Case 3-A335-Asia-Pakistan-Peshawar-Buddha-Schist-Kushan-4th c CE



Fig. 1. Asia-Pakistan-Peshawar-Buddha-Schist-Kushan-4th c CE

**Case no.: 3**

**Accession Number: A1126**

**Formal Label:** Asia-Pakistan-Peshawar-Buddha-Schist-Kushan-4th c CE

**Display Description:**

This example of a small carving of a Buddha in an alcove is meant to represent a larger image carved in life-size, possibly at Taxila. The Kushan Period art of Peshawar Valley flourished by commemorating the Jatakas during the reign of king Kanishka the Great (128–151 CE), when the cities of Taxila (Takṣaśilā) at Sirsukh and the capital at Peshawar were built. Kanishka as a patron of Buddhism helped diffuse the religion to Central Asia and the Far East across Bactria and Sogdiana (now Xinxiang Province), where his empire intersected with the Han Empire of China. This attracted Chinese pilgrims to worship at Buddhist monuments along the Silk Road. Mahayana Buddhism represented the Buddha in human form and many new sculptures of the Buddha were carved and new stupas and painted and sculptured caves were built while others were enlarged.

**LC Classification**: [NB992.2.K36](http://josiah.brown.edu/search~S7?/c2-SIZE+NB992.2.K36+B87+1978/cnb++992.2+k36+b87+1978/-3%2C-1%2C0%2CE/frameset&FF=cnb++992.2+k36+b87+1978&1%2C1%2C)

**Date or Time Horizon:** Kushan Period-4th Century

**Geographical Area:** Peshawar

**Map, GPS coordinates:** [33°44′45″N 72°47′15″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Taxila&params=33_44_45_N_72_47_15_E_region:PK_type:landmark)



Peshawar

Fig. 2. Map of Peshawar

GPS: [34°01′N 71°35′E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Peshawar&params=34_01_N_71_35_E_region:PK_type:city(1970042))

**Cultural Affiliation:** Kushan

**Medium:** schist.

**Dimensions:** H 121.42 mm; 4.80 in.

**Weight: 1560 gm; 3.7 oz.**

**Condition: original**

**Provenance:** unknown

**Discussion:**

**References:**

Allchin, Bridget and Raymond Allchin. 1988. *The rise of civilization in India and Pakistan.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Allchin, F. Raymond. 1993. "The Urban Position of Taxila and Its Place in Northwest India-Pakistan," *Studies in the History of Art*, 31: 69–81.

Cunningham, Alexander. 1871. *The Ancient Geography of India: The Buddhist Period, Including the Campaigns of Alexander, and the Travels of Hwen-Thsang*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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