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CAT. 17. RUSTAM KILLS THE TURANIAN HERO ALKUS WITH HIS LANCE

WESTERN OR CENTRAL INDIA; 1425-1450

The David Collection, 3/1988

After a day carousing with plenty of food and drink, Rustam and seven of his warriors decide to go hunting where game is abundant, in the lands of the enemy, King Afrasiyab. Their foray does not go unnoticed, and soon the spirited company is confronted by a large army. Rustam has no trouble in eliminating the foot soldiers, but when the legendary generals Pilsam and Alkus appear, things get serious.

Just a second before Rustam's brother Zawara is killed, the hero manages to skewer Alkus and lift him from his saddle. The protagonists are easy to spot in this hectic scene, especially thanks to their size. On the left is Rustam, with his red beard, and on the right is Alkus, the whites of his eyes showing.

