Peacock in the Desert: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India
October 18, 2018—January 21, 2019

BOOKS FOR STUDENTS

This graphic novel highlights the tales of five brave women who changed the course of India’s history.

Based on Hindu stories, this book tells the tale about how Ganesha’s love of sweets led to a broken tusk and the writing of the epic poem, the Mahabharata.

Goodnight Rajasthan by Khemka, Nitya. Dennis, MA: Good Night Books, 2017. CAS SI Reg Raj Khe
Rhythmic language guides children through a celebration of Rajasthan.

Join Harini as she learns about Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist Diwali traditions.

Using the metaphor of a lion’s mane, readers explore diverse cultural experiences. Each turn of the page invites you to adjust your lens and discover more about what the turban represents to people of the world.

Brings to life Hinduism’s most important gods and goddesses with full-color illustrations and short profiles.

The Mighty Tale of Hanuman by Mistri, Saker and Mangaldas, Mamta Dalal. Jodhpur, India: Mehrangarh Museum Trust, 2013. CAS SI Sub Ram Mis
The monkey deity Hanuman narrates the legendary story of the Ramayana, the epic struggle between good and evil. Illustrated with original 18th century Ramayana paintings from the collection of the Mehrangarh Museum Trust.

Children’s book in English and Hindi that tells of a young girl visiting her grandparents in India.

A child in urban India describes waiting for the monsoon rains to arrive and the worry that they will not come.

A little girl is fascinated by her mother’s sari and finds many uses for it.

This version of the the Ramayana is told from the perspective of Sita, the queen.

We, the Children of India: The Preamble to Our Constitution by Seth, Leila. New Delhi: Puffin Books, 2010. CAS SI Gen CH Set
Former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court Leila Seth makes the words of the preamble to the Indian constitution understandable to even the youngest reader.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

Books & Resource Guides

Catalogue for the exhibition. Explores both the historical and contemporary culture of Jodhpur as well as works in the exhibition.

Features a selection of 17th to 19th century paintings from the royal collection of Marwar-Jodhpur.

Introduces the art of miniature painting as practiced by artists for the Mughal court, and shows how their paintings of rulers, nature, clothing, their work, and other subjects reveal life in the Mughal Empire.
Explores the complex role played by clothing and ornamentation in Rajasthan. Features jewelry, clothing, turbans, and other textiles.

A beautifully illustrated and carefully researched catalogue of the extraordinary textile collections of the Mehrangarh Fort Museum.

An introduction to the ideas and practices of Hinduism and its culture, written by a Hindu monk.

This concise survey guides the reader through 5,000 years of Indian art and architecture. A rich artistic tradition is fully explored through the Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, Colonial, and contemporary periods.

Discusses the history, music, art, and contemporary culture of Rajasthan from the perspective of ethnomusicologist, folklorist, and artist Komal Kothari who has studied the music and oral history of his home state for over five decades.

A comprehensive book on Rajasthan’s miniature paintings, highlighting the distinctiveness of the painting style.

Media (CDs/Videos/Posters/Slides)

Featuring 20 musical compositions recorded in Rajasthan, with a variety of Rajasthani instruments, festival songs, devotional songs, and more. 71 min. CD format.

Rajasthani artist Lakha Khan is one of the last living masters of a rare and versatile instrument, the Sindhi Sarangi. This album was created on his debut US tour. 72 min. CD format.

Chronicles the history of India, its regions, architectural and artistic wonders, place in world history, contemporary cultures, and insights into some of the historical figures who played a key role in its development. 360 min. DVD format.

Outreach Activities

Uses objects related to SAM’s collection to help students think critically about how we can understand Indian power structures through myth and stories. The suitcase includes an Educator Resource Guide with background information, looking questions, and activity suggestions introducing Indian stories and art-making practices.

Online Resources

Website for the exhibition.

Map of India and Surrounding Countries by PBS http://www.pbs.org/thestoryofindia/resources/map/
Features a contemporary map and information about the region.

Mehrangarh Fort by the Mehrangarh Museum Trust http://www.mehrangarh.org/
Explore the history and collection of the Mehrangarh Fort. Includes photographs and videos.

South Asia Resources by Education, the Asian Art Museum (San Francisco). http://education.asianart.org/explore-resources/no-keys/3
Over 200 resources for educators on South Asian art and culture.

Toolkit for “(In)Visible Identity” by Teaching Tolerance https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/summer-2018/toolkit-for-invisible-identity
While it discusses Sikhism, which is unrelated to the turbans in this exhibit, this toolkit provides resources for disrupting stereotypes around the turban, as well as conversations on identity and representation.