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MINIATURE PASTED ON AN ALBUM LEAF. 'THE GREAT MUGHAL JAHANGIR'S *DARBAR*'

INDIA, MUGHAL; C. 1620

MINIATURE: 32 × 22 CM

The close contact that had existed between ruler and subject in the simpler steppe societies had disappeared in the Mughals' extensive empire. For this reason, it was important for the people to be able to see the ruler or even appear before him in an audience – the *darbar*.

On a throne under a tent we find Jahangir (1605-1627), surrounded by his courtiers and flanked by two *yurt*-like tents that hold noble female relatives. The realistic, but also quite stiff rendition of the figures might be explained by the fact that many individual portraits of leading courtiers were patched together in a presentation of this kind.

Published in:  
Christie's, London, 18/12-1968, lot 129;

Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat.no. 48;  
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. 307;  
Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 69;  
Kjeld von Folsach: *For the Privileged Few: Islamic Miniature Painting from The David Collection*, Louisiana, Humlebæk 2007, cat.no. 102;  
Kjeld von Folsach, Joachim Meyer and Peter Wandel: *Fighting, Hunting, Impressing. Arms and Armour from the Islamic World 1500-1850*, The David Collection, Copenhagen 2021, cat.no. 119;