



17th century map of the rivers of Asia

KIRCHER, Athanasius.

Tabula Geographica Hydrophylacium Asiæ Majoris exhibens, quo Omnia Flumina sive proximè sive remotè per occultos mæandros Originem suam sortiuntur.

Amsterdam, c.1665. 345 x 410mm.

£975

An unusual map of south Asia from Arabia to Japan, designed to show the major rivers of the continent. Kircher posits two discredited theories: that the Indus and Ganges share a source as a large subterranean lake in the Himalayas, illustrated with a vignette; and 'Chiamai lac' (Chiang Mai in northern Thailand) as the source of the other great rivers, including the Mekong, Irrawaddy and Chao Phraya. Published in a Dutch-text edition of the 'Mundi Subterranei', first published 1665.

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