

HISTORIC MAPS OF ARMENIA



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HISTORIC MAPS OF ARMENIA

THE CARTOGRAPHIC HERITAGE

Abridged & revised

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Preface by CHRISTOPHER J. WALKER

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Preface to the original edition

Christopher J Walker

THE SELECTION OF THE MAPS SHOWN here, and the essay that accompanies them, prove that antique maps are far more than decorative curios, or quaint items to frame and hang on walls. Rather, they constitute vital and intricate elements at the heart of serious history, science and international trade.

No one can begin to understand the political developments of the ancient or the modern worlds without studying a reasonably accurate map. We cannot assess the logistics of power without consulting a representation of a region and its communications. The follies and misunderstandings of many nations, both ruling and ruled, have often derived from ignorance of maps (or from looking at maps with too small a scale). Both warfare and peacemaking require the best possible maps. Students of history need at all times to have access to a map of the area they are studying.

Map creating, as this study makes clear, parallels the development of science itself: rapid at the beginning, in the milieu of the

Alexandrian Greeks, followed by many centuries of slow or even reverse development, before the dawn of scientific methods and observation in early-modern times. Maritime traders (or indeed raiders) required charts of the greatest accuracy, and the account given here of the secrecy with which they were held is of great interest.

Maps too have a political significance. This study is very useful in separating fact from fiction on the use or not of the term 'Armenia' in old maps. Until the late nineteenth century map-drawers were relaxed about the appearance of the word 'Armenia'. Maybe map-makers of those times had not yet been ordered to suppress certain geographical terms, since at the time their rulers did not yet have a guilty conscience regarding the treatment of the Armenians.

This short but important study reminds us of the practical difficulties that had to be overcome before the production of accurate maps, and of the vital need today, in the study of history or the development of political ideas or the advancement of trade, to have a map ready at hand.

Armenia: a historical note

THE ARMENIANS ARE THE ABORIGINAL inhabitants of the Armenian Highlands, located between Anatolia, Persia and south of the Caucasus, and form a part of the Indo-European cultural world – their self-ethnonym is *Hay*. The first military-political formations were known here from the middle of the second millennium BCE (e.g. the Hayasa of Hittite sources).

The Proto-Armenian tribes are believed to be one, if not the predominant ethnic component of these formations. They also formed the main component of Urartu (ninth to sixth centuries BCE) – a classical Oriental-type state in the Armenian Highlands.

After the fall of Urartu in the sixth century BCE, Armenian state formations succeeded one another continuously up to the fifth century. After four and a half centuries of interruption, Armenian statehood was restored in the late ninth century and existed until the mid-eleventh century. Although a number of small Armenian principalities existed in the Armenian Highland, as well as the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia outside of it (twelfth to fourteenth centuries), the national state as such was restored only in the beginning of the twentieth century, when the Armenian Republic (1918–1920, nearly 60,000 sq. km) was formed on the territory of Eastern Armenia. In 1920, the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic

was formed, which occupied only 29,800 sq. km – a result of the expansionist policies of Turkey and Soviet Russia.

The perennial struggle for the restoration of the state took a new form of expression with the penetration of European and Russian policy into the Near East. One of the levers of this policy became the so-called ‘Armenian Question’. From 1890 until the beginning of the First World War the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire had been subjected to periodical mass pogroms and massacres, with tens of thousands of Armenians falling victim. The First World War gave the Young Turk government an opportunity to solve the Armenian question – by ethnically cleansing Turkey of the indigenous Armenian population. Between 1915 and 1918 genocide and mass deportations of Armenians were realized, with the last survivors reaching some regions in the South Caucasus.

From the time of the Middle Ages, the Armenian Diaspora had formed during periods of foreign invasions and in the absence of national statehood. However, its ranks were swelled immensely following the Genocide.

During the last years of the USSR, in the late 1980s, Armenian political life was strongly stimulated by the movement for the reunification of Nagorno-Karabagh (an

Armenian enclave within Republic of Azerbaijan) with Armenia. For the first time under Soviet rule a democratic election was held in Armenia in 1990. In accordance with the declaration ratified by Parliament on 23 August

1990, the Armenian SSR was renamed the Republic of Armenia, and on 21 September 1991 a referendum decided its secession from the USSR and the second independent Republic of Armenia was born.



Foreword

TEN YEARS AGO I PUBLISHED MY study *Historic Maps of Armenia: The Cartographic Heritage*, which is a large format volume. This volume therefore is the abridged version of that work, with less than half the maps and a shortened introductory section.

The present volume is still a book about a number of historically important maps showing the general geographical area of Armenia. All these maps were prepared by the highest cartographic and geographic authorities of their time and constitute a vital part of the world cartographic heritage.

Here we can see the most ancient world map, where Armenia (the land of Ararat or Urartu) is mentioned, moving on to the maps of Greek and Alexandrian geographers and medieval Islamic and Christian authors, continuing to the Renaissance and modern times.

A brief description of the history of cartography leads to the map section, where the reader will observe that the country called 'Armenia' is situated in the area sometimes called the Armenian Highlands or Plateau, roughly in the geographical area south of the Caucasus range of mountains and east of Asia Minor or Anatolia, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. It has borders with the following countries:

1.to the north: the lands of Colchis, Iberia and Mingrelia, collectively known today as Georgia

2.to the east: the countries of (Caucasian) Albania or Aran, including the regions of Shirvan, Shaki, etc, which are included in today's Republic of Azerbaijan

3.to the south-east: the Province of Atropatene (the Iranian province of Azerbaijan or Adirbegan) in the country of Persia, formerly the Persian Empire (first Achemenid, latterly Sassanid), today's Iran

4.to the south-west: the River Tigris, ancient Assyria, Babylon and Kurdistan, today's Iraq

5.to the west, the Phrygia and Lydia of antiquity, the Byzantium of late antiquity, the Ottoman Empire until 1923, and today's Turkey.

Historically Armenia was divided into two parts, Greater Armenia and Lesser Armenia (Armenia Maior and Minor). Greater Armenia formed the main body of the landmass located in the Armenian Highlands, whereas Lesser Armenia was the westernmost part of Armenia, just outside the Armenian Highlands.

An important point I should like to mention for the uninitiated is that after the invasion of the area by the Turkic tribes in the eleventh century and after the establishment of the Ottoman Empire in the fifteenth centuries CE, the area of Armenia was sometimes shown as 'Turcomania'. The use of this term, mainly during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was encouraged by the Ottoman Sultans and was

adopted by many Western cartographers of the time (Injejian, Venice 1806, p13). It refers to ‘Turkish Armenia’ and probably arose from the mixing of the words Turkish and Armenia, hence ‘Turco-mania’ (see map 32).

I would like to clarify that in the main text any mention of Iberia refers to Caucasian Iberia, which together with Colchis and Mingrelia form present-day Georgia. Any mention of Albania refers to Caucasian Albania located to the west of the Caspian Sea.

In accounts and maps produced prior to 1918, the region of Iran called Azerbaijan or Aderbijan (also known as Atropatene, which is the old version of the name Azerbaijan) was always shown south of the Araxes (Arax) River, which is the border of Iran and Armenia today. The name of Azerbaijan in relation to any land located to the north of the Araxes only appears after 1918, when, subsequent to the fall of imperial Russia, the South Caucasus gained independence from Russia, and the Transcaucasian republics of Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan came into existence. The names Armenia and Georgia had been in existence for millennia, but the name Azerbaijan was new for this territory, ‘borrowed’ from the Iranian province of Azerbaijan, which lies across the river to the south. The territory north of the Arax, prior to being called the Republic of Azerbaijan was divided into various Persian khanates – Derbend, Shirvan, Dagestan, Talish, Albania (Aran) and Moghan – which fell into the hands of tsarist Russia in 1828 (see R.

Galichian, *Clash of Histories in the South Caucasus*, Bennett & Bloom, 2012).

Finally, all the maps reproduced in this volume have some sort of Armenian connection, but they are only a sample of the vast number of maps of this area. The criteria that I have used in selecting the maps are importance of the map in the world cartography, its being representative of a certain era of history and cartography, and the manner of its presentation. A huge collection of maps exists in the British Library, where I have sourced most of my examples. Other sources include the Bibliothèque Nationale de France as well as a large number of other libraries and museums from all over the world.

Each reproduction is accompanied by a brief explanatory text, which provides the reader with details of the cartographer, the origin of the map and its date, as well as size and provenance. Additional explanations are offered regarding the particularities of each map and family of maps, with special attention paid to the manner and extent of the depiction of the area of Armenia.

The maps reproduced here consist of world maps and maps of the continents and various parts of the world where Armenia is shown in one form or other, as well as maps of Armenia itself. The maps are presented in chronological order.

Rouben Galichian

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A brief history of maps of Armenia

Introduction

The Armenian people have lived continuously in the general area of the Armenian Highlands for more than 2800 years. This land has been called by various names such as the land of Urartu, land of Ararat, Armenia, Hayastan (the name in the Armenian language) and even Turcomania. This can be observed on the maps of the various historic periods as well as in the historical and geographical works dating from ancient times until today.

Armenia has appeared in all the maps of the area, sometimes as an independent state and at other times as a country divided between its neighbouring empires. However, in one form or other, it invariably appears in the texts and the maps of the ancient Greeks and the Alexandrians as well as in Islamic and Roman documents and maps.

Despite being landlocked, Armenia even appears in portolan charts, which were produced for navigational purposes and generally covered only coastal countries and towns. This was probably due to the fact that the country was well known in the West. Perhaps this was the result of the activities of Armenian merchants in Venice, Amsterdam and other European centres of trade, or perhaps because of their common Christian heritage. Armenia features dominantly in the Christian world, since in the year 301 CE

it was the first country to adopt Christianity as its official state religion. Since then the Armenians have been established in Jerusalem, where, today, the Armenian Monastery of St James is one of the guardians of the Holy Places.

The early times

Nothing much is known about the astronomical, geographical and cartographical knowledge of the ancients who built Stonehenge in Wiltshire, Great Britain, and Zorats Karer in Sisian, Armenia, eerily similar in construction and planning. However, these structures, together with the observatory of Metzamor near Yerevan, come to prove that our ancestors did indeed watch the sun and the moon as well as the stars for guidance and for the explanation of other enigmatic natural phenomena.

Cartography, which started as lines and circles drawn on clay tablets or etched on stone, has travelled a long way. Today the map is an essential reference document and it is interesting to know what it meant to our forebears.

Going to the beginnings, the name of Armenia appears in one of the oldest cartographic documents. This is the oldest known map of the world, a Babylonian clay tablet from the sixth century BCE, kept in the British Museum, which depicts the world as a disc floating in the seas with Babylon at its centre, surrounded by

Assyria, Harran and Armenia.' (See Fig. 1.) The river Euphrates is shown flowing down from the Armenian mountains passing through Babylon (Iraq) and eventually reaching the Persian Gulf.

The Greek historian Herodotus, who lived around 489–425 BCE, was a keen geographer, who also travelled to Armenia. According to him, in about 500 BCE, Aristagoras of Miletus exhibited a map in Sparta, which he had made on an iron plate, in order to encourage an attack on the kingdom of Persia. The map showed the territories of Lydia, Phrygia, Ionia, Cilicia, the island of Cyprus, Armenia and the city of Susa, the seat of the king of Persia. It can be deduced that the map was of the Middle East, Armenia and Persia.

Armenia in the Greek and Alexandrian schools

The name of Armenia appears in many of the documents from this period of history. In the classical Greek world, Anaximander of Miletus, who lived from about 611 to 547 BCE, is considered to be the father of cartography. He is reputed to be the first person to have produced a map of the then known world, which included Armenia. Another Greek, who travelled the Achaemenid Empire and described his travels in two (lost) volumes of travel books entitled *Travels round the Earth*, was Hecataeus of Miletus, who lived around 550–480 BCE. He is also said to have produced a world map, using the principles set out by Anaximander. In his map he also specifies the country of Armenia.

A little nearer to our own times we encounter

1. Kept in the British Museum, ref. BM-92687.

the philosopher and geographer Eratosthenes (c. 276–194 BCE), who worked in Alexandria. Accepting the existing theory of the earth being spherical he suggested that it was the centre of the universe and all the celestial bodies revolved daily around it. He divided the known spherical world into two halves by the equator, with the hypothetical lines of the meridian perpendicular to it, which in turn passed through the poles of the earth. His world too includes the country of Armenia.

According to his theory the habitable world or 'oikumene' (literally, '[the land] which is dwelt in') consisted of the three continents, Europe, Asia and Libya (the old name for Africa), and was surrounded by an ocean. The known world extended from Hispanic Iberia in the west to Taprobane (Ceylon) and from the island of Thule (Iceland) in the north, to the Cinnamon Islands in the south. Armenia and Greece were located roughly in the centre of this world.

Strabo (c. 63 BCE–24 CE), who was born in Amasia, Pontus, is one of the giants of geography. He was a seasoned traveller and worked in the library of Alexandria. This library was established in the third century BCE during the rule of the Ptolemy dynasty of Egypt and one of its first librarians was Eratosthenes. It held over 490,000 manuscript volumes and was the largest in the classical world. It contained works from all over the world, brought in by special emissaries who travelled far and wide in search of texts. Almost all the known works on the subjects of medicine, astronomy, science, literature and philosophy were collected in the library, to which Strabo had access.

Strabo's own volumes were completed in the second decade of our era. Nearly everything



known about geography and cartography prior to the time of Strabo and our era has come to us through these eight volumes, called *Treatise on Geography*, which have fortunately reached us in manuscript form.² One of the *Treatise's* chapters is dedicated to Armenia, where he discusses the geography, topography, history and people of the country. Most of the manuscripts predating Strabo have been lost, the ones in the Library of Alexandria being destroyed as a result of war and fire.³

Ptolemy and the cartography of Armenia

Claudius Ptolemaeus of Alexandria, or Ptolemy as he is generally known, lived from about 90 to 168 CE, is the most important figure in geography and cartography of the old world. His book and maps refer extensively to both Greater Armenia and Lesser Armenia.

He was a mathematician and astronomer and wrote texts on these topics, but what makes him important is his eight-volume *Geography*, the text of which has reached us in its entirety. The first volume talks about geography and the ways and methods to be utilized in observing and calculating locations, some of which are still in use today.

As Ptolemy's work refers to maps as well as containing tables of coordinates for all the toponyms, it can be deduced that Ptolemy's maps either were drawn taking the 8000 names

2. *English translation by C. Hamilton and W. Falconeer (London, 1856).*
3. *Alexandria's library was sacked during the 47 BCE war; the remaining manuscripts were burned by Aurelian's troops in 273 CE and the destruction was completed by Caliph Omar in 642 CE.*

and their locations as reference points, or conversely, the coordinates of the locations were taken from the maps already drawn.

The section concerning Armenia (Book V) is in two parts. Lesser Armenia (Armenia Minor), shown on Table I of Asia, lists 79 names of towns and cities, and Greater Armenia (Armenia Maior), which is shown on Table III of Asia, lists 85 town and city names.

Of the *Geography* there are some 40 extant manuscript copies, some of which are incomplete. The invention of the printing press led to the production of some 50 early editions of the text with accompanying maps. These were printed between 1477 (in Bologna) to the early 1600s.

Medieval Armenian cartography

The oldest Armenian geographical volume, the *Askhkharhatsuyts* ('World Mirror'), was penned between 591 and 610 CE and is attributed by some to the medieval Armenian mathematician and geographer Anania Shirakatsi.⁴ The book, written in Classical Armenian, has been translated into Modern Armenian,⁵ Latin,⁶ French,⁷ and German,⁸ as well as reprinted with an introduction in English.⁹ Unfortunately

4. *Anania of Shirak, who lived in the seventh century CE.*
5. *G.B. Petrosyan, Shirakaci (Yerevan, 1979) (in Armenian).*
6. *G. and W. Whiston, Historiae Armenicae, Libri III (London, 1736).*
7. *M.J. Saint-Martin, Memoires Historiques et Geographiques sur l'Arménie, t. II (Paris, 1819), pp 310-94. P.A. Soukry (San Lazzaro, Venice) 1881.*
8. *J. Marquart (Berlin, 1901).*
9. *Robert Hewsen (Delmar, NY, 1995).*

again, although some specialists believe that originally the text was accompanied by maps and two versions of the book exist in manuscript as well as printed form, no maps are extant.

Some Armenian medieval manuscripts include T-O-type maps of the Christian world (see Section below), some others show the influence of Islamic cartography by depicting the climatic division of the world. The T-O type map of Fig. 14 is the oldest existing map in the Armenian language, which was drawn during the late thirteenth and early fourteenth century.

The Armenian historian and geographer Eremia Chelebi Keomiurdjian (1637–95), who lived and worked in Constantinople, was also an important contributor to the geography and history of the Ottoman Empire. His manuscript map of Armenia, dated 1691, is the oldest large-scale map of Armenian churches and monasteries extant today. (See Fig. 35.)

In the eighteenth century a map of historic Armenia was printed at the St Lazarus (San Lazzaro) Armenian Monastery of Venice, prepared and etched according to the descriptions provided in the *Ashkharhatsuyts*.

Roman and Christian cartography and the Middle Ages

As expected, the name of Armenia is always present in the maps of the Christian era since it was the first and only Christian country east of Anatolia. In Christian cartography Armenia is frequently identified with Mount Ararat and Noah's Ark, as per the biblical account of the Flood. In some maps the Garden of Eden or Terrestrial Paradise is shown inside or adjacent to Armenia.

As is to be expected, since it was the first and

only Christian country east of Anatolia, the name of Armenia is always present in the maps of the Christian era. In Christian cartography Armenia is placed east of Anatolia, south of the Caucasus and north of the Taurus range of mountains.

At the beginning of the Christian era the Church Fathers did not pay much attention to the science of cartography and topography. This changed in the sixth century, when Constantine of Antioch, better known as Cosmas Indicopleustes ('He who has sailed to India'), or simply Cosmas, set the rules of Christian topography whereby the spherical earth was replaced by a rectangular one, divided into three continents and surrounded by the oceans. This was followed up by Isidore of Seville (c. 560–636), who included the T-O map in his *Etymologiae*. These maps appeared in hundreds of manuscripts and, with some modifications, formed the backbone of Christian cartography for almost a thousand years. (See Figs. 5 and 13.)

In the eighth century, the Spanish Benedictine monk Beatus of Liebana created his own more decorative version of a T-O map. This style was adopted by others, giving rise to a number of similar maps, called Beatus maps. In most Beatus maps Armenia is featured prominently, located next to Paradise. (See Fig. 11.)

In time, the small and simple maps became more and more elaborate, depicting towns, cities, fauna and flora. They were also adorned with various colourful decorations. Two of the most important maps of this type are the Ebstorf Map, which had a diameter of about 3.6 metres (destroyed during the Second World War) and the Mappa Mundi ('World Map'), dating from



the thirteenth century, which can now be found in Hereford Cathedral, Great Britain.

Armenia in Islamic cartography

While in the West geographers and cartographers were made to think and work within parameters set by the Church, in the East the Persian and Arab scientists continued to work unhindered by dogma. However, although in medieval times the Islamic world was much advanced in science and astronomy, somehow their advances in cartography did not match those of other sciences.

All the important cartographers in the Islamic world included Armenia in their maps and manuscripts. These include the Persians Ibrahim Ibn Mohammad al-Farsi, known as al-Istakhri (died 346 Hijri, c. 957 CE), Sadiq Isfahani and Abu Zakariya Ibn Muhammad al-Qazwini (or al-Kazwini) (1203–83), and the geographer and scientist Abu Reihan al-Biruni (973–1048 CE), who, while living in Iran, travelled extensively – especially to India – and wrote books on geography.

Later, during what can be called the Norman–Arab period of cartography, this science became more advanced. The most famous of Arab geographers of this era was Abu Abdullah Mohammad Ibn al-Sharif al-Idrisi or Edrisi (1099–1166 CE), who was born in Ceuta, Morocco, and studied in Cordoba. Various editions of Idrisi’s maps have reached us where he includes the countries of Greater Armenia and Lesser Armenia as well as Armenia. (See Fig. 12.)

The portolan chart and Armenia

Portolans are charts and maps for seagoing voyages and generally depict the shorelines and

ports for the benefit of the pilots and navigators. Greater Armenia was a landlocked country and would therefore not normally be expected to be included in these charts. Cilician Armenia, however, which was an independent kingdom from the eleventh to fourteenth centuries, was located on the north-eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea, would therefore be expected to feature in the portolans of the Mediterranean.

Portolan maps usually show a detailed coastline with the names of all the coastal towns, estuaries, inlets, bays, promontories, rivers, underwater obstacles, reefs and other prominent features accompanied by the lines of the compass and directions of the prevailing winds. Anything that would interest the ship’s pilot and assist in navigation was shown in as much detail as possible. Inland details were not shown. Most of the maps had blank areas for the inland spaces, filled with decorations and cartouches.

Portolans of the Mediterranean include much information about the coastline of Asia Minor in the Black Sea as well as in the Mediterranean. The Armenian kingdom of Cilicia, located in the north-eastern corner of the Mediterranean, features prominently in most Mediterranean portolans, sometimes framed by a green border. This was predominantly due to the fact that the ports of Cilician Armenia were Christian ports, and friendly to European seafarers. Greater Armenia, being landlocked, would normally not be expected to appear on portolans, since it was out of their useful range, yet the curious fact is that it was frequently included.

In the Italian and Catalan portolans of the Mediterranean area, for example, the details of the coastlines shown are amazingly accurate and similar, generally being very advanced for their

time. In the majority of portolans of the east Mediterranean area, where some inland details are included, Armenia also appears. Armenia Maior (Greater Armenia) is generally depicted with a range of mountains, which are shown as the source of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris, as well as with Mount Ararat with Noah's Ark perched on top (usually shown sideways). (See Figs. 18 to 20.)

