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The Oriental Rug Lexicon

Peter F. Stone

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Peter F. Stone : The Oriental Rug Lexicon before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Oriental Rug Lexicon:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must have for the novice rug enthusiast
By Robert F Henderson
I have never owned a lexicon before so I wasn't sure what it was. Turns out it is similar to a dictionary where it describes everything anyone would want to know about rugs. It started out a little dry for me, so I just reviewed the book looking at shapes and designs. As my experience has grown, the book is growing in value daily as I continue to reach for it when I have questions. I would not want to be without it.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Two Stars
By Hans R. Stuber
It is the most boring book on oriental rugs in my vast collection
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Indispensable
By NPH
This essential book belongs on every rug and textile collector's shelf as a dependable reference work. Well indexed and cross-referenced, one could hardly expect more from an encyclopedic digest like The Oriental Rug Lexicon.

Return to Tradition describes the rebirth of an almost-extinct cultural tradition -- the hand knotted Turkish carpets made in remote villages on the Aegean Peninsula -- and the lives of the women who make them. It is the story of a unique project, called DOBAG, that reintroduced natural dyes, restored the integrity of this ancient folk art, and formed village cooperatives to organize production and marketing of the carpets. It also includes information about the designs, colors, motifs, and symbolism of the carpets which continue to evolve aesthetically in response to the weavers' needs and the consumer market. Although there are many books on antique rugs, this fills the need for information on contemporary carpet-weaving in Turkey and on the village women who weave the carpets. In Turkish villages today, very little has changed in the technology of carpet-making since its early beginnings. Women still use the drop spindle for spinning, and weave on the same type of loom as their ancestors. Villagers shear the sheep, card the wool, and dye the skeins much as their forebears did in ancient times. These traditional folkways have survived to this day, an unbroken link with the past. Since 1981 the DOBAG cooperative has produced about 1500 carpets annually, distributing them throughout the United States and Europe. DOBAG, an acronym for Dogal Boya Arastrima ve Gelistirme Projesi -- the Natural Dye Research and Development Project -- is supervised by Marmara University in Istanbul.

From Library Journal These two books give the reader tools for understanding, identifying, and selecting Oriental carpets, which have long been staples of elegant home decor. Sakhai, who comes from an Iranian family of experts, presents inside information about the history, traditions, meanings, weaving techniques, and characteristics of carpets from the many tribes of Persia. Readers will gain appreciation for rugs that are part of the everyday life of these people as they learn how to determine quality and authenticity as well as how to care for these treasures. Gorgeous full-color illustrations are accompanied by individual histories and thumbnail maps of the regions of their origins. Stone (Oriental Rug Repair, 1981. o.p.) attempts to define the linguistically confusing terminology of oriental carpets and rugs. In alphabetically arranged entries that are usually brief, with many cross references, he covers rug characteristics, techniques, design motifs, structures, and materials, as well as persons and places. The geographic scope encompasses not only the Middle East but Northern Africa, Central Asia, the Far East, and even southern Europe and North America, presumably because such carpets share "Oriental" designs. Clear black-and-white drawings and small maps punctuate the entries, with 48 rugs shown in color. This long-awaited reference is accessible to the lay reader yet backed by disciplined research. Both books are helpful guides, with Sakhai's reverential text eliciting the exoticism and Stone's lexicon the facts. Together they make an excellent "starter kit" on the topic for large or small academic and public libraries. Indispensable for consumers, dealers, or museums. ?Therese Duzinkiewicz Baker, Western Kentucky Univ. Libs., Bowling Green Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author ARTTEX