

Add. 6613

خمسه نظامی

Date	Copy dated 1076-7 (1665-7)
Title	Niẓāmī Ganjavī, <i>Khamsah</i>
Content	The five poems making up the <i>Khamsah</i> by Niẓāmī Ganjavī (1140 or 41-1202 or 3), containing 41 miniatures in the Isfahan Safavid style, all except ff.3v, 100r and 252r, signed by the Turkoman artist Ṭālib Lālā. This manuscript was written for Tājā Mīrzā Abu al-Ḥasanā. Colophons dated Jumadi II 1075 to 5 Rabi' II 1076 (AD 1665).

Add. 6613, ff 1v-27r

Makhzan al-asrār

Illustrations:

(3v) The Prophet on Burāq guided by Jibrā'īl and escorted by angels ascending the heavens. The constellations, signs of the Zodiac and the seven heavens are all depicted.

(12v) Anūshīrvān and the owls.

(14v) Sulṭān Sanjar and the old woman.

(16v) The story of the hunter, the dog and the fox.

(19v) Jesus and the dead dog.

(25v) The youth who divulged Jamshīd's secrets to an old woman.

(29v) Hārūn al-Rashīd and the barber.

Add. 6613, ff 27v-90r

Khusraw u Shīrīn

Illustrations:

(34r) The elders pleading on behalf of Khusraw to Hurmuzd.

(36v) Shāpūr watching a boy taking the portrait of Khusraw down from the tree for Shīrīn to look at.

(40r) Khusraw and Shīrīn in bed.

(42r) Khusraw watches Shīrīn bathing.

(46v) Khusraw and Shīrīn meeting on the hunting ground.

(48v) Khusraw kills the lion outside Shīrīn's tent.

(53r) Battle between Khusraw and Bahrām Chūbīn.

(57r) Bārbad and Nīgīsa entertain Khusraw and Shīrīn.

(64v) Shīrīn visiting Farhād on Mt. Bisitun.

Add. 6613, ff 90v-138r

Laylā u Majnūn

Illustrations:

(92v) The Prophet on Burāq ascending the heavens preceded by Jibrā'īl who holds out a flower towards a lion on a cloud. An angel (Isrāfīl?) blows a seven-headed trumpet.

(100r) Laylā and Majnūn at school.

(103v) Majnūn taken to the Ka'bah by his father.

(107r) Ibn Salām watching Laylā with her companions in the palmgrove.

(109v) The battle of the tribes.

(115r) Laylā rejecting Ibn Salām.

(131v) Laylā and Majnūn fainting.

Add. 6613, ff 138v-196r

Haft paykar

Illustrations:

- (148r) Bahrām Gūr killing the dragon.
- (155r) Fitnah carrying the ox on her shoulders up steps to Bahrām Gūr.
- (159v) Bahrām Gūr with the Indian Princess in the Black Pavilion.
- (165v) Bahrām Gūr with the Moorish Princess in the Yellow Pavilion.
- (168v) Bahrām Gūr with the Tartar Princess in the Green Pavilion.
- (171v) Bahrām Gūr with the Russian Princess in the Red Pavilion.
- (175v) Bahrām Gūr with the Princess of Khvarazm in the Blue Pavilion.
- (180v) Bahrām Gūr with the Chinese Princess in the Sandalwood Pavilion.
- (184v) Bahrām Gūr with the Greek Princess in the White Pavilion.
- (189v) Bahrām Gūr and the shepherd who hanged his dog.

Add. 6613, ff 196v-300r

Iskandarnāmah

Illustrations:

- (208r) Iskandar celebrating his victory over the Zangis (Habashis).
- (219v) Iskandar comforting the dying Dārā.
- (232r) Iskandar entertained by Nūshābah.
- (244r) The Khāqān of Chīn brought bound before Iskandar.
- (246r) Iskandar entertained by the Khāqān of Chīn.
- (252r) Iskandar's battle with the Russians.
- (261v) Iskandar and an angel observing Khizr and Ilyās putting the dried fish into the Water of Life.
- (274r) Hurmus hypnotising the sages who had gathered to defeat him in debate. (Inscription eulogising the patron of the MS., Abu'l-Ḥasan Mīrzā and also stating that the miniature was completed by Ṭālib in AH 1077 (AD 1666-7).

Language Persian

Physical description

Material: Paper.

Foliation: ff 300.

Dimensions: 0.75 x 6in [leaf].

Date: Jumadi II 1075 to 5 Rabi' II 1076 (AD 1665)

Script: Nasta'īq. Copied by Ibn Ibrāhīm Muḥammad Mu'akhhir al-Mu'allim al-Kātib al-Shīrāzī.

Decorations: 41 Miniatures; 5 'Unvāns; Gold-ruled border.

Binding: Leather binding with gold decorated medallion and margins.

Ownership Copied for Tājā Mīrzā Abu al-Ḥasanā in AD 1665. Bequeathed to British Museum in 1825 by the Rev. John Fowler Hull.

Bibliography Ch. Rieu, *Catalogue of the Persian Manuscripts in the British Museum* (London, 1879-1883), p. 572.
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), pp. 136-137.