

Raja Ram Singh smoking a hookah

Not on display
Title/Description: Raja Ram Singh smoking a hookah
Born: 1860 c.
Object Type: Painting
Materials: Gold, Paper, Silver, Watercolour
Measurements: Unframed: (h. 436 x w. 291 x d. 1 mm) Framed: (h. 622 x w. 461 x d. 18 mm)
Accession Number: 578
Historic Period: 19th century
Production Place: Asia, India, Rajasthan (east)
School/Style: Indian Miniatures
Credit Line: Donated by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1978

Ram Sing is shown relaxing on a *charpoi* smoking his *huqqa* with his attendants nearby. The servant behind his head has a money bag, and the one nearest him carries a huge *katar* dagger and a sword. The servant with the fan has a curved Muslim dagger. The Raja is wearing a red turban common in Rajasthan; here, it seems to cover hair drawn into a topknot, which is a style more usual amongst Sikhs. His luxuriant beard, parted centrally, appears to be swept neatly up in a net, also usual amongst Sikhs.

Description taken from the 'Art From The Indian Sub-Continent In The Sainsbury Centre' catalogue by Margaret A. Willey (Sainsbury Centre, UEA, 1995).