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MINIATURE FROM A COPY OF MUHAMMAD IBN HUSAM'S
KHAWARANNAMA (BOOK OF THE EAST). 'MALIK LIFTS ABU'L
MIHJAN FROM THE SADDLE'

IRAN, SHIRAZ (?); 1477

MINIATURE: 17.8 × 20.5 CM

Turkmen paintings often have a somewhat simpler line and composition than contemporary Timurid work, but were frequently more dynamic and colorful. This is decidedly true of the copy of the *Khawarannama* that was completed in 1477.

Muhammad ibn Husam's 'Book of the East' from c. 1426 deals in free poetic form with the martial achievements of the Prophet Muhammad's son-in-law, Ali, and his familiars. It took its title from Ali's chief opponent, King Kubad of Khawaran, and was modeled largely on Firdawsi's *Shahnama*.

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Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat.no. 22;
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. 277;
Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 30;
Kjeld von Folsach: *For the Privileged Few: Islamic Miniature Painting from The David Collection*, Louisiana, Humlebæk 2007, cat.no. 21;
Raya Shani: “The Shahnama legacy in a late 15th-century illustrated copy of Ibn Husam's Khavaran-nama, the Gulistan Palace Library, Tehran Mp. 5750” in Gabrielle van den Berg, Charles Melville (eds.): *Shahnama studies III : the reception of the 'Shahnama'*, p. 239, fig. 9.98;