


Buddhas and Bodhisattvas

India / South Asia Collection

Accession Nr.:	6346 
Type:	relief
Date of production:	1st-2nd c. Gandhara art
Place of production:	Pakistan or Afghanistan, the ancient Gandhara
Materials:	slate
Techniques:	carved
Dimensions:	height: 22.5 cm width: 49 cm depth: 5.2 cm
Acquisition:	donation of Imre Schwaiger

Fragment of a frieze with alternating Buddha and bodhisattva figures: a Buddha is sitting on the left side, then a bodhisattva, a Buddha again, and the fourth figure, that of a bodhisattva, is partly broken off.

Each figure holds his hands in different gestures, from left to right: preaching (dharmacakrapravartana-m.), meditating (dhyana-m.), fearlessness (abhaya-m.). The fourth figure was probably in bhumisparsha-mudra. There might have been a fifth figure in blessing gesture (varada-m.) as these five gestures are the traditional Buddha gestures.

Himalayan schist.

