Illustration to the Ramayana: Rama and Lakshmana lying paralysed by the Rakshas' arrows which have turned to serpents, approached by a sage as they lie outside Ravana's golden palace within a protective circle of monkeys and bears. Guler, late eighteenth century
gouache with gold on paper, decorated blue border, framed, 201 by 301mm.

The neighbouring illustration from this Ramayana series was sold at Christie's, New York, 25th May 1978, lot 122. For other pages see the sale in our New York rooms, 28th October 1991, lot 67, and Christie's, London, 10th December 1989, lot 68.

£1,500-2,500

A mythical warrior riding a prancing composite horse by a river, clad in decorative armour and brandishing a serpent, the horse made up of tigers, rabbits, parrots, cattle, fish and other animals and human beings. Mursidabad, c.1780-90
watercolour on paper, mounted on an album page with ruled borders, in mount, 305 by 162mm.

Scenes of suittee were only rarely depicted in Indian painting prior to the arrival of increasing numbers of Europeans from the late eighteenth century.

£1,000-1,500
PERSIAN AND TURKISH MINIATURES

23

Layla and Majnoun at school, seated listening to the teacher while their schoolmates play. Fineh

carrying the cow upstairs watched by an enthroned
Bahram Gur surrounded by courtiers in a palace,
Ottoman, late sixteenth century

two miniatures from a manuscript of the Khamsah of
Nizami, gouache with gold on paper, one line of text alone
and below the miniature written in two columns of
nastalq script, double intercolumnar rules in gold, some
rubbing, laid down on an album page, inner border of
gold sprinkled paper, margins ruled in colours and gold,
wide outer borders of marbled paper, miniature 171 by
105 mm. and slightly smaller

£1,000-1,200

25

A scene at the Ka’ba where attendants remove the
black cloth for the visit of a prince, attendants and
pilgrims gathered within the enclosure, the prince’s
horse in the foreground, rocky landscape against
the gold sky, Shiraz, c.1580

illustration from a manuscript, positions of text panels
painted in or filled with gold decoration, lightly lacquered
and mounted on an album page, framed, 440 by 260 mm.

£3,000-6,000

24

Sulayman enthroned surrounded by animals, birds,
jinn and men, Bilqis standing before him, set in a
landscape, a stream in the foreground and brown
and pink hills in the background, Shiraz, c.1560

illustrated leaf from a manuscript of the Majalis al-Ishak
by Sultan Hosain ibn Mansur ibn Bahara (or Kamaal al-
Husain Gazavahi Khaundamiri), gouache with gold
on paper, some rubbing, text written horizontally in a
single column in two panels, margins ruled in colours and
gold, remarque 156 by 225 mm.; and another
miniature from the same manuscript depicting a
prince with attendants in a garden courtyard.

£500-800

From the collection of Mrs. Paul E. Stoutz, on loan at the
Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1968. An inscription on
the reverse of the frame identifies it as from the Ali
Ashgar sale, 26th January 1927, no.150.

This unusual depiction of the Ka’ba originates from an
unidentified manuscript illustrated in the Shiraz style.
The prince seen visiting the Ka’ba may possibly be
Iskandar. Another illustration from the same manuscript,
similarly mounted and showing the visit of Ali and the
Prophet to the Ka’ba, was formerly in the Kevorkian
collection, sold in these rooms, 12th April 1976, lot 22.
26 A young courtier standing by a tree wearing a white turban and a blue kolta, a blue hill in the background, Ottoman, c.1620

gouache with gold on paper, laid down on an album page, margins ruled in gold, inner border of gold-sprinkled pink paper, middle border of diagonal bands of coloured and marbled paper, outer border of pink paper, framed, miniature 193 by 49mm.

This and the following two miniatures are extremely close in style to an album of four miniatures sold in these rooms 12th October 1998, lot 198, and are probably by the same artist. Other miniatures executed in this style and possibly by the same artist are in the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin (see V. Minorsky, A Catalogue of the Turkish Manuscripts and Miniatures, Dublin, 1958, no. 439, pl.501b). Another in a similar style, though possibly of a slightly later date is illustrated in E. Binney, Turkish Miniature Paintings and Manuscripts, New York, 1975, fig.33.

£3,000-5,000

27 A young courtier standing by a tree against hilly background wearing a white turban and a long flowing blue robe, a sword with slim red scabbard hanging from his belt, Ottoman, c.1620

gouache with some gold on paper, some flecking of white pigment, laid down on an album page, margins ruled in colours and gold, borders of gold-sprinkled paper, framed, miniature 142 by 65mm.

See footnote to lot 26.

£3,000-5,000

28 A Dervish standing by a tree against a hilly background holding a red fruit and a leather pouch, an animal skin around his shoulders and a spoon and bowl hanging from his belt, Ottoman, c.1620

gouache on paper, some flecking of white pigment, laid down on an album page, margins ruled in blue and gold, borders of gold-sprinkled coloured paper, framed, miniature 130 by 63mm.

See footnote to lot 26.