Portolans were generally drawn on vellum. Their constant use led to deterioration and eventually they were discarded. None earlier than 1275 CE have survived and the surviving fourteenth-century ones are few. In general these are beautifully decorated productions, which provide detailed information for the captains, having been prepared with taste, care and attention. The wealth of detail in these charts has been clearly drawn from a long tradition of mapping, which regrettably has not reached us.

The fifteenth century

The second half of the fifteenth century saw two important developments in the world of cartography. First, in the middle of the century Gutenberg invented the moveable type printing press; this facilitated the printing of Ptolemy's *Geography*. Secondly, towards the end of the century, Columbus discovered the New World.

At the end of the fourteenth century Turkic tribes were getting dangerously close to the neighbourhood of Constantinople. Due to the possible danger of looting, some of the manuscripts from its libraries started to be transferred to Italy. Ptolemy's *Geography* was one of them. The scholars translated these volumes from the original Greek into Latin and many cartographers such as Donnus Germanus,

Sebastian Münster, Martin Waldseemüller, Berlinghieri and others began the process of the preparation of maps based on the Ptolemaic texts and coordinates included in these texts. The maps were eventually included in the newly prepared translations of the 'Geography'. (See Fig. 16 to 18.)

There was a profusion of maps and atlases coming out of the presses of Rome, Milan, Florence, Ulm and Basle. The various atlases, although based on the Ptolemaic text, differed slightly in layout, detail and presentation. Some were hand-coloured with dark blue oceans and seas, brown mountains and various pastel coloured landmasses, delineating the countries. Others had green seas and red towns. Most were marketed uncoloured. So far as Armenia was concerned, all these maps, with a few exceptions, were based on the Ptolemaic model, which had Armenia Minor as the 'First Map of Asia' and Armenia Maior as the 'Third Map of Asia'.

The sixteenth to eighteenth centuries

One of the characteristics of the maps printed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is the elaborate decoration used in their presentation. The cartouche, which was originally intended to frame the title of the map, was now an elaborate artwork that often occupied a large portion of the printed page in its own right. This feature is apparent in all maps prepared during this period, including those of the region of Armenia.

Map decoration developed as a commercial necessity, not as a whim. With the establishment in the sixteenth century of large commercial companies and the development of trade with the East as well as the West Indies, early commercial travellers needed better maps of



both their destinations and their routes. Those mapmakers who did not have access to the new discoveries gradually found themselves falling behind the others. Their trade suffered and although they sought to acquire the secret information, they could not keep abreast of actual developments. If maps could not be marketed for their accuracy then the solution was to make them more visually attractive. The result was the gradual development of elaborate artwork and decoration in sixteenth and seventeenth century maps.

In further pursuit of making the maps more attractive, the map frames might be surrounded with engravings of the cities and costumes of the natives of the lands shown on the maps, some of which were more imaginary than real. In a few of the maps imaginary costumes of Armenian men and women are also sketched. There are cases where the cartouches and the framing decorations of the maps are so overwhelming that the maps themselves look unimportant and lost amidst the profusion of decorative details.

A list of some of the well-known geographers and cartographers of the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries who produced maps of the region of Armenia, and are thus important also in Armenian cartography, is as follows:

Martin Waldseemüller, (1470-1518) was a German cartographer who produced a large map of the world on 12 sheets.

Sebastian Münster (1489-1552) was German mathematician and linguist, whose edition of *Ptolemy's Geography* appeared in 1544, which in addition to the new maps included encyclopaedic information about the world.

Gerardus Mercator (born Gerhard Kremer, 1512-94) was a Flemish mathematician, instrument maker and, most famously, cartographer. In 1541 he created his first globe. The originator of the 'Mercator Projection', he pioneered drawing the spherical earth on flat paper.

Jan Jansson (1588-1664) and family, continued to publish later revisions of Mercator's original. Hondius was a gifted cartographer himself, who contributed much to the original Mercator atlases, making them more marketable.

Abraham Ortelius (1528-98), yet another Flemish cartographer who was trained as a mathematician and linguist, started his cartographic connection by colouring maps. In 1570 he prepared a set of 53 maps, engraved by F. Hogenberg, and published them in an atlas called *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* ('Atlas of the Whole World').

Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571-1638) and his son **Johannes** (1596-1673) were two noted Dutch cartographers who followed the tradition of learning sciences and astronomy before establishing a business as instrument makers in Amsterdam. His famous work, the *Atlas Maior*, comprised almost 600 maps and 3000 pages of text.

Frederick de Wit (1630-1706) purchased Blaeu family plates and continued the business producing finely engraved maps of his own. (See Fig. 31.)

Christopher Saxton (1542-1610) is one of the first English cartographers, who started his work by surveying the counties of England and Wales. His first important work was *An Atlas of England and Wales*, first issued in 1579 and reissued many times by others.

John Speed (1552–1629) is the most famous of the English cartographers, whose name is synonymous with the British county maps. The latter are beautifully executed, with details of towns and villages, including coats of arms and other decorations in full colour.

Nicolas Sanson (1600–67) and his sons were the French equivalents of Mercator. They are claimed to have started the age of cartography in France.

Guillaume Delisle (1675–1726), whose father and brothers were also cartographers, followed the Sanson family and was also appointed ‘Premier Géographe du Roi’. The Delisle family produced many atlases such as the *Atlas de Géographie* in 1707 and *Atlas Russicus*, the first large-scale atlas of Russia, in 1745.

Maps in the Armenian language

Had the full copy of the *Ashkharhatsuyts* survived (see page 15), we might have had the first maps in Armenian, which according to some historians accompanied the text. However, this was not to be, and for a long time it was believed that the oldest Armenian map was the World Map printed in Amsterdam in 1695 by Tovmas Vanandetsi. This consists of the two hemispheres, America being incomplete, elaborately decorated at each corner with scenes related to the four seasons including astrological and mythological figures.

All this time the oldest map in Armenian was kept at the Matenadaran, Yerevan, in a collection of manuscript articles prepared in Kafa. As mentioned before, this is the oldest Armenian map, prepared in the European T-O style, depicting the world, made during the thirteenth to fourteenth centuries by an anonymous cartographer. Due its inconspicuous appearance

and small size, it has been sidelined and not given its proper place in Armenian cartography.

During the preparations for a cartographic exhibition in 1991, the University of Bologna came across a roll of cloth, which when opened was discovered to be a manuscript map almost 3.6 metres long and 1.2 metres wide in full and glorious colour. The only problem was that the writing was in a language unknown to them. As the roll cover bore a title that included the word ‘Armenica’, the authorities contacted Gabriella Uluhogian, professor of Classical Armenian at the university, for guidance. She was amazed to discover that the map was in fact in Armenian and was a huge manuscript showing the locations of the important Armenian churches, monasteries and catholicosates¹⁰ of Anatolia and the entire area of historical Armenia, from Karabagh (Artsakh) to Constantinople, including Cyprus and Jerusalem. In the two cartouches the map contained a detailed description of the hierarchy of the Armenian Church as well as details about the reason for the map’s preparation, and it bore the date 1691 CE.

The next map in Armenian (after the Amsterdam World Map) was the map of Jerusalem and the Holy Land which appeared in 1746, printed in Venice. This map was followed by the ‘Map of Historic Lands and Counties (States) of Armenia’ in 1751, delineated according to the descriptions of the *Ashkharhatsuyts*. Maps of the other continents followed.

A large-scale atlas of the world was printed in Venice in 1849, with maps of the world, the solar

10. *Churches located in various regions of Armenia came under the rule of different religious centres called catholicosates.*



system and each continent, as well as maps of the Ottoman Empire and Armenia, all beautifully laid out and coloured. This is considered to be the first full atlas in the Armenian language.

The Monastery of St Lazarus and its printing house have significant place in Armenian cartography, as most of the important maps in the Armenian language were printed there from the early eighteenth century onwards.

The map after the eighteenth century

Since the middle of the nineteenth century, maps have become more accurate and reliable, their differences lying mainly in such relatively minor matters as place-names, scales, projection and detail. It took much time and effort on the part of many geographers and cartographers to achieve this greater reliability. During the same period, in some maps the name of Armenia was gradually being substituted with other more 'acceptable' terminology, depending on who was the producer and where the map was printed. However, the reason behind these changes was political rather than cartographical.

Yet due to the presence of the indigenous people in the region of the South Caucasus and east of Asia Minor, the name 'Armenia' was used on the majority of the maps of the region well into the 1920s. Only after 1925, due to the ethnic cleansing and the Genocide initiated and successfully accomplished by the Ottoman Empire and its successors, does the name of Armenia gradually disappear from the maps depicting the area of Historic Armenia and the Armenian Highlands.

All that now remained was to have an internationally adopted standard in order to have globally acceptable maps. Before such a standard came into existence, if one had wanted to

produce a co-ordinated map by trying to put together the maps of various cartographers, many problems would have surfaced and rendered the task impossible. The main problems lay in the following areas:

- The maps produced by each country had a different prime meridian as reference point.
- Each cartographer used their own symbols and signs to depict various elements in the map; altogether there were more than 1000 symbols used.
- The scales of the maps varied enormously and so did the type of their projection.
- The names were written in different alphabets, and in various maps different names were given to the same area or town or city.

These differences emphasized the need for an international mapping policy and hence the creation of the International Geographical Congress. Global cartography reached maturity in 1891, when the Fifth International Geographical Congress approved the execution of the International Map of the World with a scale of 1/1,000,000 (1/M). It was only after this final decision that the world could be properly surveyed, pending peace and the proper cooperation of the member states, both of which conditions have frequently proved to be elusive, even today.

Since then, advances in technology have made it possible for us to have maps of increased accuracy and reliability. The map of the present day is a far cry from that of the fifteenth century. After travelling a bumpy and uneven road, cartography has eventually arrived at its pinnacle today.

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Glossary of frequently used geographical names

Aderbigan or Adherbig(z)an – *see Azerbaijan.*

Albania or Caucasian Albania – Historic country, which was located south of the Caucasus Mountains and north of the Kura River, where most of the present-day Republic of Azerbaijan is situated.

Alexandria – One of the oldest centres of culture in the Mediterranean basin, in Egypt. The city had the world's largest library as well as one of the wonders of the world the 'Paros' lighthouse. In Arabic it is called Iskandariyya.

Anatolia – The old name given to Asia Minor. In Greek this means 'Where the sun rises from', i.e. to the east of Constantinople.

Ararat – The holy mountain of the Armenians, located in Armenia, now just inside the Turkish border. This is where according to the Bible Noah's Ark landed. Armenians call it Masis. It has two peaks: Greater Ararat or Greater Masis with a height of 5165m, and Lesser Ararat or Small Masis with a height of 3903m.

Arax or Araxes, Araz – River on the borders of Turkey, Iran and Armenia, flowing to the Caspian Sea. For the Armenians this river is historically important.

Arjesh or Arsesa – City on the northern shores of Lake Van. The lake sometime is called the Sea of Arjesh.

Armenia – Country to the east of Anatolia and south of the Caucasus range, situated on the

Armenian Highlands and the areas nearby. Armenia is divided into two parts: Greater Armenia (Armenia Maior) and Lesser Armenia (Armenia Minor). Greater Armenia is the part that is situated on the Armenian Highlands, as well as the area to its northeast (present day Republic of Armenia). Lesser Armenia is located on the western side of the Highlands, in the eastern part of Anatolia. Armenia has also been called the 'Land of Ararat'.

Armenian Highland(s) or Plateau – A mountainous plateau, situated in the Eastern Turkey and the Republic of Armenia, extending into the northwest corner of Iran. The mean elevation of the plateau from the sea level varies between 1000 and 2000 metres, the area covered is over 300,000 square kilometres.

Aran or Caucasian Albania – The historical names given to the approximate area of the present-day Republic of Azerbaijan.

Asia Minor – Name of the peninsula between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. The Byzantians called it Anatolia. (*See Albania.*)

Artaxata or Artaxat (Artashat) – Name of one of the old capitals of Armenia, now called Artashat, located inside the Republic of Armenia.

Atropatene or Atropatena – The old name of the Iranian Province of Azerbaijan. Previously 'Lesser Media'.

Azerbaijan – There are two Azerbaijanians. One is the historic Persian (Iranian) province of Azerbaijan, located south of the Araxes River (now regrouped into three provinces). Persian Azerbaijan has existed for centuries as Lesser Media, later renamed Atropatene, Aderbigan, etc, after the name of the ruler of this land, Atropat, during 321 BCE. The other is the Republic of Azerbaijan, born in 1918 and situated north of the Araxes River, west of the Caspian Sea, southeast of the Caucasus and neighbouring Armenia, which until around the tenth century was known as Albania (Aran) and later, until 1918, was principally known as Shirvan.

Black Sea – Also known as Pontos Euxinos, Pontus. The sea to the north of Anatolia.

Byzantium – The Eastern Roman Empire that ruled over Anatolia and surrounding regions, with its capital in Constantinople, by the Sea of Marmara.

Caspian Sea – The largest of the inland lakes, situated to the north of Iran, south of Russia, between the Caucasus and Central Asian Republics. It is also called the Hi(y)rcanean Sea, Bahr-e-Khazar (in Persian), the Sea of Tabarestan or Gilan.

Cilicia – Area in the north-eastern corner of the Mediterranean Sea, inside Anatolia and near the Gulf of Alexandrette (Iskanderun).

Cilician Armenia – Kingdom of Armenia in Cilicia, sometimes erroneously called Lesser Armenia. From the twelfth century over a period of 300 years this area was ruled by Armenian kings.

Colchis – One of the old countries that now constitute part of Caucasian Georgia, Abkhazia.

Constantinople – Capital of Byzantine Empire and one of the centres of learning in

antiquity, renamed Istanbul by the Ottoman Turks. The Armenians shortened the name to ‘Polis’.

Dvin – One of the ancient capitals of Armenia called Dabil in Arabic and Persian. Today its ruins can be found inside the Republic of Armenia.

East Armenia – Part of Greater Armenia, which is situated to the north and northeast of Mount Ararat, where the present-day Republic of Armenia is found.

Eastern Anatolia – Name erroneously given to the Armenian Highlands, which are located in the east of Anatolia.

Erevan – *see* Yerevan.

Euphates or Euphrates – River flowing from the western side of the Armenian Highlands southward through Kurdistan and Iraq into the Persian Gulf, being one of the rivers of Eden.

Euxine – *see* Black Sea.

Georgia – In this volume, Caucasian Georgia. A country on the eastern shores of the Black Sea, which consists of the historic countries of Iberia, Colchis, Mingrelia, etc.

Greater Armenia – *see* Armenia.

Hyrcanean Sea – *see* Caspian Sea.

Iberia – In this volume used mainly to denote Caucasian Iberia, which is the western part of today’s Caucasian Georgia.

Irevan – *see* Yerevan.

Istanbul – *see* Constantinople.

Lesser Armenia – *see* Armenia.

Masis – The Armenian name for Ararat (qv).

Mede or Media – A kingdom that existed since the first millennium BCE in the north-western part of the Persian Plateau. The country of the Medes, who established a powerful empire.

Ottoman Empire – Successor empire to that of the Seljuk Turks, who had occupied the area



of Asia Minor in the eleventh century. The Ottoman (Turkish) Empire expanded from Bursa to the Balkans, extending it over a wide territory. Established in 1453.

Parthia or Perse or Pars – The old name of Persia, now Iran.

Persia – Country, now called Iran.

Pontos Euxinos – *see* **Black Sea**.

San Lazzaro, St Lazarus or St Łazar – An island in the Venetian basin, which houses the Armenian Mkhitarist Order, with its large library and museum. The printing house in St Lazzaro (Armenian: Sourp Łazaros) was one of the most active in printing maps and books in Armenian since the eighteenth century.

Shirvan – The name of one of the main regions which lie inside the present day Republic of Azerbaijan.

Tabarestan Sea – *see* **Caspian Sea**.

Talish – Name of one of the regions and peoples which lie inside the present-day Republic of Azerbaijan and Iran.

Tigranocerta or Tigranakert – One of the ancient capitals of Armenia, probably the site of present-day Silvan, in Turkey. Recently a second fortress city named Tigranakert was discovered in eastern Artsakh (Karabakh).

Tigris – River flowing from the Armenian Highlands southward through Kurdistan and Iraq

into the Persian Gulf. One of the rivers of Eden.

Toshpa or Tushpa – *see* **Van**.

Turcomania – A name given to Armenia by the Turks and used in some western cartography around the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Turkey – The country that is now situated in the area of Asia Minor. The heirs to the Ottoman Empire.

Tushpa or Tushpitis – *see* **Van**.

Urartu – An ancient country, which existed during the early part of the first millennium BCE, and was gradually evolved into Armenia. According to some historians the names Ararat and Urartu are the same.

Van – City, one of the old capitals of Armenia, situated to the east of Lake Van in the Armenian Highlands. In ancient times it was called Toshpa, Tushpa, Thospitis.

West Armenia – Main part of Armenia, situated on the Armenian Highlands. This includes Greater Armenia to the southwest of Ararat and Lesser Armenia, including the area now occupied by the present-day Republic of Armenia.

Yerevan – Capital of present day Armenia. In Russian: Erevan, Persian: Iravan, in antiquity: Ereboundi. It is one of the oldest towns have been continuously inhabited since Urartian times, for almost 2800 years.

List of Maps

<i>Fig</i>	<i>Map title</i>	<i>Cartographer</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Source</i>
01a	Map of the World	Babylonian tablet	600 BCE	BM
01b	Map of the World	Translation		
02	Map of the World	Herodotus	440 BCE	Pr
03	Map of the World	Eratosthenes	200 BCE	Pr
04	Map of the World	Macrobius	4-5th c.	Pr
05	Map of the World	Ravenna	7th century	Pr
06	Map of the World	Jerome	420	BL
06a	Detail from the above map	Jerome	420	BL
07	Map of the world, in Persian	al-Istakhri	c. 950	BL
08	Aran, Azerbaijan, Armenia	al-Istakhri	c. 950	Tehran
09	Aran, Azerbaijan, Armenia	Ibn Hawqal	c. 985	Topkapi
10	Map of the World	Isidore's map	11th c.	Munich
11	Beatus Map of the World	Beatus	mid 12th c	Osma
12	Rogers Map of the World	Idrisi	1154	Pr
13	Map of the World	Isadore	12th c	Mejean Library
14	World Map in Armenian	Anonymous	13-14th c	Matenadaran
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20	Portolano	Dulcert	1339	BNP
20abc	Details from the above map	Dulcert	1339	BNP
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22	Tabula III Asiae	Mercator/Hondius	1578	Pr
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48	Turkey in Asia, in Ottoman	Üsküdar	1803	BL
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51	Armenia	Curzon	1854	Pr
52	Caucasus, Armenia	Weller	1858	Pr
53	Armenia, Mesopotamia, etc.	Spruner	1865	Pr
54	Turkey, in Arabic	Constantinople	1867	BL



55	Border of Armenia and Turkey	Pr. Wilson	1920	LOC
56	The map of South Caucasus today	RAA	2014	

Abbreviations

<i>BAV</i>	<i>Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Vatican</i>
<i>BL</i>	<i>British Library, London</i>
<i>BM</i>	<i>British Museum, London</i>
<i>BNP</i>	<i>Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris</i>
<i>JR</i>	<i>John Rylands Library, University of Manchester</i>
<i>LOC</i>	<i>Library of Congress, Washington DC</i>
<i>Pr.</i>	<i>Private collection</i>

MAPS

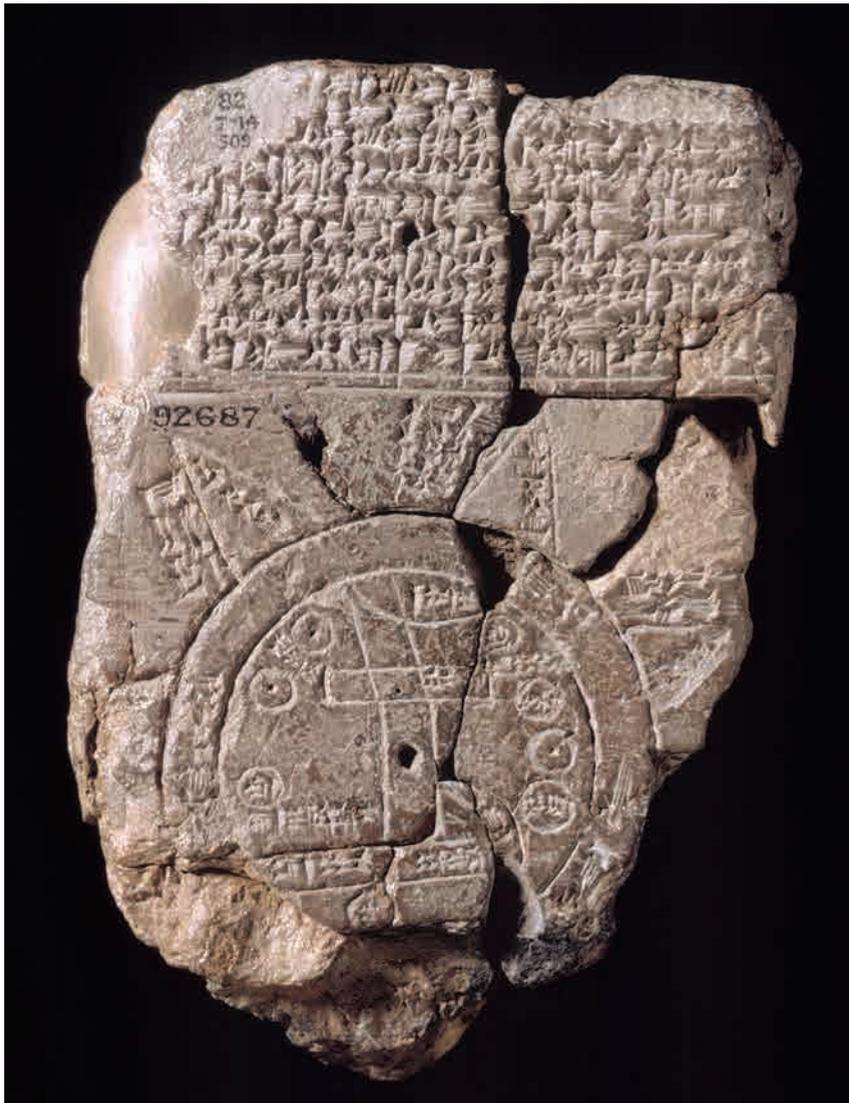


Fig. 1a



Fig. 1b

Fig. 1a/1b: The Babylonian clay tablet shown here dates from the sixth century BCE and is the oldest world map known to us. This map shows a circular world surrounded by the Bitter Seas with seven islands. The countries shown are Babylon, in the centre of the map, with Assyria to her right and Armenia above it. Seven cities are denoted by smaller circles, which include Haran and Deri. Haran is known as the Roman Carrhae, which was named Heliopolis (city of the heretics) by the Christian fathers, now located in northern Mesopotamia. Bit Jakinu shown at the lower part of the map seems to refer to the Iraqi marshlands. The river (Euphrates) has its source in the Armenian Mountains and flowing through Babylon and the marshlands pours into the Persian Gulf. The text on the reverse of the tablet describes the seven islands that are situated in the seas surrounding the world. On the tablet these are marked by equilateral triangles (most of them damaged or broken off) and give information about the unusual creatures inhabiting them. The sketch in Fig. 1b is the translation of the map and part of the text. See Unger, 1937, in the bibliography.

