

# GALERIE GOLCONDA

ARCHÉOLOGIE MUSÉALE  
FOSSILES – BIJOUX RARES ET ANCIENS  
CABINET DE CURIOSITÉS DES GRANDES CIVILISATIONS

## CERTIFICATE

### **HARITI, GODDESS OF FERTILITY GANDHARA (1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> cent. AD)**

**MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE:** Stele in high relief made of dark grey schist representing Hariti, goddess of fertility and protector of children. Haloed head, adorned with a braided crown decorated with a rosette in the centre and large earrings. Indo-European face with straight nose, low and thick eyebrows, heavy and protruding eyelids. She is seated on a throne decorated with geometric incisions. Represented with several children, one of which is dressed in simple jewellery and lies on her lap. He is playing with the double necklace of precious stones worn by his protector. A second, nude child is standing, holding on to the goddess' gown. The right arm, already at its origins an extra piece, is missing. Dressed in a long, pleated gown and a shawl, she wears a short necklace set with an amulet and bracelets around her wrists and ankles. Another adult figure, masculine and draped, stands to the left of the goddess and in front of the throne. She wears the Ushnisha, a high chignon, symbolizing Buddha's awakening.

Excellent state of preservation. Missing parts as visible. No visible repair.

**ORIGIN:** Greco-Buddhist Art of the Gandhara.

The art of the Gandhara, born on Indian soil and in the service of the Buddhist religion, uses iconographic elements drawn from the Hellenist repertory introduced by the Bactrian Greeks, who came to the region during the conquests of Alexander the Great. An intimate combination of these two cultures, this art is the reflection of eastern and western influences.

**DIMENSIONS:** 44 cm. high / 17.3228" – width: 26 cm / 10.2362" – depth: 10.8 cm / 3.937"

**CULTURAL PASSPORT :** supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture n°141828.

**MUSEOGRAPHY:** Can be compared to a very beautiful piece of similar dimensions found in the British Museum under the reference Asia- OA 1886.6-11.1 Room 33.

**PUBLISHED :** in "Collecting Masterpieces" Part One, written by Beryl Cavallini at pages 74/75

- An article has been written in Historia suppl. Numb 32

Police book registration N°: 336