

Company Painting



a military officer of the East India
Company
between circa 1765 and circa 1770
(painted)

Eastern India

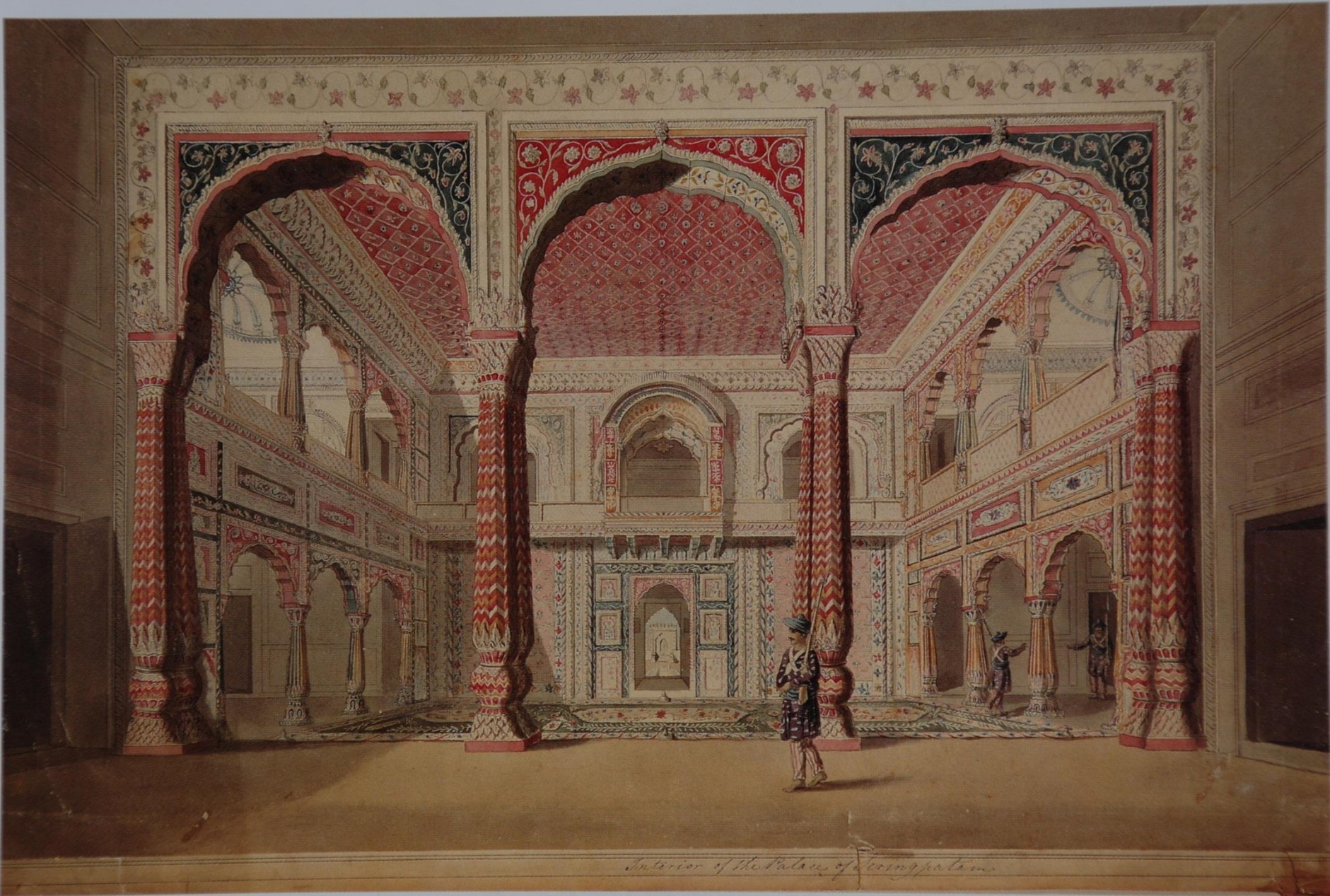
William Fullerton of Rosemount,
who joined the East India
Company's service in 1744 and
was second surgeon in Calcutta
in 1751.
between circa 1760 and circa
1764 (made)





Khan Bahadur Khan with men of his clan, c. 1815, from the Fraser Album

Mursheedabad School



Interior of the Palace of Deringpatam.



- In 1498 Vasco da Gama discovered the sea route to India and reached Calicut.
- Dutch, the French and the English followed the Portuguese to set up trading centres in India
- By the 18th C the English outmaneuvered the Dutch and the French in most parts of India;

- the Company as it came to be known expanded beyond the trading activity to political control
- Influx of Europeans as traders, officials and travelers etc; legends and myths about india – place of great mystery and exotic appeal.

Company Painting as record and documentation – knowledge production

Company School paintings display an amalgam of naturalistic representation and the lingering nostalgia for the intimacy and stylization of medieval Indian miniatures.

