

ASIAN & AFRICAN STUDIES READING ROOM

Entrance area:

Claudius James Rich (1787-1820)
Orientalist and manuscript collector
Portrait by Thomas Phillips (1770-1845), c.1803
Presented to the British Museum by the sitter's widow

Robert Orme (1728-1801)
Historiographer to the East India Company, 1769 to 1801, and collector
Plaster bust by Joseph Nollekens (1737-1823), 1774
Bequeathed along with his collection to the East India Company by the sitter, 1801

Friedrich August Rosen (1805-37)
Sanskrit scholar
Bust by Richard Westmacott, Jr. (1799-1872)
Facsimile presented by the Trustees of the British Museum

James Prinsep (1799-1840)
Chemist, numismatist, and decipherer of the Kharoshthi and Brahmi scripts
Plaster bust by Henry Weekes (1807-77), 1842

Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, 1st Baron Metcalfe (1785-1846)
Bengal Civil Service 1801-38; Acting Governor-General of India 1835-38
Plaster bust by Edward Hodges Baily (1788-1867), 1843

Three models of ships presented by the shipbuilders to the India Office

East high wall, left to right:

Mirza Abu'l Hasan Khan, Ambassador from Fath 'Ali Shah of Persia
Portrait by Sir William Beechey (1753-1839), 1810
Commissioned by the East India Company, 1809

Nadir Shah of Persia (reg. 1732-1747), and conqueror of Delhi in 1739
Painting by an unknown Persian artist, c.1740
Presented to the East India Company by the Rt. Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, 1822

Fath 'Ali, Shah of Persia (reg. 1797-1834)
Painting attributed to 'Abdallah Khan (fl.1820)
Probably presented to the Court of Directors by the Shah in 1822 through Edward Mathews

Asaf al-Daula, Nawab of Oudh (reg. 1775-97)
Painting by Johann Zoffany (1733-1810), 1784
Bought for the India Office in 1906

General Sir Jang Bahadur Kunwar Rana, Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of Nepal (1817-77)

Painting by Bhajuman Citrakar (fl. 1840-50), 1849
Presented to the East India Company by the sitter, 1850

Hasan Reza Khan, Chief Minister to Nawab Asaf al-Daula of Oudh
Painting by Johann Zoffany (1733-1810), 1784
Bought for the India Office in 1906

Naqd 'Ali Beg, Envoy from Shah 'Abbas the Great of Persia
Painting by Richard Greenbury (fl. 1616-51), 1626
Commissioned by the East India Company, 1626

Lord Clive (1725-74) receiving from the Nawab of Bengal the money for 'Lord Clive's Fund' for disabled soldiers of the East India Company's service and for widows
Painting by Edward Penny (1714-91), 1772-73
Commissioned by the East India Company, 1772

Muhammad 'Ali Khan, Nawab of the Carnatic (reg. 1750-1795)
Painting by George Willison (1741-97), c.1774
Presented to the East India Company by the sitter, 1775

North wall:

Warren Hastings (1732-1818), Governor-General of Fort William 1773-85
Marble bust by Thomas Banks (1735-1805), 1790, on its column from Daylesford House
Presented by Lady Murray Anderson, 1949

South high wall:

The coat of arms of the United East India Company
Carved c.1730 for the Directors' Court Room, East India House, Leadenhall Street