



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## **Fezzae et Marocchi Regna Africae Celeberrima, descriebat Abrah: Ortelius. [Fez and Morocco, the most famous Kingdoms of Africa, as described by Abraham Ortelius]**

**Stock#:** 94255  
**Map Maker:** Blaeu  
**Date:** 1640  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 19.5 x 15 inches  
**Price:** \$ 245.00



### **Description:**

*Fezzae et Marocchi Regna Africa Celeberrima*, a striking cartographic representation of the Kingdoms of Marocchi and Fessae (modern-day Morocco), was beautifully rendered by Willem Janszoon Blaeu in Amsterdam, circa 1640. Based on the cartographic work of Abraham Ortelius, this map presents a detailed illustration of one of Africa's most famed regions during the 17th century.

The map is a testament to Blaeu's mastery of the cartographer's art, capturing the diverse landscapes of the region with precision and elegance. It meticulously delineates key geographical features, such as mountains, rivers, and lakes, and highlights significant urban centers like Marrakesh, Taradante, and Fez. Tangier, Ceuta, and Rio Rabata, prominent in the historical trade routes of the era, are also distinctly marked.

Blaeu's portrayal of large fortified towns reflects the strategic importance of these settlements in an era of active maritime exploration and colonial expansion. This detail offers valuable insights into the sociopolitical dynamics of the time and provides a context for understanding the region's historical development.

The map features a large, ornate cartouche, characteristic of Blaeu's decorative style. This embellishment, along with the inclusion of sailing ships, infuses the map with an evocative maritime theme, reminiscent of the Age of Discovery. The credit to Abraham Ortelius in the title acknowledges the renowned cartographer's contribution and attests to the enduring influence of his work.



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*Fezzae et Marocchi Regna Africa Celeberrima* is not just a map; it is a piece of art and a historical document that beautifully encapsulates the geographical understanding and aesthetic sensibilities of 17th-century cartography.

**Detailed Condition:**

Original hand-color. Minor toning at the top edge.