The artists of this School modified their technique to cater to the British taste for academic realism which required the incorporation of Western academic principles of art such as a close representation of visual reality, perspective, volume and shading.

Many painters from Murshidabad migrated to Patna (now the capital of Bihar) around 1760. By the end of the century, this city became the headquarters of one of eleven areas of art centres into which the British East India Company divided Bengal. This is known as the Company school of painting from the fact that its patrons belonged to the East India Company. This style is also known as Patna school.



Group of courtesans, Company style, 1800-25, 26 x 31.2 cm opaque watercolour and gold on paper.



Opaque watercolor on European paper
ca. 1780



Eight Men in Indian and Burmese Costume
circle of Ghulam 'Ali Khan
19th century, 10 x 15 1/2in



A Syce (Groom) Holding Two Carriage Horses
attributed to Shaikh Muhammad Amir of Karraya (active 1830s–40s)
ca. 1845







Patrons

James Skinner of Skinner's Horse fame, who had a Rajput mother, and for

natural history paintings - **Mary Impey**, wife of Elijah Impey, who commissioned over three hundred,

Marquess Wellesley, brother of the first Duke of Wellington, who had over 2,500.



Market, Patna School







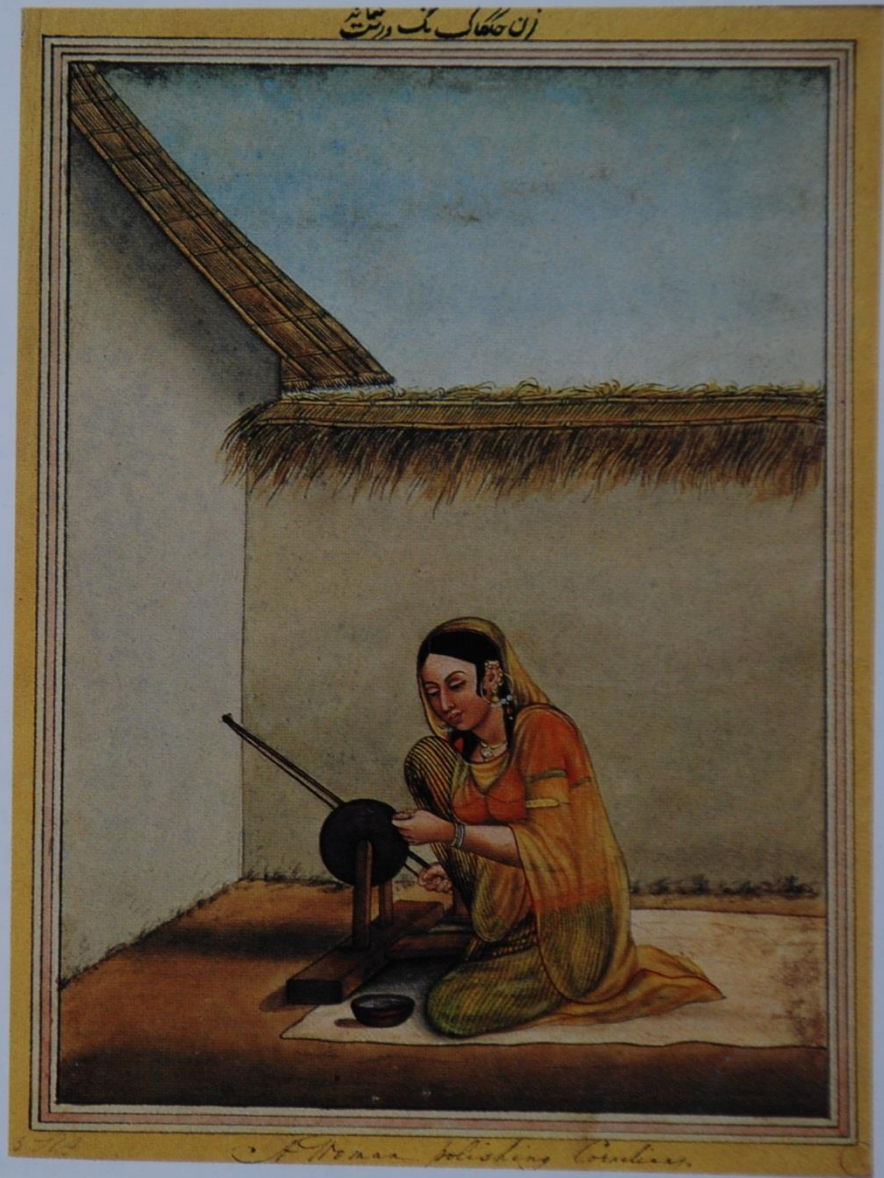
Patna
School





Capra ibex
The male has the horns
which become the more
the more the animal
grows old.

