

PLATE II

PAINTED FRAGMENTS FROM MĪRĀN, SHRINE III

M. III. 004

THESSE fragments which had fallen from a picture above the dado of the circular cella, showing the legs of a figure standing with feet apart, turned towards the right, may have belonged to the figure whose right arm appears in M. III. 003 (plate I), reproduced to a different scale. The stance is appropriate to the act of throwing, in which the arm seems to be engaged. The garment, red-brown, is gathered well up the thighs and a loop of a buff stole swings out to the front. The toes of the right foot rest on a white ground shaded with pale grey. The flesh is bright pink shaded with warm grey and pink. The background is black, as is also the ground colour of the tree in M. III. 003.

M. III. 005

Shows portions of three heads of disciples, two looking towards the left and the third downwards towards the right. The treatment is similar to that of M. III. 003 (plate I), and there is the same expression of individuality by variation in complexion. In the upper face is shown the grey resulting from shaving off a heavy beard. The background is vermilion and white.

M. III. 006

This fragment shows parts of the heads of two personages of the same type as the adorant in M. III. 002 (plate I). They look in opposite directions with intent expression in their wide-open eyes. They wear the distinctive head-dress which seems to be peculiar to these Mīrān pictures. The face to the right shows full lips and a small, natural, black moustache. Both have the customary black locks of hair falling in front of the ears. The eyes are large and the impasto of white gives a most effective sparkle to the expression. Background, vermilion.

M. III. 00II

Part of the face of a rather senior person of stern and obstinate expression. The eye is heavily shaded by a thick black edge to the upper eyelid and the strongly arched eyebrow descends at its inner end in a definite frown. The full-lipped mouth is rather pursed with an obstinate firmness accentuated by the expression