

David J. Roxburgh. « The Timurid and Turkmen Dynasties of Iran, Afghanistan and Central Asia », in : David J. Roxburgh, ed., *The Turks: A Journey of Thousand Years, 600-1600*. London, Royal Academy of Arts, 2005, pp. 192-200 (192-259 with catalogue entries).

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- ¹ *The Turks...* is the catalogue to a splendid exhibition that in 2005 was on display in the Royal Academy of Arts, featuring masterpieces primarily from the Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi and the Türk ve İslam Eserleri Müzesi. Placed under the patronage of the Turkish government and Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, it is foremost a monumental display of panturkistic sentiment. Already in its opening remarks on the thousand years of Turkish history and civilization and the accompanying maps the Timurids and Turkmen are classified as a Turkish realm stretching from Anatolia over the Iranian plateau deep into Central Asia and present day Pakistan. The short introduction by Roxburgh, however, is a balanced overview of political Timurid history and Timurid architecture and courtly culture of the 15th century. The western Turkmen dynasties of the Qara and Aq Qoyunlu do not receive much attention. While acknowledging that Persian remained the principal spoken and written language during this period and that poetic imagery remained persianate throughout, quoting Mīr ‘Alī Šīr Navā’ī on the superiority of Turkish in the closing remarks is probably a

concession to the overall intent of the exhibition. The volume should be consulted primarily for its wonderful pictures and reproductions of art works.

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Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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