Capra ibex
The female has
no horns.



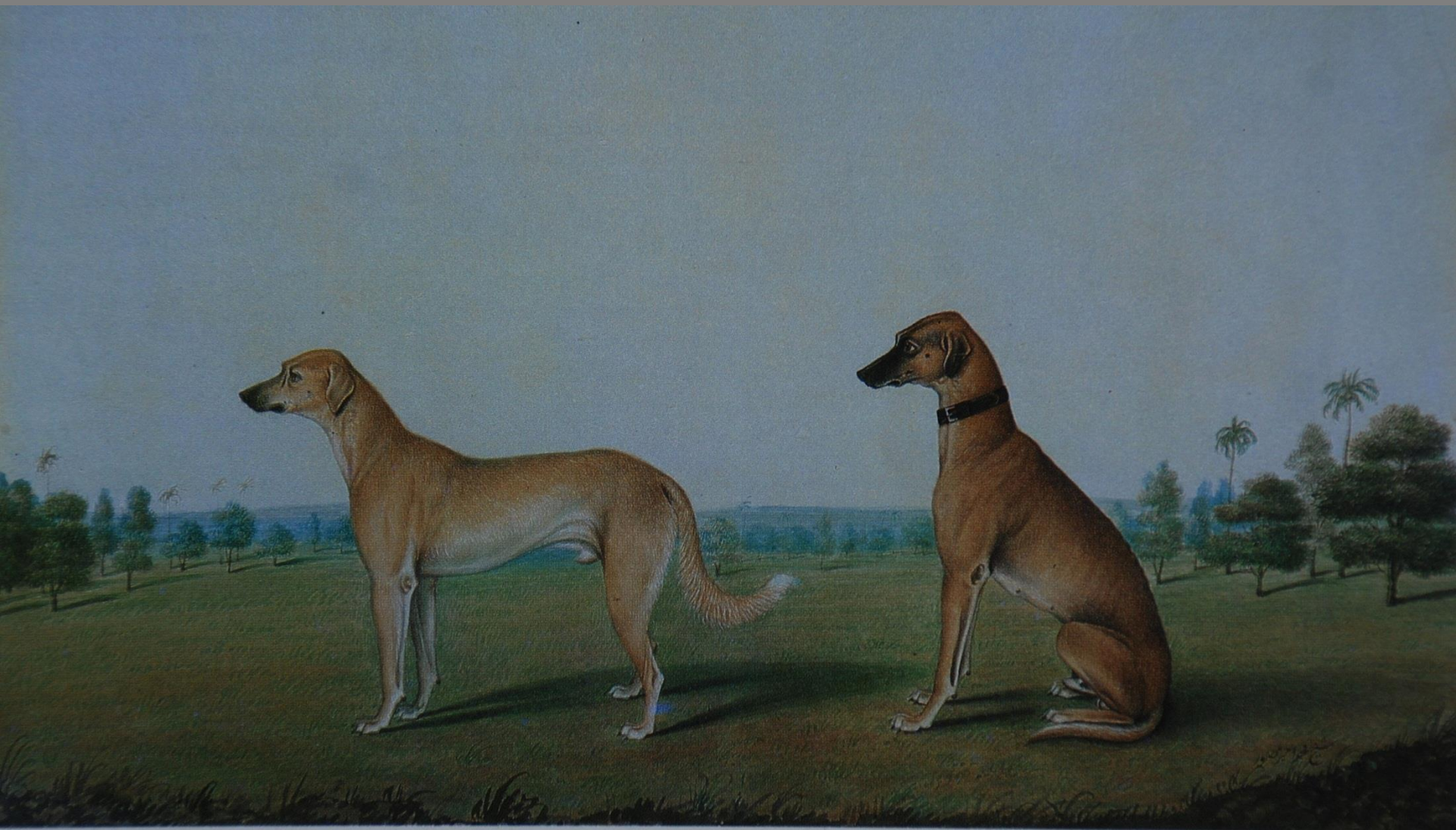




Hosha Bunder

J. Mohammed Amir
No. 100 at Murray







Malabar region



An ayah in a blue choli carrying a china ewer and basin. (Trichinopoly, c.1860-70)



Trichinopoly

400

3

7/-



17
7/-



**"Company" school paintings from Tanjore,
South India, circa 1830. A set of 27 illustrations
of castes and occupations. Gouache on
European paper. Paper size 22cm by 18cm.**



Three religious mendicant couples. (Tanjore, c.1830)



Couples representing three different castes Tanjore 1830





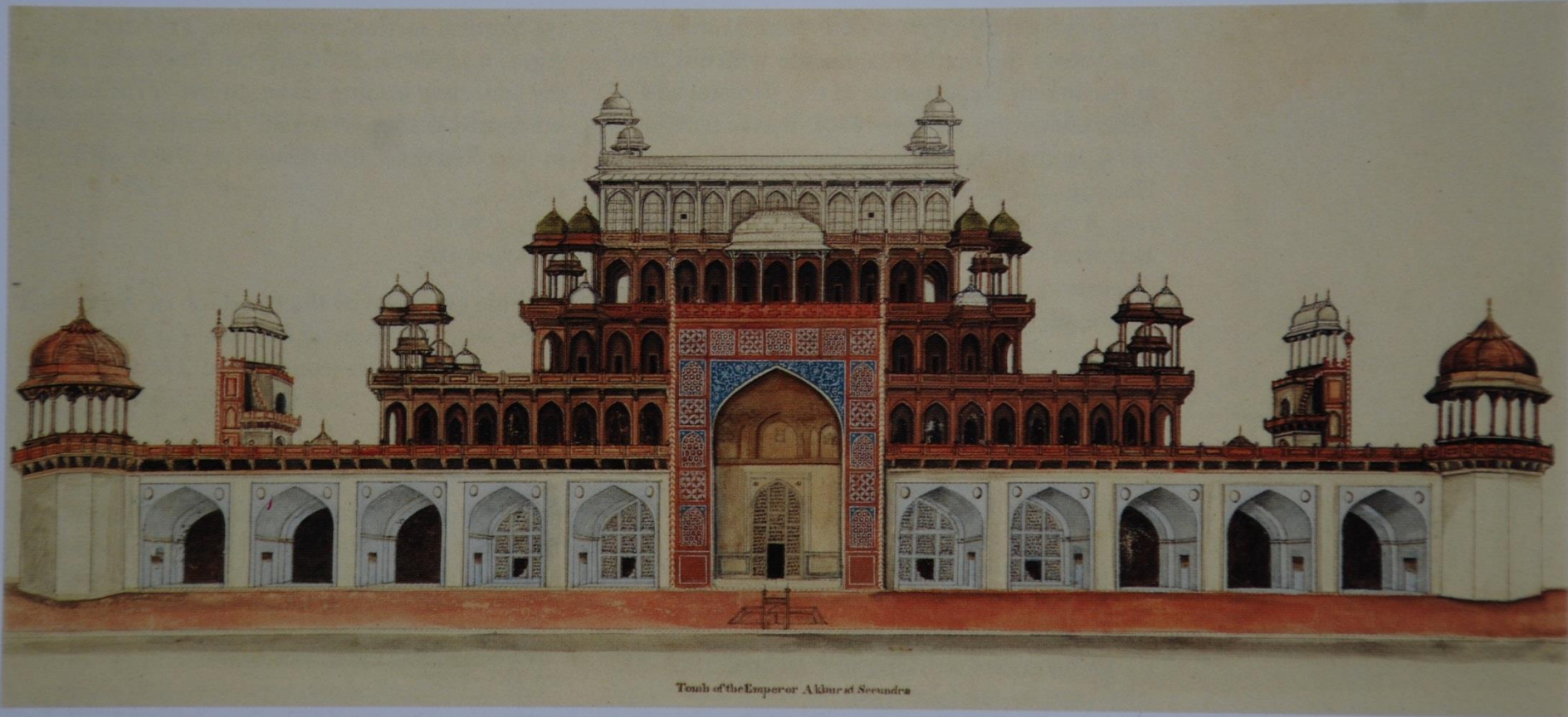






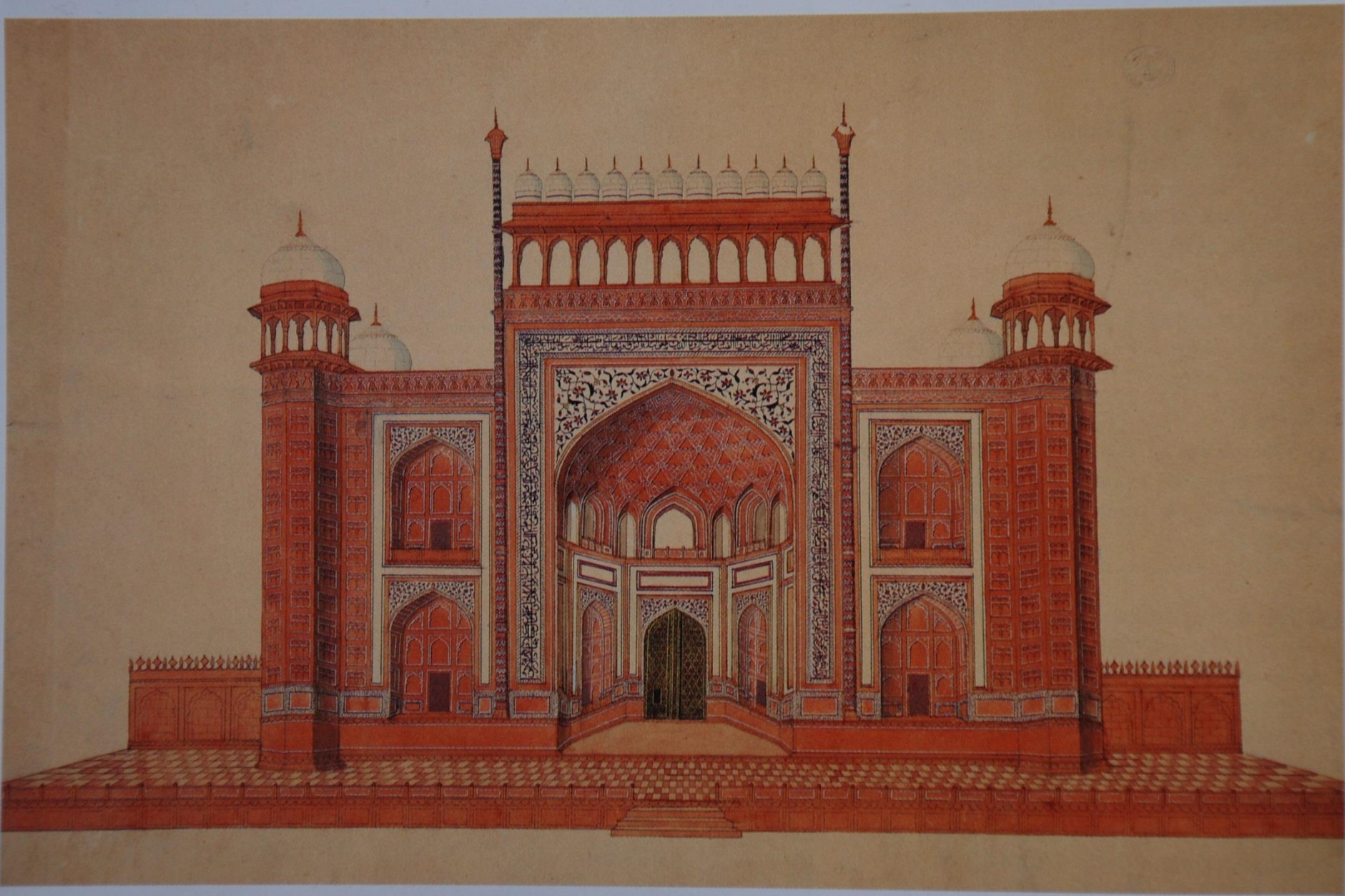


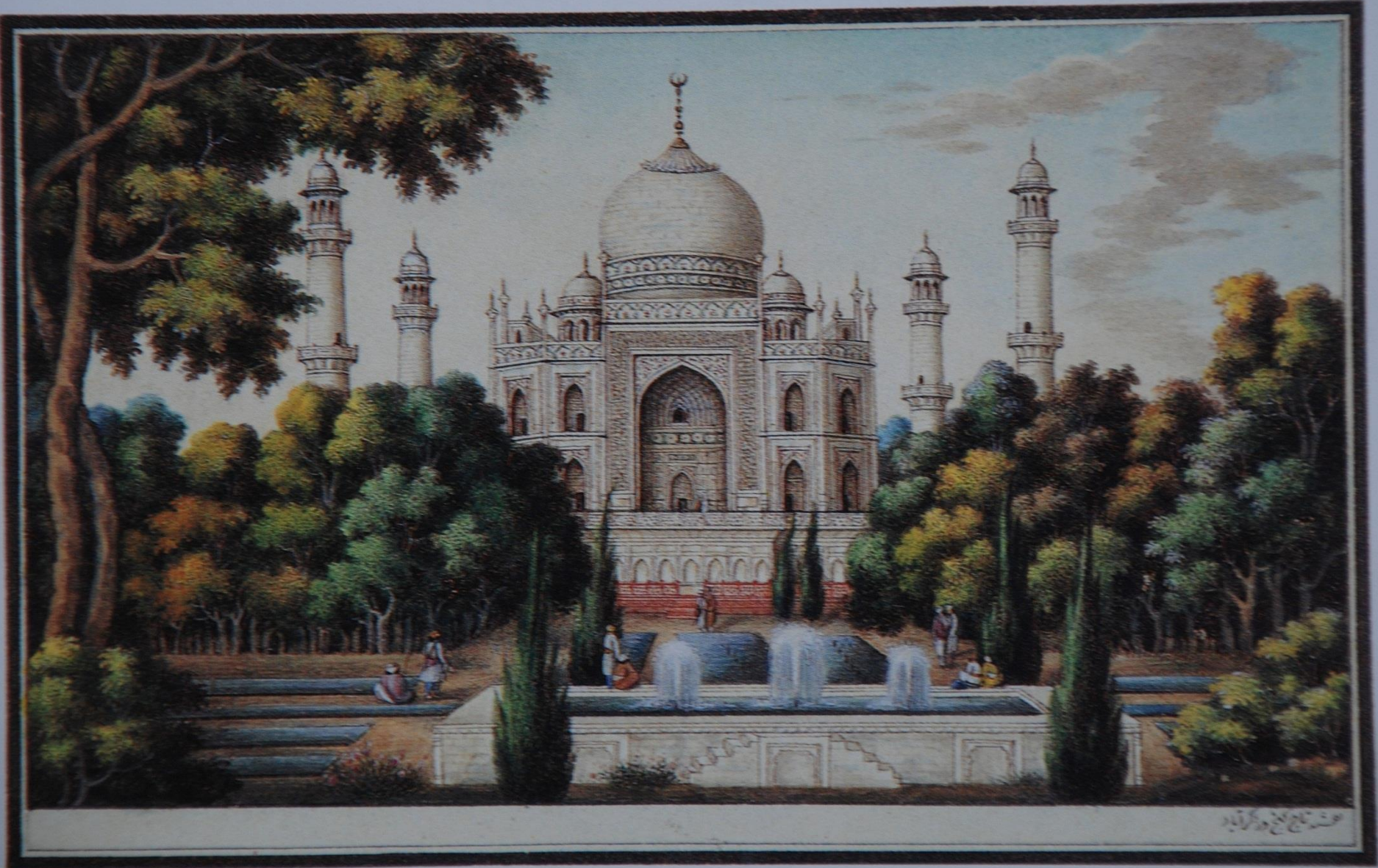
Northern and Western India



Tomb of the Emperor Akbar at Secundera

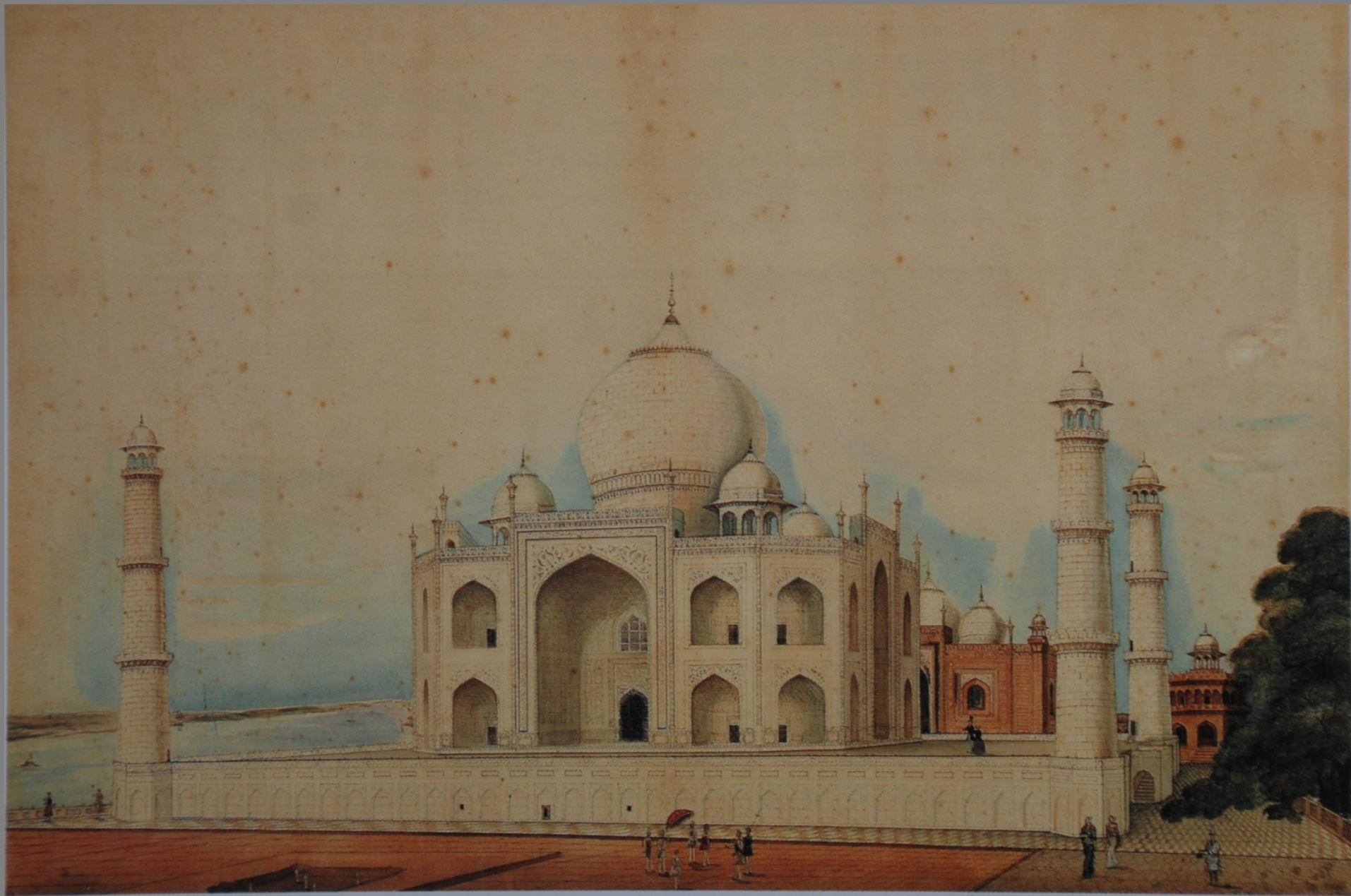


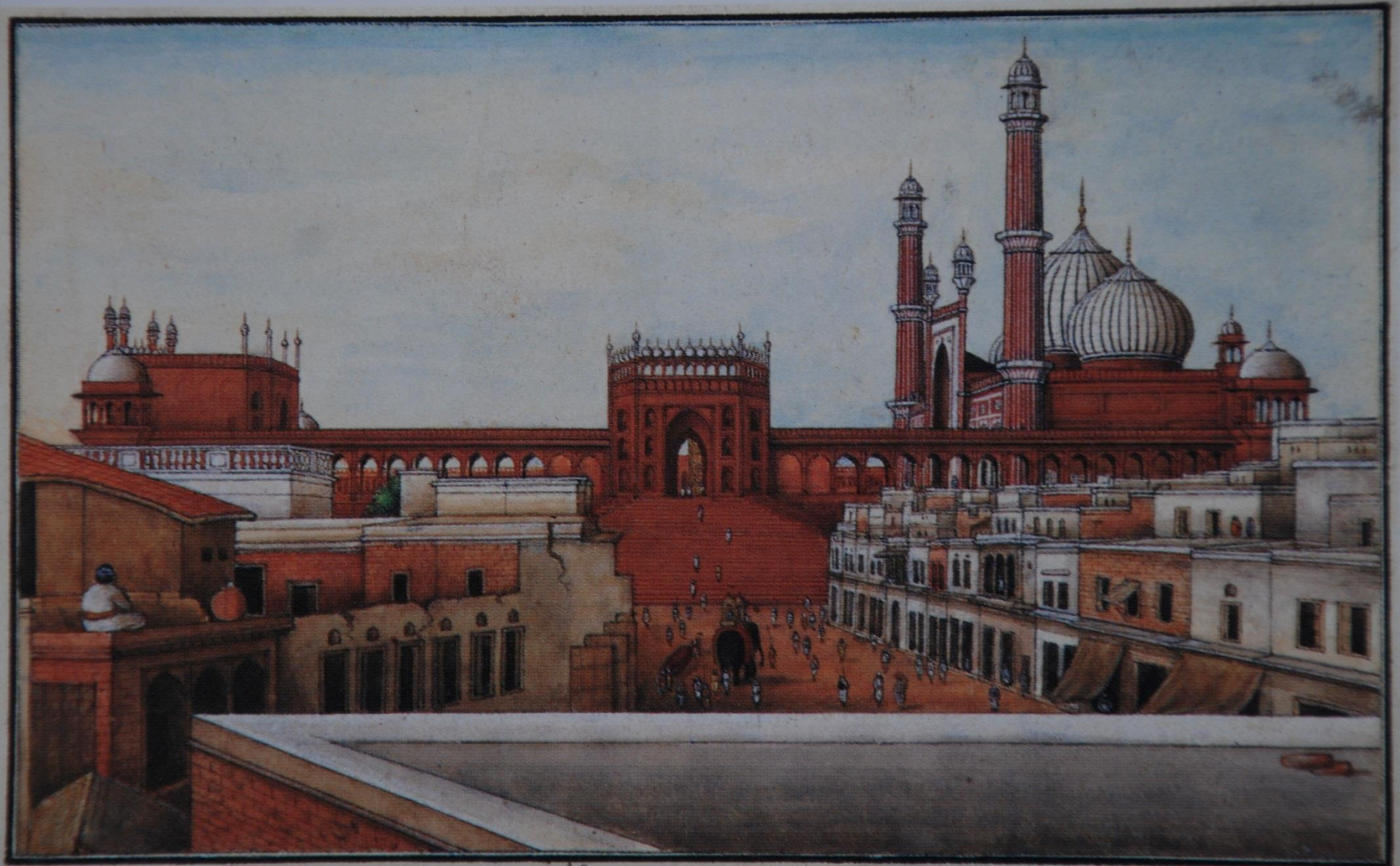




