



Inv. no. 45/1980

MINIATURE. 'MAKING BOOKS IN A GARDEN'

INDIA, DECCAN, AURANGABAD (?); 17TH CENTURY

LEAF: 15.9 × 8.6 CM

This painting presents a rare account of several different stages in making a bound manuscript.

At the top of the picture, on the roof of the pavilion, are two men spreading paper pulp out to dry. One is obviously the other's pupil. On the lower left, a calligrapher and his pupil are busy writing (and possibly illuminating) a text. On the right are the bookbinders, once again a master and his pupil, stamping a binding, probably of leather. The entire process ends on the lowest level, where the completed volumes are carried away.

Published in:

Annika Richert (ed.): *Islam: konst och kultur / art and culture*, Statens

historiska museum, Stockholm 1985, cat.no. 59, pp. 172 and 175;
Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen
1990, p. 22, fig. 1;
Kjeld von Folsach, Torben Lundbæk and Peder Mortensen (eds.):
*Sultan, Shah and Great Mughal: the history and culture of the Islamic
world*, The National Museum, Copenhagen 1996, cat.no. 107;
Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David
Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, p. 39, fig. 9;