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[Cairo] Warhaffte abcontrafehung der machtigen und vesten Statt Alkair

Stock#: 82970
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1570 circa
Place: Basel
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 15.5 x 11 inches
Price: Not Available



Description:

Striking View of the City of Cairo, from Sebastian Münster 's Influential Cosmographia

Fine, early birds-eye view of the city of Cairo, illustrated in great detail. The view offers a wonderful sense of Cairo's architectural layout during the Ottoman Turk Era. It appeared in Münster's monumental *Cosmographia universalis*.

The view shows Cairo with an eastern orientation. The Nile River runs across the bottom of the map, while sailboats drift along the water. The right, or south, side of the view shows pyramids and ruins in a mountainous region that lies outside of the city streets. At the city's edge are also examples of horticulture and irrigation.

Throughout the view there are scenes of people trading, facing off for battle, and traveling along the city's perimeter. The interior of the city is densely packed with dwellings along winding streets. At the top of the view, the reader can catch a glimpse of the Citadel and the city's gates, as well as lush rolling hills.

The view's title and blocks of text run across the top and bottom of the pages in ornate Gothic lettering.

Ottoman Turk Era of Cairo (1517-1798)

During the period when this view was made, the city was led by a distant Ottoman governor and Ottoman militia. Cairo functioned as a vital trading site within the Ottoman Empire and served as an important link with the east. The Ottoman period included the construction of new monuments in the city. They are representative of the Ottoman style of architecture, but also show an interesting blend with the previous



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Mamluk style.

Detailed Condition: