The exhibition *Journeys to the East* showcases almost 900 unique objects providing a fascinating insight into the richness and diversity of Asian cultures.

The first gallery explores the culture of Southwest Asia. Among the ancient exhibits you can see here is the Museum's oldest possession: a foundation brick from Mesopotamia dated to the 21 century BCE and featuring a cuneiform inscription. There are also objects from Arab countries (**No. 1 Bowl**) and artefacts from Iran.

Next up is a room dedicated to Central Asia. Visitors travel through the cities of the Silk Road under the arcades of a bazaar characteristic for the Muslim countries of this part of the world. The display shows examples of local handicraft: ceramics (**No. 1** *Moyshuyak* vessel), clothes, and jewellery.

In the next gallery, you will see a yurt of Mongolian herders. The display cases around it show objects of practical and sacral use (No. 3 Personal Buddhist reliquory with a statuette of Green Tara).

The fourth stop on the journey is the Indonesian gallery presenting numerous artefacts connected with music and theatre: a set of gamelan instruments, masks and wayang puppets (No. 4 The wayang kulit shadow play puppet Gareng), traditional weapons, clothes, and ship models made of cloves.

The final stop on the way is the Sound Zone display featuring around 120 Asian musical instruments (**No. 5 Pyinsa rupa drum stand**).

Journeys to the East will soon expand to cover the region of the Himalayas and Nepal, India, China, Japan, Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam), as well as the Melanesian islands of New Guinea and Vanuatu.

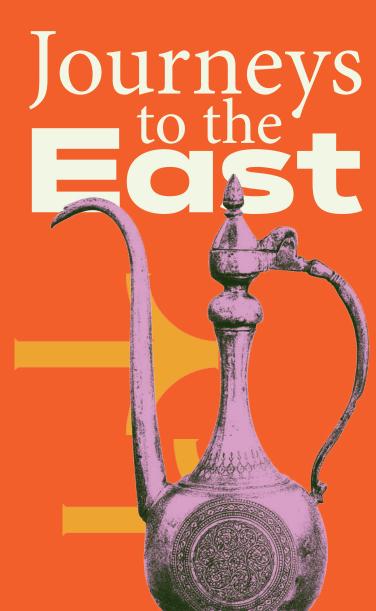
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