A VERY FINE GOLD-DAMASCENSE SWORD HILT
INSCRIBED IN INNOCATION OF GOD AND OF HAYDAR
ALL THE FATHER OF TIPU SULTAN, MYSORE, CIRCA
1780-90

constructed entirely of iron, previously blued and now oxidised to russet, decorated throughout with segmental bands of buhl ornament framing Sur'anic quotations, prayers in Arabic and a couplet in Persian, the calligraphic sequences scattered with further buhl patterns, and in fine untouched condition throughout.

18.4 cm

LITERATURE

INSRIPTIONS
Qur’an, surat al-maa’idah (2), 13, twice; surat yasir (vi) 64, twice and 21; surat al-an’am (vi) 46; surat al-a’râf (xi) 286; surat al-
’imran (iii), 161; surat al-hajj (xvi) 1 and 3.

"Ya Haydar ya a’iflar ya naasir ya Muhammad
O Lion! O the one who breaks the ranks! O Helper! O Muhammad!
prayers in Arabic:
wa a’if’ ana waa aqthi’ ana waa arzuma
"Forgive us, absolve us and have mercy on us!"
"alhumma nassir min naasir dhi muhammad wa ja’ah ra minum
O God! Help those who help the religion of Muhammad, and make us one among them."
"alhumma a’rifhi min khudhi dhi muhammad wa la-’i’r’ a’ira
O God, desert those who desert the religion of Muhammad, and do not include us among the deserters."

A couplet in Persian:
shod bari-e kafiran tigh-e zafir bonyed-e man
sultan-e din Haydar bovd-e fa’eh fa’eh bar emaad-e man
My sword of triumphant essence became the lightning for the souls of the infidels
The Sultan of religion, Haydar would be my help on the day of victory.

A sword with a calligraphic hilt similar to the present example is referred to as a tego by the Hon. W. Egerston. In his Handbook of Indian Arms (London, 1860) Egerston describes such a sword which he attributes to the personal ownership of Tipu Sultan (p. 213, no. 661). Egerston states that the pious nature of the inscriptions conveys a telegraphic importance on the hilt and that as such, the hilt is too sacred to be viewed by the infidels. Furthermore, the hilt should be kept covered and never to be touched unless the hands are previously washed.

The present hilt also compares with that of the so-called 'Bedehamur Sword' of Tipu Sultan, subsequently presented to Major-General Baird. The hilt of the Baird sword shows a striking use of gold calligraphic sequences but unusually incorporates only generic patterns of foliage in place of the firmly Tippoo-Esque buhl found in abundance on the present hilt. See Dixon Noonan & Webb, The Baird Jewels and Archive, 19th September 2003, lot 3, sold £175,000.

The inscriptions on the present hilt may also be compared to those on two hiltts attributed to the personal ownership of Tippoo Sultan, now in the Clive Collection at Powis Castle. See M. Archer, C. Rowell and R. Shelford, Treasures from India, London, 1983, catalogue nos. 34 and 35.

