

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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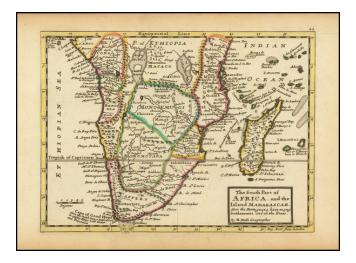
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The South Part of Africa and the Island Madagascar. Here the Portugese have many Settlements and all the Trade. . .

Stock#:	94497
Map Maker:	Moll

Date:1728Place:LondonColor:Outline ColorCondition:VG+Size:11 x 8 inches

Price: \$ 275.00



Description:

Herman Moll's 1728 map of Southern Africa and Madagascar is a finely crafted work, providing insights into the 18th-century view of the region.

Detailed areas on the map include Congo, Angola, Macao, Zanguebar (modern Zanzibar), Monemugi, Benguela, Mataman, Sofala, Sabia, Monomotapa, and Caffers.

Congo and Angola, located on the western coast of Africa, have rich histories dating back centuries. The Kingdom of Kongo was one of the most powerful states in sub-Saharan Africa until Portuguese contact in the late 15th century. Angola was also home to powerful kingdoms like Ndongo and Kongo, which eventually fell under Portuguese control.

Macao, possibly referring to the Makua people, a Bantu ethnic group primarily in northern Mozambique, gives insight into the diverse ethnic composition of the region. Zanguebar, or Zanzibar, is an island off the eastern coast of Africa with a history of trade with the Middle East, India, and China dating back at least a millennium, although here it also references modern day Tanzania.

Monemugi represents an indigenous ethnic group in the region, showcasing Africa's rich diversity. Benguela is a city in present-day Angola and was an important part of the Portuguese colonial empire. Mataman is possibly a reference to the Matamba Kingdom, a pre-colonial African state located in presentday Angola.

Sofala, now part of Mozambique, was once the focal point of gold trade along the Swahili coast. Sabia may



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refer to a region in present-day Zimbabwe, while Monomotapa represents the historic Mutapa Empire, a significant African kingdom in the region from the 15th to the 17th centuries.

Lastly, Caffers is an outdated term used by Europeans to refer to the Khoikhoi and San people, indigenous groups of Southern Africa. The presence of these names on Moll's map underlines the complex and diverse socio-cultural dynamics of Southern Africa during this era.

In the heart of the map, two features appear as lakes, Zaire Morais and Zaflan Morais. These are possibly references to an ancient belief in the existence of two lakes feeding the Nile.

In all, Moll's 1728 map offers a captivating glimpse into the geographical understanding of Southern Africa in the early 18th century.

Detailed Condition: