

Shāhnāmeḥ of Ferdowsi

Miniature 7

Subject Unknown

One male and four females perhaps a young prince and four princesses as suggested by Sothebys sale catalog are seated on an elevated throne in the upper left. They are receiving some dignitaries an elderly man with a long beard and turban, accompanied by three younger companions -- on the extreme right of the miniature. in the lower left are two standing servants with flasks in hand, with several additional flasks set on the ground before the throne.

There are four columns of text above and below the miniature. At the top, the outer columns are comprised of six lines each, and the two center columns four lines each plus a blank box for a chapter title. Below the miniature, the outer columns each consist of four lines of text, and the center columns three each. A rectangular ruled frame encloses miniature and text. The number 74 written in Arabic numerals, presumably of later date, appears in the lower left margin, probably indicating that it was the seventy-fourth miniature in the manuscript. The miniature is signed by Mo'in, in the lower margin: *raqam-e kamīneh mo'in-e moṣavver*.

Miniature references:

Sotheby's London, 11 October 1991, Lot 849 (illustrated).

