



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

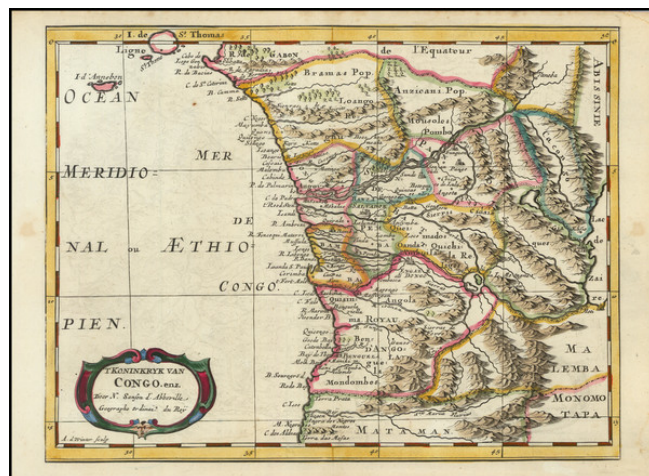
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## 'T Koninkryk van Congo

**Stock#:** 95653  
**Map Maker:** Halma / Sanson  
**Date:** 1705  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 10.5 x 8 inches  
**Price:** \$ 175.00



### Description:

Decorative example of this finely engraved map of the Congo, Gabon and Angola originally created by Nicholas Sanson, the Royal Geographer to the King of France in 1657. This map accurately showcased the major geographical features such as rivers, mountains, and settlements of the region during that period.

In the regions depicted, several tribes held prominence. Among them were the Kongo, Loango, Ovimbundu, Bakongo, Mbundu, and Fang. These tribes had established systems of governance and trade networks which affected their interactions with foreign traders and settlers.

The latter half of the 17th century observed a significant increase in trade, especially with European powers taking keen interest in the African coast. The Portuguese were the early European settlers, particularly in Angola. Their motives extended from converting locals to Christianity to controlling the burgeoning trade routes. As the century progressed, other European nations, including the Dutch, British, and French, began to establish their presence.

Tragically, this period also marked the escalation of the Atlantic Slave Trade. European powers began the mass transportation of Africans to the New World, with the regions highlighted in Sanson's map serving as primary centers for this activity. Specifically, the coastal kingdom of Loango emerged as a major trading hub for slaves, ivory, and copper. Similarly, the Kongo kingdom, initially a potent entity in its own right, became heavily involved in European trade, supplying a significant number of slaves to the Portuguese.

Beyond the slave trade, European traders sought after other goods, such as ivory, gold, copper, and textiles. The rivers, especially the Congo River, played an essential role in these commercial activities,



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acting as significant navigational and trade routes.

**Detailed Condition:**