£3,000-5,000
Portrait of Prince Muhammad Ali Mirza Qajar, standing in his full court costume with a tall tightly-wound red headdress, a sword and dagger at his waist, attributed to the artist Jafar, Qajar, c.1820

Oil on canvas, arched at top, the siter's titles written in a cartouche 'Nawab Shohzadeh Muhammad Ali Mirza Qajar', cracks in painted surface restored, frame applied to stretcher, 163 by 90cm.

Prince Muhammad Ali Mirza (1788-1821), sometimes known as Dawlatshah, was the eldest son of Fath Ali Shah. His mother was a Georgian girl and so his half-brother Abbas Mirza, whose mother was a Qajar princess, became heir-apparent to the Qajar throne.

A portrait of Prince Muhammad Ali Mirza seated in a throne, signed by Jafar and dated 1236/1820, is now in the Art and History Trust Collection, (A. Soudavar, Art of the Persian Courts, New York, 1992, no. 159; sold in these rooms, 4th April 1978, lot 86).

Doubtless the two pictures were once of similar dimensions and possibly formed a pair, the present one being originally a full-length portrait, now reduced at the bottom by about 45 centimetres. Possibly they were both commissioned by Prince Muhammad Ali Mirza from Jafar, his signature now lost with the bottom of the canvas.

£25,000-35,000
30 Persian oil painting of two Qajar girls seen half-length, standing closely together, wearing floral-trimmed dresses and jewellery with strings of pearls, Qajar, mid-nineteenth century

oil on canvas, laid onto thin board, oval, framed, frame split, 290 by 230mm.

£1,500-2,000

31 Half-length portrait of Sultan Selim III wearing an ornate turban and a long red flowing robe with a fur collar, a jewelled dagger on his chest and prominent rings on his fingers, Ottoman, c.1800

oil on card, two small creases on right side, ornate carved wood frame, 265 by 212mm.

Formerly in the collection of a direct descendant of Sultan Selim III.

£3,000-5,000
Two dancing girls of the Qajar court, one clasping the other by the waist as she leans back to join hands behind her companion’s neck, a vase of flowers on the window sill behind them, signed by Abd al-Ghaffar Tabatabai Nuri, Qajar, mid-nineteenth century

oil painting on canvas, signed at top in white: “vaqon-i khamvarin Quas Nu’ma Abd al-Ghaffar Tabataba’i Nuri” with the date figures 1230, small hole in canvas beneath inscription, relined, contemporary Persian carved wood painted frame set at regular intervals with little square mirrors, 185 by 88cm.

Formerly in the collection of Catherine, Baroness d’Erlanger, sold at Christie’s, London, 7th July 1976, lot 56.
The artist Abd al-Ghaffar Tabatabai Nuri is listed by M.A. Karimzadeh Tabrizi, *The Lives and Art of Old Painters of Iran*, London, 1985, p.342, where this picture is described and the date inscription read as A.H.1290.

£15,000-20,000
Album of thirty-one portraits of Ottoman Sultans from Osman I to Abd al-Majid I, Turkey, c.1850
oil on board, half-length portraits on oval grounds, identified in Turkish above and a European hand below, paper leaves between each portrait with notes in black in Turkish giving brief outline of each Sultan’s reign, contemporary red velvet binding with gilt foliate cornerpieces, the upper cover bearing the Qajar coat of arms, the lower cover bearing the Ottoman coat of arms with a tugra in gold, portraits approximately 230 by 200mm., page 250 by 210mm.

Said to have been presented to the Qajar court as a gift from the Ottoman court, the binding adding weight to this theory.

The last portrait of the series, that of Abd al-Majid I (reigned 1839-1861) is in a slightly different style and must date from circa 1840-50. Similar groups of portraits of Ottoman Sultans were sold at Christie’s, 10th October 1992, lot 287, and 9th October 1990, lot 27.

£10,000-15,000

Persian lacquer pen-box, Qajar, nineteenth century

Persian lacquer pen-box decorated with roses, irises, hazel-nuts, birds and butterflies on a black ground, signed by Ibn Muhammad Sadiq, Qajar, dated A.H.1287/A.D.1870-71, underside with gold floral scrolls, repair at ends, length 232mm.; and a pen-box with illuminated decoration and a scene of the Holy Family, another with scenes of shepherds

£400-600

Persian lacquer pen-box, the top and sides each set with seven oval photographic panels with portraits of Nasr al-Din Shah, Qajar princes and religious dignitaries, similar portraits at the ends, Qajar, second half of the nineteenth century
black background with pink roses and gold decoration, length 213mm.; and a similar pen-box with photographic panels of calligraphy and a portrait

£700-900

Persian lacquer pen-box by Muhammad Kazim, the top and sides decorated with a dense arrangement of various flowers with little birds against a black background, Qajar, dated A.H.1283/A.D.1866-67
signed in grey nasta’liq at end of top: ‘Muhammad Kazim ibn Aqa Najaf, zaman 1283’, underside with gold floral arabesques on a red ground within a gold-painted black border, drawer black with gold floral arabesques on the sides, length 222mm.

£1,500-2,000