£10,000-18,000
€14,600-26,300
B A PAIR OF SILVER-MOUNTED FULL-BLOCK PISTOLS BY
MUHAMMAD E ALMAS, ALMOST CERTAINLY MADE FOR THE
PERSONAL ARMOURY OF TIPU SULTAN, SERINGAPAM, DATED
MAWLAUDE YEAR 1220 (1791–92)
each with brightly blued barrel formed in two stages, with slightly swamped muzzles inlaid with a silver band of
plantain foliage and with silver foresight set within a frame of delicate foliage damascened in gold, decorated with a
pair of gold kotiyan tigers at the breech, inlaid with a series of small cartouches
filled with the master’s signature together with both the date and place of
manufacture, a ‘Haydar’ talismanic square, and also inlaid with a series of
four larger silver linear panels enriched
with finely drawn gold and silver flowers
and filled with a quadrat in gold Persian
script, gold-lined vent, blued barrel tang
inlaid with silver foliage and a
characteristic brief inscription, plain
rounded lock with the master’s signature,
the date and place of manufacture and a ‘Haydar’ talismanic square all inlaid in
gold, fitted with sliding safety catch (one
replaced) and the top jaw of the cock
bearing the tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan inlaid in silver, rosewood full stock
carved with a shell in low relief about the
barrel tang, full silver mounts cast in relief, comprising large tiger’s head
pommel, finely worked and chased with
bushes and with further detail including
the tiger mask royal cypher incorporated
over the bow, and the eyes and the
interior of the mouth retaining their
original gilding, pierced flat side-plate
involving a pair of tigers, trigger guard
decorated with a flowerhead cartouche
on the bow, small ramrod-pipes of
characteristic type, and oval escutcheon
coat with a further royal tiger mask
cypher, with silver fore-end cap, and
original ramrod (one pommel and one
side-plate each expertly replaced, one
trigger-guard final repaired)
42.6cm.
(2)
EXHIBITED
Previously on loan to the National Army
Museum, Chelsea
LITERATURE
Robin Wightman, The Firearms of Tipu
Sultan 1783–1799, Harfield, 1990, TR26, pp. 115–16

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrel, aquatint (the same on
TR39, p. 1466):
tofenge shahanshah-e darya nasi
ke az shahanshah shahid darad khatir
je mery nasha (lit, ‘to mosalavat chosan
ke der chashm-e dilman nayabi ather’)
The gun of the Emperor who is like
Delicae
The force of which even the celestial
globe is scared of,
It takes away the intoxication/ from
wine to the extent
That one will not find fire [even] in the
eyes of the fair ones*
The talismanic square with the letters
BH/DR for ‘Haydar’
Dated in the Mawlaude year 1220/1791-2,
with the place of manufacture as Patan,
and signed as Muhammad Almas or
Muhammad-e Almas ‘Muhammad the
diamond’ or ‘Muhammad son of
Almas’.
On the forehead of the tiger and on top
of the handle in mirror form creating a
tiger-fooz, asabullah arghabli ‘The lion
of God is Triumphant’
On the tang: The magic number 313
which represents a curse (it is believed
thirteen meaning destroyed, ruined).
There are no control marks on this piece.
On the lock: The talismanic square with
the letters BH/DR for ‘Haydar’. Dated in
the Mawlaude year 1220/1791-2, with the
place of manufacture as Patan, and
signed as Muhammad Almas or
Muhammad-e Almas ‘Muhammad the
diamond’ or ‘Muhammad son of
Almas’.
These pistols display a highly unusual
reflection of English taste some fifteen
years prior to their date of manufacture.
£30,000-40,000
£43,800-58,000
9 A PAIR OF SILVER-MOUNTED FLINTLOCK PISTOLS WITH LEFT- AND RIGHT-HAND LOCKS, MADE FOR TIPI SULTAN BY ASAD-E AMIN, SERINGAPATAM, DATED IN THE MAVLUDI YEAR 1223 (1794-5)

each with tapering barrel formed in two stages, inlaid with gold koftgari bands of bubu ornament at the breech and muzzle, silver fore-sight, three panels of gold koftgari inscriptions running over half its length; the central panel terminating in the characteristic tiger mask of Tipu Sultan and the flanking verses topped by flowering sprigs, with gold verdigris, the breech tang decorated in continuation of the bubu theme and incorporating characteristic brief inscriptions, bevelled lock with gold-lined 'Haydar' control mark, the maker's signature within a bubu motif, sliding safety-catch, and the cock chiselled in the form of a bubu with tiger's head jewelled in the round, figured walnut full stock cased with plantain foliage in low relief about the breech tang, large bulbous butt (one recased and extinguished), full silver mounts struck with 'Haydar' control marks throughout, comprising large butt-cap chased with bubu border patterns and cantoning on a spray of plantain foliage, bubu-shaped side-piece, trigger-guard with plantain frond, small ramrod-pipes, silver fore-end cap, escutcheon, and one pistol retaining its original ramrod (the other an expert replacement)

37.5cm

(2)

EXHIBITED

The Indian Heritage, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 1982, cat. no.483, p.139

LITERATURE


INSCRIPTIONS:

On the barrel, in mirror form creating a tiger face:

"Asad-e Amin"

"Haydar" or "Haydar"

"The Lion of God is Triumphant"

"Zulkeifli Khan"

"The peerless gun of the Emperor of India"

"The enemy's forehead is made the target"

Dated in the Mawlid year 1223/1794-5.

Makers name, as Asad-e Amin 'Asad, the faithful' or 'Asad son of Amin', place of manufacture Patan.

The talismanic square with the letters HUQR for "Haydar".

The control mark of "Haydar" in gold.

On the tang: The magic number 313 which represents a curse (in Arab: thirteenth) meaning destroyed, ruined.

Recommended measure for shot as: cir. 00 m "Shot 00 M" (?)

On the lock: Dated in the Mawlid year 1224 (?)/1795-6.

Makers name, as Asad-e Amin 'Asad, the faithful' or 'Asad son of Amin', place of manufacture Patan.

The talismanic square with the letters HUQR for "Haydar".

The control mark "Haydar" in gold.

£30,000-40,000

€43,800-58,500
A PAIR OF SILVER-MOUNTED FLINTLOCK PISTOLS WITH LEFT- AND RIGHT-HAND LOOKS, MADE FOR TIPU SULTAN BY SAYID MA'SUM, THE ROYAL WORKSHOPS, SERINGAPATAM, DATED MAWLUDI YEAR 1224 (1795-6)

each with tapering barrel formed in two stages, silver fore-sight, gold kolfgari lines at the breech and muzzle, a Persian quatrains in four kolfgari panels, the two control panels terminating in the characteristic tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan incised from a plantain spray, inlaid with the maker's signature, the date and a 'Haydar' talismanic square in a band above a further inscription across the breech, gold vent, breach tang engraved with conventional flowers and plantain leaves framing brief inscriptions of characteristic type, bevelled locks formed in the neo-French style of the Lucknow arsenal, incorporating the maker's signature in gold kolfgari on a bunji scroll, a gold-lined 'Haydar control mark at the rear, engraved flush-fitting safety-catch, the pan and pan-cover each gold-lined, and the cock chiselled in the form of a bunji with tiger's head jaws chiselled in the round (one top jaw and jaw screw expertly replaced), figured walnut full stock carved with plantain foliage in low relief about the breech tang, the butt struck with 'Haydar control mark, full silver mounts struck with 'Haydar control mark throughout, comprising large butt-caps with chased bunji border enclosing a plantain spray roundels, bush-shaped side-plates, chased triggerguard with plantain spray finial, small ramrod-pipes, silver fore-end cap, escutcheon engraved by a chased pattern of bunjis, and original ramrod

LITERATURE
Robin Wighton, op. cit., 1992, TR 24 and 41, pp. 112-13 (the pair reunited at a point following publication).

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrels, in mirror form creating a tiger face:
asseelah agha
"The Lion of God is Triumphant"
kastegha-y-e hazzar
"Thousand court workshop" or "His Highness's workshop"
tafang-e bi-namne khasraw-e hadd ke bashed bazar-e suzan than-y-e u

To the peerless gun of the Emperor of India
To which the fired lightning is second
Can seal the fate of the enemy
If the enemy's forehead is made the target

Place of manufacture Patan, and maker's name Sayid Ma'sum.
Dated in the Mawlid year 1224/1795-6.
The control mark 'Haydar' in gold, four times.
The talismanic square with the letters HYODR for 'Haydar'.

The gun of the estate of Tipu Sultan.
On the tang: The magic number 313 which represents a curse on ten (sixteen) thence meaning destroyed, ruined. Recommended measure for shot as: up to 16 gams "Shot 96 times P"

On the locks: Place of manufacture Patan, and maker's name Sayid Ma'sum, dated in the Mawlid year 1224/1795-6.
The talismanic square with the letters HYODR for 'Haydar'.
The control mark 'Haydar' in gold.

The configuration and decorative treatment of the locks reflect the strong French influence arising from the fine quality firearms produced at the Lucknow arsenal under the supervision of Claude Martin, Major General General Martin established the arsenal at the invitation of the Nawab of Oudh in 1779, following his desertion from the French Army to the East India Company Army.

£25,000-30,000
€36,500-41,500

LONDON, 25 MAY 1995 • 29
A SILVER-MOUNTED FLINTLOCK PISTOL MADE FOR TIPU SULTAN BY ASAD-E AMIN, THE ROYAL WORKSHOP SERINGAPATAM, DATED THE YEAR OF SAZ, MAWLUDI YEAR 1225 (1769-70)

with minor differences to the preceding pistol, the lock, with pan and pan-cover of conventional form, the cock chiselled in the shape of a buzu; its jaws formed as a tiger’s head in the round, with silver mounts struck with ‘Haydar’ control marks throughout, the butt-cap chased with a buzu pattern enclosing a spray of plantain foliage, and retaining its original stool ramrod.

372cm.

LITERATURE

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrel: kashkarah-yi / hozur
‘Royal court workshop’ or ‘His Highness’s workshop’.

salarn khud dal asa / dar al-sehat (i.e., Patan
“Khud dal (God-given) government”, made (in) the capital
Patan”.

*The name of the estate of Tipu Sultan.
ze sake saa
“The year of Saz 1225/1769-70”.
Signed as Asa’d-e Amin ‘Asaad the faithful’, or ‘Asaad [son of]
Amin’.

Dated in the Mawludi year 1225/1769-70

On the tang: The magic number 312 which represents a curse
in Sanskrit (these thirteen) meaning destroyed, ruined.

Recommended measure for shot as: 6–6 m “Shot 06 M (it)”.
The control mark ‘Haydar’ four times.

On the lock: The talismanic square with the letters H/Y/Y/O/R
for ‘Haydar’.

Dated in the Mawludi year 1225/1769-70

The control mark ‘Haydar’ in gold.

Place of manufacture ‘Patan’ and the maker’s name as:
Asa’d-e Amin ‘Asaad the faithful’ or ‘Asaad [son of] Amin’.

£15,000-20,000
€21,000-29,200
AN INDIAN OFFICER'S PISTOL BUILT ON THE EARLIER BARREL AND LIEFTHAND FLINTLOCK MECHANISM OF A PISTOL MADE FOR TIPTU SULTAN BY ASAD-E-AMIN, THE ROYAL WORKSHOP SERINGAPATAM, DATED THE MAWLUDI YEAR OF SHADAD 1226 (1769-70)

with rusted two-stage barrel slightly swamped towards the muzzle and fitted with silver fore-sight, decorated with very slender bands of gold koftgari at the breech and muzzle, the former incorporating a band of buibi ornament, inlaid with a series of gold inscriptions arranged in seven panels, including the maker's signature, both the date and place of manufacture, a 'Haydar' talismanic square and a gold-lined 'Haydar' control mark all within three short panels across the breech, the four forward panels filled with a series of pious invocations terminating in a koftgari spray of plantain leaves filled with the names of the Four Orthodox Caliphs, and with the characteristic tiger mask cyphor of Tipu Sultan, retaining its original breech tang bearing two brief inscriptions also of characteristic type, and also the original lock, both the tang and the lock in uncleaned condition matching the barrel, the lock-plate, the pan-cover and the cock all cut in the form of a buibi, the former bearing a buibi device filled with the maker's signature together with both the date and place of manufacture, with a 'Haydar' mark and talismanic square, fitted with safety-lock, and the jaws of the cock formed as a tiger's head chiselled in the round, with ebonised wooden full stock inlaid with a series of white metal plaques in the neo-fergian taste, the mounts on euche and including a spurred hornail applied with a prominent tiger's head finial of chased iron inlaid with the Swinging-patam lustre, brass-tipped ramrod, and white metal escutcheon engraved with the arms of Martyn.

42cm.

LITERATURE
Robin Wighton, op. cit., 1992, TR 29, pp. 121-23

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrel, ala-hu a'la allah mubashed 'God is most great, Muhammad'.
In mirror form creating a tiger face:
"aabu 'alab khalid"
The Lion of God is Triumphant!

The names of the four Orthodox Caliphs:
"Abu Bakr, 'Umar/'Uthman, 'Ali, kha'ibah-wal- 'Adel"
"Royall court workshop" or "His Highness's workshop".

On the left and right side of the top:
"alla-ala-i khalid (as and a'la)
Hijra 1226 (1769-70)
Hijra 1226 (1769-70)
Izazatul Kubra ra.(as) in and
Izazatul Kubra ra.(as) in and

It is a magnificent gun of the World-

adorning Sultan.

Through Haydar, the victory of

Muhammad over the enemy became triumphant [平安].

On the top in poor Arabic that may have been intended to mean:
"al-adil (as) in and
Hijra 1226 (1769-70)

"as and a'la"
Izazatul Kubra ra.(as) in and
Izazatul Kubra ra.(as) in and

It is the musket of the Sultan, the

magnificence belongs to the Divine God.

Upon the victory of Muhammad, Haydar became the one who subdued the army.
The magnificent gun that is that of the Sultan, the gate to the victory of

Muhammad is Haydar'.

"as and a'la"
"as and a'la"
"as and a'la"

The talismanic square with the letters HY/DR for 'Haydar'.

Dated in the Mawlud year 1226/1769-70, sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam (peace be upon him)

"Khoond (Governmental government),

made [in] the capital Patan".

"The name of the estate of Tipu Sultan"

On the tang: The number 313, which represents a curse (in terah, three, thirteen) meaning destroyed, ruined.

Recommended measure for shot as: 10 by 06 grams "Shot 06 times [27]

On the lock: The place of manufacture is Patan, made by Asad-e- Amin: 'Asad, the

faithful' or 'Asad (son of) Amin' and the

Mahaliki date 1226/1769-70

The talismanic square with the letters HY/DR for 'Haydar'.

The control mark 'Haydar' in gold.

Inside the lock plate, a figure is given in an eight as 818 followed by 'in 8 to 8 [28]

The pistol appears to have been set up in its present stock circa 1840.

£10,000-15,000
€14,600-21,000
24 AN EXTREMELY RARE QUILTED HELMET, MYSORE, LATE 18TH CENTURY

of hood-like form constructed of hide covered with compressed thick layers of coarse fabric, lined in crimson silk with a yellow silk border, with corseal skull, divided cheek-guards and long neck-guard flaring towards a scalloped broad base, the outer surfaces entirely faced in dark blue silk embroidered with gold ornate thread picked-out in sequins, the greater part decorated with a scale pattern, the crown embroidered in the manner of a conventional calyx and the entire decorative scheme enhanced by raised inner borders and segmental bands of embroidered running bobbins, retaining its original iron nasaguard decorated with linear panels of gold and silver koftgari foliage involving a brief inscription and sliding on a pair of brackets, the latter of fabric and embroidered in a contrasting pattern to the skull, and also retaining its decorated red silk tassel pendant from the apex of the crown (the outer fabric with small patches of wear, largely at the borders of the cheek-guards, some sequins missing)

height 44.5cm

EXHIBITED

INSCRIPTION
The names: Allah, Muhammad, Ali, Fatima, Hasan and Husayn
The present helmet compares with the Tipu helmet preserved in the Victoria and Albert Museum, dipped in the Holy Well of Zum Zum at Mecca and deemed impenetrable (Tigers Round the Throne, The Court of Tipu Sultan (1750-1799), London, 1990, p. 60).
For an account of Indian armour of this type, see H. Russell Robinson, Oriental Armour, London, 1967, pp. 99-101, pl. XVIII, figs. A and B. For a comprehensive survey of surviving armour associated with the fall of Srirangapatnam see Mohammad Moiuddin, Sunset at Srirangapatnam, After the Death of Tipu Sultan, New Delhi, 2000.