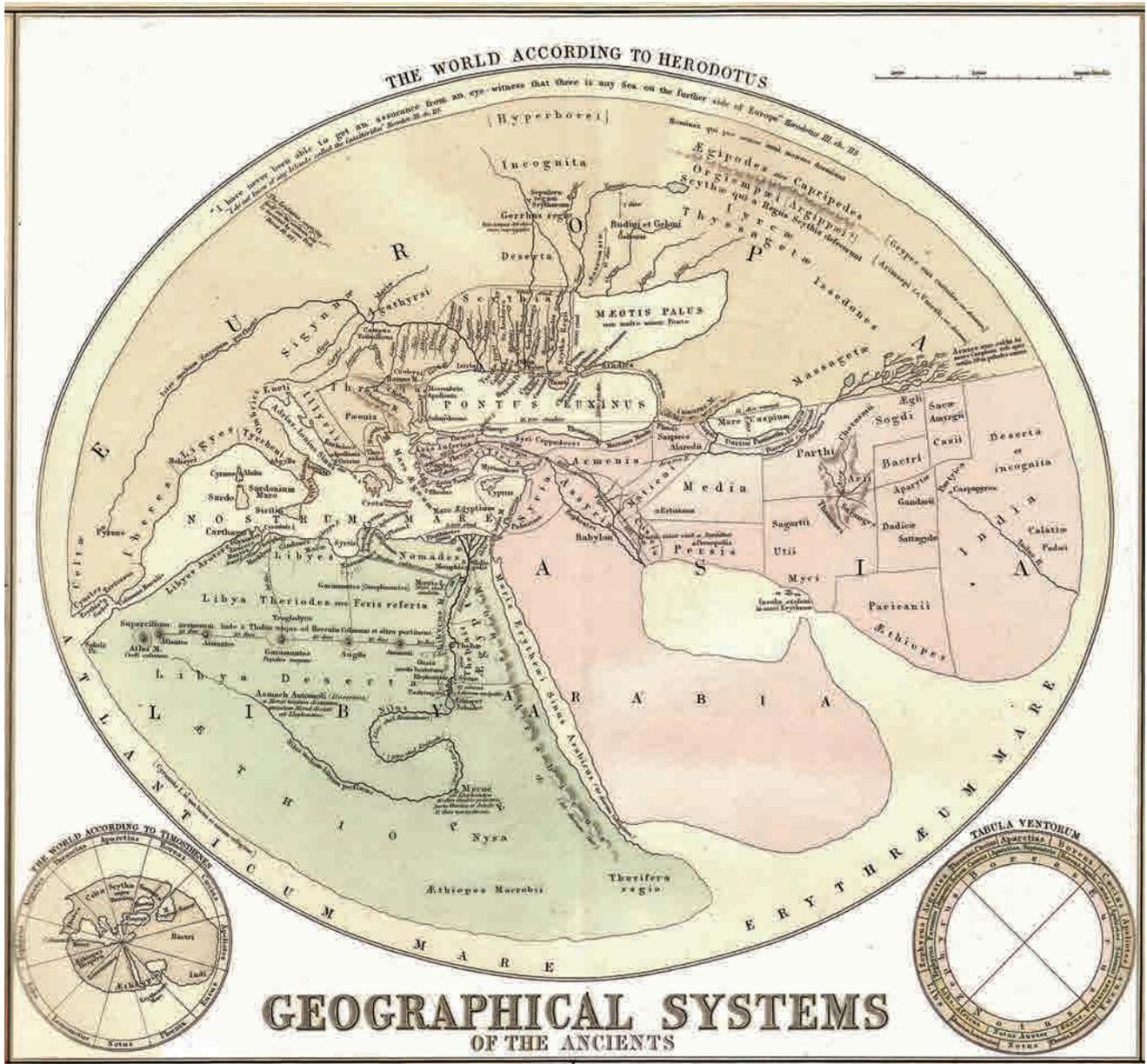


Fig. 02: The world according to Herodotus (fifth century BCE). The map is a reconstruction by the British cartographer Charles Müller in 1884, published in *Smith's Atlas of the Ancient World*. The bottom left diagram is the world according to Timosthenes, while the other is a wind compass. From the countries south of the Caucasus, the map shows Armenia, Media, Alarodi, Mitteni, Saspies, Colchis and the Casps. Albania or Azerbaijan is not mentioned.



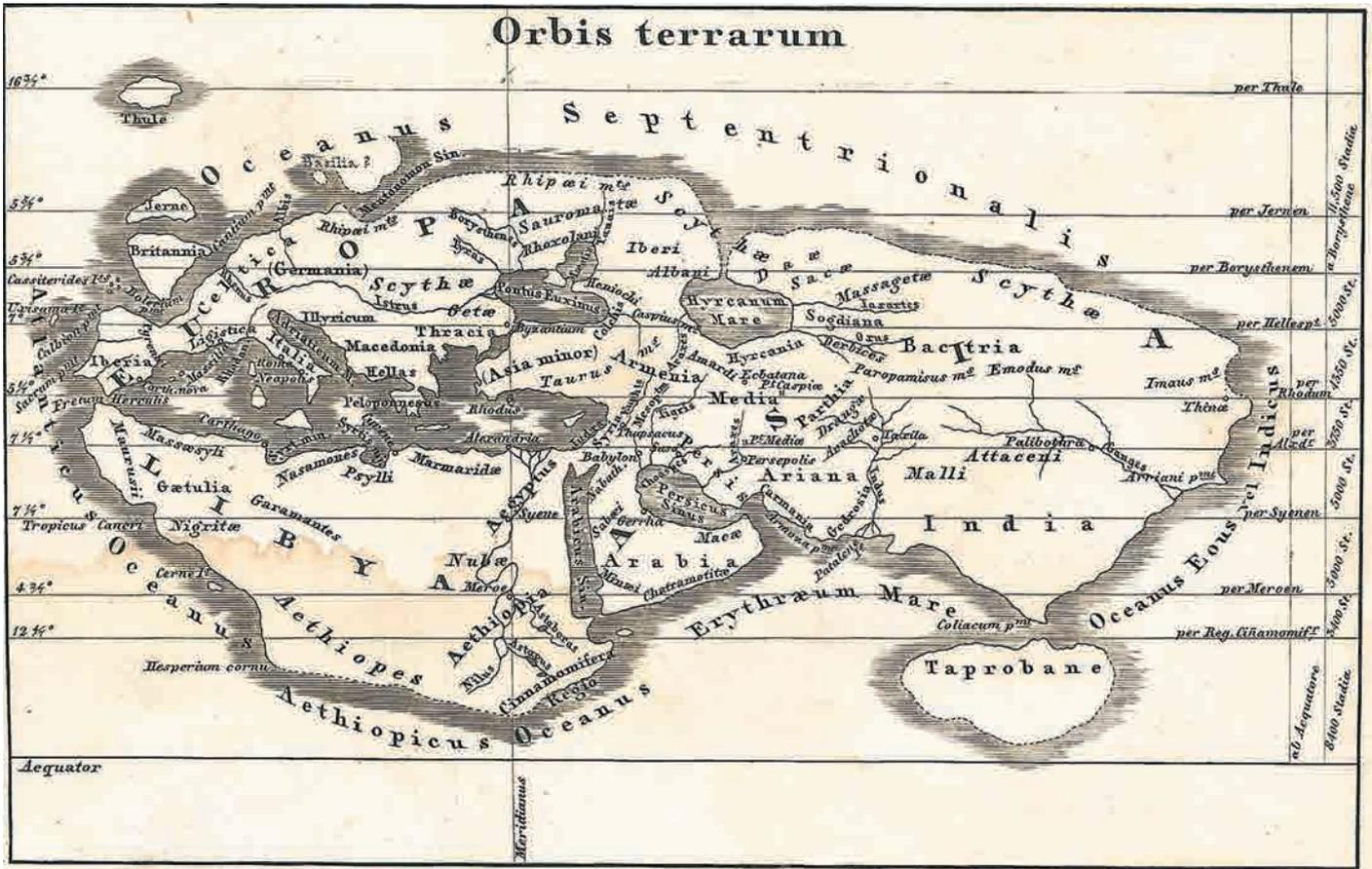


Fig. 03: This reconstruction of the map of the world is based on the works of Eratosthenes (c. 276–194 BCE), who, accepting the theory of the spherical earth, accurately measured its circumference and produced a map of the habitable world. In the region of the Caucasus the countries of Iberia, Albania, Armenia and Media are shown. The map is reconstructed by John Murray of London.



Fig. 04: The world according to the Roman philosopher and writer Macrobius (flourished around 400 CE), as seen in his best known *Expositio in Somnium Scipionis ex Cicerone* (*Commentary on Cicero's Dream of Scipio* or, in short, *'Scipio's Dream'*). Here he writes that when Africanus takes Scipio to the heavens he says: "Look at all the different zones enveloping the earth; the two most widely separated from one another, at opposite poles of the heavens, are fixed with an icy cold, while the midmost zone burns with the heat of the sun. Only the two zones between these extremes are habitable... If you look at your own northern zone, you cannot help but notice how small a section of this region can be regarded as yours. The territory you occupy, your vast Empire, is nothing more than a small island, narrow from north to south, a little

wider east to west, surrounded by the sea, which is known as the Atlantic."

'Zonal' world maps were the most commonly used in this period. According to the zonal theory the earth was divided into five climatic zones, these being the two frigid, two temperate and one central torrid zone. The northern temperate zone was supposed to be the only inhabited part of the world. Macrobius's landmasses are strikingly similar to those described by Ptolemy, complete with his seas, oceans, continents and other geographical details. In the northern temperate zone, the landmasses shown on this map are those of Asia, Africa and Europe, none of them named, while the countries of Britania, Ispania, Aethiopia Perusta, Armenia and India are named. Of the seas Mare Rubrum, the Red Sea is named.



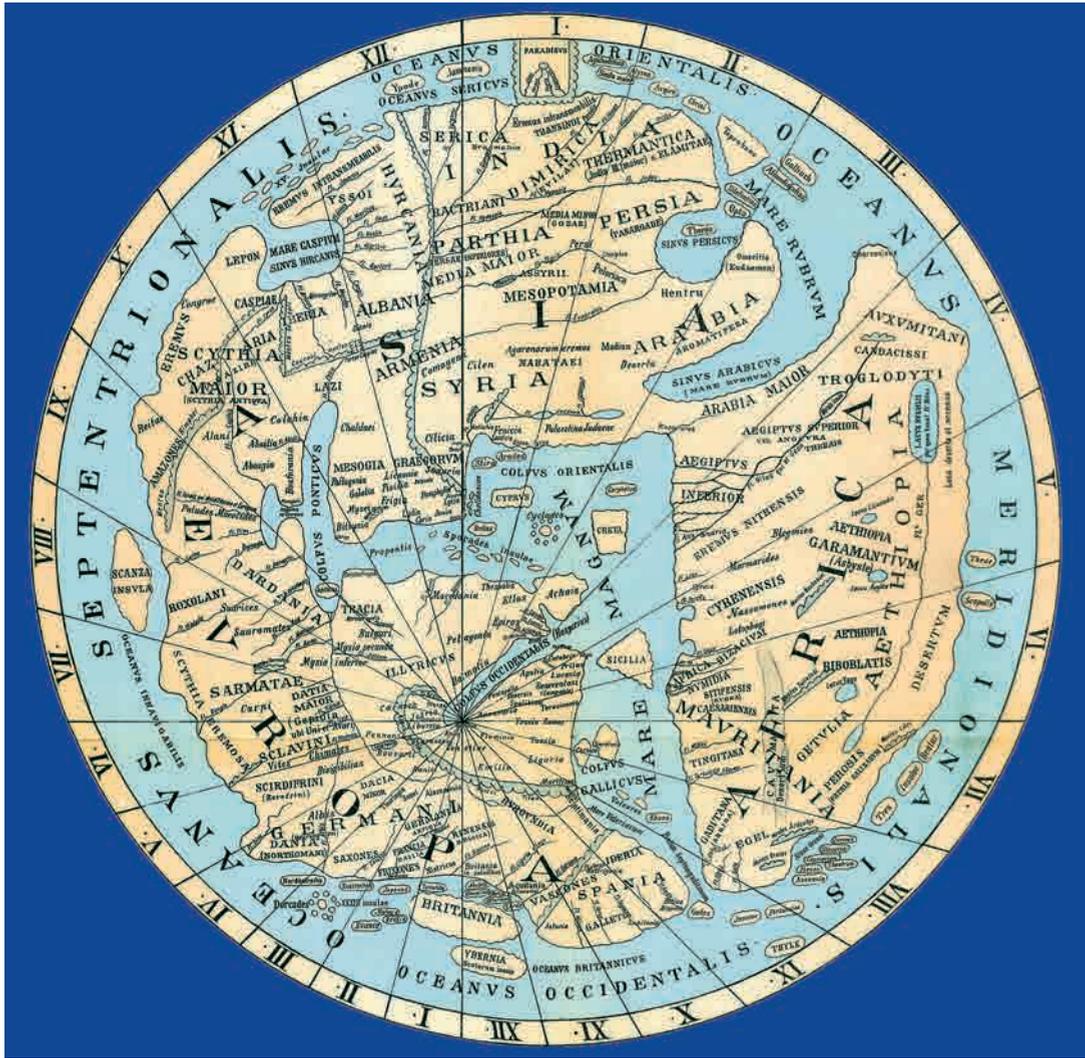


Fig. 05: In the middle of the seventh century an anonymous monk from Ravenna penned a description of the world, compiled from various sources available at the time. The resulting volume was a description of the world in five books, setting out and providing descriptions of the geography and topography of the habitable world, supplying the names of countries and provinces in the main text. Some two hundred years later this anonymous manuscript was in turn plundered by another Ravennese named Guido of Ravenna.

Konrad Miller's reconstruction is of an elaborate T-O type. The map is oriented with east at the top and as the author was from Ravenna, all the meridian lines are shown converging on Ravenna. The habitable world is surrounded by the Northern, Southern,

Eastern and Western Oceans with the Mediterranean Sea as the main dividing body of water separating the continents. The Caspian Sea is yet again pictured as a gulf, leading into the Northern ocean, while the Persian and Arabian gulfs open into the Red Sea, which itself leads into the Southern ocean. Albania is shown southwest of the Caspian Sea, near Armenia, from which it is separated by the Caucasi Montes. Iberia is located north of Albania, near the Caspian Sea and the Montes Caspii. Armenia is shown to the south-west of the Caucasian Mountains and north of Mesopotamia. The source of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates are the Armenian Mountains. Countries in the immediate vicinity of Armenia are Iberia, Albania, Hyrcania, Media Maior (later Azerbaijan), Parthia, Assyria, Syria, Cilicia and Chaldaei.

Fig. 06: For description see the opposite page.

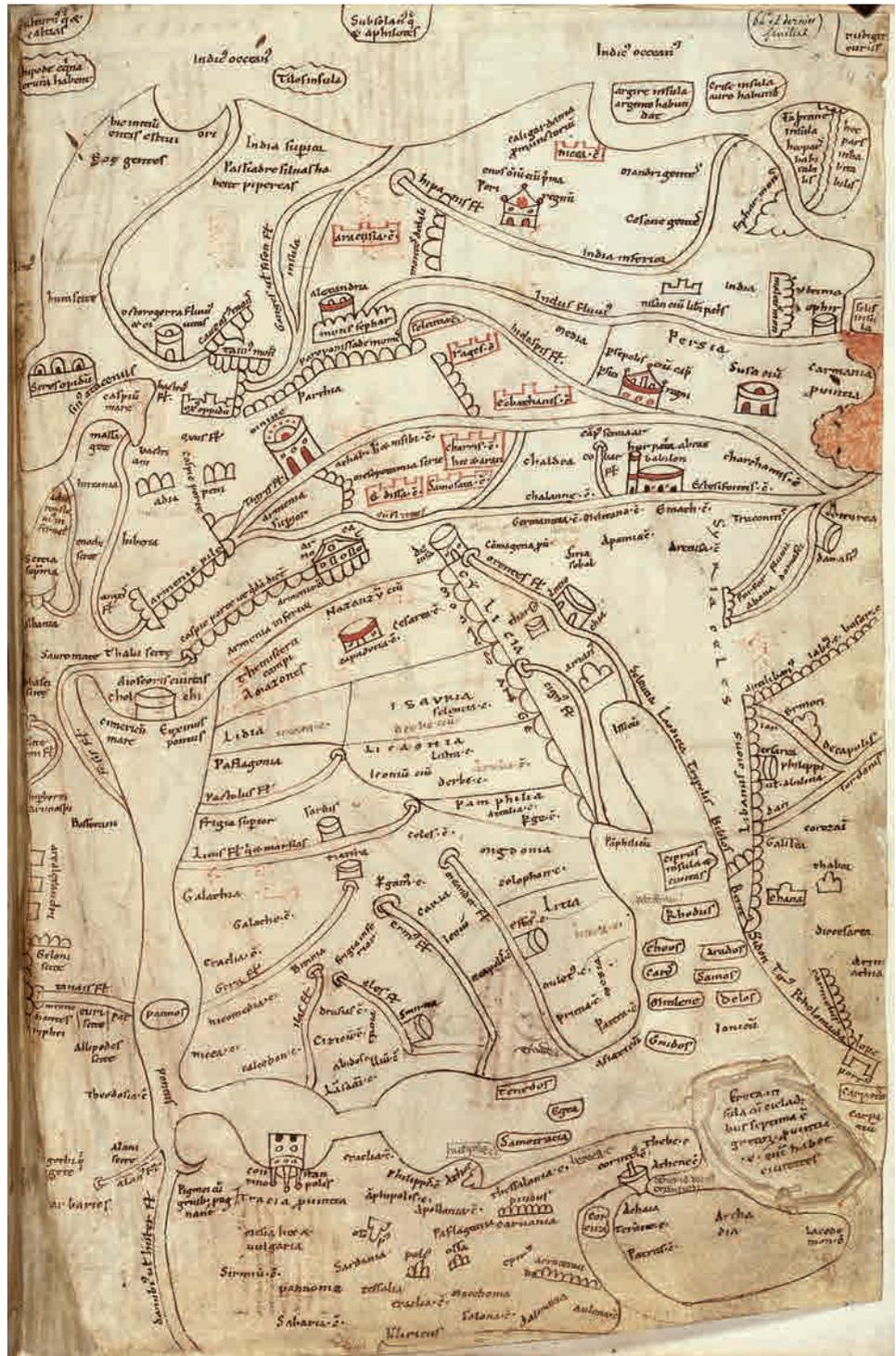




Fig. 06a

Fig. 06/06a: St Jerome's 'Map of Asia' dates from 420 CE, but only a twelfth-century copy has reached us. The map has east at the top and shows the region of western Asia. The semicircles are the mountains and the rivers are shown with double lines. Hieronymus (St Jerome, c. 348–420), who was an interpreter of the Bible, translated this from the work of Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea (c. 260–340), entitled *Onomastikon*, which was a representation of the biblical places and names. The Black Sea (Pontus Euxinus) is shown rather long and narrow at the bottom left of the map. The Caspian Sea (Caspium mare) is shown in part about three-quarters of the way up the page. At the top of the map is the Indian Ocean. Other countries shown include

Babylon, Persia, Chaldea and Greece. Armenia is situated between the Black and Caspian Seas, bearing the inscription *armenie pile*, the Gates of Armenia, which is a range of mountains, leading into Armenia proper. The rivers Arax and Tigris have their sources at each end of these mountains. Below them is Noah's Ark, resting on top of another range of mountains, above which we see *armenia superior*, with *armenia inferior* written below the Ark. Cities shown include Edessa, Samosata and Charrhae. Neighbouring countries shown are Hiberia (Iberia), Parthia, Chaldea, Colchis, Albania and Adiapeni, south-east of the River Arax. The detail map Fig. 06a shows the area of Armenia.



Fig. 07: Abu Ishaq Ibrahim Ibn Mohammad al Farsi, known as al-Istakhri, lived during the tenth century (died c. 957 CE) and was one of the most important early Arab historians and geographers. Originally a Persian from the province of Fars, he travelled all over the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean region and in c. 950 wrote his famous *Kitab al-Masalik wa al-Mamalik* (*Book of Routes and Realms*). This manuscript is in Farsi and contains a map of the world in the Balkhi style, which has south at the top and is mainly concerned with the Islamic countries. The copy shown here is from an 1836 Persian manuscript, made in Baghdad. It contains 18 other maps of the Middle East region. In addition to the world map, copies of al-Istakhri's manuscripts usually contain 18 to 20 maps of various regions of the Islamic world, including those of Iraq, Mesopotamia, Egypt, North Africa, the Persian Gulf, Kerman, Khorasan, Fars,

Sahastan (Sistan), Khawrazm (Oxiana), Khazar (Caspian) and a map entitled 'Aran, Azerbaijan and Armenia'. This last one is the only map where two non-Muslim countries, Armenia and Aran, are shown (see Fig. 08).

The large sea shown on the left is a combination of the Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean with four floating islands. That on the right is the Mediterranean, with the downward curving Aegean leading to the Black Sea, which should be the bulge at the end of the curved line. However, this could also be the Caspian Sea, which is not shown separately. The blue circle at bottom left is the Aral Sea. The large river at the top is the Nile, whose five tributaries are fed from the Mountains of the Moon in Africa.

The map shows Armaniyeh (Armenia) located south of the Black (or Caspian) Sea, next to (Iranian) Azerbaijan.



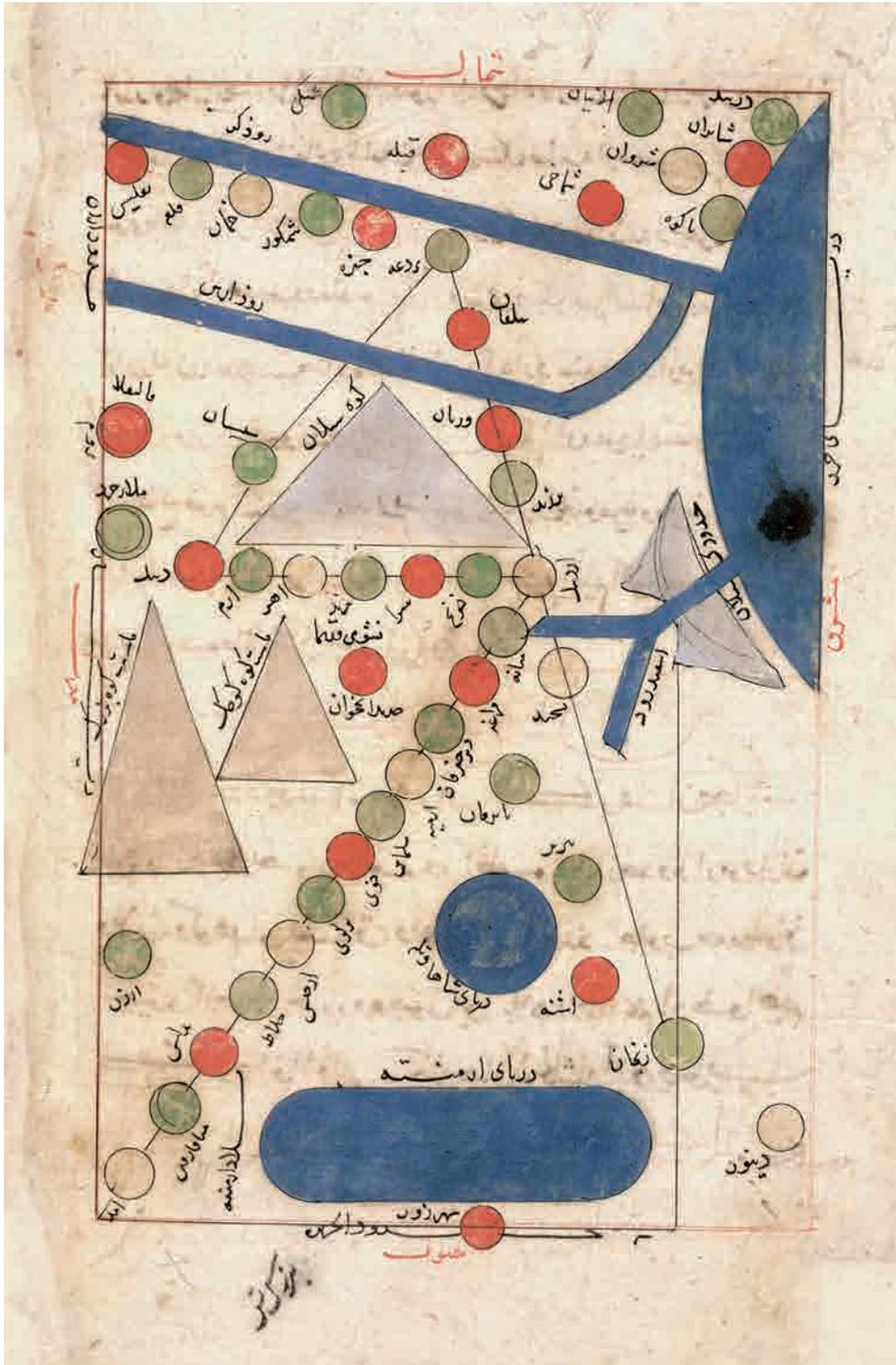


Fig. 08: This is the map of 'Armenia, Aran and Aderbaigan' (Azerbaijan) by al-Istakhri, from his *Kitab al-Masalik wa al-Mamalik*, copied in the middle of the fourteenth century. In the map the cities are represented by circles and the mountains by pyramids. It is interesting to see the names of the towns appear with some variations in their spellings. Along the western shores of the Caspian we see Baku (green), Shabran (red) and Derbend (green), with Shirwan (yellow) further inland. The westernmost town along the River Kura is Tiflis (red). There is another river flowing into the Caspian, one of the tributaries of which is named Sefid Rud (White River) in Iran. South of the River Arax, at the western edge of the map we note the city of Kalikka (Erzerum: old Karin, in red) and Malazgerd (green). South of Mount Sabalan, from the right we see the cities of Ardabil (yellow), Khunj, Sara (Sarab, in red), Marand, Ahar, Eram and Dabil (Dvin, in red). The red circle appearing below is described as the old city of Nashua, now Nakhijevan. The twin peaks of Ararat here are given their Armenian names: Small mountain of Masses (Masis) and Great mountain of Masses, south-west of which lies the city of Arzan (in green). The road leading south-west from Ardabil is lined with the cities of Mianeh (green), Maraghe, Dakharrghan, Salmas, Khoy, Berkri, Arjesh, Khlat, Bitlis (red), etc. Below this road we see Bilad Armanieh (region of Armenia). The circular blue lake is the Lake of the Kings or Deilam (Lake Chahi or Urmia). The larger oval lake below it is named Daryaye Armanieh, Armenian Sea, denoting Lake Van. Unusually for Islamic maps, here the north is at the top.

Fig. 09: This is the map of Arminiya, Aran and Azerbaijan by ibn-Hawqal, taken from the abridged version of his geographical book entitled *Surat al-Ard* (*Picture of the Earth*). The book contains a world map as well as a number of regional ones. In the map the rivers are coloured blue and the mountains light brown. This is the only map in this book with a northward orientation. The two blue strips are the rivers Arax and Kura, flowing into the Caspian Sea, in the middle of which, in larger script, the legend says Aran (Albania). Below, south of the Arax River in large and elongated lettering we can see Azerbaijan and lower still, towards the west, between the right extremity of the river at the bottom of the map and the egg-like outline of the Buhaire Kabutan (the Armenian name for Lake Oroumieh) the bold legend reads Arminiye (Armenia). The cities of Armenia are listed as Khlat, Dvin, Warthan, Kalikka (Karin or Erzurum), Arzan, Bitlis and Miafarghin.



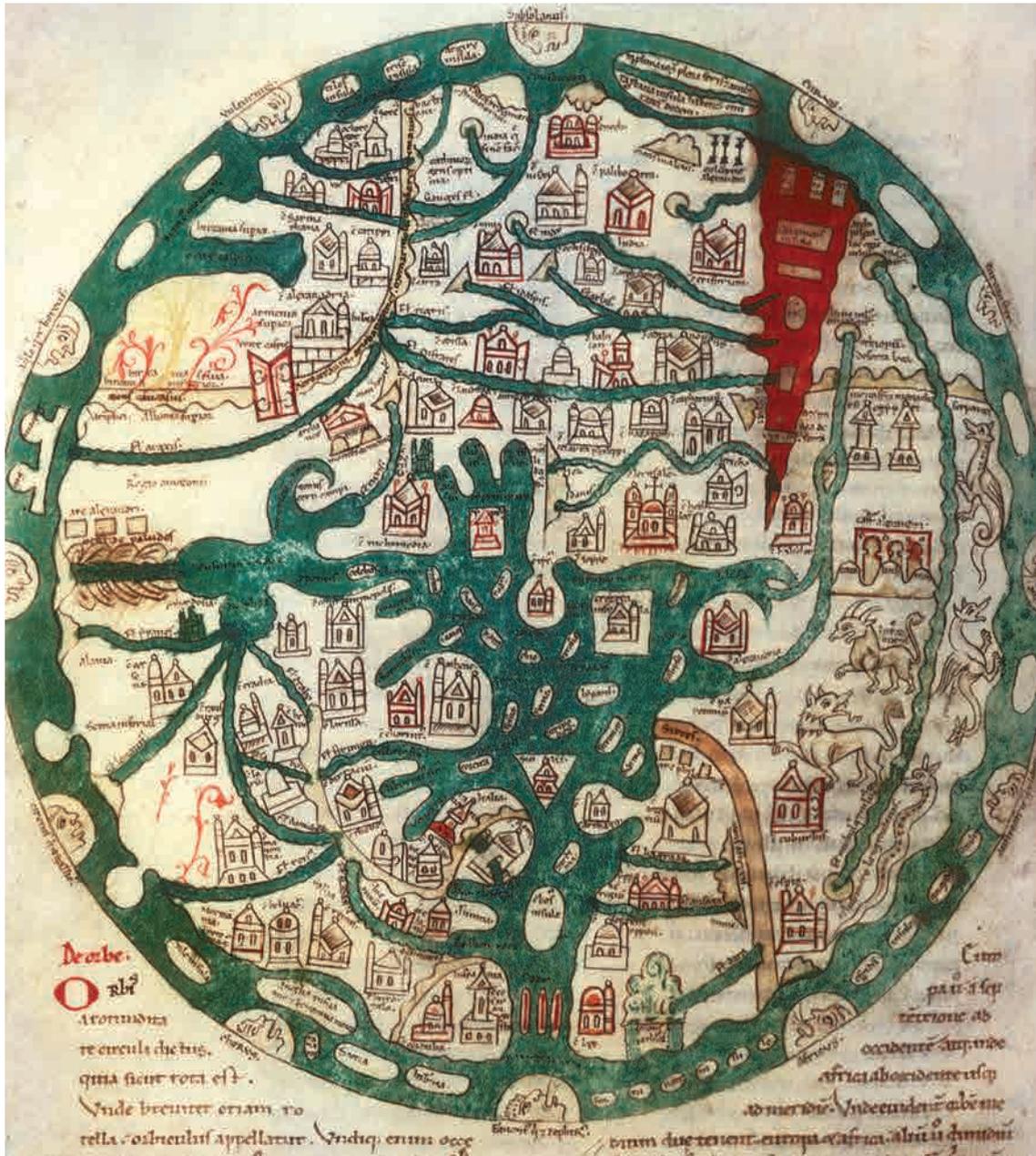


Fig. 10: Isidore's 'Map of the World' belongs to the T-O category of maps. There are many copies of T-O maps in the various works of Isidore, Bishop of Seville (c. 560–636), which are mostly diagrammatic and simple. However, others such as this reproduction, from an eleventh-century manuscript copy, can be more elaborate. This map is in the basic shape of the T-O maps, with east at the

top. The stem of the T, represents the Mediterranean Sea with many islands, occupies a large portion of the map. The Red Sea is in the shape of a sharp inverted cone and is painted red. Mount Ararat with Noah's Ark on its peak, is situated near the upper left-hand corner of the Mediterranean, next to Armenia. The accent of the map is on Europe, where many cities and countries are shown.

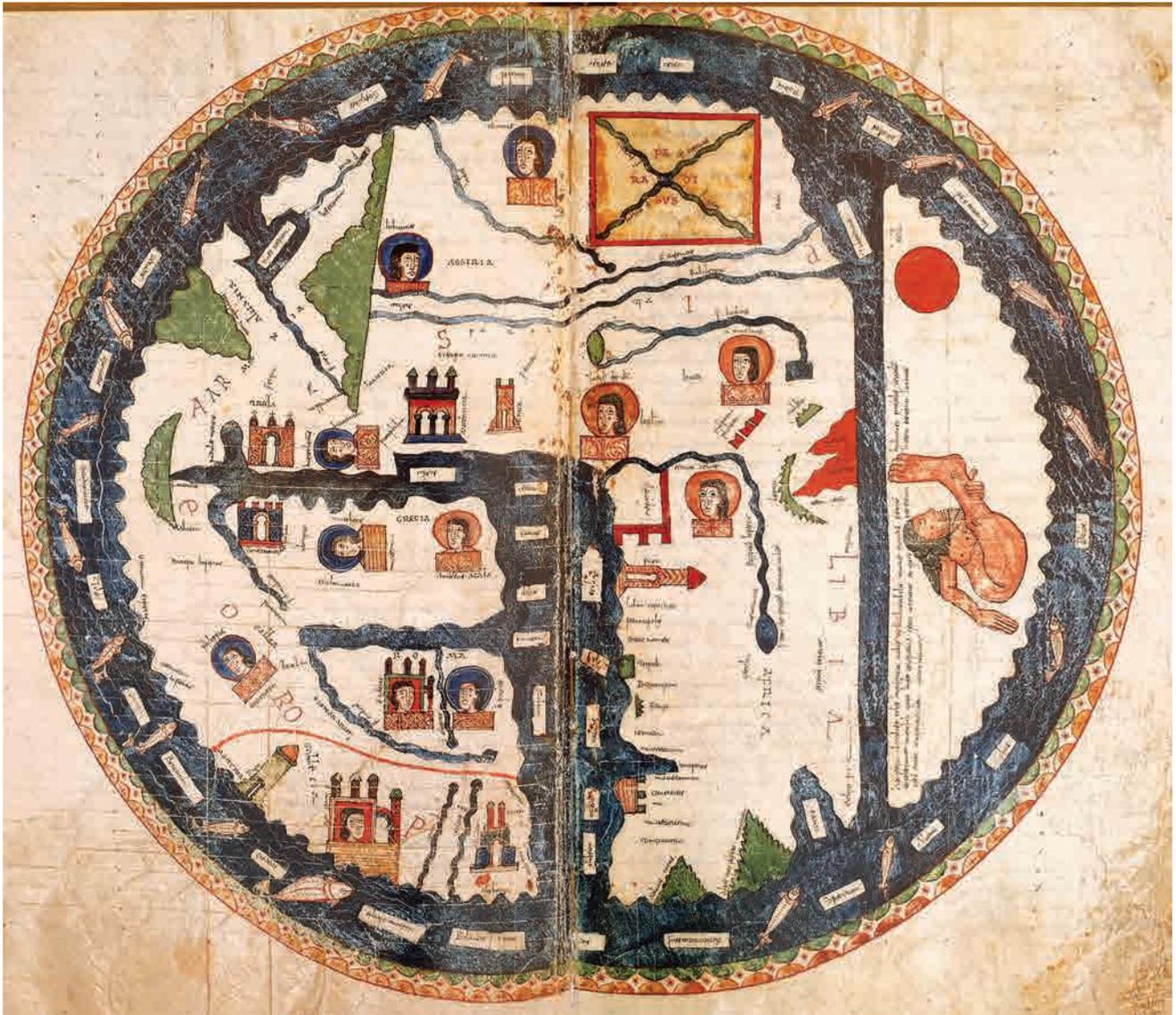


Fig. 11: The so-called 'Beatus World Map' is a T-O map of the world from a twelfth-century manuscript, produced by the Spanish Benedictine monk Beatus of Liebana (c.730–798 CE) in his book *Apocalipsin*, originally written in the eighth century in Spain. This is a beautifully decorated and coloured map, inserted in a manuscript kept in the library of the Cathedral of Burgo de Osma in Spain. This is a decorative T-O map featuring the Mediterranean as its most important component. It is slightly oval with east at the top and includes a few vignettes of various buildings, some rivers as well as islands in the Mediterranean and in the surrounding ocean. The rivers and the seas are coloured blue and mountains, green.

The river Tanais (Don) separating Asia from Europe is shown as a wide waterway issuing from the mountains of Ripheimontes and going to Padules Meotis (incorrectly spelt, should be Paludes Maeotis – Azov Marshes). The source of the Nile is in central Africa. It first flows east then making a sharp left turn to flow into the Mediterranean, remaining nameless throughout. In northern Asia, just to the east of Troy and the Black Sea, one of the largest provinces shown is Armenia. It is located between Aluania (Albania) and Frigia and the mountains of Aquilonis, Mons Caucasus and Mons Taurus. The rivers Tigris and Euphrates flow from the south of these mountains down into the southern seas.





Fig. 12: Abu Abdullah Mohammad Ibn al-Sharif al-Idrisi or Idrisi (1099–1166) was one of the most important Arab cartographers of the twelfth century. Utilizing the sketches of the Greek sailors and contemporary lore, in 1154 he wrote *The Book of Roger*, accompanied by maps of the world, which consisted of 70 small maps in Arabic, depicting various parts of the world. Shown here is a section from the ‘Large Map of Idrisi’ as it is known today, as reconstructed by Konrad Miller in 1927. The map shows the Black Sea in on the right and the Caspian Sea: khazar: can be seen on the left of the map. In this reconstruction the names are in Arabic, written in the Latin script. The map is oriented with South at the top.

Armenia is divided into three parts, Armenia Maior, called aali arminia, which is situated near Lake Van, Armenia Minor, which is called asafel arminia and is to the north-west of Lake Van, which here is called argis. In the middle of the two lakes there is yet another Armenia, bakiet arminia, meaning ‘the rest of Armenia’. Other recognizable town names are bidlis, kalikala (Karin, today’s Erzerum), halat (Akhlat), hui (Khoy), salmas and nasua (Nakhijevan). Even in this map of 1154, biladralan (Albania) is shown located north of the River Arax and bilad aderbaigan (Azerbaijan) south of the river. All three countries of Aran, Azerbaijan and Armenia are closely linked.

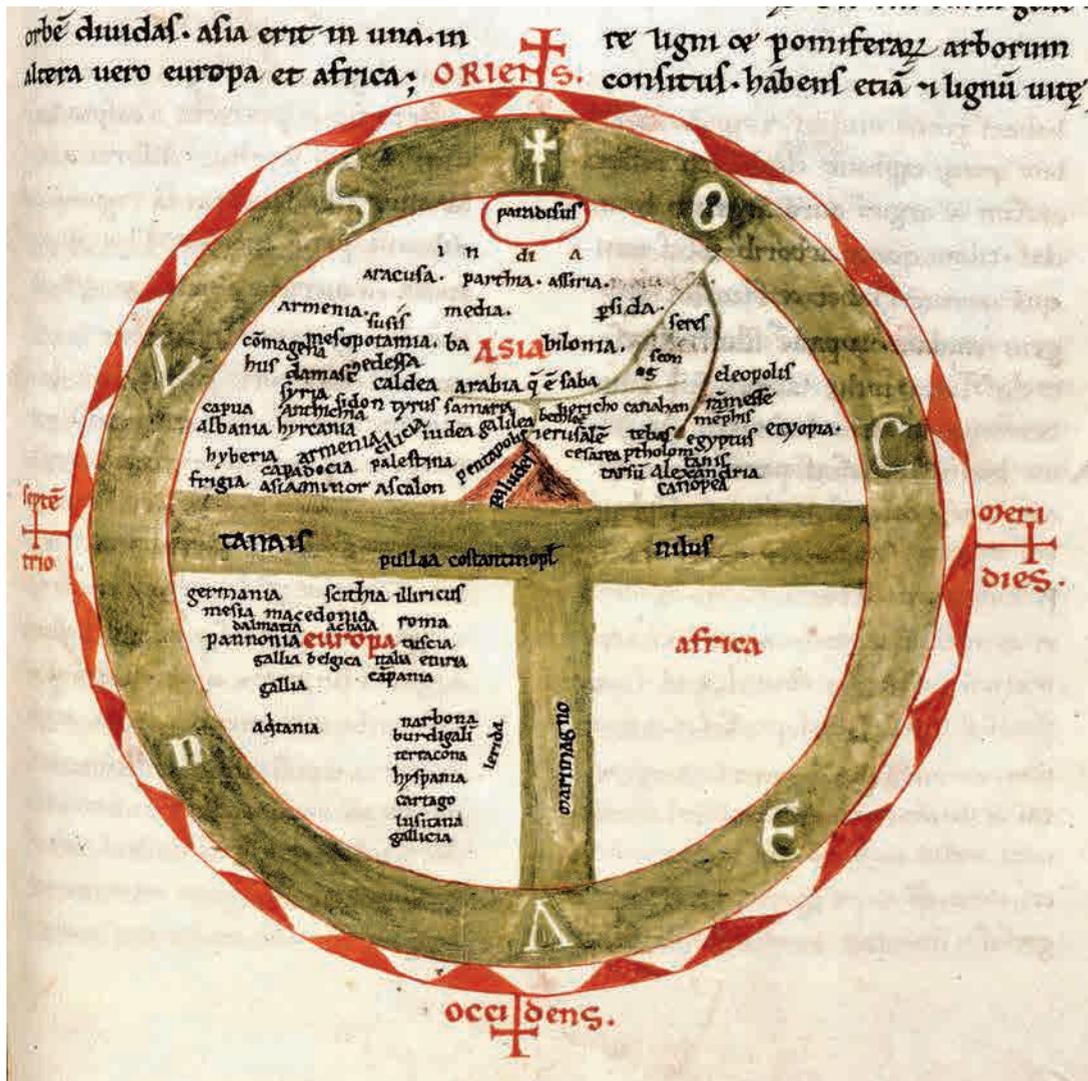


Fig. 13: This T-O map is from a copy of Isidore's seventh-century manuscript of the *Etymologiae* kept in the library of Méjanes in Aix-en-Provence. The map is more elaborate than the others found in most manuscript and printed versions of the same book. The circular T-O map is shown surrounded by Oceanus, which is the ocean that surrounds the inhabited earth. The earth has been divided into the three main continents of Asia, Africa and Europe by the T-shaped waterways, the vertical stem of which bears the legend Mari Magno (the Great Sea: the Mediterranean), while its horizontal arms are named Tanais and Nilus. Europe bears the legends of 25 countries, including Germania, Scythia, Mesia, Macedonia, Dalmatia, Pannonia, Roma, Tuscia (Tuscany), Galia (twice), Belgica, Italia, Hispania, Cartago, Galicia and ten others. Africa has been left devoid of any symbols or

legends, while Asia includes some of the African provinces and towns as we know them today. In Asia the only religious connections of the map are the Paradisus (Earthly Paradise), shown at the eastern edge of the world (top) under the cross appearing inside the outer sea (Oceanus), and the cities of Jerusalem, Bethleem and Jericho. The four cardinal points of the map are marked with red crosses. The area of Asia is filled with many toponyms, mostly being names of provinces and towns, including Hyberia (Iberia), Albania and two Armenias, one being Greater Armenia and the other, located at the southwest of the first one, near the area marked as Cilicia, is the Cilician Kingdom of Armenia, which flourished at the time of the making of the map and had close ties with Europe. These are located in relatively correct positions.



