
PAGODA RED



TIBETAN SADDLE CARPET WITH SCHOLARS' OBJECTS

\$3,880

c. 1900 • Tibet • Wool, Fabric • Collection #CFC315

W: 51.0" D: 25.0" H: 0.25"

This unusually-shaped carpet is known as a "makden" and was originally used by a nomadic traveler as an artful covering for his horse. Placed between the saddle and the horse, the makden cushioned the rigid saddle and kept the horse warm in cold climates. Most under-saddle carpets include two to four holes near the center, through which the girth straps of the saddle were threaded.

Dated to the late 19th century, this Tibetan saddle carpet follows the conventional 'notched' shape, a rectangular form with stepped corners. The symmetrical design features floral medallions and floral sprays against a light brown field. Continued...



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The field is enclosed by a minor border of floral diamond-work and a main border patterned with auspicious symbols and scholars' objects, including scrolls, flutes, and chrysanthemums. Hand-knotted in a dark palette of orange, blue, green, and brown, the small carpet continues to enrich its surroundings with bright color and rich texture.

From the collection of Frances and Gary Comer.

