



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Arabiae Felicis, Petraeae et Desertae nova et accurata delineatio

**Stock#:** 74810  
**Map Maker:** Jansson  
**Date:** 1658  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 20 x 17 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

#### *Rare Early Appearance of Catara (Qatar)*

Striking large format map of Arabia and the Red Sea, published by Jan Jansson in Amsterdam.

The map references the "Mare Elcatif or Sinus Persicus," showing both the Persian and Arab names for the Gulf between Persia and Saudi Arabia. This reflects both the name used by Ptolemy (150AD) and more modern names. Ptolemy relied upon *Indika*, written by Flavus Arrianus and Strabo for his use of the term "Sinus Persicus." The earliest recorded Arabic language names for the Gulf were:

- Bahr Faris (Sea of Persia)
- Al-bahr al-Akhdar (the Green Sea)
- Al-khalij al akhdar (Green Gulf)

One of the most decorative of all 17th century large format maps of Saudi Arabia.

### Katara

The name Katara, Catara or Catura is the earliest recorded name for the area around the modern state of Qatar.

The name "Catara" began appearing as a name for the Qatar Peninsula in geographic and historical maps



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in about 150 A.D by the Alexandrian geographer Claudius Ptolemaeus in 150 AD. The name also appeared in the *Atlas of the History of Islam*. The town appeared northwest of Gerra or near it, and to the west of the town of Cadara.

The use of the name Catara or Katara was largely abandoned until the 18th Century, when it began to re-appear on printed maps.

**Mare El Katif**

In the 16th century, the Ottomans added the Red Sea and Persian Gulf Coast to the empire and claimed suzerainty over the interior. The main objective of this was to thwart Portuguese attempts to attack the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. The Ottoman Turks conquered the area around Basra and invaded the Arabian Coast as far as Qatif, which they occupied, removing the Portuguese from the region. The Turks adopted the names Gulf of Basrah, Gulf of Qatif and Gulf of Arabia.

From 1572 onward, the name Mare Elcatif began to appear on maps. Persian Shah Abbas dislodge the Portuguese from Bahrain (1602) and, with English help, from Hormuz (1622), in the Persian Gulf. He expanded commercial links with the English East India Company and the Dutch East India Company. During the mid-1600s and 1700s, the Arabian Peninsula was a major focal point of European trade interests.

**Detailed Condition:**