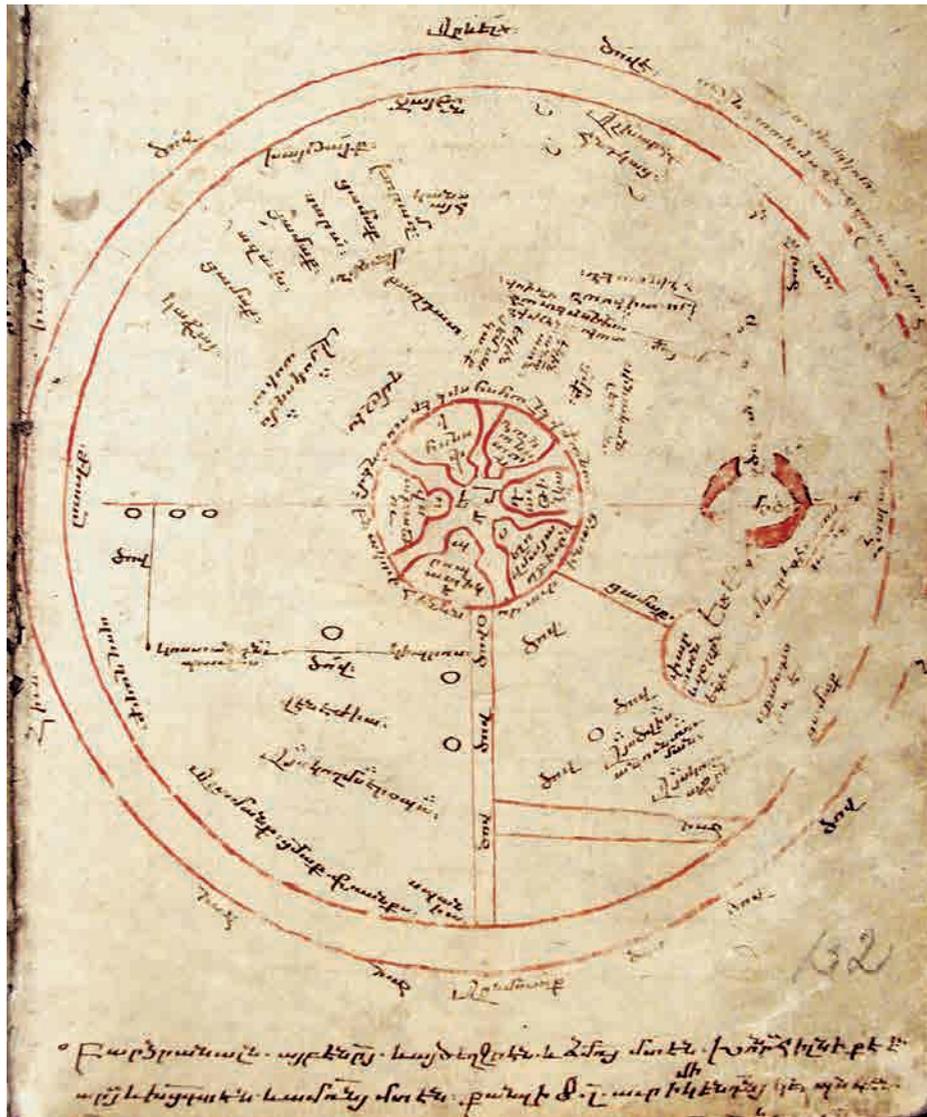


Fig. 14: This anonymous T-O map is from an Armenian manuscript, which, based on analysis of its inscriptions, are dated from the late 13th or early 14th centuries. The centre of the map is occupied by the city of Jerusalem, drawn out of proportion, showing its gates and quarters. Mount Sinai could be seen to its south-east, with the Red Sea to its south. The left of the stem of the T bears the inscription “This side is Eropa”, then the cartographer carries on with the names of the countries of Bulgars, Alemans, Franks and Spania. More centrally the city of Venejia (Venice) is shown. The left branch of the T, starting from the island of Cyprus, is the Aegean Sea, extending to the Bosphorus, near which we see Constantinople, and then turning sharp right towards Asia. Here the Black and Azov Seas are

represented as lines, which are the extensions of the River Don. On the right of the stem of the T we see the words This side is Africa. The area contains a red circle with the inscription Pharaoh’s army in Egypt. This is the Red Sea including its parting to allow the Jews to return to Palestine, The lion’s share of the map is occupied by Asia. Here, from the centre left of the map (north) we can see the country of Russ (Russia) located at the borders of Europe and then the countries of Kafa, Azach, Sara and Khawrazm (Oxiana). At the eastern edge of the map, the countries of Khaytai (China), Jaboun (Japan) and Countries of India are shown. Nearer to the centre of the map we see the cities of Merdin, Baghdad and Damashq (Damascus).

Fig. 15





Fig. 15a

Fig. 15/15a: This Psalter map of 1250 is from a manuscript *Book of Psalms*. The map of the world is in the form of the Christian T-O maps. Although at the time that this map was produced there was sufficient cartographical information to enable the mapmakers to draw a relatively correct map of Europe, the maker of this map chose to adhere to Christian religious topography. Thus religious tradition overruled existing scientific knowledge.

The map is dominated by the figure of Christ, holding the T-O globe in his hand, flanked by incense-burning angels. The world is surrounded by the ocean and 12 winds. Fantastic creatures, which supposedly lived in distant lands, are also depicted in the lower right-hand section of the map, where Africa is placed. East is at the

top of the map. Paradise is also there, shown with its four rivers flowing out of it, inhabited by Adam and Eve. In accordance with biblical tradition, the lands of Gog and Magog are shown isolated with protective walls, and the Red Sea includes a passage, denoting the route that Moses took.

Jerusalem is at the centre of the map and of the world. Mount Ararat and Noah's Ark in the shape of a crescent are at the ten o'clock position. Next to the Ark one can see the country of Armenia in red. The map contains the names of many countries and cities as well as an abundance of other information.

The detail map Fig. 15a shows the region of south Caucasus and Armenia.

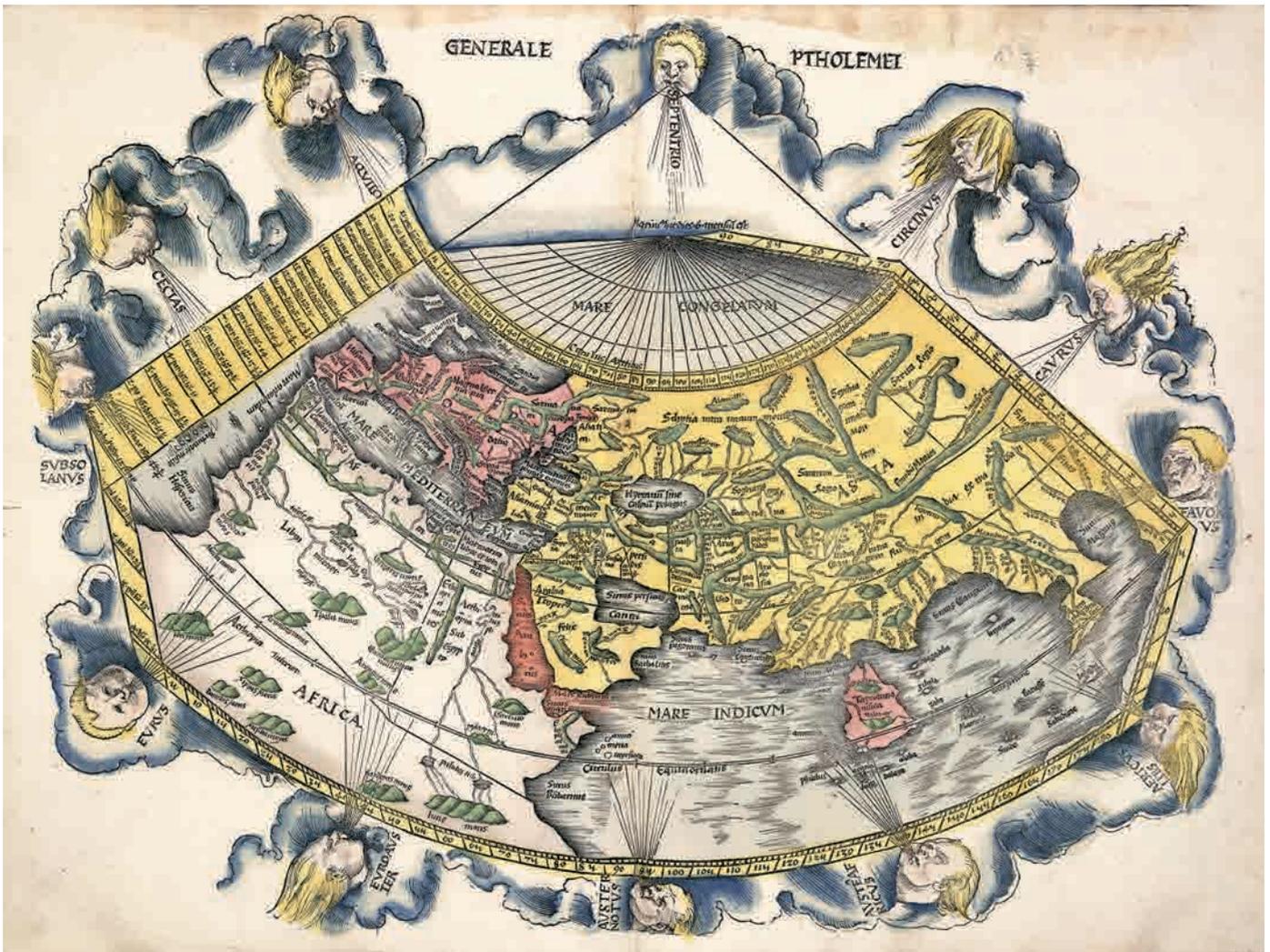


Fig. 16

Fig. 16/16a: This 'Map of the World' is from Ptolemy's *Geography*, prepared by Martin Waldseemüller and printed in Strasbourg (Argentorati) in the year 1513. It is one of the maps forming part of the original 27 by the author.

The world is surrounded by the 12 main winds and is divided into the climatic zones. The seas are coloured blue, except the Red Sea, which is red. The mountains are green. Armenia Maior and Minor are shown between the Black (Pontus Euxinus) and the Caspian (Hyrcanean) Seas. The Indian Ocean is shown landlocked and the limits of the known world are left incomplete.

Albania is shown north of Armenia Maior but the map contains no country named Azerbaijan.

In the region south of the Caucasus we can see Armenia Maior and

Armenia Minor as well as Albania and Colchis. Media, which later was renamed the Iranian province of Azerbaijan, is placed east of Armenia Maior, south of Araxes River. South of Armenia Maior the ancient country of Assyria and Mesopotamia are depicted. Armenia Minor is placed west of Armenia Maior with Cappadocia to its west and Cilicia to its south.

In the region south of the Caucasus we can see Armenia Maior and Armenia Minor as well as Albania and Colchis. Media, which later was renamed the Iranian province of Azerbaijan, is placed east of Armenia Maior, south of Araxes River. South of Armenia Maior the ancient country of Assyria and Mesopotamia are depicted. For details of the area of Armenia see the map on the opposite page.





Fig. 17: This is the 'Third Map of Asia' from one of the earliest printed volumes of Ptolemy's *Geography* prepared by Nicolaus Germanus. It is printed on high-quality vellum in Ulm by Leonard Holm in 1482 and is hand-coloured. The map is entitled Colchis, Iberia, Albania and Armenia Maior. The first is Colchis, located on the eastern shore of the Black Sea (Pontus Euxinus) surrounded by the Caucasus mountain range. The second is Iberia, completely surrounded by the Caucasus Mountains. These two together today form most of the country of Georgia. The third is Albania (today's territory of the

Republic of Azerbaijan), which is on the western shore of the Caspian Sea and is also bordered by the Caucasus mountain range.

To the south of these countries lies the much larger Armenia Maior, where various important towns, rivers, lakes and mountains are also depicted. Armenia Minor lies west of Armenia Maior, separated by the River Euphrates. Other countries bordering Armenia Maior are Mede (Media, later the Iranian province of Azerbaijan) and Assyria. It must be noted that the names shown are the Greek versions, which are sometimes difficult to decipher.



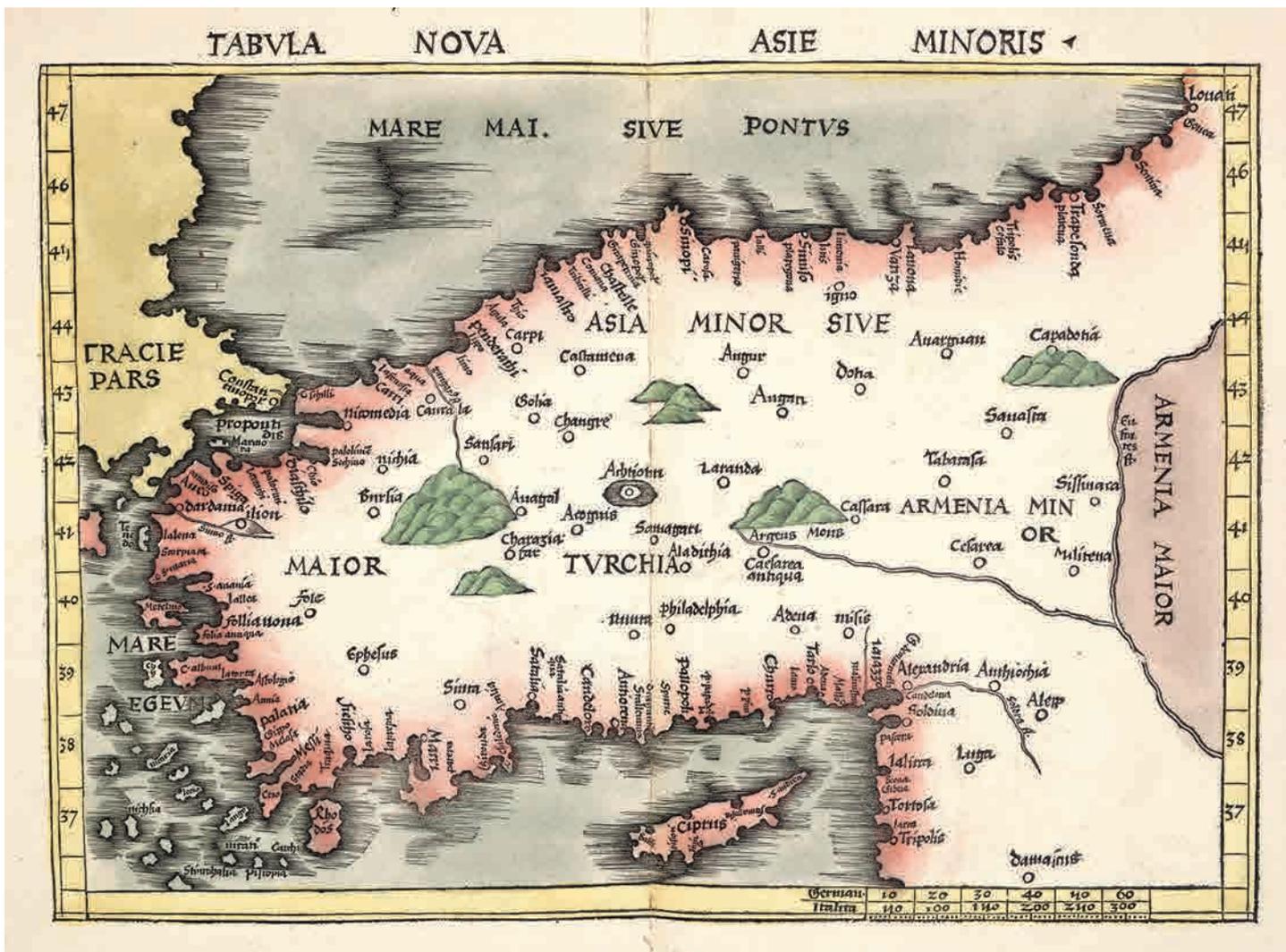


Fig. 18: This map of Asia Minor is from Ptolemy's *Geography*, prepared by Waldseemüller, edited by Eszler and Ubelin and printed in Strasbourg (Argentorati) by Schott in 1513. It is one of the additional maps appended to the original 27 maps by the author. Depicted here are Anatolia and Armenia Minor. The title is 'Tabula Nova Asiae Minoris' (New Map of Asia Minor), showing Asia Minor with only a few towns and landmarks depicted inland, while details are given for the shorelines and coastal towns. This implies that the map was possibly made for navigational purposes and resembles portolan maps (see page 17). For the first time inland the peninsula of Asia Minor is named Turchia, while to the east of it, just out of the peninsula the region is named Armenia Minor. Armenia Maior is placed east of the river Euphrates.

Fig. 19

(For descriptions see the next page)



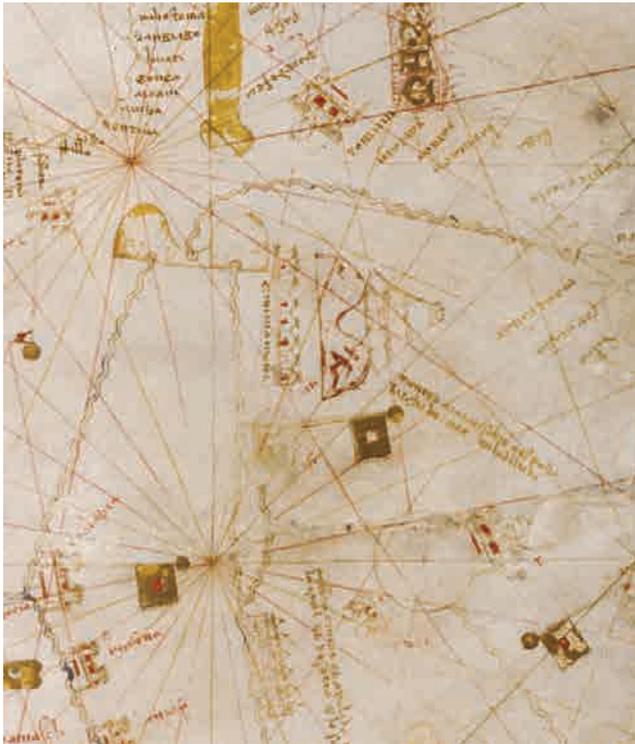


Fig. 19a

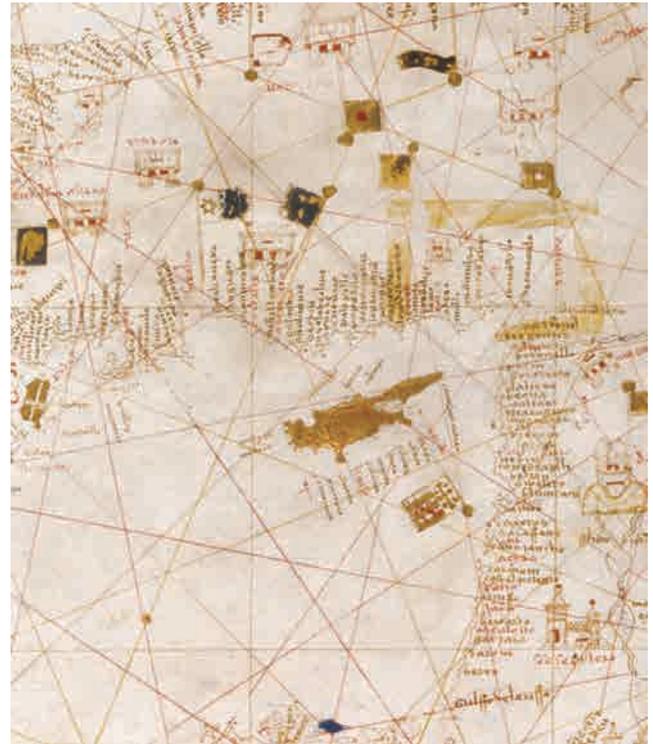


Fig. 19b

Fig. 19/19a/19b: Mecia de Viladestes was a Catalan cartographer of the fifteenth century, whose portolan chart of 1413, known as the 'Viladestes portolan', is depicted here (only the eastern half is shown). The chart is drawn on vellum and has vividly coloured illuminations, and the legends are in Catalan. This is a large and typically Catalan portolan, since in addition to the coastal towns and features it also shows many inland details, such as cities, oases, mountain ranges and rivers. A few kings are also shown, including two nomad chiefs mounted on camels. Africa is shown with many details. It shares many similarities with the *Catalan Atlas*, prepared in 1375 by Cresques for King Charles V of France and kept in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris (Ref. MS Espagnol 30). The Armenian Highlands are shown at the extreme right of this chart,

below the Black Sea, from where the two great rivers Tigris and Euphrates are fed. Mount Ararat is also shown, with Noah's Ark in the shape of a tent. This is the most common form in which Armenia is shown in Catalan charts of the era (see details 19a and 20a). Fig. 19a is the detail of Armenian Highlands from the main map. The rivers Euphrates and Tigris are shown flowing from the highland to the Persian Gulf, while the River Araxes flows westward to the Caspian. Mount Ararat is shown sideways, with Noah's Ark perched on top. Fig. 19b is a detail from the map showing the north-eastern corner of the Mediterranean where the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia was located. The Cilician cities from Lanuzo, Tarsso to Alexandreta are surrounded by a thick green frame as an indicator of friendly ports for the Crusaders.

