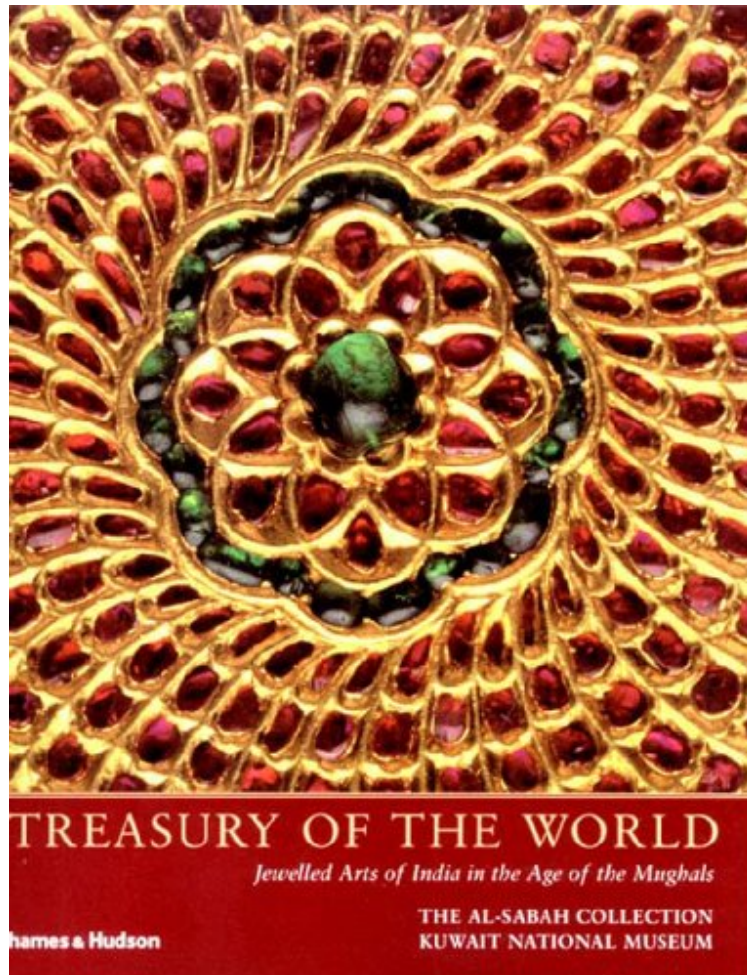


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Treasury of the World: Jeweled Arts of India in the Age of the Mughals

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Jewelry as an art form in Mughal India has probably never been surpassed by any other civilization in the history of

the world. This full-color presentation of its fabulously varied achievements, with over 300 specially taken photographs, accompanies the major international exhibition of the same title. The pieces range from rings, necklaces, and other body ornaments to astonishingly detailed jeweled work on objects as diverse as boxes, flasks, bowls, and daggers. They are presented and analyzed here in themes ranging from creative variations in stone settings, precious-metal inlay in hardstones, and minutely detailed relief decoration in hammered metals to engraved gold-backed jewels, enameling, gold-embellished steel, relief-carved ornament, and inscribed royal gemstones. The result is a visual feast of almost unbelievable richness, gathered together in this book for the first time. Over 300 full-color photographs

From Library Journal Sumptuous and exquisite best describe this dazzling catalog of an exhibition on tour to London, New York, Cleveland, Houston, and Los Angeles during 2001-02. From cover to cover, the book treats the reader to the visual splendor of 16th- to 19th-century jeweled objects found in the Sheikh Nasser Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah Collection of the Kuwait National Museum. Following a descriptive introduction to the collection and a brief historical essay on the Mughal empire, 13 sections focus on a variety of objects ranging from stone settings, inlaid hardstones, and carved gemstones and three-dimensional expressions. Each section is accompanied by a brief essay that places the objects in historical, technical, and artistic perspective. The items included are identified by size, source and date of creation, and provenance. This catalog provides valuable insight into the creativity and skill of Mughal artisans, whose jewelry is unlike that created by renowned European jewelers for Indian maharajas and royalty, as described in Katherine Prior and John Adamson's *Maharajas' Jewels* (LJ 3/1/01). Highly recommended. Stephen Allan Patrick, East Tennessee State Univ. Libs., Johnson City Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Manuel Keene is the curator of the al-Sabah Collection in Kuwait, one of the most important focuses for the study of the Islamic arts in the world. His publications include (with Marilyn Jenkins) *Islamic Jewelry in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*. Salam Kaoukji is curator and collection manager of The al-Sabah Collection, Kuwait, and an editor of Thames Hudsons long- running series of the same name. She has contributed to numerous international exhibition publications about India and the jeweled arts, and has coauthored several exhibition catalogs for The al-Sabah Collection, including *Arts of Islamic Lands: Selections from the al-Sabah Collection* in conjunction with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.