

## **Object File: The State Entry into Delhi**

### **Three comments about the painting**

Are the elephants here functional accessories, conquered slaves or distinguished guests? The way animals are treated can open up difficult comparisons with the way humans treat each other, particularly in contexts of Empire.

Tanisa Gunsekera, London

A very first glance at this painting compels me to notice the hierarchy which has always been a part of Indian society.

Rige Shiba, Gwalior, India

What strikes me most is what the painting obscures. Both the spectacle MacKenzie portrays and the glamorisation of it distract from the oppressive, often violent nature of the British Empire.

Maheema Chanrai, Bristol