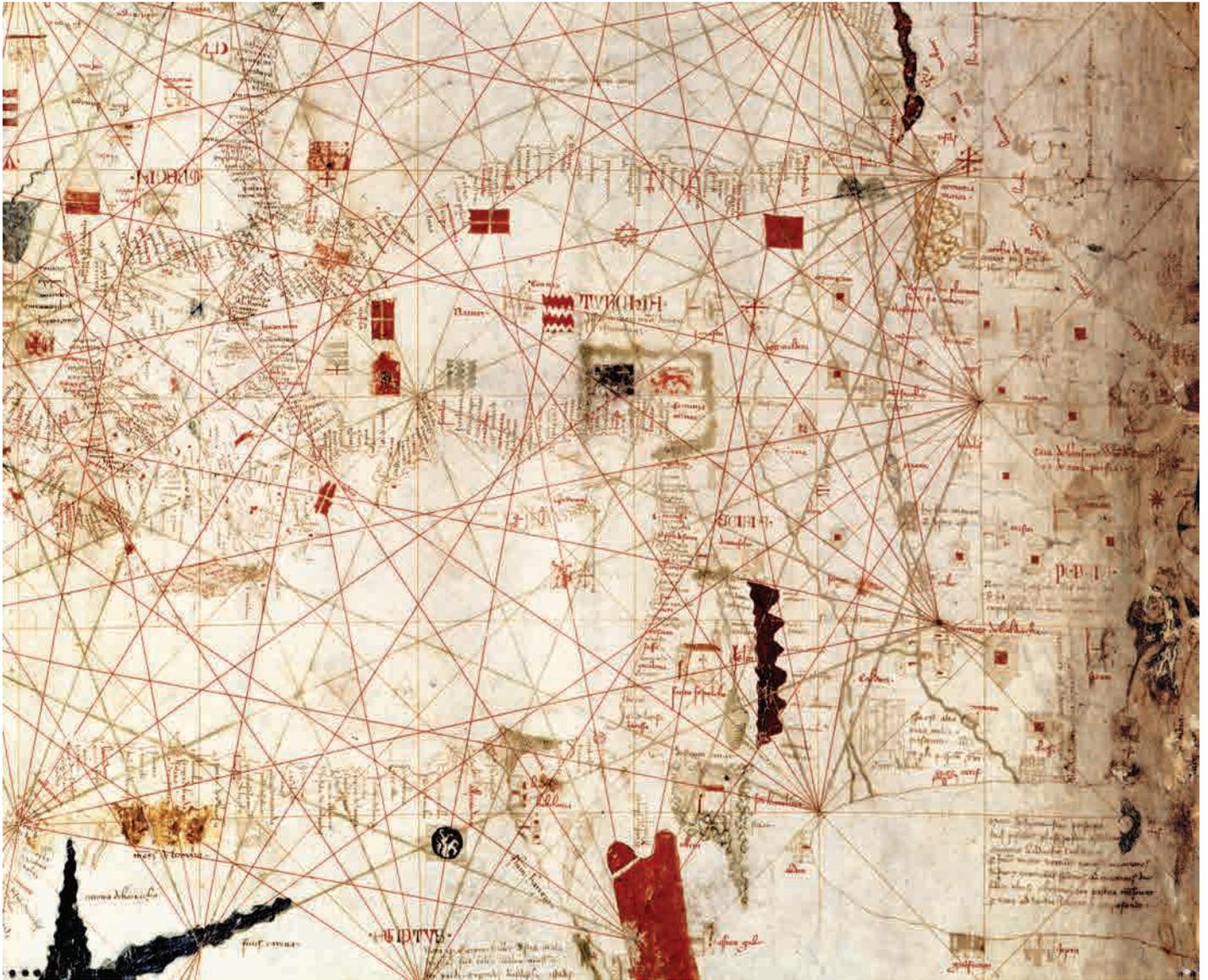


Fig. 20: Angelino Dulcert's portolan of the Mediterranean Sea is one of the earliest dated and signed charts (1339) that has reached us. As in most Catalan charts, in addition to the details of the coast and the ports, the chart also shows some features and details of the inland areas. For details see the following page.





Fig. 20a

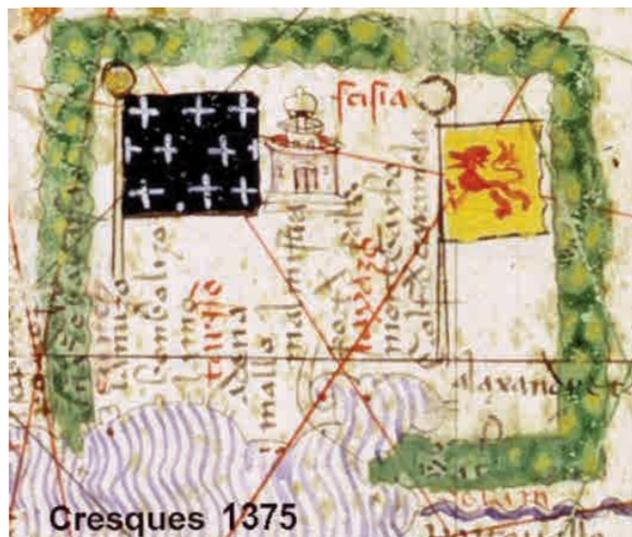


Fig. 20c

Fig. 20a depicts the south-eastern corner of the Black Sea. At the centre of the rhumb lines we can read Armenia Maior, which includes two large mountains in green, from where the two rivers Tigris and Euphrates are fed. Just below this inscription is Mount Ararat, shown sideway, with Archa de Noe (Noah's Ark) perched on top. The town of Arzengam (Erzinjan) is shown on the banks of the River Euphrates. This is a typical way of showing the area of Armenia in almost all portolans, as can be seen from the other portolan charts included in this book.

In **Fig. 20b** the ports of the Cilician kingdom of Armenia are depicted as Erminia Minor and located in the north-eastern corner of the Mediterranean, framed with light green. This is done to distinguish the Christian Armenian ports from the neighbouring Islamic dominated ones. The flags of the kingdom of Armenian Cilicia are also shown. Three of the important ports are shown in red: Laiazo (Ayas), Tarsso (Tarsus) and Cucho (Korykos). The two flags of Cilicia are also shown.

Fig. 20c is from the same corner of the Mediterranean as shown in another famous portolan atlas kept in the Bibliothèque National in Paris. This is the Catalan Atlas of Abraham Cresques dating from 1375. Here the ports and the Cilician flags may also be seen.



Fig. 20b

Fig. 21/21a: Pierre Desceliers' (1487–1553) portolan chart of the world entitled 'Planisphere' is reproduced here. On this map the world extends from the Americas to Japan and the Pacific Ocean. It is a very large map on vellum, beautifully produced, illustrated and decorated, and vividly coloured. This chart has details and decorations as well as descriptive texts, produced in 1550 in Montmorency, France. The interesting feature of the map is that the texts and decorations to the north of the equator are inverted. It can be deduced that due to its large size it was unsuitable for hanging and was intended for spreading over a table, where it could easily be read from both sides while walking around it. The overall size of the map is 215x165 cm. It shows the





flat plane, without any projection, which makes it similar to Mercator's variable scale projection in shape only, lacking the latter's accuracy. The map depicts all of the world with special emphasis on ports and navigational requirements. Inland cities and countries are also shown, together with drawings of city views, people and animals, as well as historical and mythical descriptive texts. Multicolour compass and wind direction lines, and loxodromes criss-cross the map. As a result of the interest of merchants in Far Eastern islands and seas are depicted in the chart, most of them imaginary. Fig. 21a on the following page is a detail from the region of the South Caucasus and Armenia.



Fig. 21a: This is the section of the map in Fig. 21 on the previous pages, which shows the area of the Middle East and Caucasus, where south is at the top. Armenia is in the centre of the map, with Media to its left (west), Asia Minor to the right (west) and Georgia below (north) it. The shape of the Black Sea (inverted) is recognizable, while the Caspian is still depicted with its erroneous oval shape, corrected only in the 1720s during the reign of Peter the Great of Russia.



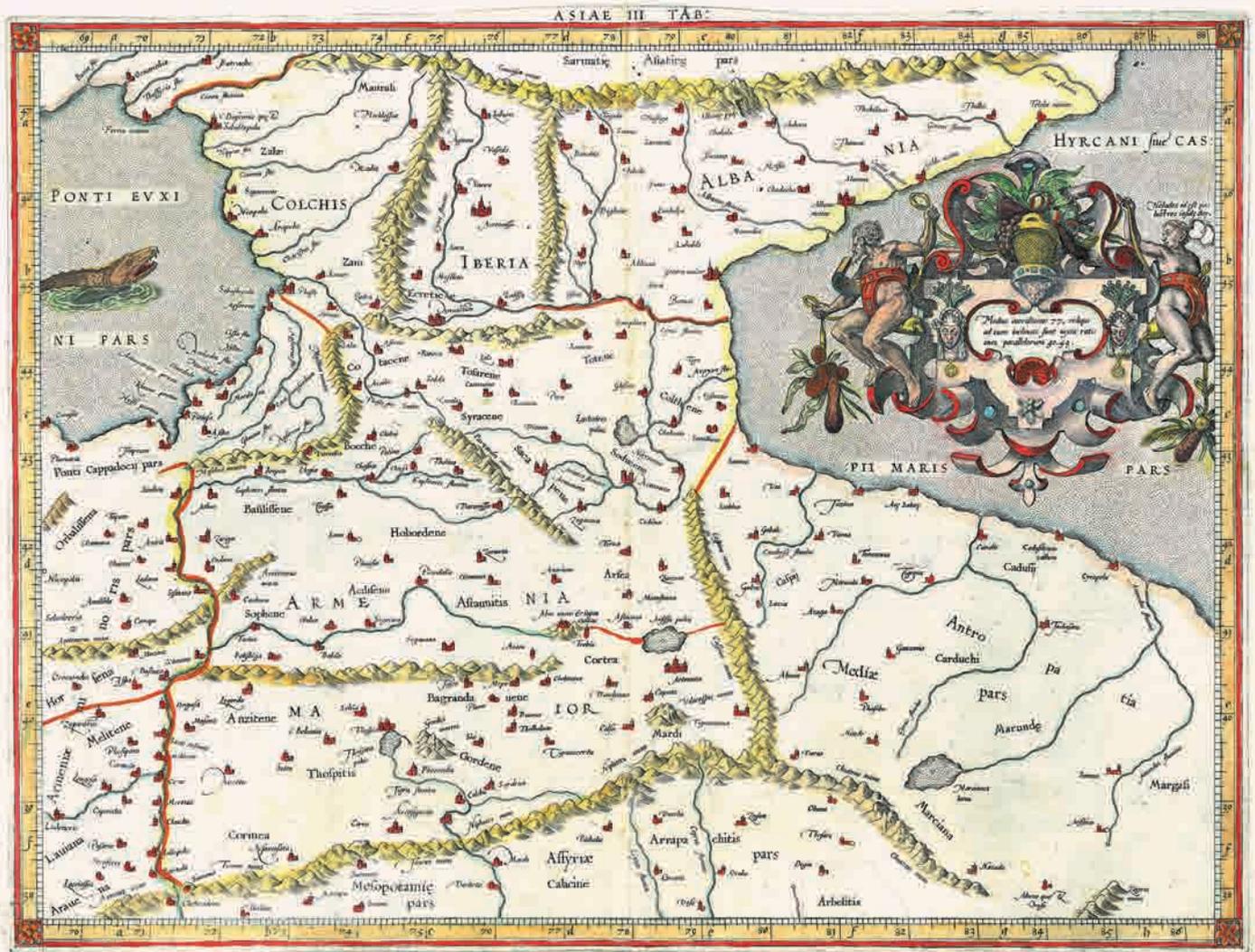


Fig. 22: Jodocus Hondius' (1563–1612) map of 'Armenia Maior, Iberia, Colchis et Albania' is from his *Mercator Atlas*, itself based on Ptolemy's *Geography*. The atlas was first printed in 1605, with numerous later editions. This example was revised by Jodocus Hondius and published by his sons in 1698. The map has a simple decorative cartouche placed in the Caspian Sea and one of the famous Mercator sea serpents in the Black Sea. There are two major lakes shown in Armenia Maior, Thospitis and Arssis (Arjesh), both of which in Armenian refer to Lake Van.

Locations of towns and cities are very approximate, a feature common to Ptolemaic maps. Armenia Minor begins from the western edge of the map. Atropatene (Azerbaijan) is shown south of the River Arax, within the territory of Media (Persia). As in Fig. 17 and the other editions of Ptolemy's maps, the towns of Armenia that are easily recognizable are Thospitis (Van), Artameta, Artaxata (Artashat), Armauira (Armavir), Tigranocerta, Baugauana (Bagrewan), Arsamosata (Arshamshat), Naxuana (Nakhijevan), Chorsa (Kars) and Terva (Yerevan).



Fig. 23: This Islamic map of the world is from a copy of the Persian translation of al-Qazwini's *Athar-al Bilad wa Akhbar al-Ibad* (*Monuments of Places and the History of God's Bondsmen*) estimated to date from 1580.

Like many other maps of al-Qazwini it shows climatic zones and indeed the emphasis of the map is on climatic observations and detailed descriptions. The map has south at the top. In the northern zone the inscription reads: "There is not enough sun and due to the cold there are no animals here." The southern climatic zone is inscribed: "There is no information about this region" and "Due to the extreme heat there are no animals in this region."

The sea to the left (east) is the Pacific Ocean and the one in the middle is the Indian Ocean with the Persian Gulf. Arabia is the

circular bulge protruding into the Indian Ocean. The River Nile is shown with eight tributaries, which join together to flow into the Mediterranean. The Black Sea branches from the Mediterranean and extends northwards to join the ocean at the north of the landmass. The Rivers Tigris and Euphrates are shown connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf. Parts of the Caspian Sea can be seen partially obscured by the binding in the centrefold of the map. The Rivers Arax and Kura are also depicted joining and flowing into the Caspian, the former connected to the Tigris and the latter to the Black Sea. Between the Tigris and Arax the inscription Armanieh (Armenia) can faintly be made out. Armenia is flanked by the cities of Tabriz and Erzerum.





Fig. 24: This map, entitled 'Alexandri Magni Macedonis Expeditio', is Map Z from Abraham Ortelius' (1528–98) atlas *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, published in Amsterdam, in Latin, in 1595. It covers the geographical area that Alexander conquered, starting with India and extending to Anatolia and Greece. In this map the two Armenian lakes Areesa and Thospitis are shown, which are in fact the Armenian names given to the same lake (Arjesh and

Tushpa). In all probability here they refer to the lakes of Van and Urmia, which are incorrectly shown connected with a river and being the source of the River Tigris. This error manifests itself in many maps of the same era.

The inset in the bottom left-hand section of the map is the Oracle of Ammon Jupiter. The cartouche is the dedication of the map by Ortelius to Henrico Schotio of Antwerp.



Fig. 25: Abraham Ortelius' 'Map of the World', from his *Speculum Orbis Terrarum* (*Atlas of the World*) of 1598, with the detail of the Middle East region.

In the Middle East and South Caucasus Ortelius only shows the countries of Armenia, Persia, Syria and Natolia, which is Anatolia: Asia Minor, later known as the Ottoman Empire.

In addition to the above countries, some cities, such as Derbent, Mosul, Tauris (Tabriz), Aleppo, Baldach (Baghdad), Siras (Shiraz) and Trebizonda (Trabizon), are also shown. The Caspian Sea is named the Mar de Bachu (Sea of Baku).





Fig. 26: This map of the 'Turkish Empire' is from Gerardus Mercator's (1512–94) *Atlas sive Cosmographicae Meditationes de Fabrica Mundi et Fabricati Figura*, published by Jodocus Hondius in Amsterdam in 1619. The map is found between pages 345 and 346 of the atlas.

This is another decorative map of the Turkish (Ottoman) Empire from Mercator's atlas, depicting the area ruled by the Sultan. This map is very similar to Ortelius' map of the same title, and errors in the names and shapes of the lakes and towns are repeated. The eastern part of Armenia in the yellow section is named 'Armenia', while the western part under the Ottoman rule in the green area, is entitled 'Turcomania' (see the texts section).

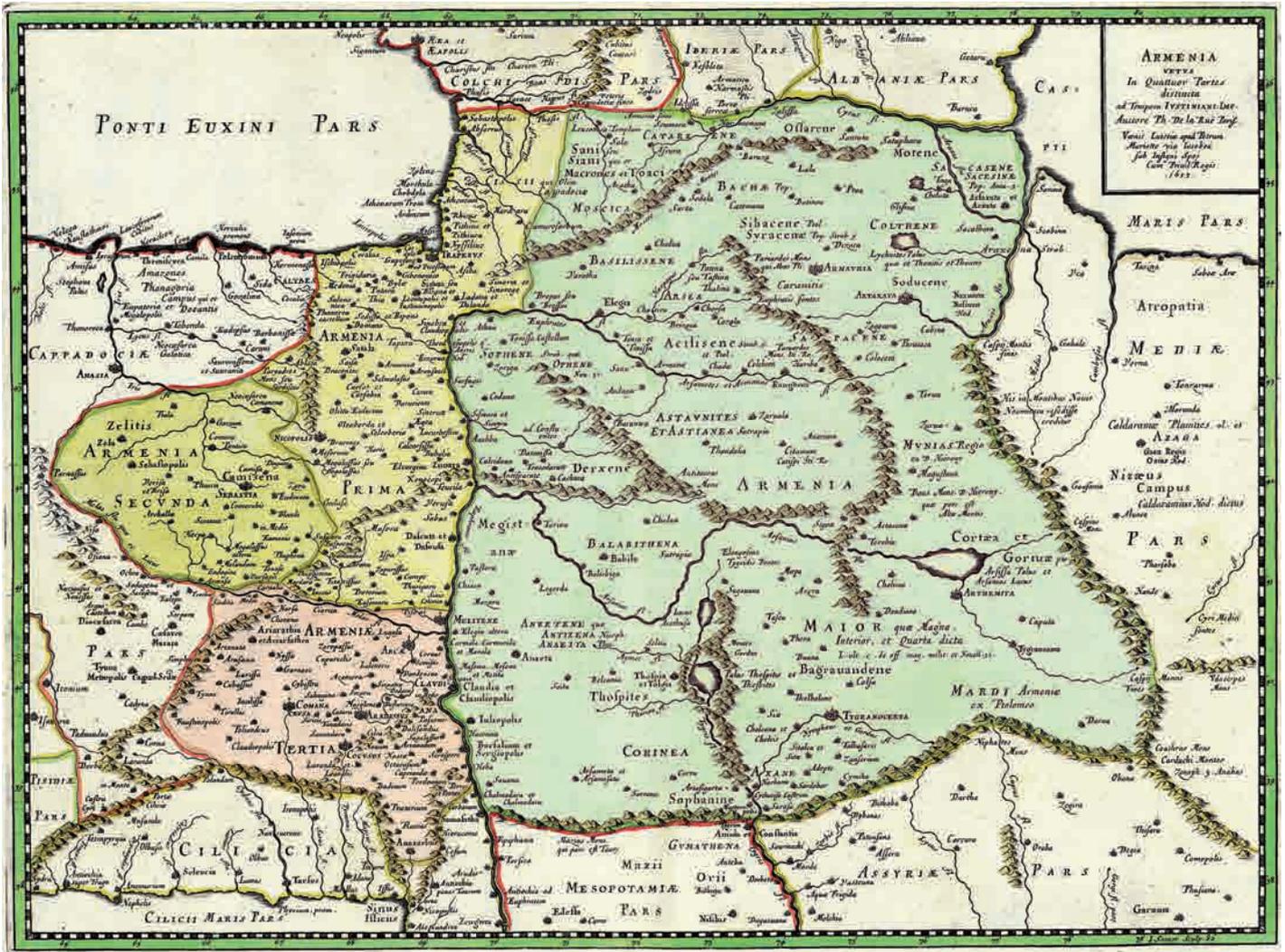


Fig.27: This map of 'Armenia' by Philip de la Rue was printed in 1653. It describes the four parts of Armenia, Greater Armenia, Second, Third and Fourth Armenia, as it was during the era of Emperor Justinian.

