



Lithographed map, with contemporary full colour wash, laid down on linen in sixteen sections, edged in blue silk; housed in two yellow cloth slipcases, the outer gilt tooled in five compartments, black morocco labels, gilt lettering and tooling, inked call number with sticker, red and white cloth ties, slightly wrinkled.

RARE MAP OF PERSIA PUBLISHED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ANGLO PERSIAN WAR

Map of the countries lying between the Euphrates and Indus on the East and West, and the Oxus and Terek and Indian Ocean on the North and South. Inscribed to Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm Knight of the Royal Persian Order of the Lion and Sun By John Macdonald Kinneir

Author

KINNEIR, John Macdonald

Publication date

1813, but November 1856.

Publisher

A. Arrowsmith, No. 10 Soho Square, Hydrographer to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; Lithographed by order of the Supreme Government of India at the Surveyor General's Office,

Publication place

London & Calcutta,

Physical description

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Dimensions

980 by 1310mm (38.5 by 51.5 inches).

Notes

Rare map of the Persian Empire at the beginning of the Anglo-Persian War; in very fine condition. The Anglo-Persian War (1856-1857), was triggered when the British opposed an attempt by Persia to press its claim on the city of Herat. Though Herat had been part of Persia under the Qajar dynasty at the time the war broke out, it had declared itself independent under its own rebellious emir and placed itself under the protection of the British and in alliance with the Emirate of Kabul. The British campaign was successfully conducted under the leadership of Major General Sir James Outram in two theatres—on the southern coast of Iran near Bushehr and in southern Mesopotamia. The war resulted in the Persians withdrawing from Herat and signing a new treaty in which it surrendered its claims on the city, and the British withdrawing from southern Iran.

Although the present map was first published in 1813 it was still, in the middle of the nineteenth century, one of the most detailed general maps of Persia, and the English saw fit to republish it (now as a lithograph) as an aid to the campaign. The map was originally published to accompany Kinneir's 'A Geographical Memoir of the Persian Empire' (1813), a detailed account of the topography and geography of the country compiled during his travels in the area as part of Sir John Malcolm's, 1808-1809, mission to Persia.

The ruler at the time of the war was Naser al-Din Shah Qajar, who had ascended the throne in 1848. The Shah would later become a close ally of the British and would be the first modern Persian monarch to visit Europe. In 1873, on his first visit to Britain, Queen Victoria made him a Knight of the Order of the Garter.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £10000

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