

- Identify this painting. This is a miniature painting depicting Shah Jahan and his son Aurangzeb. Shah Jahan is depicted with a golden halo. Aurangzeb is wearing white and carrying a sword.



Who do you think is bowing?
Can you think of any other ways you can show respect to your father?

- Observe this turquoise glazed tile decorated with hexagon and star motifs. Can you detect the starting point and the end point?

This kind of carved terracota tiles are a highly attractive technique of Timurid architecture. Can you name the few shapes that you can see from this tile?



- Would you like to decorate your favourite items using this motif?
Try to draw one. It can be on a mug, vase, wall, or your favourite t-shirt.



- Walk around this incense burner. What can you see from its four sides? Fill in the blanks.



The inscription is written in a prominent style of Arabic writing in China. What is it called?
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It is painted in colour against a black background.



14 Dynasties and a Region: The History and Culture of the Muslim World

This exhibition highlights selected artefacts that were produced in the Muslim world starting from the first century of Islam - from the 7th to 8th centuries up to the dawn of the modern era - 18th - 19th centuries.

This 14 Dynasties and a Region exhibition serves as a window on the history and culture of the Muslim world. As you walk along the trail, look out for these amazing artefacts and the stories behind them.

explore **Gallery Trail**

- Notice the first artefact that you see. Can you describe it? Do you know what it is called?

Turn around and look at the painting on your left. Do you think you can try and recreate the whole column to complete the look?



This is actually a deep carved capital and it is among the most important expressions that characterize the architecture of Al- Andalus. A white marble such as this functions as a supporting structure.

- Here is a lustre-painted vase. It is covered with a vegetal motif. The body of the vase is decorated with a calligraphy inscription that says "Bismillah al- Rahman al Rahim" Notice how majestic it looks like with the handle raised up to its mouth. The outer is also lustre-painted, giving it a shiny glow. Imagine yourself as a potter. How will you design your vase?



Would you want it to look majestic as this vase or would a small and cute one be perfect for you? Decide and then design it here.



- Look for the portrait in oils of Crown Prince 'Abas Mirza. This regally proportioned painting of Crown Prince 'Abbas Mirza (1789-1833) features the young prince dressed in a red robe, proudly holding his and arrow, dagger and sword. The bow in his left hand and in his right hand represent his passion for hunting.

The portrait also depicts 'Abbas Mirza with his favourite bejewelled shamshir (curved sword) and dagger. The handle, hilt and scabbard of both the dagger and sword are incrustated with precious stones, including emeralds, rubies and diamonds. All these items were straightforward symbols of power and royalty.



- Find this metal frame of twelve Mughal empresses' portraits on ivory. Each portrait was painted in oils on an ivory panel. For each painting, artists used a very thin sheet of ivory, usually less than one millimetre thick. The artist leaves the faces and hands unpainted and exposes the ivory layer for the flesh tones. We can learn a lot from paintings and portraits. This includes the way they dress, their lifestyle, and items that were treasured by them.



What can you notice from their clothing style?