

SA985789

Very Rare Persian Khalamkari,
Circa 1880, 1.92m x 4.53m

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA985789

Date of manufacture: 1890

Dimensions

Height = 192 cm (75.6")

Width = 453 cm (178.3")

Description

This marvellous Persian Khalamkari is extraordinary in several ways. I have never seen one in this large size. Its most likely function was as a sofreh or table cover, presumably for special occasions. It is composed of three long panels that have been joined together and lined. Notably it retains its original chintz lining. There is an inscription in the bottom left corner in old Farsi and is dated 1299 which works out to approximately 1880. Worked on cotton in a combination of blockprinting and hand painting, the lovely calligraphic verses are taken from classical Persian poetry. Every aspect of the design is beautifully drawn, from the intricate medallions on the terracotta field surrounded by offset rows of botehs, to the wonderful multiple borders of flowers, leaves and chevrons'. One hesitates to use the term 'masterpiece', but this is certainly an extremely rare item, and an impressive example of the best of Persian textile art. There are a few slightly faded areas, and very minor spots of damage. Otherwise it has survived in excellent condition, having been no doubt cherished through the generations.

Internal Ref: JG2

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