Finch & Co



A GOLD DAMASCENED HELMET 'KHULA KHUD'

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STEEL, GOLD, VELVET, MAIL

INDIA

18TH CENTURY

SIZE: 25CM HIGH - 9¾ INS HIGH / 56CM HIGH - 22 INS HIGH (WITH MAIL) / 62CM HIGH - 24½ INS HIGH (WITH BASE)

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LITERATURE

DESPITE THE SIMILARITY IN THEIR DESIGN, THE 'KHULA KHUD' HELMETS WERE DECORATED WITH A WIDE DEGREE OF VARIATIONS DEPENDING ON THE CULTURES FROM WHICH THEY WERE CREATED. DECORATIONS OFTEN APPEARED IN THE SKULL AND THE NASAL BAR, WHICH WERE HEAVILY DECORATED WITH PATTERNED MOTIFS OF INLAID BRASS, SILVER OR GOLD; OR DECORATED WITH FIGURATIVE IMAGES. ORIGINATING IN CENTRAL ASIA, THROUGHOUT THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES, THEY WERE WORN EXTENSIVELY BY SOLDIERS OF THE PERSIAN EMPIRE. A HELMET WITH 'DEVIL' HORNS IS HOUSED IN THE METROPOLITAN MUSUEM, MET 96.5.125 FROM IRAN, TOGETHER WITH TWO 'BLOOM' HOLDERS AS CAN BE SEEN IN OUR EXAMPLE.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE EUROPEAN COLLECTION