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Province de Chen-Si [Shaanxi Province]

Stock#: 95545
Map Maker: d'Anville
Date: 1735
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 21 x 18 inches
Price: \$ 395.00



Description:

Province de Chen-Si by Jean Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville, published in Paris in 1735, stands as a pivotal cartographic rendition of the Shaanxi province. This exceptional map, adorned with a detailed pictorial cartouche engraved by Guélard and the mapwork by Delahaye, offers a vivid tableau of animals, armor, and rococo chinoiserie ornamentation, capturing the essence of the region's cultural and natural milieu, as understood by the French in the first half of the 18th century.

D'Anville's significance in 18th-century cartography cannot be overstated; with a legacy of compiling over 200 maps, he is renowned as the paramount cartographic authority on China during the 18th century. His work brought forward a new level of accuracy in Western maps of China, largely owing to his use of maps prepared by Jesuit missionaries under the commission of Emperor Kangxi. It was Emperor Kangxi's visionary decree between 1708-16, which mandated a comprehensive survey of the country, laying the groundwork for D'Anville's meticulous cartographic depiction.

The historical backdrop during which this map was produced accentuates its relevance. The 18th century witnessed the Qing Dynasty at its zenith, with Emperor Kangxi being a luminary figure steering monumental changes in cartographic explorations. Under his aegis, there was a determined emphasis on empirical accuracy, which paved the way for Jesuit missionaries to undertake extensive surveys, thus bridging the East-West knowledge divide.

This map was included in the *Description géographique, historique, chronologique, politique et physique de l'Empire de la Chine et de la Tartarie chinoise...* by P. du Halde.



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Detailed Condition: