Saffronart coming up with second auction of carpets & rugs on November 27-28

KOLKATA: Following an inaugural auction of <u>carpets</u> and <u>rugs</u> in March this year, <u>Saffronart</u> is coming up with its second auction in the category to be held on November 27-28, 2012. The auction features an array of carpets from India, Persia (present day Iran) and <u>Central Asia</u>, as well as a selection of period Jamawar and Kanni shawls from Kashmir.

Leading the Saffronart auction of Carpets, Rugs and Textiles is a Persian Dabeer Kashan carpet dating to the first half of the 20th century. Estimated at Rs 25-27 lakh (US\$48,000-52,000). The carpet has overall pattern of vines, flowers in bloom in an intricate arabesque. The field is a luminous red, and the borders are contrasting blue with paisleys at all the corners and florets along the edges.

The auction catalogue also features a large carpet from <u>Agra</u>, with an orange palette, featuring a fretwork of flowers enclosed in a double trellis. Since these carpets were custom made, this one has the fringes on the longer edges rather than the shorter ones. It is estimated at Rs 475,000-575,000 (US\$9,135-11,060)

Another highlight is a large Tabriz carpet from the eponymous region in North West <u>Iran</u>, known for its intricate carpets with floral patterns. Depicting a hunting scene, this carpet has been woven in palette of beige and copper tones. Other interesting pieces in this auction include Kilims from Central Asia, a muted purple Khotan carpet, and a Caucasian Kazak carpet.

Alongside these, the catalogue features a selection of old shawls from Kashmir including Kani shawls, some embroidered shawls known as 'Dorukha', as well as hand embroidered shawls.

Co-founder and CEO of Saffronart, Dinesh Vazirani said, ""One of our objectives has always been to promote fine art and collectibles, to build awareness and appreciation for India's artistic heritage and traditions, and indeed those of the rest of the world.""

The total estimate of the auction is Rs 2.4-2.9 crore (US\$ 461,930-561,160).