Examples of the calligraphic specimen of Mu'izz al-din Katib, and the illumination of Inami
The 15th - 19th centuries witnessed the development and spread of the art of Muraqqa' in Persia, Turkey and India. This art of assembling Albums of Muraqqa' or single folios of renowned calligraphers, poets and loose pages of miniatures in an album became the pride of sultans and kings, a collectable item within royal ateliers and a source of entertainment during court gatherings. Qadi Ahmed, the 16th century art historian, explains that the compilation of single folios in Muraqqa' albums by the royalties was intended to safeguard specimens of old calligraphic and artistic styles thus preserving invaluable heritage.

Dar al kutub has within its collections numerous albums, three of which are being exhibited here as an example of this unique and outstanding form of Art.
Folio 2: A single folio of Nasta’liq couple by Safavid calligrapher Mir Imad al Hassani al Hussaini (d. 1615). Mir Imad lived in Qazvin, Herat and Isfahan where he was murdered in 1024 H / 1615 AD.
Folio 3: A single folio of Nasta’liq by Zarrin Qalam (The “Golden Pen”), dated to 1115H. The epithet “Golden Pen” was used by several painters, yet this 18th century folio may have been the work of Ahmad Shah, who was mentioned by Safavid historian Qadi Ahmed as using this title.
Folio 3: A miniature painting depicting Layla and Majnun at the wilderness. The sobriquet Bihzad, after the famous 16th century painter, was commonly used in Mughal India. This miniature is of the 19th century Indian Style.

اللوحة رقم 3: منشمة لمجنون ولنلي في البادية، ويوجد بها اسم بهزاد، فقد شاع استخدام هذا التلقب تيمناً بلفتنه الفاروق بهزاد، في بلاد الهند في القرن التاسع عشر ميلادي.
Folio 4: A single folio of diagonal Persian Nasta’liq couple by calligrapher Imad al Hussaini dated to 981/1572 AD, framed by an Arabic prayer in Nasta’liq as well, calligraphic specimen inscribed by a contemporary of Mir Imad, Qub al yazdi in 994 H/1585 AD.

اللوحة رقم ٤ : لوحة مفصولة من الخط المستنلبق عمل الخطاط عماد الحسيني مؤرخة إلى عام ٩٨١ هـ / ١٥٧٢ م، محاط بدعاء باللغة العربية عمل الخطاط قطب البازدي ، زميل مير عماد، في عام ٩٩٤ هـ / ١٥٨٥ م.
Folio 5: Untitled – A miniature painting depicted an embraced couple in front of a tree sighted by a peacock, executed in India by painter Mani – India 19th c.

الوحة رقم 5: لوحة مミニチュア تمثل عشاق زوجين تحت شجرة وبجانبهما طائر، رسمت بالأسلوب الهندي، ويشير الرسوم إلى فنان يدعى ماني، من بارا الهند في القرن التاسع عشر الميلادي.
Folio 7: Untitled – A miniature painting depicting two military leaders dressed in Mughal costume, with a dead elephant in the foreground, by painter Mani – India, 19th century.

اللوحة رقم ٧: لوحة منتصمة تصور قاديين عسكريين بالزي المغولي الرسمي، وفي الخلفية، في القدمة، فيل ميت، بتوقيع الفنان ماني، الهند، القرن التاسع عشر الميلادي.