces. But before they had met up, they were confronted by Tipu Sultan who swiftly rallied his army, including a French contingent under Lally. The British were massacred.

Tipu Sultan celebrated his victory in a large mural, painted alongside other pictures caricaturing and denigrating the English, on the verandah walls of his palace in the Daria Daulat Bagh at Seringapatam. The mural was later painted over when Seringapatam was threatened with British invasion. After the fall of Seringapatam and the demise of Tipu Sultan in 1799, during the period of Col. Arthur Wellesley’s occupation, these murals were partly uncovered. Full restoration was not completed until 1854, but copies of the murals were made to satisfy British curiosity and excitement. In the present version, the mural recounting the battle is depicted in two main registers. Col. Ballie is shown in his palanquin at the lower right, protected within his defensive square at the very moment the British ammunition wagon explodes. The armies of Tipu Sultan are ranged in both directions, with a representation in the centre of the Daria Daulat Palace with its portal. An upper register contains figures of Muslims at their devotions.

For further historical information and an account of the Daria Daulat murals and other Tipu treasures, see Annie Buddle, *Tigers round the Throne. The Court of Tipu Sultan (1750-1799)*, London (Zamana Gallery), 1990.
£2,000-3,000
INDIAN MINIATURES

Maharaja Ram Singh of Kotah (reigned 1827-1865) seated with courtiers at a lakeside pavilion, awaiting the arrival of his rani who approaches by palanquin, they are also seen riding together on a royal barge on the lake, Kotah, second half of nineteenth century

gouache on paper, slight flaking and one small hole in painted surface, red border, 625 by 939mm., including border 710 by 1013mm.

Another Kotah painting of comparable size and date, also depicting Maharaja Ram Singh, was sold in our New York rooms, 5th December, 1992, lot 317.

£3,000-5,000

Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur (1804-45) with his son Takht Singh, worshipping at a shrine to Nath-ji, courtiers and priests in attendance, Jodhpur, c.1820

gouache with gold on paper, some damage restored, framed, 390 by 470mm.

Nath-ji, descendant of Jalandhar Nath, was the guru of Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur.

£600-800

Maharana Ari Singh of Mewar hunting boars, lancing one animal while another attacks a beater, Mewar, late eighteenth century

gouache with gold on paper, yellow and blue borders trimmed, in mount, 257 by 299mm.

£400-600

Girls swinging in celebration of the Tij Festival during the month of Sawan, watched by two of their companions and a dewan, landscape with silver river, Bundi, c.1770

on an album page with gold-sprinkled coloured borders, framed, 343 by 235mm.


A different Bundi version of this subject is in the Victoria and Albert Museum (L.S.552-1952) published by W.G. Archer, Indian Painting in Bundi and Kotah, London, 1959, fig.29.

£1,500-2,500
15 Maharaja Bakht Singh of Jodhpur receiving Shiv Singh who stands before him on a garden terrace, Udaipur, c.1700
gouache with gold on paper, framed, 357 by 275mm.
Provenance: Toody Paintings.
Prior to his accession to the throne of Jodhpur in 1751, Maharaja Bakht Singh held court at Nagaur.
£2,000-3,000

16 A ruler seated with members of his family discussing a newly-received horse, Udaipur, c.1700
yellow panel at top with two lines of text, smudged, slight flaking, red border, framed, 242 by 210mm, including text panel
From an unidentified series formerly thought to be the Siva Sakhi. The text relates part of the discussion taking place: 'This is a gift from our relations; it is as if one is standing in the sun in the shade of one's own shadow'.
£500-800

17 Sultan Miran Shah, son of Timur, standing holding a lance, Deccan, Golconda, c.1700
gouache with gold on paper, identified on reverse in Dutch, on a blue paper album page, framed, 423 by 270mm.
From an album of portraits of Mughal rulers and their ancestors, sold in these rooms 13th April 1976, lot 267. The series was probably commissioned by a Dutch traveller, possibly Cornelius le Bruyn, and was bound in a contemporary album with Japanese paper covers.
£600-800

18 Varaha Avatara, the Boar incarnation of Vishnu, rescuing the earth upon his tusks and striking down the demon Hiranyakasipu, Pahari, Chamba, early nineteenth century
gouache on paper, some flaking, blue and pink borders, in mount, 190 by 263mm.
£400-600

19 Pataanjali Ragini of Dipak: a lady reaching to stroke a cat, her attendant standing behind her before the doorway of a decorated pavilion, Bhilpur, c.1680-90
gouache with gold, slight flaking and small holes where green pigment has deteriorated, orange border with black rules, in mount, 206 by 146mm, with borders 257 by 195mm.
According to Mesakarna’s Raganala verses the music of Pataanjali resembles the voice of a cat.
For other examples from this early Bhilpur Raganala series, see Blonney and Archer, R告知

£2,500-3,500