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## **Turkmen Carpets: Masterpieces of Steppe Art, from 16th to 19th Centuries The Hoffmeister Collection**

**Elena Tsareva : Turkmen Carpets: Masterpieces of Steppe Art, from 16th to 19th Centuries The Hoffmeister Collection** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Turkmen Carpets: Masterpieces of Steppe Art, from 16th to 19th Centuries The Hoffmeister Collection:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. clearest and most beautiful all color plates of any of the many books ...By The ProfessorOf the books I own on Turkmen carpets going back to the 1970s, this one is the most complete in the numbers of examples. The quality of this collection to which Tsareva lends her expertise is very high. Since Turkmen pile pieces tend to be very dark in color they are often difficult to photograph with clarity while being true to the various shades of red. This book has overcome those issues. It has the largest (check the dimensions), clearest and most beautiful all color plates of any of the many books in my Oriental Carpets library. I may take issue with dating some of these pieces far back into the 18th c., but if Tsareva drew upon her knowledge of the Russian collections for comparisons, to which she has had direct access for many years, since I am only an aficionado I have to defer. Let's hope these dates are not wishful thinking of the collector. Watch for significant discounting of this expensive but superb addition to Turcoman art. Recommended with enthusiasm.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hoffmeister is one of the best of the German Turkmen rug collectorsBy rastamanHoffmeister is one of the best of the German Turkmen rug collectors.He was limited by his publishers and therefore doesn't represent some of the tribes as

much as the others. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great book  
By Marc Zebouni  
Anyone interested in Turkmen rugs and weavings will enjoy this book written by a major collector in collaboration with an academic researcher and author. The images are wonderful and all Turkmen history explained. The author also gives advice on how to live with a rug collection and keep it safe.

The Hoffmeister Collection is one of the best and most extensive private collections of antique and historic Turkmen knotted carpets in Western Europe and America. It competes alongside important collections from Western museums as well as those in Russia and Turkmenistan. With almost 200 objects - among which are distinguished carpets and bags - artistic excellence and historical significance come together. As one of the first to do so, Hoffmeister has determined the age of these knotted works of the Turkmen with the aid of radio-carbon techniques. According to the results from the science and technology university ETH in Zurich, the earliest pieces of the collection originate from the sixteenth century. Both the cultural significance of the collection and the scientific and artistic value of its pieces are discussed in this book. The readers can really sense the texture of these knotted wares through the brilliant photography, which carry them away on a journey into the lost world of the Steppes folk of Central Asia.