



(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Relief Map for the Blind] Afrika Masstab 1 : 12 Millionen Hergestellt im Lehrmittel-Verlag der Marburger Blindenstudienanstalt 1941

This is a detailed historical map of Africa from 1914, oriented with North at the top. The map is labeled in German and shows the political boundaries and major geographical features of the continent at that time. Key elements include:

- Geographical Features:** The Atlantic Ocean (Atlantischer Ozean) to the west, the Indian Ocean (Indischer Ozean) to the east, and the Mediterranean Sea (Mitteländisches Meer) to the north. The Sahara Desert (Sahara) is a prominent feature in the north-central region.
- Political Boundaries and Regions:** The map is divided into numerous countries and territories, many of which are labeled with German names. These include:
 - North Africa:** Marokko, Algerien, Libyen, Ägypten, Syrien, Arabien, and Sudan.
 - West Africa:** Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Elfenbeinküste, Kongo, and Angola.
 - Central Africa:** Kamerun, Nigeria, Gabun, Congo, and Zaire.
 - East Africa:** Äthiopien, Somalia, Kenia, Uganda, Ruanda, and Tansania.
 - South Africa:** Südafrika, Namibia, and Sambia.
- Cities and Towns:** Numerous cities are marked with dots and labeled, including major hubs like Kairo (Cairo), Kapstadt (Cape Town), and Johannesburg.
- Map Details:** The map includes a scale bar at the bottom, indicating distances in kilometers (0 to 1000 km). It also features a compass rose and a title block in the bottom left corner.

The title block at the bottom left reads: "AFRIKA", "Maßstab 1 : 12 Millionen", "Veröffentlicht im Lehrmittel-Verein der Pädagogischen Berufsvereinigungen", "1914".

Description:

Rare early 20th Century map of Africa prepared for use by the Blind under the direction of the Marburger Blindenstudienanstalt (Marburg Institut for the Blind).

Printed and made on thick paper, the map employs raised or embossed topographical features, using various symbols including:

- striated embossed lines for the ocean
- raised, dotted lines representing political borders
- raised lines for rivers
- embossed braille letters for toponyms.

The map is also hand-annotated to identify toponyms and other features for sighted users and instructors.

The *Marburger Blindenstudienanstalt* has continued to operate and is now Germany's national institute for the blind. It was created in the wake of World War I, when many of Germany's youth returned from the War with impaired vision or total blindness. The director of the Marburg University Eye Clinic, Alfred



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

**[Relief Map for the Blind] Afrika Masstab 1 : 12 Millionen Hergestellt im Lehrmittel-
Verlag der Marburger Blindenstudienanstalt 1941**

Bielschowsky, began the project by setting up courses in 1915 to help these returning soldiers learn to live with impaired sight. He commissioned the then student Carl Strehl to lead the courses. Together they founded the Association of Blind Academics of Germany and raised funding from wealthy individuals, etc. The initial goal was to help the sight impaired re-integrate into work and social life. By 1921, a grammar school was established. With the advent of Braille printing, programs flourished and the Institute became a thriving success for educating German's sight impaired youth.

Detailed Condition:

Two sheets joined.