In this map once again the names of the two lakes (Van and Urmia) are given as Thospia and Arsiss. The area of Atropatene (Azerbaijan) is shown within the territory of Media (Persia), to the south of the River Arax.





Fig. 28: Mustafa Ibn Abdullah (1609–57), known as Katib Chelebi or Hadji Khalifah, was the first and foremost Turkish geographer. His most important oeuvre is *Jehan Numa* (*Mirror of the World*), a book of geography from about 1654 to 1657 CE. By the time of his death in 1657, Chelebi had managed to complete only the description of the eastern part of the world. This is folio 124a where the district (vilayet) of Van is described thus: “This vilayet is at the eastern border of the Ottoman Country and to the east of it lie Azerbaijan and the city of Tabriz. In the south is Kurdistan, in the north, Childir [in Armenian, Zarishat, the area north

of Kars and east of Ardahan] and in the west: Diarbekir.” Opposite is a rough map of the vilayet of Van, with east at the top, mentioning names of important towns such as Arjesh, Adeljavaz (in Armenian: Artzke), Akhlat, Bitlis, Moush, Khoy, etc. The dark area at the top right is Lake Urmia. Chapter 41 of the printed version of the book, published in 1732/33, describes Western Armenia, which at the time was under Ottoman rule. It provides description of the land, its people and its ruling kings. Chapter 39 of the same book gives details of Eastern Armenia, which at that time was under Persian domination.

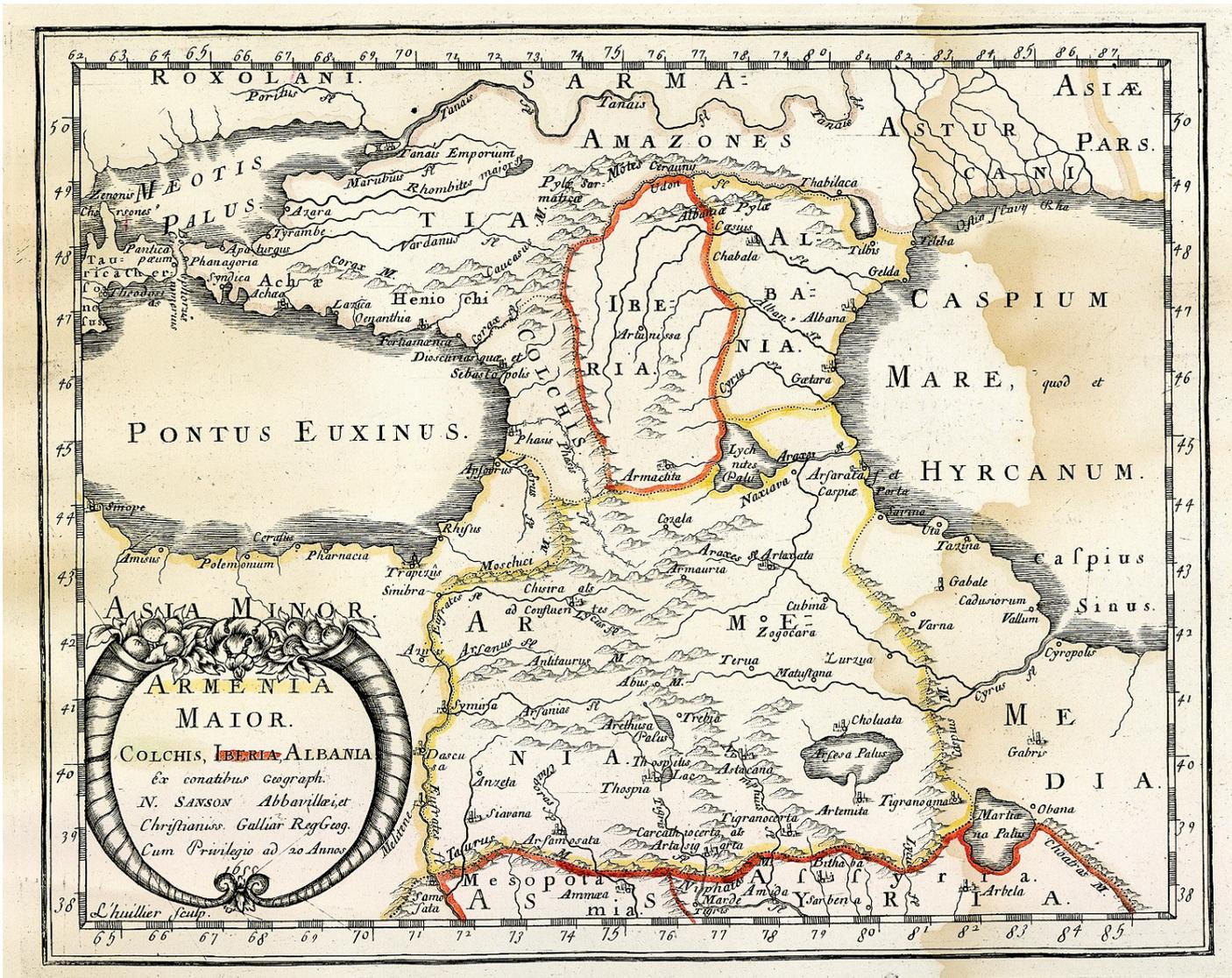


Fig.29: This is a map from the atlas of the French cartographer Nicholas Sanson (1600–67), of which the first edition was printed in 1648, with subsequent editions printed by his sons. The map, printed in 1658, is in Latin and again loosely based on the 1500-year-old *Geography* written by Ptolemy, as is the case with similar atlases, which in turn proves the importance of this oeuvre in the world cartography. The major part of this map is occupied by Armenia. There are four

lakes shown within the territory of Armenia, the largest shown is Lychnitis Palus (Lake Sevan), which is in fact the smallest. The others are named Arethuisa, Arsesa and Thospitis, which are variants of the name given to Lake Van in Armenian. Lake Urmia is called Martiana Palus and the city of Tabriz (Tauris) is named Gabris. Recognizable Armenian towns shown on the map are Armaura, Tigranocerta, Artemita, Thospiana (Van) and Terua (Yerevan), all of which are shown with incorrect locations.





Fig. 30: Johannes Blaeu (1596–1673) produced many colourfully decorated maps. His three-volume *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum sive Atlas Novus* was first published in 1635 in Amsterdam, followed up by others and ending with his twelve-volume *Atlas Maior*, 1664–65. This map of the 'Turkish Empire', outlined in yellow is from his

Theatrum Orbis Terrarum (1665) showing Armenia in the eastern region of the empire. The name appears in both versions 'Armenia', as well as 'Turcomania', denoting the western part of Armenia, then under the Ottoman rule. The elaborate cartouche is a typical Blaeu creation.



Fig. 31: Frederick de Wit (1630–1706) published his *Atlas sive Descriptio Terrarum Orbis* in 1670 in Amsterdam. De Wit's maps are very colourful and beautifully designed. His maps appear in many collections and atlases compiled by other cartographers.

This map of 'Persia, Armenia, Anatolia and Arabia' looks similar in layout to Mercator's maps of the same area. The size of Armenia, coloured pink, is exaggerated by with the inclusion of part of Mesopotamia within its territory entitled Diarbeck and Chaldea. The western part of Armenia is, as in most maps of the time, named

Turcomania. The area of Albania (Azerbaijan) is called Servan (Shirvan, the present-day Republic of Azerbaijan) and is located within the Persian Empire.

The lakes are unnamed and the River Arax boasts the name Erash (Eraskh), which is its old Armenian name. Within the territory of Armenia the map includes the following cities: Achlehalakh (Akhalkalak), Arges (Arjesh), Arzum (Erzerum), Bitlis, Cars, Catvan (Tatvan) Chiufal (Julfa or Djughha), Clath (Akhlat), Dabil (Dvin, incorrectly located), Manuscule (Malazkert), Uan (Van) and Vstan (Vostan).



Fig. 32: The British cartographer Robert Morden (1668–1703) published his *Geography Rectified*, a small-sized atlas, in 1680 which was also published later in 1686 to 1700.

This map of 'Armenia, Georgia-Comania' is from the larger-size edition of the atlas, which was published in 1688. The map shows the area of the Caucasus, with Georgia named also in Persian: Gurg(j)istan. The region to the west of the Caspian Sea (today's Republic of Azerbaijan) is named Sc(h)irvan, and the territory of Adirbeitzan, which is Azerbaijan, is shown within the borders of Persia, south of the River Arax. The region of Karabagh (Artsakh) is also shown as Karasbag. The lakes of Van and Urmia are within their correct borders. The text below the map states "the Greater Armenia is by the Turks called Turcomania".

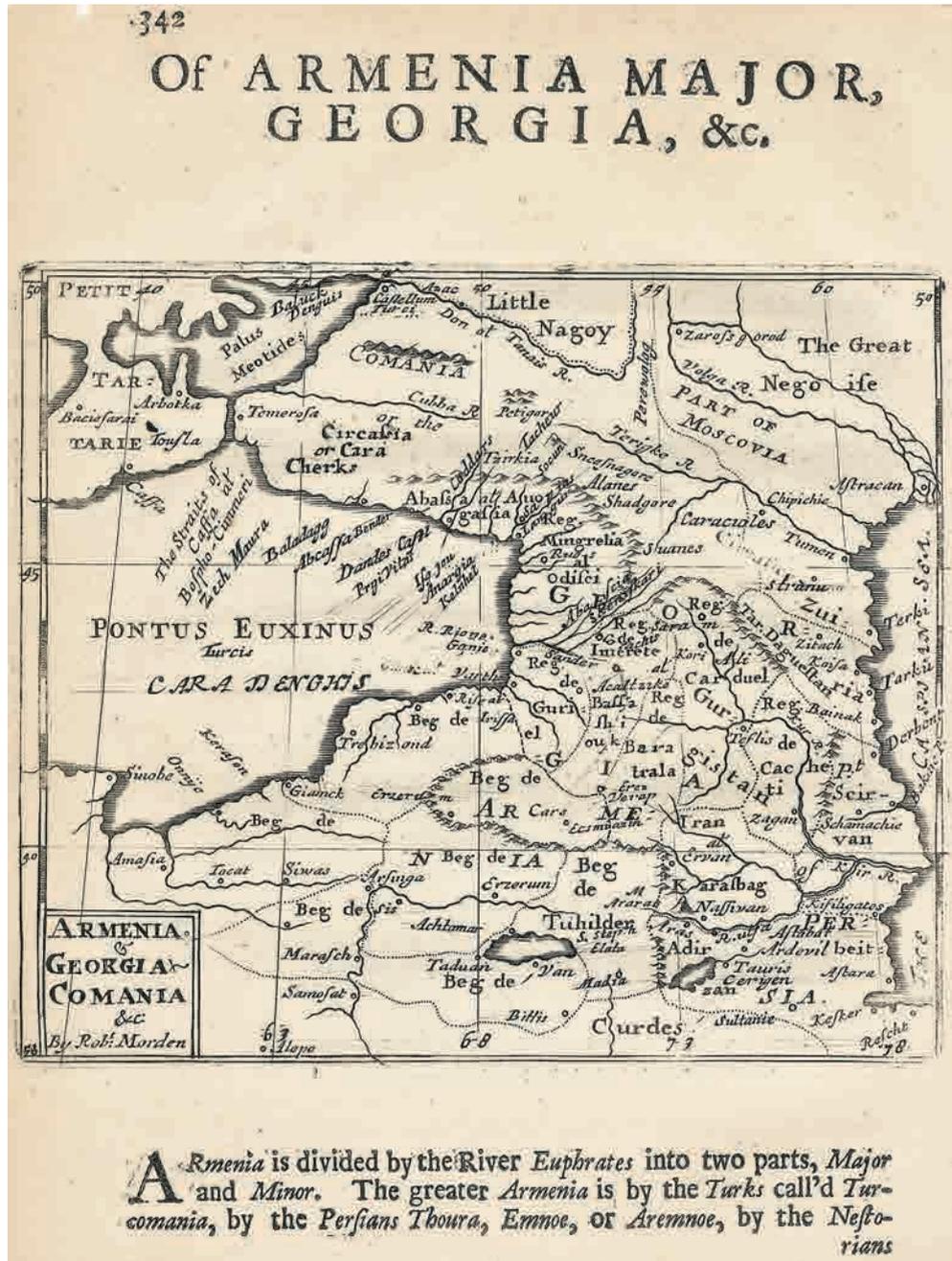
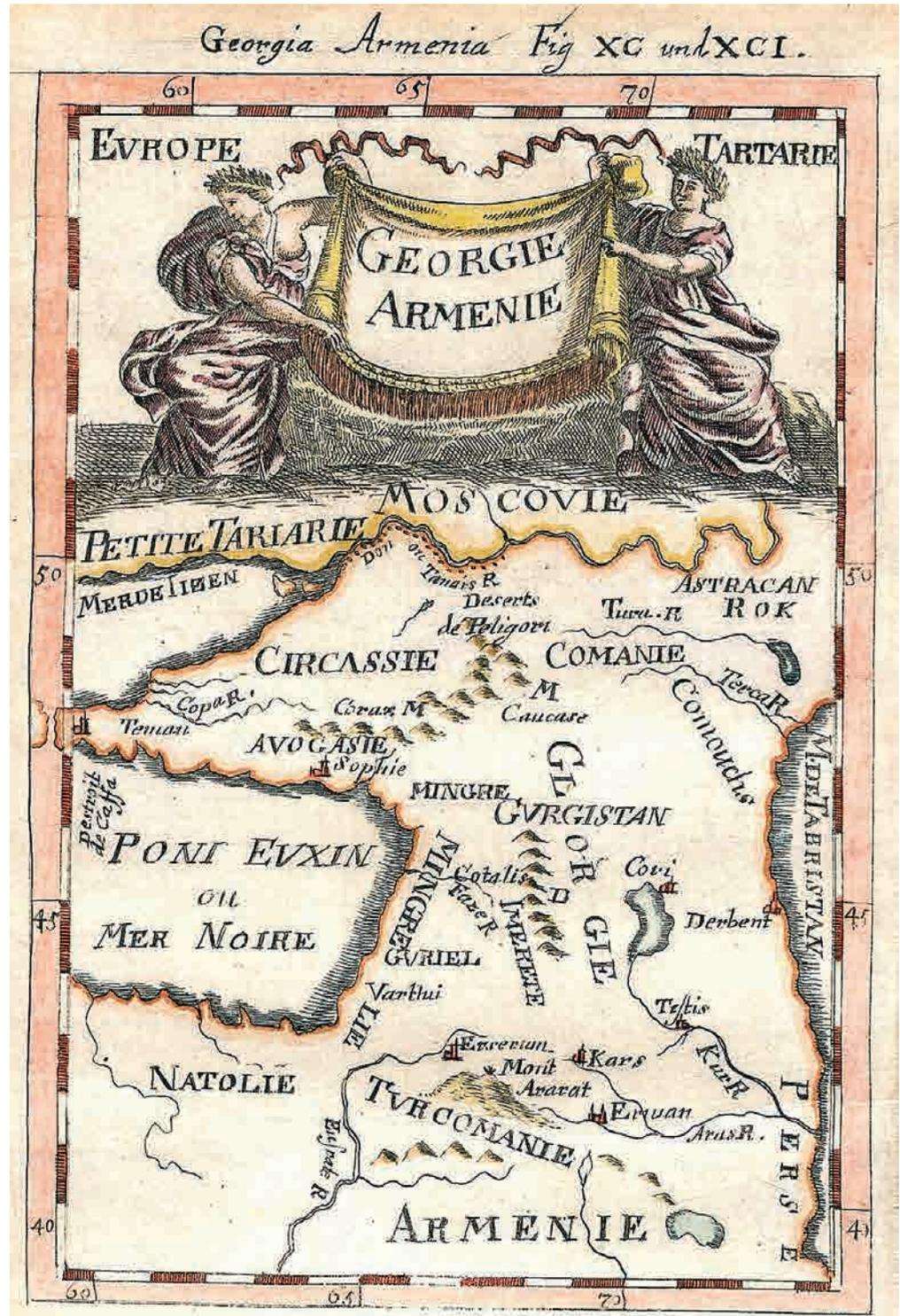


Fig 33: This map is from the five-volume *Description de l'Univers* published by Allen Manneson Mallet (1630–1706) in Paris. The French edition was published in 1683 and the German edition with the same maps, in 1719. Volume Two, where these maps can be found, is devoted to Asia. The map of 'Georgia Armenia' in the French edition is repeated twice on pages 211 and 213, marked XC and XCI. The map shown here is from the German edition, where the two maps are now reduced to one and the page is marked with the combined numbers XC and XCI. This map shows southern Russia (Tartarie, Moscovie, Circassie), Georgia, also marked with its Persian name Gurjistan, and the Turkish occupied part of Armenia is named as Turcomanie, with Mount Ararat in the centre. Armenia is depicted with its three important cities of Kars, Erseroum (Erzerum) and Erivan (Yerevan). The Caspian Sea is called Tabristan, its old Persian name (actually, Tabaristan).



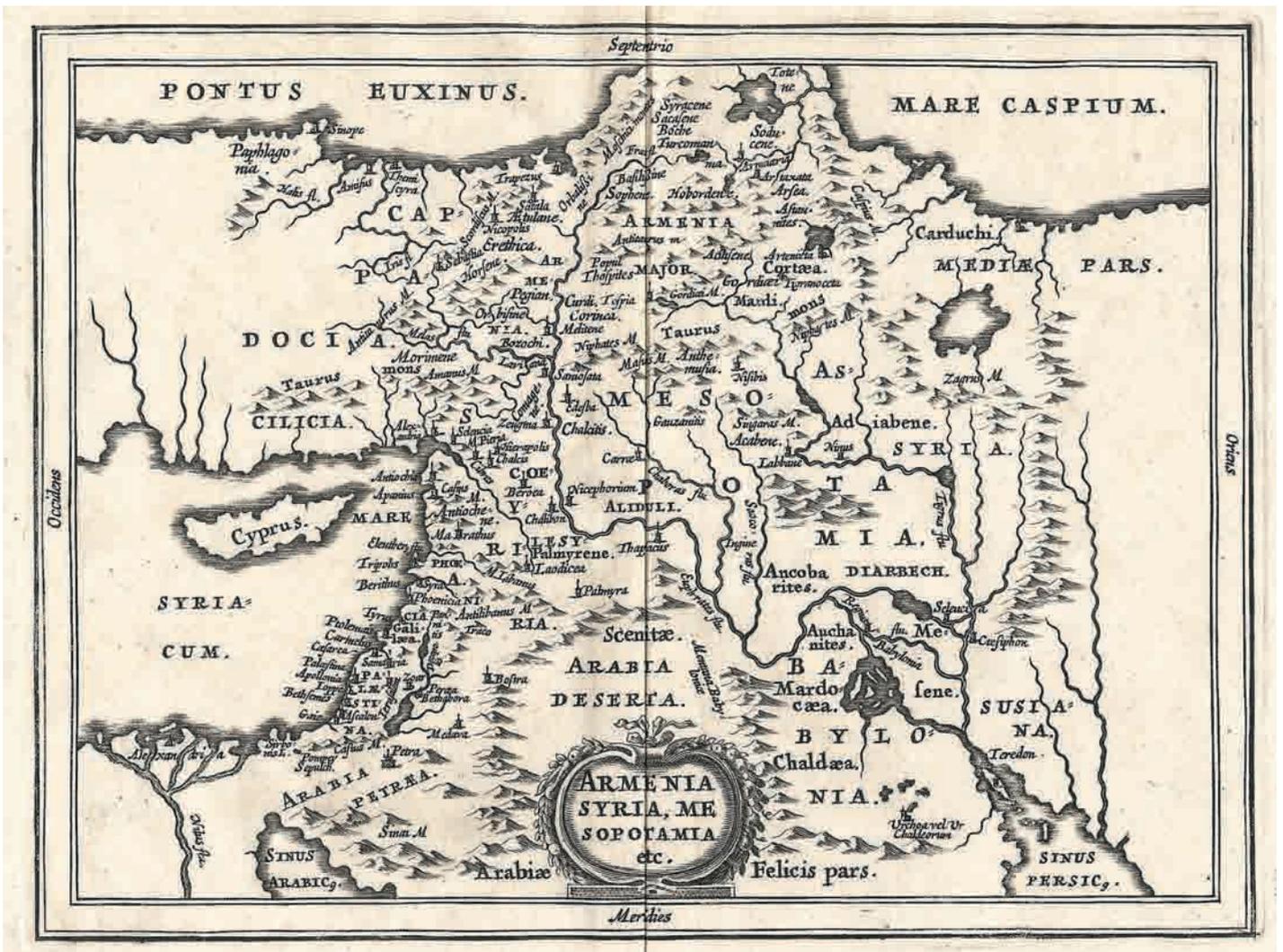


Fig. 34: This map of 'Armenia, Syria, Mesopotamia' is from Philipp Cluverius' (1580–1622) atlas *Introductionis in Universam Geographicam*, issued from 1624 up to 1729 and also later. This map is from the 1683 edition of the atlas and follows the general outline and pattern of the Ptolemaic maps. Here the rivers are shown prominently, with exaggerated width. As per the normal practice of the time, no details of neighbouring countries are shown. Armenia is in the centre with Media at its east. The towns shown within Armenia include Armavira, Artaxata, Artemita, Melitana (Malatia), Nicopolis, Satala, Sebastia and Tospia (Van).



