



Engraved map with contemporary hand-colour in outline.

HONDIUS UPDATES MERCATOR

Asiae Nova Descriptio Auctore Jodoco Hondio.

Author

HONDIUS, Jodocus

Publication date

1619].

Publisher

Jodocus Hondius and Cornelis Claesz.,.

Publication place

[Amsterdam,

Physical description

Engraved map with contemporary hand-colour in outline.

Dimensions

400 by 530mm. (15.75 by 20.75 inches).

Notes

Hondius redrew Mercator's map of Asia for the 1606 edition of the Mercator-Hondius atlas, updating the geography and changing the cartouches. A text cartouche underneath the title cartouche describes the history of Asia, and another at the upper right corner discusses the Strait of Anian. There are two European vessels in the Indian Ocean, and an Asian vessel sailing towards Indonesia. Korea is shown as an island, with a narrow strait between the island and the mainland. Japan is

drawn after the Ortelius-Teixeira model, with three main islands, and surrounded by two sea monsters. Hondius has improved the outlines of Sri Lanka and Borneo, although in the north of India the Gulf of Khambhat is shown reaching too far inland. A note on New Guinea records that it is still unclear as to whether it is part of the mythical southern continent Terra Australis.

Jodocus Hondius acquired the copperplates for Gerard Mercator's atlas from his heirs. He added thirty-seven maps and updated the rest, and released the atlas using Mercator's name.

Bibliography

Koeman II, Me 26A.

Provenance

Price: £1250

Inventory reference: 17585