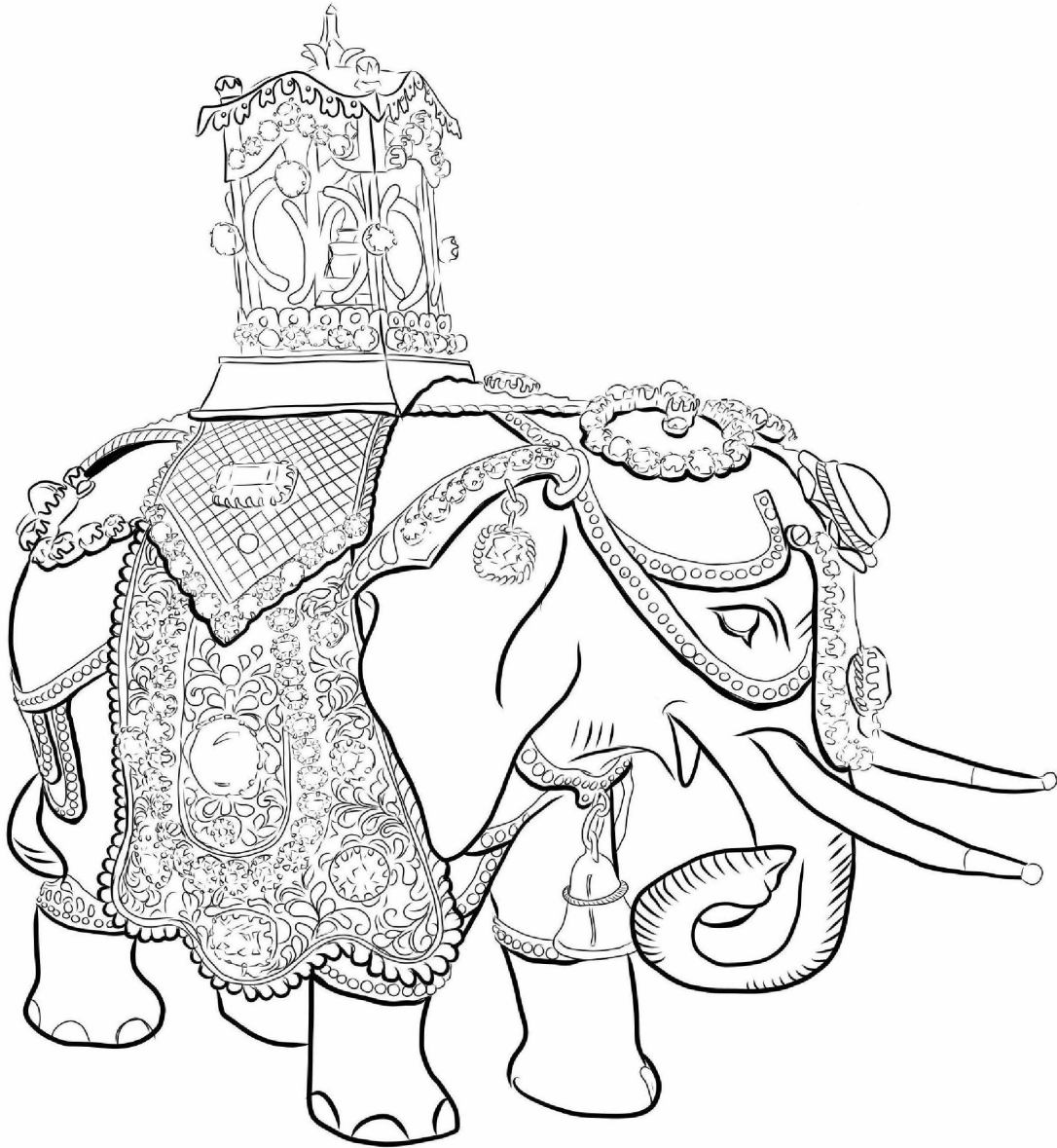


# SHANGRI LA

MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART, CULTURE & DESIGN

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This elephant figurine from India is made from ivory and decorated with gold and jewels. On the back of the elephant is a large seat known as a *howdah* used to transport a *raja* (prince) and was considered a symbol of wealth. Did you know there is an annual Elephant Festival in the city of Jaipur, India? Do some research and learn more about why elephants are lavishly decorated.

**Gold and Gem-Inset Ivory Elephant Figurine with Howdah and Mahout**, India, British India/Princely States, 19th - 20th century. Ivory, gold, seed pearls, glass pendants, hardstones, wood base. Object Number: 71.3. Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.