



## Islamic & Indian Art (16 Jul 2021 B)

Fri, 16th Jul 2021

### Viewing:

Viewing by appointment only.

Fri 9 July, 10am to 5pm

Mon 12 July, 10am to 5pm

Tue 13 July, 10am to 5pm

Wed 14 July, 10am to 8pm

Thu 15 July, 10am to 5pm

Evening View

Wed 14 July, 6pm to 8pm

Please contact the [Department](#) to book an appointment.

## Lot 213

**Estimate:** £800 - £1200 + Fees

**THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ACROSS THE GLOBE**  
**Possibly Ioannina, North-Western Greece, Western**  
**Ottoman Provinces, late 18th - 19th century**

A LARGE OTTOMAN GREEK SILVER REPOUSSÉ  
INCENSE BURNER

Possibly Ioannina, North-Western Greece, Western Ottoman  
Provinces, late 18th - 19th century

Of bulbous shape, resting on a dome-shaped stepped foot, rising to a gourd-shaped body compressed in the centre and a conical top, the exterior finely worked in repoussé and decorated with a great variety of motifs typical of Ottoman Greek silver productions of this time such as dense foliage, rosette festoons, bountiful cornucopia, military coat of arms, buildings resembling Christian Orthodox churches, lush vegetal trellis and palmettes, on the hinged lid a repoussé three-masted sailing ship, the top of the lid pierced and the finial shaped as an acorn, 33.2cm high, 912GR.

The most peculiar feature of the decorative composition of this incense burner is the three-masted sailing ship on the lid. Sailing ships were introduced in Ottoman marine history by the end of the 15th century, in parallel with the development of Ottoman maritime affairs in the Mediterranean Sea. However, it took some time before the Ottomans got acquainted with these much larger vessels, and it wasn't until the middle of the 17th century that several new types of large ships started sailing the Ottoman waters, like the *göke* (Kogge, Coge: a çektiri-type of warship with oars and sails), the *barça* (barge: a two or three-masted sailing warship with a flat bottom), and the *kalyon* (galleon: a three-masted sailing warship).

Throughout the 18th century, new models of sailing ships with different features were developed, including the *karavelle* (caravelle: sailing warship), the *firkateyn* (frigate: a single-deck, single-masted sailing warship smaller than a galleon), and the *korvet* (corvette: a three-masted sailing warship). The ship on our incense burner is most likely a Turkish *kalyon* or a *korvet*, characterised by three sail masts and typically associated with wars and Ottoman maritime conquests. For further information on the naval history of Ottoman sailing ships, please read the full article *Ottoman Sailing Ships, from*

*Galleys to Galleons*

(<http://www.turkishculture.org/military/naval/ottoman-ships-758.htm>).

Qty: 1

Dimensions: 33.2cm high