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[Hubei, China] Province De Hou-Quang

Stock#: 95546
Map Maker: d'Anville
Date: 1732
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 16 x 19 inches
Price: \$ 245.00



Description:

Fine example of D'Anville's map of the Hubei Region.

Shows the source of the Yang-tse -Kiang River in Lake Tong-ting-Hou, along with the regional capital city of Wuhan (called Ou-Tchang-Fou) on this map.

Jean Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville, a renowned French cartographer of the 18th century, left an indelible mark on the mapping of China, with his series of maps to illustrate du Halde's "Description géographique historique...de l'Empire de la Chine et de la Tartarie Chinoise".

This particular map showcases the Hubei Region, emphasizing the vitality of geography and topography in understanding a region. One of the highlights of this map is its illustration of the source of the Yang-tse-Kiang River in Lake Tong-ting-Hou and the pinpointing of the regional capital city of Wuhan, referred to as



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"Ou-Tchang-Fou" during that time.

The creation of the map was itself a product of intercultural exchange. Jesuit missionaries, who had been stationed in China since the late 16th century, played a crucial role in the exchange of knowledge between Europe and China. Their meticulous notes, observations, and records provided invaluable data for cartographers back in Europe. D'Anville's reliance on Jesuit sources demonstrates the depth of detail and accuracy these missionaries contributed to European knowledge about China. This was an era when European powers were keen on expanding their knowledge about the world, and China, with its rich history and culture, was of significant interest.

The Yang-tse-Kiang River, known today as the Yangtze River, is the longest river in Asia and holds immense significance for China, both historically and in contemporary times. By tracing its source to Lake Tong-ting-Hou, D'Anville was not merely indicating a geographical point but highlighting the river's lifeline, which played a pivotal role in trade, transport, and the cultural exchange within China. Similarly, highlighting the city of Wuhan as "Ou-Tchang-Fou" emphasizes its historical importance. Today, Wuhan stands as a major Chinese metropolis with rich history and economic significance. By the 18th century, it had already secured its place as a key regional hub.

D'Anville's map of the Hubei Region continued to be a reference point for European renderings of China's provinces for over a century.

Detailed Condition: