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CANDLESTICK, CAST AND ENGRAVED BRONZE

CENTRAL ASIA, AFGHANISTAN OR IRAN; 15TH CENTURY

H: 25.5; DIAM: 17 CM

This double candlestick, its neck made up of two entwined dragons, seems on the basis of its shape, the engraved decoration, and the design of the dragons to be one of the oldest in its group. The type's basic form presumably comes from Central Asia, from which it spread to the Iranian region in the late 15th and 16th century.

Dragons, which in Chinese and Turkish art mainly have a positive significance, are also found extensively in Timurid art. They appear on candlesticks like this one, serve as handles on cups and jugs, and often make up part of the hilts of swords and daggers.

Published in:

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