عشق تاج محل و گراں باد





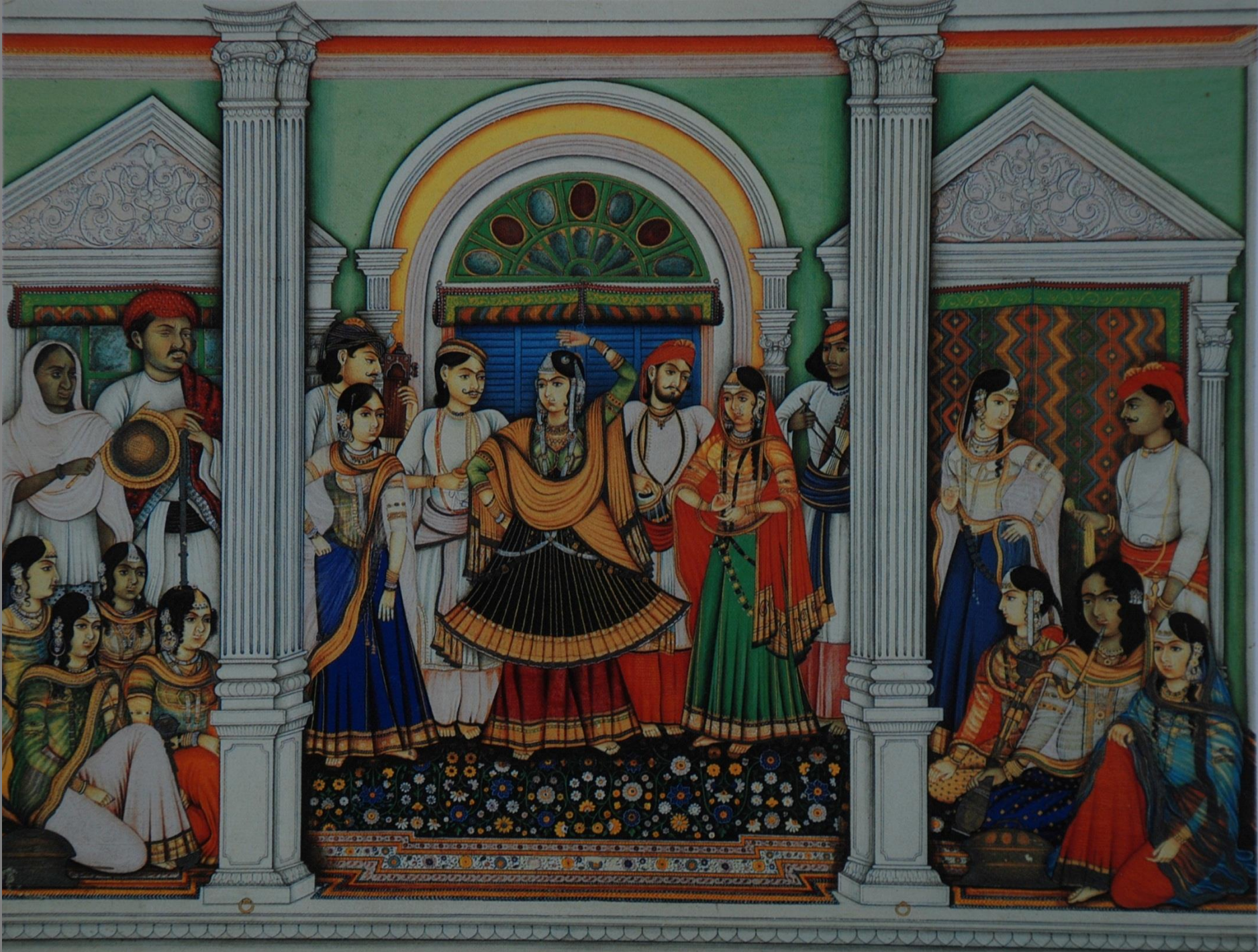


سید علی

نقشه مسجد جامع شاهی، از طرف پانچ دار و کوچه سرداب الراجح









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Battle of Plassey:

On June 23rd, 1757 at Plassey, a small village and mango grove between Calcutta and Murshidabad, the forces of the East India Company under Robert Clive met the army of Siraj-ud-Doula, the Nawab of Bengal.

Clive had 800 Europeans and 2200 Indians whereas Siraj-ud-doula in his entrenched camp at Plassey was said to have about 50,000 men with a train of heavy artillery. During the battle a monsoon storm, lasting nearly an hour, drenched both sides and the ground, The Indian guns slackened their fire because their powder was insufficiently protected, but when the Indian cavalry charged in the hope that the British guns had suffered similarly they were sharply repulsed by heavy fire. The battle lasted no more than a few hours, and indeed the outcome of the battle had been decided long before the soldiers came to the battlefield. The aspirant to the Nawab's throne, Mir Jafar, was induced to throw in his lot with Clive, and by far the greater number of the Nawab's soldiers were bribed to throw away their weapons, surrender prematurely, and even turn their arms against their own army.