

Title:

The Oldest Armenian map.

Abstract:

Until recently the oldest Armenian maps extant were those dating from the last decade of the 17th century, however, in Matenadaran there is an unique map, which has not been given the attention it properly deserves.

This is the only true map found amongst many astrological and astronomical subjects and sketches. In the past two geographers have studied this map but some of their conclusions and assumptions are disputed and open for discussion. So far this is the only Armenian language T-O type map and it shows toponyms that are normally not found in other contemporary Western or other maps.

Unusually, the map is based on the West European model of religious T-O type maps and bears much religious information, but is unique in many other respects.

The dating of the maps is also discussed, which is concluded to be between the 13th and 14th centuries. Its existence has recently raised much interest in the Western cartographic circles through my article in the January 2008 issue of the "Imago Mundi" cartographic magazine.

Requirements:

Digital projector and screen.

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