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[Armenian Map of the World] HAMATARAC ASXARHAC 'OYC'

Stock#: 66461
Map Maker: Schoonebeek / Schoonebeck
Date: 1695 (circa 1890)
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 18 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Early Photographic Facsimile of a Very Scarce Armenian-Language World Map.

Hand-colored photographic facsimile of the Schoonebeck (or Schoonebeek) Armenian-language map of the world.

Shirley (575) says of the map:

ONE OF THE more unusual world maps of the seventeenth century is this eight-sheet wall map by the brothers Adrian and Peter Schoonebeck with lettering throughout in Armenian. It was initiated by Archbishop Warthabeth, who founded an Armenian press in Amsterdam in 1688 for the benefit of Armenians worldwide. The Armenian printers were the Vanandec'i family under the editorship of Lukas Nuri'anean, and in the following year, 1696, the Vanandec'i's printed a key to their large map of the world.

The geographical content of the map is that of the traditional Dutch world map of the 1660-1680s, but only the authors' acknowledgment is in Roman script. There are two celestial hemispheres at the top and north and south polar projections at the bottom. The magnificent corner decorations are some of the finest to be seen on any contemporary map. They boldly combine vigorous gods and goddesses, mythological scenes, birds and beasts, and concepts of earth, air, fire and water. Perhaps for the clarification of geographers less well versed in European classical lore, the signs and personages are again neatly lettered in Armenian.



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As well as in the British Library, copies of the map are recorded in the Bibliotheque Nationale (two examples), in the University Libraries of Amsterdam and Leiden, the Museum of All Saints' Cathedral, Isfahan, and in the Armenian National Library, Erevan.

Detailed Condition:

Photograph laid on linen.