

SA981017

Antique Turkmen Wedding
Rug, Ersary Tribes, Middle Amu
Darya Region, Turkmenistan,
Central Asia.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA981017

Date of manufacture: 1870

Dimensions

Height = 142 cm (55.9")

Width = 107 cm (42.1")

Description

One particular weaving, which was symbolically important to the Turkmen, and featured here, was the Turkmen Wedding Rug. In 1970 when working among the Yomut Turkmen, Mugul Andrews was aware of a young girl working at a loom by herself. She asked the young girl, who was a member of that household, what her little rug was to be used for. She didn't answer! She asked again but received no reply from the girl. When Mugul insisted, the young girl put her finger to her lips as a sign to keep quiet. At breakfast the next day, the young girl volunteered that the rug she was weaving was to be used at her wedding. She explained that it was a highly-prized rug where she will sit on it as though it were her throne and take her marriage vows. After the wedding, she and her husband will sit on it together alone and drink the sherbet brought to them and break bread together. They will make each other a promise to be faithful. A few days later, the young girl will take the rug under her arm and go to her mother-in-law when she will kiss her hand. On returning to the marriage yurt, the rug will not be used again, except for guests to sit on. She added that for such an important rug, s...

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