

Object Summary

Aqua Blown-Glass Hanging Lamp

20th century

Austria

Indian Market

Colored glass, metal hardware

Overall: 12 3/4 x 10 1/2 in. (32.4 x 26.7cm)

This aqua blown-glass hanging lamp was created in Austria in the 20th century for the Indian market. In the 19th and 20th century, European glass firms produced glass lamps and chandeliers to appeal to Eastern clientele. Some of the firms best known to design for the Eastern market include F. & C. Osler of Birmingham, England, Jonas Defries & Sons of London, and Baccarat of France. Due to an increased colonial presence, India was heavily influenced by Europe in the nineteenth century.

European glassmaking firms produced elaborate chandeliers of colorful glass that illuminated the spectacular palaces of nineteenth-century maharajahs. Along with these royal patrons, well-to-do British and Indian civil servants shopped for European glassware in shops of Delhi, Bombay, and Calcutta.