



Inv. no. 2/1967

STEEL HELMET, OVERLAID WITH GOLD AND PIERCED

IRAN; 19TH CENTURY

H: 70 CM (WITH CHAIN MAIL)

Hemispherical helmets with a central spike, plume-holders, an adjustable nose guard, and chain mail down to the shoulders are known from innumerable miniatures from 16th-century Iran. Most of the helmets of this kind that have been preserved, however, were wrought in the 18th and 19th century under the Qajars, and they must primarily have had a decorative function. The decoration was made by craftsmen who mastered their skill to perfection, and it is obvious that ornamentation had become more important than the pieces' original use.

Published in:

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. 157;
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. 65 and
Appendix, p. 277;