Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Turcici Imperii Imago

Stock#: 72556
Map Maker: Hondius

Date: 1606 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 19 x 14.25 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Map of the Ottoman Empire from the Mercator-Hondius Atlas

Striking example of this map of the Ottoman Empire, showing their territories in the Balkans, Anatolia, the Levant, the Arabian Peninsula, and North Africa.

It was published by Henricus Hondius in his *Atlas sive Cosmographicae Meditationes de Fabrica Mundi et Fabricati figura*, which translates to the “atlas or cosmographical meditations on the fabric of the world and the figure of the fabric.” This was the atlas begun by the famous Gerard Mercator and published by the Hondius firm throughout the seventeenth century.

The border of the Ottoman Empire is marked with a dotted line, demarcating one of the largest land empires in history. Cities and towns are labeled and marked with the characteristic small building symbol that was used throughout the atlas. Mountains and dunes are included, especially on the Arabian Peninsula. Notes indicate extra information about the Caspian Sea, Black Sea, and kingdoms that ring the Ottomans.

A handsome strapwork cartouche holds the title and scale in the lower left corner. At the top is a portrait of *Sultan Mahumet Turcorum Imperat*. This refers to Mehmed III, sultan from 1595-1603. Mehmed III is known for the fratricide of his nineteenth brothers, the war with Austria-Hungary, the Jelali Revolts, and the reception of Queen Elizabeth I’s envoy in 1599.

This map first appeared in the atlas in 1606, an additional plate added by Jodocus Hondius. It continued to

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appear there until the French edition of 1639-44.

Detailed Condition:
Minor fold split at lower centerfold.