Some of the Wonders mentioned in the book
بعض المعجوبات التي ذكرها الفرويني في كتابه
Hafiz of Shiraz was one of the greatest poets in Persia. He became the poet and teacher at the royal courts of Abu Ishak, Mubarriz Muzaffar, and later Shah Shuja (1358 – 1386 AD). When Hafiz died at the age of 70 (d. 1389), he left over 500 Ghazals, 42 Rubaiyets and Qasedahs, that were compiled into Diwans by his disciples Mohammed Golandam and Sayyid Kasim-e Anvar.

This copy of the Diwan of Hafiz dates back to the year 976 H / 1568 AD in the period when Shah Tahmasp’s (1524-1576) was generously patronising.

The manuscript features within its double page Frontispiece a vivid depiction of the Eid Adha Feast celebrations. The Shah is portrayed seated on his throne, with musicians playing and is surrounded by attendants wearing their distinct red headdress, the Qizilbash, or Hayder’s crown as known in Persian.

This beautiful scene of festivities and royal celebrations is followed by 193 folios of outstanding calligraphy framed within intertwined floral margin designs in gold. Towards the end of the manuscript, several final folios show marginal decorations of superior quality. Manuscripts have always been considered royal treasures, sent as royal gifts or acquired as part of war booties.
Nizami’s Khamsah is a composition of five masnavis that relates five main epic stories. These are: the depository of the secrets, Khusrav and Shirin, Layla and Majnun, Haft Pikan, and Iskander nameh. The manuscript, in 299 folios, is bound in a fine quality leather binding that is totally gilded, with an oval motif at the center, small oval pendants and corner brackets: all enclosed inside a cartouche. The lining of the binding is in filigree leather, against a colorful background, a technique that was popular during the 16th century, in Persia. The Nizami Khamsah manuscript has a double frontispiece illuminated in deep lapis blue and gold, followed by a Title (Unwan) page and several miniatures beginning with the one depicting Miraj of the Prophet.
The Miraj

مشهد العرّاج
خسرو بر فرد شیرین و همی نستحیم

Khusrow watches Shirin bathing