



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Catholic Asia) Repraesentatio Totius Asiae Cuius Regiones Paucae Fide Catholica ["Representation of All of Asia in Which Few Regions (Have Been Reached) by the Catholic Faith.]

Stock#: 95561
Map Maker: Scherer
Date: 1702
Place: Munich
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 13.5 x 9 inches
Price: \$ 795.00



Description:

Repraesentatio Totius Asiae Cuius Regiones Paucae Fide Catholica, produced by Heinrich Scherer in Munich in 1702, stands as a compelling cartographic testament to the spread of Catholicism across the vastness of Asia. With its clear demarcation of Catholic-influenced territories, such as China, the Philippines, and the western coast of India, this map not only delineates physical geography but also the reach of religious influence and transformation during the early 18th century.

The 1700s marked a period of increased European exploration, colonization, and subsequent missionary activity across Asia. As European powers expanded their territories, they often sought to spread their religious beliefs, especially Catholicism, as a means of consolidating influence. This map, by Scherer, seeks to document these areas of religious influence, providing a visual representation of where Catholicism had made its mark in Asia by the early 18th century.

Scherer's artistry in cartography goes beyond mere geographical representation. The striking image of Christ in the lower-left corner, surrounded by stereotypically depicted Asians offering prayers, provides a vivid illustration of the perceived spiritual transformation occurring in the region. This visual element speaks to the intertwining of geography, faith, and European perspectives on Asian cultures during this era.

However, the map also serves as a reflection of the broader religious, political, and cultural dynamics of the time. The shaded areas, representing regions untouched by Catholicism, simultaneously signal territories yet to be explored or influenced by European powers. By laying bare the extent of Catholic



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reach in Asia, Scherer's work becomes a potent instrument of documentation, cultural interpretation, and a testament to the ongoing dialogue between faith and geography.

Detailed Condition:

Minor centerfold tone.