

A unique collection of confiscated material of Gandhāra (Pakistan)

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This paper presents details about the confiscation of a very large and marvellous collection of cultural material by the Directorate General of Intelligence and Investigation – FBR, Regional Office, Sukkur. Its consignment, which was seized in collaboration with the Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums, was being transported from Islamabad to Karachi, eventually to be smuggled out of the country illegally. The present paper covers only some of the unique and impressive pieces of Buddhas and Buddha heads in the collection. A brief note on the possible dating and provenance and the conditions of these objects precedes a catalogue of these significant Gandhāran objects.

The history of the confiscation

The confiscation was made on 17th February 2013. After examination of the consignment by the experts of the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Islamabad, it was found that these artefacts fell under the following categories:

- (a) statues of the Buddha/bodhisattva in different materials, i.e. schist, stucco, bronze, and terracotta;
- (b) Buddha/bodhisattva heads and other Gandhāran objects such as friezes, panels, *stūpa* models, and relic caskets, dating from c. first to fifth century AD;
- (c) painted pottery from Balochistan, c. third to second millennium BC;
- (d) Islamic pottery, glazed tiles, and other material, c. eleventh to fifteenth century AD.

According to our initial findings, among 1,162 confiscated artefacts, 1,057 items fell under the purview of ‘antiquities’ as defined in section 2 (b) and (c) of the Antiquities Act, 1975, while, 105 artefacts came under the purview of counterfeiting, as defined under section 24 of the Act. It was proposed that the artefacts declared as antiquities and counterfeiting should be handed over to the Department of Archaeology and Museums for custody, preservation, and protection, as provided for under sections 24 and 35 of the Antiquities Act, 1975, and relevant sections of the Customs Act, 1969, after completion of legal formalities. The data sample from the collection included in the present study comprises Buddha/bodhisattva heads (twenty-one pieces) and other Buddha/bodhisattva images in different postures (thirty-four pieces) – a total of fifty-five objects.

The possible provenance of the Buddhist sculptures

A large number of Buddhist sites in Gandhāra have been investigated but it is very unfortunate that much of the material, in particular the sculptures, recovered from these sites has been studied only according to its style or iconography rather than its contextual, stratigraphic, and historical background. Further, the dates inscribed on Gandhāran sculptures are very few. The earliest Gandhāran sculptures are in the form of a group of small round stone dishes of varied sizes found from all over Gandhāra. These made their first appearance at Taxila during the first century BC, if not earlier, some of them displaying Hellenistic themes and style. However, thereafter the chronology of Gandhāra sculptures suffers from doubts about the several eras used for dating in their inscriptions and from the lack of scientifically conducted excavations.¹

¹ For the issues see W. Rienjang and P. Stewart (eds), *Problems of Chronology in Gandhāran Art: Proceedings of the First International Workshop of the Gandhāra Connections Project, University of Oxford, 23rd-24th March, 2017* (Oxford: Archaeopress, 2018).

As regards the possible provenance of Buddha images in the collection, most of these images can be assumed to come from various Gandhāran sites, especially in the Peshawar Valley, in the light of iconographic, stylistic, and comparative analysis with other objects discovered in this region. While sculpture in stone flourished in this region in the first to third centuries, some of the new discoveries may come from sites of the Peshawar, Swat or possibly Taxila Valleys which may be dated as late as the fourth to fifth century AD.

The state of conservation of the Buddhist sculptures

During the present research study, the physical condition of the Buddhist sculptures was examined. They were crumbling because of the ravages of time and unfavourable storage facilities, as well as environment conditions. Consequently, some of the Buddhist sculptures needed urgent conservation and treatment. The stucco objects required more consideration than the schist objects.

Conclusions

The present research study is the result of iconographic and stylistic analysis of the Buddhist sculptures in collection vis-à-vis their comparison with similar sculptures from other important Buddhist sites from the Gandhāra region and across the Indus in the Taxila Valley. Such comparison, particularly of hairstyles, provided substantial evidence in support of our hypotheses.

The hairstyles worn by the Buddha figures find similarities with the Buddha images from various sites of Gandhāra. The hair is indicated in most cases by the vertical wavy, pitted and parallel grooves, and there is an *ūrṇā* on the forehead. The faces are usually fleshy, broad, and oval-shaped, with closing eyes under the sharp-edged eyebrows and lids with very sharp edges. The mouth is relatively thin and there is a full chin. The style of the broad but rounded forehead and thick moustache is notable. The elongated ears also appear to be the peculiarity in the Buddha images in the collection. The drapery of all the Buddha figures in the collection shows distinct features. The folds are usually narrow ridges and terraces and the over-ropes cover both shoulders of the Buddha.

The authentic Buddhist sculptures with unknown provenance in the collection are therefore comparable with the images which have been reported from the various sites in the Peshawar valley. The artistic evidence organized and presented in this study is therefore compatible with the relative chronological pattern of development of Gandhāran sculpture traditions in the media of both schist and stucco. Moreover, the present study of the Buddhist sculptures bears witness to the fact that they were developed within the diverse, syncretistic stylistic environment of Gandhāra. Finally, the research also shows that the advanced state of the sculpture in this region mainly belongs to the fourth and fifth century AD.

We can conclude that this Buddha imagery reflects not only artistic forces but also a compound interchange of influences from which the Buddhist artistic traditions evolved. These images provide a means of reflecting on the religious achievements of Buddhism, its spiritual faith, and the artistic vision of the sculptors. They exhibit remarkable examples of high quality of artistic work. These images are of immense interest from many differing perspectives besides, and are helpful for developing an understanding of the visual language and regional iconographic and stylistic elements that are distinctive to the Buddhist Art of Gandhāra.



It will not be out of place to mention here that the proper digitalized documentation and study of stucco sculptures of the Buddhist period preserved in the collection may be one of the primary sources of information for the political, social, ethnological, and religious history of Gandhāra. This will help




scholars and students of art history avoid difficulties in searching for relevant material for comparison and analysis. It is therefore highly recommended that all the material in this important collection should be brought under the umbrella of academic research by creating proper digital documentation, as it can not only add a great contribution to the historical background of this region but also help to solve various specific problems in future, especially in respect to conservation issues.




The state of conservation of some of the objects have been examined carefully and it has been found that a number of objects which represent superb specimens and masterpieces of Gandhāran Buddhist sculpture need immediate steps for proper conservation and restoration to protect and save them from further decay and deterioration. A comprehensive description of the schist and stucco objects in this collection has been provided with all basic details in the following catalogue.


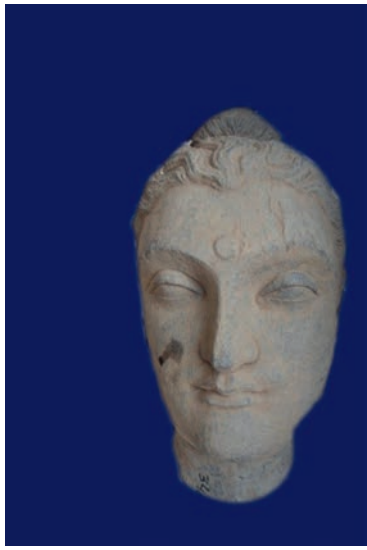
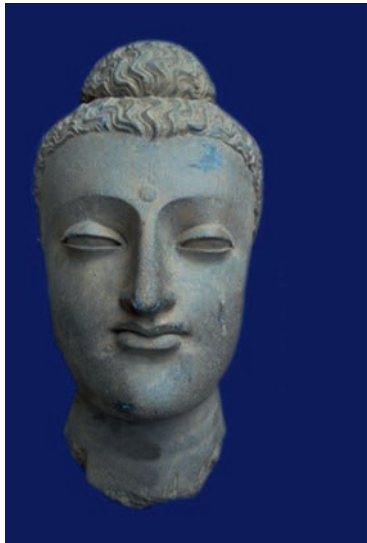
Descriptive catalogue of the Gandhāra artefacts




A: Buddha/bodhisattva heads




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A1	<p>Material: Schist Size: 24 cm x 35 cm Description: The hair undulates densely from a small peak and the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The open eyes have prominent lids and the straight nose is damaged at nostril edge. Elongated ears are chipped off.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a Buddha head sculpture (A1) made of schist. The head is shown from a three-quarter view, facing slightly to the right. The hair is dark and undulates densely from a small peak at the top, forming a large, flat <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> (ushnisha) on the forehead. The eyes are open with prominent lids. The nose is straight but shows signs of damage at the nostril edge. The ears are elongated but appear to be chipped off. The sculpture is set against a dark blue background.</p>
A2	<p>Material: Schist Size: 58 cm x 29 cm Description: The head is elongated. The hair, in regular curls of several strands. A bumpy <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> has faded colour in spots. The open eyes have prominent lids. The nose is smooth and damaged at the nostril. Elongated ears are missing.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a Buddha head sculpture (A2) made of schist. The head is shown from a three-quarter view, facing slightly to the right. The hair is dark and forms regular curls of several strands. The <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> (ushnisha) is bumpy and has a faded color with some spots. The eyes are open with prominent lids. The nose is smooth but shows damage at the nostril. The ears are missing. The sculpture is set against a dark blue background.</p>




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A3	<p>Material: Schist Size: 53 cm x 37 cm Description: The head round to oval. The hair undulates densely from a small peak and the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. The nose is broken at the nostril and the moustache at the lip. Elongated ears are missing. The full rounded chin is prominent.</p>	
A4	<p>Material: Schist Size: 21 cm x 10 cm Description: The head is oval and dense strands of hair undulate into the large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The eyes are long with distinct lids. On the narrow forehead is the prominent mark of the <i>ūrṇā</i>. The nose is straight and the mouth is shaped and horizontal above a well-formed, emphatic chin.</p>	
A5	<p>Material: Schist Size: 23 cm x 17 cm Description: The head is oval, long, with a full chin. The eyes are slanting and have prominent lids with sharp edges. A broad nose with curling moustache on the upper lip. The object seems to be fake.</p>	


Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A6	<p>Material: Schist Size: 20 cm x 14 cm Description: The head is oval and dense strands of hair undulate into the large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The eyes are long with distinct lids and the eyeball is visible in the right eye. The forehead is higher at the centre as hairs are rolled back at this point. A broad nose with moustache on the upper lip with well-formed emphatic chin. Elongated ears are missing. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
A7	<p>Material: Schist Size: 12 cm x 7 cm Description: The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The uneven eyes are long under very sharp edges of eyebrows. The long nose is scratched. There are protruding lips and a prominent chin. Long ear lobe of left ear.</p>	
A8	<p>Material: Schist Size: 10 cm x 6 cm Description: The head is round to oval and the hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Long and slanting eyes have prominent lids with sharp edges. The shaped upper lip projects slightly and the full chin is rounded. The broad nose is undamaged. The object seems to be fake.</p>	

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A9	<p>Material: Schist Size: 27 cm x 20 cm Description: Bodhisattva head, the hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a bumpy and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Hairs are covered under the crown. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. Prominent <i>ūrṇā</i> on the forehead. Long nose with prominent lips and emphatic chin. The object seems to be fake</p>	
A10	<p>Material: Schist Size: 57 cm x 28 cm Description: Colossal Buddha head, the head round to oval. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. The nose is long and the mouth is crudely shaped over a jutting out chin.</p>	
A11	<p>Material: Schist Size: 39 cm x 20 cm Description: The head round to oval. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> and open forehead. The protruding and slanting eyes are rounded and narrow under lids with sharp lower edges. The nose appears pointed and nostrils are wide. The mouth small over a pointed chin. The object seems to be fake.</p>	

