



12. Double-page finis-piece, standing man and standing woman. The Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art, MSS 1000.1 and 1000.2.

them opposite one another, he has given the impression of unceasing conflict.

25. *Rustam and the Iranians in the Snow.*

Harvard Art Museum, Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Francis H. Burr Memorial Fund, 1941.294 (fig. 11)

This page was removed from the manuscript and would have appeared just before the end of the first section of the *Shahnameh*. At the end of his reign, Kay Khusrav gave up his throne and disappeared in the mountains. Worried about his fate, five paladins went in search of him. When they decided to sleep, a storm blew up and covered them in snow. Several days had passed when Rustam set out in search of the paladins. As mentioned above, this illustration shows two episodes of the story, Rustam's search and the snow burying the paladins, whose standards are all that remains visible.

As with so many of the illustrations to this volume, Mu'in has shown his creativity through the composition of this painting while working with a limited palette and repeating his standard figural types. Instead of placing figures of secondary importance in the background, he has lowered the horizon and arrayed Rustam and his fellow paladins along it, gazing out and contemplating the loss of their king and friends. Unbeknownst to him, the bodies of the lost men lie under the snow at the foot of the mountain range, visible only by the tips of their standards.

26-27. *Double-page finis-piece, standing man and standing woman.*

The Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art, MSS 1000.1 and 1000.2 (fig. 12)

Removed from the manuscript, these folios appear at the end of the reign of Kay Khusrav and separate that chapter from the beginning of the chapter on