

Coloured lithograph plan, dissected and mounted on linen.

LATE QAJAR DYNASTY TEHRAN

[Map of the city of the Nasserite caliphate of Tehran].

Author
Abdol-Ghaffar Khan Najmol Molk

Publication date
1891 but later].

Publisher

Publication place
[Maḥmūd & Qulī Khān

Physical description
Coloured lithograph plan, dissected and mounted on linen.

Dimensions
1350 by 1390mm (53.25 by 54.75 inches).

Notes
The most detailed and comprehensive plan published in the nineteenth century.

Spectacular folding wall map of the city of Tehran during the reign of Nasser al-Din Shah Qajar, in Farsi script.

This map by Abd al-Ghaffar Khan Najm al-Mulk (died 1908) appears to be a proposal for the

redesigning of the Iranian capital. Najm al-Mulk was the Royal Astronomer to the court and an important figure in Persian cartography during the late nineteenth century. He was also the first Iranian professor of Cartography at Dar Al-Fonun University.

In 1868, Najm al-Mulk began work on this map with the help of his students, in an attempt to re-envision the capital. The map was derived from the 1858 map by the Austrian professor of Geography at Dar Al-Fonun University, Augustus Krziz who designed a blueprint of the city between 1857-1858. It has been updated here to show fortified exterior walls to the outer districts in the style of Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban.

Both of the lower corners of the map bear detailed legends explaining land use and infrastructure, as well as highlighting iconography to 'identify important buildings and places of worship across the city.

Published circa 1891-1902 in Vizārat-i 'Ulūm [Tehran] by Munajjim'bāshī Maḥmūd and Riẓā Qulī Khān.

Bibliography

Provenance

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