

Description

Salt-bags or 'namakdans' in Persian, as the name implies, were used for containing rock-salt in order to give to the animals during long migratiuons to help in the dehydration process. Such bags could also be used for carrying nut such as pistachio and almonds. This beautiful namakdan was woven in all-wool, weft-substitution technique on the face and plain madder-red colour, weft-faced plainweave on the back. The sides or selvages are wrapped in two-colour goat-hair and the top opening finish is completed in twill-pattern reciprocal brocading with lappits and two-colour goat-hair tie cords. I love the use of colour in this stunning bag and the selective use of golden-yellow in the top and lower panels together with highlights of green. Salt-bags are no longer made in the old tradition like this one, made circa 1880 by Kuhi Afshars in the Jebel Barez mountains in Kerman province, southern Persia. I remember these mountains well, having travelled regularly there for five years during my stay in Kerman, prior to the 1978 Iranian Revolution. Size: 54cm x 56cm (1' 9" x 1' 10").

Internal Ref: BM2185

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