£10,000-18,000
€14,000-26,000
with slender iron barrel formed in two stages with mounded and gilt girdles between, belled towards the muzzle, finely decorated with silver koftgari bands of running plantain leaves over its length, the forward half of the pattern enriched with gold koftgari flowerheads, and with supplementary small sprays of foliage also in gold koftgari at either end of the breech section, inlaid with a Persian quatrains together with the maker’s signature, date and place of manufacture, a ‘Heydar’ talismanic square and the tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan all in fine gold koftgari, and with a ‘Heydar’ control mark and the vent each lined in gold, with bubu-shaped tang inscribed with the magic number 313, the lockplate and its full external complement of parts all cut in the form of bubis, the lockplate with bevelled edges, gold-lined ‘Heydar’ control mark, the maker’s signature and the date and place of manufacture all in gold koftgari within a bubu-like scroll, an unusually elaborate ‘Heydar’ talismanic square inlaid in two colours of gold, fitted with safety catch sliding along the upper rear edge of the lock, the stud minutely chiselled in the form of a tiger’s head, and the jaws of the cock, all set with a line of fineptd full stock carved with bubis and plantain moulings. In low relief about the lock, the side plate and the breech tang, all enriched with inlaid bubu-shaped horn plaques, the butt carved with a shell-like palm moulding characteristically at the front of the comb, also inlaid with fineptd bubis and trailing a single flute along the full length of both sides, with full silver mounts cast in low relief and struck with ‘Heydar’ control marks throughout, including the butt-plate and the trigger-guard each with plantain spray finial, the butt-plates also engraved with the tiger mark cypher of Tipu Sultan on a contrasting punched ground, small ramrod-eyes of characteristic type, vacant escutcheon, and original sling-swivels and ramrod each of iron 101.3cm.

LITERATURE
Robin Wingham, op. cit. 1992, TR118, pp.95-100.

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrel, in mirror form creating a tiger-face:
assadullah al-ghibli
‘The Lion of God is Triumphant’

(‘Royal Court Workshop’, or ‘His Highness’s workshop’.

On the lock:
(‘The palki-plan of the Emperor of India
To which the forked lightning is second
Can seal the fate of the enemy
If the enemy’s forehead is made the target’.

On the lock and repeated on the lock:
Dated in Mawudi year 1223/1704-5.
Maker’s name as Sayyid ‘Ali, place of manufacture Patan.
The talismanic square with the lettering HYDOR for ‘Haydar’.
The control mark ‘Heydar’ in gold.

On the butt, in mirror form creating a tiger-face:
assadullah al-ghibli
‘The Lion of God is Triumphant’.
The control mark ‘Haydar’ four times in silver
£20,000-30,000
£25,000-45,000
48 A MILITARY FLINTLOCK BLUNDERBUSS (BUKMAR) BY
MUHAMMAD AMIN, THE PUBLIC WORKSHOPS, SRINGAPATAM,
DATED THE YEAR OF SAZ, MAWULD-I YEAR 1225 (1769-70)

with long slender iron barrel formed in two stages with moulded girdle,
bellied muzzle and the tang cut in the shape of a bubu; brass vent, struck
with 'Haydar' control mark, raised over half its length with a series of
silver flowered tendrils, including the maker's signature, the date and
place of manufacture, a 'Haydar' talismanic square, the names of the
Four Orthodox Caliphs and the tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan, and the
tang cut with two characteristically brief inscriptions, with bubu-shaped
lock with beveled edges, signed, dated and inscribed with a 'Haydar'
talismanic square, fitted with brass pan and safety-catch, the pan-cover
and the cock each cut in the form of a bubu, and the jaws of the cock
formed a tiger's head chiselled in the round, carved moulded hardwood
full stock (arilike cracks, minor chips and scratches), the butt of
characteristic down-swept profile and cut with a single flute issuing from
a moulding about the base of the comb, full plain brass mounts all in the
form of bubus and struck with 'Haydar' control mark, bubu-shaped
easletheen cut with the tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan, original iron
sling-swivels, and original ramrod

109.5cm.

LITERATURE
Robin Wieginton, op. cit., 1992, TR21, pp. 103-104

INSCRIPTIONS
The inscriptions are all in a crude hand
On the barrel: Allahu akbar muhammad
"God is Most Great, Muhammad"
In the mirror form creating a tigerface:
asadullah al-ghalib "The Lion of God is Triumphant"
The names of the four Orthodox Caliphs:
'Abdu Baahir, 'Umar, 'Uthman, 'Ali
(taken all as: 'Am Public Workshop)
Dated in the Mawuldi year 1225/1769-70
Safe sadael saif shikan "The year of Saif (1225/1769-70), the heart
that breaks armies"
The maker's name Muhammad Amin or 'Muhammad the faithful' or
Muhammad (son of) Amin
The talismanic square with the letter H/V/D/R for 'Haydar'
(taken khodadi or dar al-sabtun (sic) Patan
"Khodadi (God-given) government", made (in) the capital Patan* "The
name of the estate of Tipu Sultan.
On the tang: the magic number 313 which represents a curse tin sarah
(three thousand) meaning destroyed, ruined.
Recommended measure for shot as: waza a tir b in "Weigh of shot
6V"
Between the tang and the butt, in mirror form creating a tigerface:
asadullah al-ghalib "the Lion of God is Triumphant"
The control mark in the form of the letter H 3 times, and 'Haydar' once.
On the lock: the place of manufacture, Patan, the maker Muhammad
Amin or 'Muhammad the faithful' or Muhammad (son of) Amin
The talismanic square with the letter H/V/D/R for 'Haydar'
Dated in the Mawuldi year 1225/1769-70

Tipu Sultan armed the troops of his Carnal Corps with blunderbusses of
this type. Each carnal carried two men, in theory one could reload his
weapon while the other engaged a target (presumably the carnal
controlled itself).

£10,000-15,000
€14,600-21,900
A MILITARY FLINTLOCK BLUNDERBUSS (BUKMAIR) BY SHAYKH MUIHYI AL-DIN, THE PUBLIC WORSHOPS, SERINGAPATAM, DATED THE YEAR OF SHA'D, MAWLUDI YEAR 1224 (1795-96)

Similar to the preceding blunderbuss, the barrel inlet with a slightly more elaborate scheme heightened with silver plantain leaves, with plain tang of conventional form, the lock with iron pan cut with a water-draught, hardwood stock carved with a bukhri moulding about the lock, the butt studded with ‘Haydar’ control mark, with bull brass mounts of conventional type cast in low relief, the butt plate and trigger guard each with plantain spray finial and struck with ‘Haydar’ contour marks throughout, with small ramrod-pipes, oval escutcheon cut with the tiger mask cypher of Tipu Sultan, original iron sling swivels, and original ramrod.

105-4cm.

LITERATURE
Robin Wilkinson, op. cit. 1992, TR120, p. 102

INSCRIPTIONS
On the barrel:
Allah akbar muhammad
‘God is Most Great, Muhammad’

In mirror form creating a tiger-face:
asadullah al-ghali
‘The Lion of God is triumphant’.

The names of the four Orthodox Caliphs:

kayfameh-he iran
‘Public workshop’.

Dated in the Mawlid year 1224/1795-6.

The takhrimic square with the letters H/Y/D/R for ‘Haydar’.
sal-e shah
‘The year of Shad’ (M 1224/1795-6).

Maker’s name: Shaykh Muihy al-Din
sankte khodadad salkhe-dar al-qaharat (sic.) Patan
‘Khosadad (God’s given) government*, made [in] the capital
Patan’

*The name of the estate of Tipu Sultan

The control mark ‘Haydar’

Between the tang and the butt, in mirror form creating a tiger-
face:
asadullah al-ghali
‘The Lion of God is Triumphant’

On the lock:
The takhrimic square with the letters H/Y/D/R for ‘Haydar’.
Dated in the Mawlid year 1224/1795-6.

maker’s name: Shaykh Muihy al-Din
Place of manufacture: Patan.

£20,000-30,000
€29,200-43,600