

## Shāhnāmeḥ of Ferdowsi

## Miniature 8

**Rostam, Roasting an Onager,  
Kicks Aside the Rock Pushed by Bahman**

Rostam is seated in the lower right turning an onager on a spit over a small fire before him. Nonchalantly without flinching from the preparation of his meal, he kicks aside with his right foot, a large jagged boulder headed in his direction. The setting is a pink colored rocky hillside, with some blue sky at the top, and a small shrubs. Two other warriors are present. One, in the upper left with a finger to his lip in a sign of astonishment, might be identified as Bahman, son of Esfandiyār, who was responsible for dislodging the rock down the mountainside. The other warrior, in the left foreground, with his arms raised in alarm, might be identified as Zavāreh, brother of Rostam, who had first seen the boulder and sounded the alarm.

Page size: 36.2 x 22.1 cm. There are four columns of text above and below the miniature. Above the painting the two outside columns are each comprised of five lines of text, and the center columns of four lines each. Below the miniature the two outside columns are each comprised of seven lines of text, and the center columns of six lines each. A rectangular ruled frame encloses miniature and text; there are no violations of the frame. There is some staining and the edges of the page are frayed. According to the sotheby catalog, the miniature is signed by Mo'in, in the lower margin: *raqam-e kamīneh mo'in-e mošavver*.

**Miniature references:**

Sothebys London, 16 April 1984, Lot 106 (illustrated).

**Text references:**

Warner, V, p.105.

Mohl, IV, p.473.

Levy, p.199.

