

Add.27261

A miscellany containing 23 works, written for Jalāl al-Dīn Iskandar ibn 'Umar Shaykh. Copied 1410-11 by Muḥammad al-Ḥalvā'ī and Nāṣir al-Kātib. Contains one double-page, 40 single miniatures and marginal paintings. Shiraz/Timurid style

1. folios 3v-294r

Title: Khamsah-'i Niẓāmī --- خمسة نظامی

Author: Niẓāmī Ganjavī, 1140 or 41-1202 or 3 / نظامی گنجوی

Illustrations:

Folio 6r: The ascent of the Prophet over the Ka'bah guided by Jibrā'īl and escorted by angels.

Folio 38r: Shīrīn looking at Khusraw's portrait watched by Shāpūr.

Folio 47v: Khusraw and Shīrīn in a garden.

Folio 61r: Farhād carrying Shīrīn and her horse across the stream. His sculptures of Khusraw and Shīrīn are shown.

Folio 81v: Khusraw and Shīrīn in bed together.

Folio 109r: Battle of the tribes watched by Majnūn.

Folio 118r: Majnūn in the desert with the animals.

Folio 131v: Majnūn and Laylá fainting at their meeting.

Folio 148r: Bahrām Gūr killing the dragon.

Folio 159v: The fairy queen handing the traveller a cup of wine after he was discovered in her garden (story told to Bahrām Gūr by the Indian Princess in the Black Pavilion).

Folio 160v: Bahrām Gūr entertained in the Black Pavilion by the Indian Princess.

Folio 225v: Nūshābah recognising Iskandar by his portrait.

Folio 230r: Iskandar visiting the sage at night

Folio 286r: Iskandar watching the sirens bathing.

Language: Persian

2. folios 294v-301r

Title: Three episodes from the Shāhnāmah of Firdawsī

Author: Firdawsī / فردوسی

Illustrations:

Folio 295v: The fire ordeal of Siyāvash.

Folio 298v: Rustam rescuing Bīzhan from the pit at night watched by Manīzhah.

Folio 300r: Humāy killing the demon sorcerer.

Language: Persian

3. folios 301v-309r

Title: Qasīdahs in praise of Muḥammad and the Imāms

Author: Various authors

Illustrations:

Folio 305v: The story of 'Alī and the Christian monk who was converted to Islam when 'Alī saved him from falling to his death.

Language: Persian

4. folios 309v-313v

Title: Mafātīḥ al-Kalām fī Madā'ih al-Karām --- مفاتيح الكلام فى مدايح الكرام

Author: Qivām al-Dīn Zū'l-Faqār / قوام الدين ذو الفقار

note: A qasīdah ingeniously contrived so as to offer examples of all the Persian metres

Language: Persian

5. folios 314r-340r
Title: Select Ghazals
Author: Various authors
Note: About 200 in number
Language: Persian

6. folios 340v-342v
Title: Mukhtaṣir dar ‘Ilm-i Hay’āt --- مختصر در علم هیأت
Author: Kāshī, Jamshīd ibn Mas‘ūd, d. ca. 1436 / Jamshīd b. Mas‘ūd b. Maḥmūd Ghiyās/
جمشید بن مسعود بن محمود غیاث / کاشی، جمشید بن مسعود
note: A manual of astronomy
Language: Persian

7. folios 343r-344r
Title: Mukhtaṣir dar ‘ilm-i Iqlīdis --- مختصر در علم اقلیدس
Author: Kāshī, Jamshīd ibn Mas‘ūd, d. ca. 1436 جمشید بن مسعود، کاشی
note: Elements of geometry, consisting of a few theorems from the first book of Euclid, with diagrams
Language: Persian

8. folios 344v-345r
Title: Risālah-i Kibrīt-i Aḥmar --- رساله کبریت احمر
note: An alchemical treatise, written for Sulṭān Jalāl al-Dīn Iskandar
Language: Persian

9. folios 345v-348r
Title: Fiqh dar Mazḥab-i Shī‘ah --- فقه در مذهب شیعه
note: A manual of Shī‘ah law, according to Imām ‘Alī b. Mūsā al-Rizā
Language: Persian

10. folios 348r-364v
Title: Fiqh Abī Ḥanīfah --- فقه ابی حنیفه
Author: Abū Ḥanīfah, d. 767 or 8 / أبو حنیفة
note: A treatise on the law of religious observances
Illustration:
Folios 362v - 363r: View of Mecca and pilgrims.
Language: Persian

11. folios 365-372
Title: Ma‘rifat Taqvīm va Aṣṭarlāb --- معرفت تقویم و اسطرلاب
note: A treatise on the computation of the calendar and the use of the astrolabe, with tables of the conjunctions of the planets
Illustration:
Folio 371v: A physician feeling his patient's pulse.
Language: Persian

12. folios 372v-542
Title: Rawḥat al-Munajjimīn --- روضة المنجمین
note: An extensive treatise on astrology, in fifteen Maqālahs
Illustrations:
Folios 406r - 409v: Marginal drawings of flowers and birds.
Folio 410r: Diagrams of eclipses of the sun and moon (borders).

Folio 533v: Marginal drawing of a horseman, angel and a man killing a dragon.
 Folio 534r: Constellation of Eridanus.
 Folio 534v: Canis Major and Canis Minor. Birds and animals in borders.
 Folio 535r: Ursa Major and Ursa Minor. Birds, prince and angel in border.
 Folio 536r: Andromeda represented by a man standing on a fish; Triangulum (a triangle) and Draco (dragon). Heads in margin.
 Folio 536v: Cepheus. Marginal drawings of animals.
 Folio 537r: Serpens, Aquila and Sagitta. Border drawings of a man paying homage to a princess; animals and a shādah-vār.
 Folio 537v: Equus Major, Equuleus and Pegasus. Marginal drawings of a prince hunting and animals.
 Folio 538r: Aries and Taurus.
 Folio 538v: Gemini. Marginal drawings of Khusraw Parvīz watching Shīrīn bathing, and rams fighting.
 Folio 539r: Cancer and Leo. Marginal drawings of Majnūn in the desert with the animals, a saluki chasing a hare and a tiger chewing the marginal decoration.
 Folio 539v: Virgo and Libra.
 Folio 540r: Scorpio and Sagittarius.
 Folio 540v: Capricorn, Aquarius, Constellation of Piscis Australis.
 Folio 541r: Argo Navis and Hydra.
 Folio 541v: Crater, Corvus, Centaurus. Marginal drawings of animals, birds and a man attacked by a lion.
 Folio 542r: Leo, Ara, Corona Australis.
 Folio 542v: Marginal drawings of dragon and animals. Piscis Australis.
 Folio 543r: Central medallions with dragons, birds and animals.
Language: Persian

13.folios 3-112 (margins)

Title: Ilāhī'nāmah --- الاهی نامه

Author: 'Aṭṭār, Farīd al-Dīn, d. ca. 1230 / عطّار، فرید الدین

Language: Persian

14.folios 111r-142v (margins)

Title: Manṭiq al-Ṭayr --- منطق الطیر

Author: 'Aṭṭār, Farīd al-Dīn, d. ca. 1230 / عطّار، فرید الدین

Language: Persian

15.folios 142v-287r (margins)

Title: Anthology

Author: Various authors

note: Containing select pieces of upwards of three hundred poets, from the fifth to the ninth century Hijri, classed according to their subjects or metrical forms

Language: Persian

16.folios 294v-302r (margins)

Title: An abridgment of the Nizām al-Tavārīkh

note: The original work was brought down to the reign of Abū Sa'īd, Ilkhān of the Mongols, fl. 1316-1335, son of Uljāytū Khudābandah, Ilkhan of Iran, ca. 1280-1316 and written by Bayzāwī, 'Abd Allāh ibn 'Umar, d. 1286?

Language: Persian

17.folios 302v-332v (margins)

- Title:** Tuḥfat al-Gharā'ib --- تحفة الغرائب
note: An anonymous compilation, in twenty-eight bābs, treating of the properties and hidden virtues of natural substances, of various magical and cabalistic operations, and of ingenious devices and recipes for purposes of utility or amusement
Language: Persian
- 18.folios 332v-338v (margins)
Title: Madkhal-i Manzūm --- مدخل منظوم
note: A manual of astrology in maṣnavī rhyme
Language: Persian
- 19.folios 345v-396v (margins)
Title: Khafī 'Alā'ī --- خفی علای
Author: Jurjānī, Ismā'īl ibn Ḥasan, 1042 or 3-1136 or 7 / جرجانی، اسماعیل بن حسن
note: A manual of medicine
Language: Persian
- 20.folios 396v-398r (margins)
Title: A treatise on the diseases of the horse
note: Written in nine chapters (aṣl)
Language: Persian
- 21.folios 398r-403r (margins)
Title: A treatise on alchemy
Author: Ghiyās Kirmānī / غیاث کرمانی
note: Compiled by order of Sulṭan Jalāl al-Dīn Iskandar
Language: Persian
- 22.folios 420v-504r (margins)
Title: Jām-i Jam --- جام جم
Author: Awhādī, Rukn al-Dīn, 1271 or 1272-1337 or 1338 / اوحدی، رکن الدین
Language: Persian
- 23.folios 504v-539v (margins)
Title: Sa'ādatnāmah --- سعادت نامه
Author: Shabistārī, Maḥmūd ibn 'Abd al-Karīm, d. ca. 1320 / شبستری، محمود بن عبد الکریم
note: A theological treatise in Maṣnavī rhyme, containing an exposition of the Sunni creed, with Sufī comments and a refutation of heretical doctrines
Language: Persian

Add.27261. 546 folios; 18.4x12.7mm

Calligraphy: Minute naskh by Muḥammad al-Ḥalvā'ī al-Jalālī al-Iskandarī . Minute nasta' līq by Nāṣir al-Kātib

Decoration: Ornamented 'unwāns. Gilt headings. Illuminated borders. 21 whole page miniatures. Some coloured drawings

Date: From Jumāda I, 813 to Jumāda II, 814[1410-11]

Bibliography

Ch. Rieu: *Catalogue of Persian Manuscripts in the British Museum*. 3 vols, London, 1879-83, pp. 868-71

Norah M. Titley: *Miniatures from Persian Manuscripts: a Catalogue and Subject Index of Paintings from Persia, India and Turkey in the British Library and the British Museum*. London, 1977, p. 39