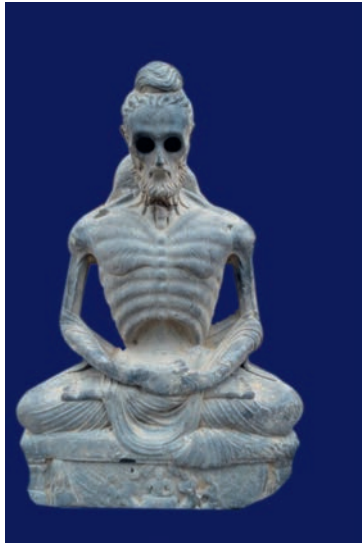

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A12	<p>Material: Schist Size: 44 cm x 31 cm Description: Head of bodhisattva with beautiful headdress decorated with sea lion. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges under slight curving ridges for eyebrow. <i>Ūṛṇā</i> on the forehead is not so prominent. Curling moustache, thin mouth and ardent chin. The long concave ears with rim over the headdress edges. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
A13	<p>Material: Schist Size: 14 cm x 23 cm Description: The face is oval and the hair undulates from the raised hairline into the low <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The slanting and prominent eyes under curved and distinct edges of eyebrows, with an <i>ūrṇā</i> in between. The nose is long and the mouth has shaped lips and deep corners. Ears are missing.</p>	
A14	<p>Material: Schist Size: 28 cm x 18 cm Description: The hair undulates densely from a bumpy peak on the hairline into and beyond a large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The sharp edges of the eyebrows curve towards the ears, above rounded planes sloping down to the narrows. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. <i>Ūṛṇā</i> is prominent between eyes and elongated long ears are visible. The object seems to be fake.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A15	<p>Material: Schist Size: 19 cm x 12 cm Description: The head is round to oval, the hair undulating densely from a peak above the forehead. Low curving edges on eyebrows and the long horizontal eyes have prominent lids. Nose is pointed and on the mouth a pursed and sharp, thin upper lip. Chin is neatly rounded. An elongated lobe of left ear is visible.</p>	
A16	<p>Material: Stucco Size: 17 cm x 10 cm Description: Oval head with a raised hairline and an <i>uṣṇiṣa</i>. The eyes are slanting and prominent beneath eyebrows with curved and distinct edges. Nose is slightly damaged and prominent gap between nostril and lips. Elongated areas are partially damaged.</p>	
A17	<p>Material: Stucco Size: 14 cm x 10 cm Description: Head of the Buddha(?). The round to oval head has a damaged, curving hairline and the <i>uṣṇiṣa</i> is missing. The eyes are long with distinct lids. The nose is in good shape. The mouth is slightly turned up above an emphatic chin. The right side elongated ear is visible.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A18	<p>Material: Stucco Size: 20 cm x 20 cm Description: Head of a male with high turban. Neck, ear, and chin damaged. Decorated with colours.</p>	
A19	<p>Material: Stucco Size: 20 cm x 17 cm Description: Stucco head (female figure?) with hair dressed, decorated with colours, damaged.</p>	
A20	<p>Material: Stucco Size: 28 cm x 22 cm Description: Stucco head (female figure?), with high turban and beautiful coiffure. Broken/badly damaged, decorated with colours.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
A21	<p>Material: Schist Size: 9 cm x 6 cm Description: Double head of Buddha and bodhisattva. The object seems to be fake.</p>	




B: Full Buddha figures




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B1	<p>Material: Schist Size: 58 cm x 29 cm Description: Fasting Siddhartha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i> posture sitting on the throne. Elongated bearded face with prominent eyes in round shape in the form of holes. The upper garment is distinguishable only as a narrow strip wound above each lower arm and falling to the side.</p>	
B2	<p>Material: Green Phyllite Schist Size: 47 cm x 28 cm Description: Relief of seated Buddha on round lotus throne, in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Depiction of two halos – upper and lower – decorated with dental design. The eyes are slanting and prominent beneath curved eyebrows with distinct edges. Undulating hairs with bumpy <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B3	<p>Material: Schist Size: 32 cm x 20 cm x 69 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Pedestal decorated with three lotus flowers. Head broken and seems to be fake. The hair undulates densely from a peak above the forehead. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. Elongated earlobes. Both shoulders are covered with drapery, which also dangles from the waist.</p>	
B4	<p>Material: Schist Size: height 73 cm Description: Seated bodhisattva(?) in <i>dharmachakramudrā</i>. Seems to be fake. Halo behind the head wearing crown. Slanting serene eyes with sharp curved eyelids. Forehead is small with prominent <i>ūrṇā</i>. The figure is wearing necklace and other jewellery.</p>	
B5	<p>Material: Schist Size: 26 cm x 15 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dharmachakramudrā</i>. One shoulder is covered with drapery dangling from waist to the throne. Spread undulating hair with prominent <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Long earlobes are visible. Slanting eyes with perfect nose and rather wide nostrils. Seems to be fake.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B6	<p>Material: Schist Size: 30 cm x 19 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i> hands broken, the hair undulating densely from a peak above the forehead. Long and slanting eyes, which have prominent lids with sharp edges. The shaped upper lip projects slightly and the full chin is rounded. The broad nose is slightly damaged. Both shoulders are covered with drapery.</p>	
B7	<p>Material: Schist Size: 37 cm x 21 cm Description: Seated Buddha, head and halo broken, the hair undulating densely from a peak above the forehead. The eyes are long with distinct lids. The mouth is slightly turned up above an emphatic chin. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
B8	<p>Material: Schist Size: 33 cm x 19 cm Description: Seated Buddha, head and halo broken at some points on the edge. The hair undulates densely from a peak above the forehead. Uneven eyes with lid and straight nose damaged at nostril. Lips are damaged and chin is jutted out. Both shoulders are covered with monastic robe. The object seems to be fake.</p>	

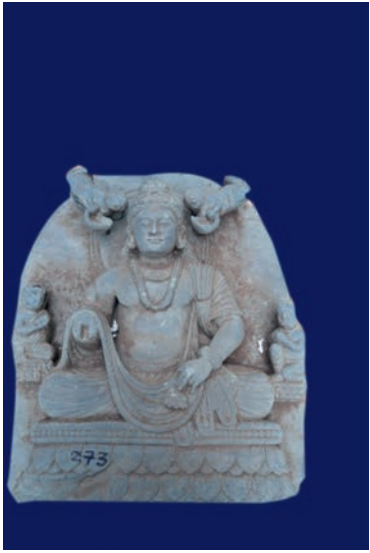


Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B9	<p>Material: Schist Size: 43 cm x 14 cm Description: Standing Buddha in <i>abhayamudrā</i>. Flames are coming out from the shoulders and water flows from his feet (miracle at Śrāvastī). Right hand missing. The hair undulates densely from a peak above the forehead. Slanting and prominent eyes beneath curved eyebrows with distinct edges. Both shoulders are covered with a monastic robe.</p>	
B10	<p>Material: Schist Size: 24 cm x 16 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>abhayamudrā</i>. Right part of the halo broken and missing. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent eyes beneath curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The mouth crudely shaped over a chin that juts out. The pedestal is decorated with a cushion and hanging drapery.</p>	
B11	<p>Material: Schist Size: 33 cm x 10 cm Description: Standing Buddha on pedestal. Left hand holds <i>sanghati</i> while right arm is covered with <i>sanghati</i>. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The mouth is crudely shaped above a chin that juts out. The object seems to be fake.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B12	<p>Material: Schist Size: 27 cm x 17 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>, the hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Forehead is small. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. <i>Ūrṇā</i> is prominent on forehead. Intact nose above well-shaped mouth and protruding chin. Both shoulders are covered with drapery. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
B13	<p>Material: Schist Size: 111 cm x 37 cm Description: Standing Buddha on pedestal decorated with lotus flower in the middle. Buddha is shown in the posture of <i>abhayamudrā</i>. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. Perfect nose. Prominent <i>ūrṇā</i> on forehead. On the halo two figures are prominent. Left hand is missing.</p>	
B14	<p>Material: Schist Size: 26 cm x 9 cm Description: Standing Buddha in <i>abhayamudrā</i>, right arm missing. Top part of halo is chipped off. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. Right hand is missing.</p>	




Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B15	<p>Material: Schist Size: 30 cm x 17 cm Description: Buddha seated in <i>dharmachakramudrā</i>. Good state of preservation. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. <i>Ūṛṇā</i> is prominent on forehead. Buddha is sitting on lotus throne decorated with leaves. A series of rows above and below in large scale are elegantly represented.</p>	
B16	<p>Material: Schist Size: 46 cm x 31 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i> on pedestal throne. The hair undulates densely from a small peak and the hairline into and beyond a flat, bumpy and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The nose is well shaped. The mouth small over a pointed chin. Halo is in round and prominent. Both shoulders are covered with drapery.</p>	
B17	<p>Material: Schist Size: 72 cm x 21 cm Description: Standing Buddha in the posture of <i>abhayamudrā</i>. The pedestal has three lotus flowers on the front and two on either side. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat, and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms. The neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery.</p>	


Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B18	<p>Material: Schist Size: 74 cm x 26 cm Description: Standing Buddha with right arm missing. On the pedestal a <i>stūpa</i> is represented, worshipped by two devotees. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat and large <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms. The neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. Narrow forehead with prominent <i>ūrṇā</i>. The nose is long and the mouth has shaped lips and deep corners. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
B19	<p>Material: Schist Size: 47 cm x 55 cm Description: Relief of seated Buddha in the <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Five lotus flowers on pedestal. In a good state of preservation. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The halo is prominent under shadow of tree. The <i>sanghati</i> is shown in traditional Gandhāra style and the grooves are prominent.</p>	
B20	<p>Material: Schist Size: 37 cm x 26 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Face and halo are broken and re-attached. Body and arms are chipped off and lower portion of pedestal is missing. Badly damaged. The head is in a regular oval shape against a large, plain, damaged halo. The uneven eyes and angle of the nose create an asymmetry in the face. The hair undulates densely from an unobtrusive peak on the hairline into the high <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> and as far as the halo. The distinct edges for eyebrows are gently curved with a raised, round <i>ūrṇā</i> in between and the mouth is thin but shaped. The major drapery folds are high, rounded ridges and the fall of gathered drapery spreads out from under folded hands. The well formed concave ears are close to the head with sharp lobes.</p>	

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B21	<p>Material: Schist Size: 28 cm x 17 cm Description: Buddha in <i>abhayamudrā</i> sitting on lotus throne under a cushion, holding hem in his left hand. The head is a regular oval shape against a large, plain, chipped halo. The major drapery folds consist of high, rounded ridges and the fall of the gathered drapery spreads out from under the left hand which holds a loop of cloth. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent, open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The well-formed concave ears are close to the head with sharp lobes. The high top has an acanthus leaf design.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a seated Buddha statue made of schist. The Buddha is in the abhaya mudra (gesture of fearlessness), sitting on a lotus throne. He has a serene expression, slanted eyes, and a prominent nose. His hair is wavy and reaches up to a high, pointed ushnisha. He is wearing a robe with deep, rounded folds. The statue is set against a dark blue background.</p>
B22	<p>Material: Schist Size: 58 cm x 29 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Seems to be fake. The head is a regular oval against a large, plain, damaged halo. The nose is rather wide at the nostrils. The hair undulates densely from an unobtrusive peak on the hairline into the high <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> and as far as the halo. The halo is small. The distinct edges of the eyebrows are gently curved with a raised round <i>ūrṇā</i> in between. The mouth is thin but shaped. The major drapery folds consist of high, rounded ridges and the fall of the gathered drapery spreads out from under folded hands. Slanting and prominent open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The major drapery folds consist of high, rounded ridges and the fall of the gathered drapery spreads out from under folded hands.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a seated Buddha statue made of schist. The Buddha is in the dhyana mudra (gesture of meditation), with hands folded in his lap. He has a serene expression, slanted eyes, and a prominent nose. His hair is wavy and reaches up to a high, pointed ushnisha. He is wearing a robe with deep, rounded folds. The statue is set against a dark blue background.</p>
B23	<p>Material: Schist Size: 42 cm x 24 cm Description: Buddha seated in 'European style', with the gesture of <i>dharmachakramudrā</i>. The two garments seen above the ankles are the lower robe, the <i>antarāvāsaka</i>, and the upper robe, presumably the <i>uttarāsaṅga</i>, which is also visible on the right leg, while the over-robe, the <i>sanghati</i>, falls from the right forearm and covers the left knee and leg. What must be gathered drapery hangs from under the left forearm. The drapery folds are defined mainly by paired grooves. The hair undulates densely from an unobtrusive peak on the hairline into the high <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> and as far as the halo. The eyes are uneven. The nose is long with wide nostrils. The mouth has clumsily shaped lips and the small chin is somewhat pointed.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a seated Buddha statue made of schist. The Buddha is in the dharmachakra mudra (gesture of the wheel), with hands held in front of him. He has a serene expression, slanted eyes, and a prominent nose. His hair is wavy and reaches up to a high, pointed ushnisha. He is wearing a robe with deep, rounded folds. The statue is set against a dark blue background.</p>

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B24	<p>Material: Schist Size: 46 cm x 41 cm Description: Seated bodhisattva(?) in <i>abhayamudrā</i>, with a kneeling devotee on either side. The hair undulates densely from an unobtrusive peak on the hairline into the high <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The eyes are slanting. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The figure has a long multiple-chained necklace. The <i>uttariya</i> is in the narrow style and covers the upper left arm like a short sleeve, perhaps drawn into the shoulder loop from which a thin length emerges to pass over the forearm. A flying <i>deva</i> is paying homage to the figure on each side. A worshipper on each side also pays homage. The figure is seated on a throne a lotus design.</p>	
B25	<p>Material: Schist Size: 58 cm x 29 cm Description: Standing Buddha on pedestal, which is decorated with a relief of two devotees on both side of a <i>stūpa</i>. The halo is broken. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms. The neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. Slanting and prominent, open eyes under curved eyebrows with distinct edges. The panel is framed by an acanthus cornice, Corinthian pilasters and the usual base moldings. The object seems to be fake.</p>	
B26	<p>Material: Schist Size: 63 cm x 21 cm Description: Standing Buddha on a plain pedestal. The head and pedestal with legs are broken. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond the <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The eyes are slanting. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. Narrow forehead with prominent <i>ūrṇā</i>. The nose is long and the mouth has shaped lips above an emphatic chin. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms. The neckline is moderately raised and curved, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. The grooves are rather faint. Both hands are missing.</p>	

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B27	<p>Material: Schist Size: 30 cm x 15 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>abhayamudrā</i>. Head chipped off and missing, badly mutilated. The major drapery folds consist of high, rounded ridges and the fall of the gathered drapery spreads out from under the left hand, which holds a loop of cloth.</p>	
B28	<p>Material: Schist Size: 26 cm x 14 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The halo is broken at the top. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The nose is well shaped. The mouth is small above a pointed chin. Both shoulders are covered with drapery. The major drapery folds, chiefly in well-rounded ridges and terraces are flattened at the knees to form low strips. The neckline in high relief is somewhat plunging, a semicircular edge of the robe overlaps the seat while gathered drapery spreads from the left wrist to lie almost flat beside it and another edge is seen below the right forearm.</p>	
B29	<p>Material: Schist Size: 80 cm x 35 cm Description: Standing Buddha. Right hand and halo broken and missing. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms; the neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a flat <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The narrow, curved forehead has a domed <i>ūrṇā</i>. The nose is well shaped. The mouth is small above a pointed chin.</p>	

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B30	<p>Material: Schist Size: 50cm x 17 cm Description: Standing Maitreya, hands missing. The <i>uttariya</i> is in the narrow manner and covers the upper left arm more like a short sleeve with a thicker lower edge or band; it is perhaps drawn into the shoulder loop from which a thin length emerges to pass over the forearm and join a wide fall of drapery behind. On the side of the unusual <i>paridhana</i> with a girdle, projecting drapery joins the water pot and the right leg. The face is oval. Open eyes and eyelids with sharp edges under the gently curving and distinct edges of the eyebrows, with an <i>ūrṇā</i> in between. The headdress consists of hair undulating to the sides and a peak over the forehead. A high chignon with a retaining knot of hair in the centre. The Buddha is standing on a pedestal with floral designs.</p>	
B31	<p>Material: Schist Size: 59 cm x 21 cm Description: Standing Buddha. Both hands broken and missing. The major drapery folds are harmoniously ridged and terraced in the two schemes and fall densely below both arms; the neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇīṣa</i> with a prominent round halo. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The earlobes are long. The sharp nose is partly damaged at the nostrils. The mouth is small above a full, pointed chin. The Buddha is standing on a base with two flower motifs in the shape of wheels.</p>	
B32	<p>Material: Schist Size: 39 cm x 13 cm Description: Standing bodhisattva(?) with right arm missing. The edges of the <i>uttariya</i> are in high relief on the narrow loop in front. The drapery on left, damaged arm runs with a thicker lower edge under the shoulder loop. The <i>paridhana</i> has a knotted girdle with hanging ends and breaks on the pleated drapery. The figure is wearing a chain necklace. The hair undulates densely from a peak on the hairline into and beyond a bumpy <i>uṣṇīṣa</i>. The halo is broken. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The forehead is narrow. The earlobes are long. The sharp nose has wide nostrils. The mouth is small above a full, pointed chin. The figure is standing on the square pedestal.</p>	

Serial No.	Description	Photograph
B33	<p>Material: Schist Size: 45 cm x 15 cm Description: Standing Buddha on pedestal. The right arm is missing. The major drapery folds are ridged and terraced in two schemes and fall densely below both arms. The neckline is moderately raised and curved, and the portion thrown back is distinct, both on the shoulder and under the left arm against the gathered drapery. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇiṣa</i>. There is a prominent, round halo. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The narrow forehead has an <i>ūrṇā</i>. The well-shaped nose has wide nostrils. The mouth is small above a full, pointed chin.</p>	
B34	<p>Material: Schist Size: 80 cm x 53 cm Description: Seated Buddha in <i>dhyānamudrā</i>. Head broken at neck. Halo also broken. Hands chipped off and missing. The hair undulates densely from a small peak on the hairline into and beyond a small <i>uṣṇiṣa</i>. The open eyes are slanting and prominent. The eyebrows have curved and distinct edges. The halo is prominent and round. The major drapery folds, chiefly in well-rounded ridges and terraces, are flattened at the knees to form low strips. The neckline, in high relief, is somewhat. A semi-circular edge of the robe overlaps the seat while gathered drapery spreads from the left wrist to lie almost flat beside it and another edge is seen below the right forearm.</p>	