Fig. 35/35a: This is the first existing large manuscript map of Armenia in the Armenian language, prepared by Eremia Chelebi Keomiurdjian of Constantinople (1637–95) in the year 1691, by the order of Count Lodovico Marsili. The map is 120cm wide and 358 cm long. Keomiurdjian, also known as Haji Khalifa Katib Chelebi, was an Armenian historian, publisher, poet and musician who flourished in Constantinople. His most famous works include the *Four-Hundred-Year History of the Ottoman Kingdom* and the *History of Constantinople*, both written in prose.

This map was discovered by chance in 1991, in the library of the University of Bologna and was extensively studied by Gabriella Uluhogian. Her studies were published in the book *Un'antica mappa dell'Armenia*.

The map covers the area from the Caspian Sea to the Bosphorus, including the Armenian Highlands, and shows the Armenian cities, provinces, baronies and dioceses, as well as the churches, monasteries, convents, hermitages and places of worship of the Armenians, across various countries. Together with their names, the author has provided useful information about important

features and historic events in each location.

In accordance with medieval convention, Keomiurdjian has chosen east to be at the top of the map. The map does not show geographical coordinates of any sort and only the necessary features are shown. The Holy See of Echmiadzin is depicted in minute detail, including the cathedral and the Catholicos (the supreme religious leader of all Armenians), entertaining guests. Lake Van is shown with all its islands and their descriptions. In the insets the Armenian churches of Jerusalem, Cyprus, etc. are also listed. The colophon (cartouche) at the top of the map recounts a short history of the Armenians, listing milestones in their past. In the other colophon at the bottom of the map, he details the reasons behind the creation of the map and describes all the important features and major religious centres and sites shown.

The map was prepared and signed by the author: Eremia of Constantinople: mentioning his son, Fr Matakia, as the mapmaker. The detail map in Fig. 35a shows the area of central Armenia, including the Holy See of Echmiadzin, where the Armenian Catholicos is entertaining the Persian Sardar (governor).



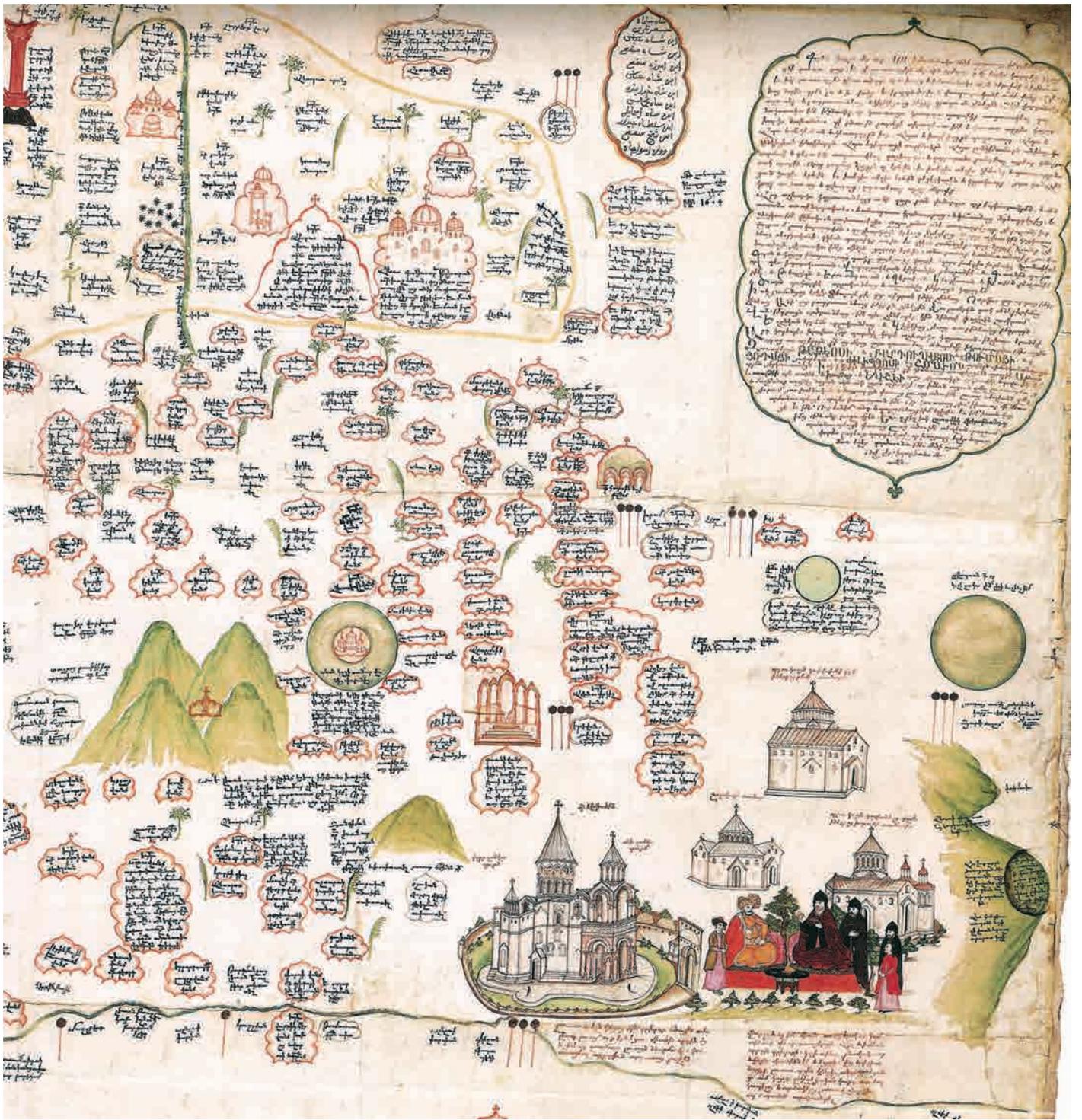


Fig. 35a

Fig 36: The first world map in Armenian, published by Tovmas Vanandetsi in Amsterdam, 1695.

The map was engraved by the well-known engraver brothers, the Schonebeeks, and utilises the most up-to-date information of the day. It is in large format (152-124cm) and today no more than ten copies are extant. Later editions of the map, starting from 1754, were published by the Armenian Mkhitarist Monks in St Lazarus Monastery, Venice. The map shows the two hemispheres, with America and New Holland (Australia) incomplete. It is beautifully decorated, having at its four corners etchings depicting the four seasons with mythological and astrological characters, as well as including two images of the night sky with constellations, polar views of the earth, and the geocentric solar system with its planets. At the bottom centre of the map a Persian/Turkish inscription says Jahan Nema, Mirror of the World. There is a key to the symbols and a colophon, including its dedication written in verse. In this map for the first time all the toponyms have been translated and appear in Armenian. The map image is from the copy kept in the Matenadaran, Yerevan.

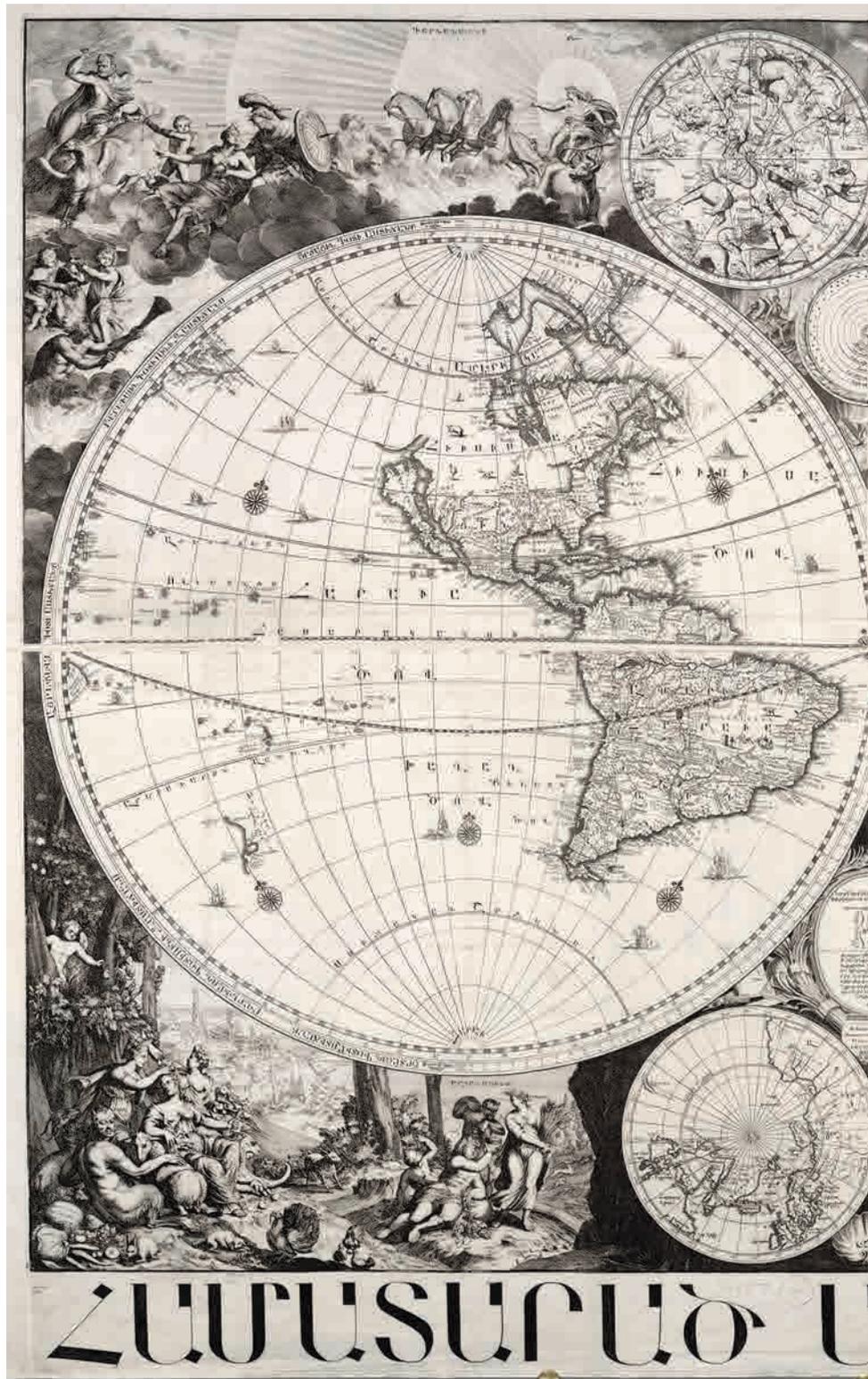




Fig. 37: John David Köhler's (1684–1755) *Schul und Reise Atlas* (*School and Travel Atlas*) was prepared and printed in Nürnberg by the engraver C. Weigel (1654–1725) in 1718. The atlas is in two parts. Part 1 contains 120 maps of the modern world and Part 2 has 44 maps of the ancient world, bearing the title 'Descriptio Orbis Antiqui'. This is Map 44 of Part 2 and is entitled 'The Historical Scene of the Orient during the Fifth Century AD'. It shows the ancient

kingdoms and countries. Here Armenia is shown divided between the Ottoman and Persian Empires, with the name "Armenia Maior" straddling their border. In spite of not having an independent homeland, the region of the Armenian Plateau is still named Armenia, because the majority of the population of the land was still Armenian. Aderbigan-Atropatene is to the south, with Iberia and Albania placed to the north of Armenia Maior.



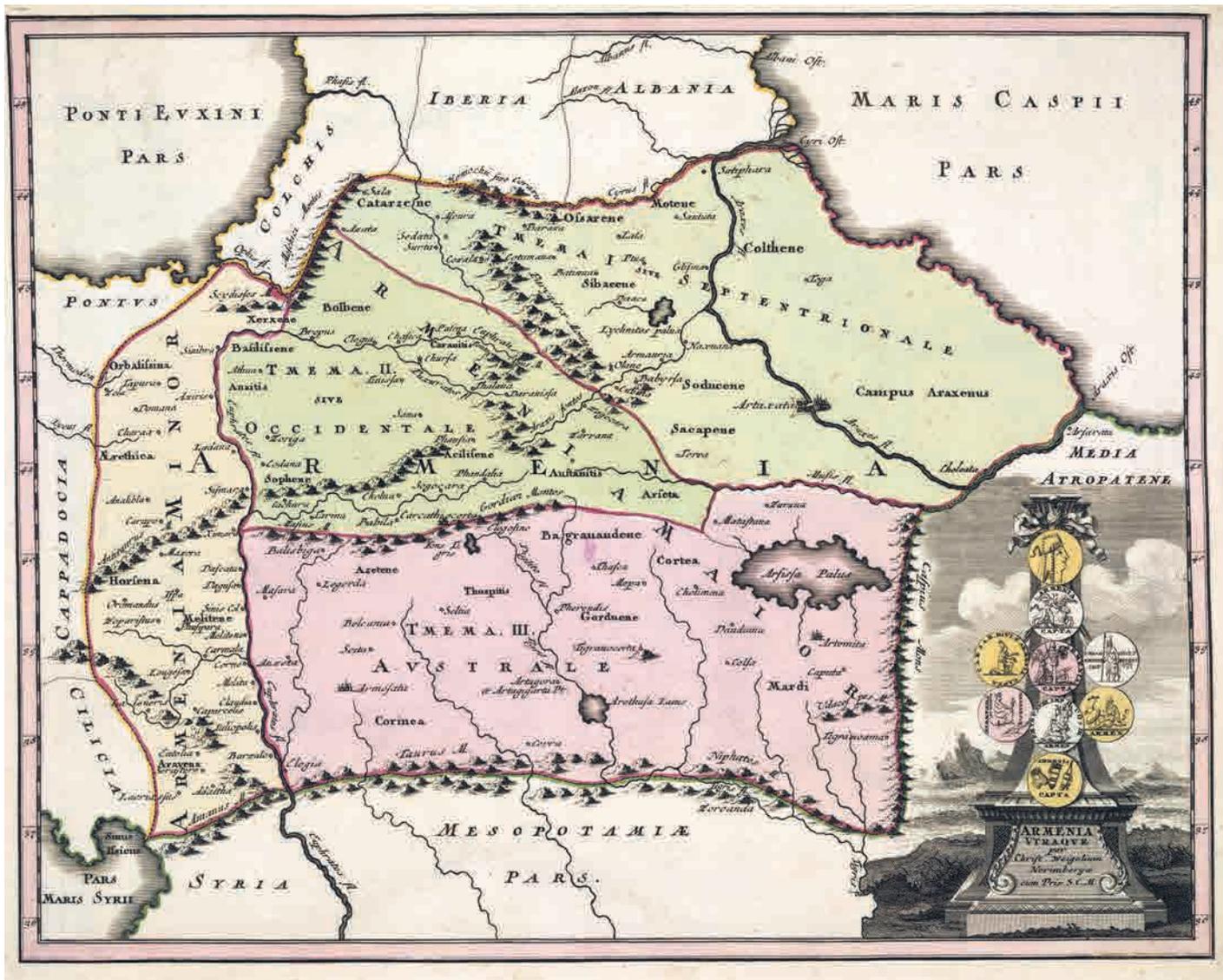


Fig. 38: As with the previous map, this map is also from John David Köhler's (1684–1755) *Schul und Reise Atlas (School and Travel Atlas)*, prepared and printed in Nürnberg by the engraver C. Weigel (1654–1725) in 1718. The map of Armenia shown here is Map 27 of Part 2, of the ancient world. It shows various provinces of Armenia and the important

towns, bearing their Greek names. Lake Van is named Arsissa and Lake Sevan is Lychnitis (Lychnitis). The map has many errors regarding exact geographical placements, which were common in the contemporary maps. The territory of Armenia extends from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean, divided into four parts, Northern, Southern, Western Armenia and Armenia Minor.



Fig. 39: Hermann Moll (1678–1732) was a Dutchman who emigrated to London and produced his atlas *A New Survey of the Globe* during 1723 there, followed by *Atlas Minor or A Set of Sixty-Two New and Correct Maps of All the Parts of the World*, in 1729. This map of ‘Turkey in Asia’, which depicts Anatolia, Persia, Georgia and Armenia, is Map 33 of *Atlas Minor*. It shows Armenia divided between the Ottoman and Persian Empires. Armenia Maior is also named Turcomania, and includes the cities of Mus(h), Erzerum, Van and Orfa (Urfa). Erivan (Yerevan) is correctly shown under Persian occupation.





Fig. 40: Guillaume Delisle or De l'Isle's (1675–1726) 'Map of the Area of the Caspian Sea' was published posthumously by his sons in 1730, in Amsterdam. This map is from his *Atlas Nouveau*, which includes 31 pages of text and 56 accompanying maps. Delisle's maps are generally full of detail and data. These maps in various copies and guises have been included in many atlases published by other cartographers. This map of the region of the Caspian and the Black Seas includes Armenia, plus Mingrelia and Cartveli (Kartveli: Sakartvelo/Georgia) to

its north and Chirvan (Shirvan), Derbent and Moghan to its east (since 1918 this area has been renamed the Republic of Azerbaijan). The Persian province of Aderbijan, which is the historic Azerbaijan, is situated south of the River Araxes. Curiously the lakes of Van and Urmia, bearing the local name of Chahi Daryasi (King's Sea) are shown joined. Both lakes have salt water and sustain very little or no marine life at all, which might be the reason for the cartographer to suspect that they were joined at some point. This map also shows interconnecting roads in the region.



Fig. 41a



Fig. 42: Jacques N. Bellin (1703–72) published the five volumes of his *Petit Atlas Maritime* in 1764. This map, entitled 'Map of Armenia, Georgia and Neighbouring Countries', is from Volume 3. Here Armenia extends almost the whole width of the map, with Georgia to the north and Aderbigan (Azerbaijan) south of the River Araxes. In this version the lakes of Van and Urmia are shown relatively accurately. The countries shown on the western shores of the Caspian are Daghestan and Shirvan. The names of many rivers, mountains and towns also appear. Meanwhile the region named Aderbigan (Azerbaijan) is placed south of the River Araxes, inside the territory of Iran, as a province of this country.





Fig. 43: This so-called 'curiosity map' is entitled 'A Map of the Terrestrial Paradise', i.e. the Garden of Eden, which was a common perception of the area from the Middle Ages. There are many versions of this map, including those of Moxon, Kircheri, Stackhouse, Vaugondy (Fig. 47), Buache (Fig. 44) and others. This version was prepared by Emmanuel Bowen (fl.

1714-67) and shows Eden located between the lakes of Van and Urmia, within the territory of historic Armenia, with Mount Ararat situated in the middle. The Rivers Euphrates, Araxes and Tigris have their sources in this area. The map was published c. 1780. The same map also appears in Bowen's various atlases, dating from 1744 to the 1780s.



Fig. 45: This Armenian-language map, 'Ottoman Empire', was printed at the Armenian Monastery of San Lazzaro in Venice, in 1787. The map shows the territories conquered by the Ottoman Empire at the time and is the oldest printed map in Armenian depicting this area. The map shows Armenia divided between the two neighbouring countries, the Ottoman Empire and Persia (here, Ajami). The three lakes of Van, Sevan and Urmia are shown

correctly, as are the important towns of Armenia and Anatolia. Some of the places are shown with their Ottoman as well as Armenian names. The printing house in San Lazzaro, which belongs to the Armenian Mkhitarist Order, was at the time a flourishing institution and many maps and books in the Armenian language were printed there during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It still continues to be an important printing house for Armenian literature.



Fig. 46/46a: This is the map of 'Asiatic Turkey which includes Anatolia, Turkey, Armenia, Kurdistan, Aljezira, Iraq-Arabi, etc.', published in Russian, dating from 1793. It was printed in *New Atlas, or Collection of Charts of All Parts of the Terrestrial Globe*, published in Saint Petersburg.

The atlas was based on the French atlas of the same title printed in Paris in 1762 with some revisions and the translation of its map contents.

The map shows Armenia, a legend which has been imposed on the territory of Greater Armenia, which now is divided between Turkey and Russia. The region east of the Caspian, previously known as Aran or Albania, is named Shirvan, but the name Azerbaijan is conspicuously absent from the map.

The shape of the Caspian Sea is shown relatively correctly. The lakes shown are Achtamar (Van), Gokcha (Geghama or Sevan) and Ormia (Urmia). Many important Armenian towns are shown, including Erevan, Arabkir, Kars, Van, Bitlis, Baiburt, Akhlat, Vostan and others.





Fig. 47: The French cartographer Robert de Vaugondy (1688–1768) published his *Nouvel Atlas Portatif* in 1762, from which this map is taken. It shows the Middle East and the Caucasus and is entitled ‘Map of the Early Ages of the World’. It shows Armenia extending from Caucasian Albania in the north-east to Cilicia in the south-west, outlined pink. In the south Armenia borders Assyria and

Mesopotamia. The Terrestrial Paradise: the Garden of Eden: is placed in the centre of Armenia, to the north-west of Lake Van. The region of Aderbijan (Azerbaijan) is located to the south of the River Araxes, within Persia. The lakes of Van and Urmia are shown unrealistically close, or jointed together. This feature is quite common in the French cartography of the time.



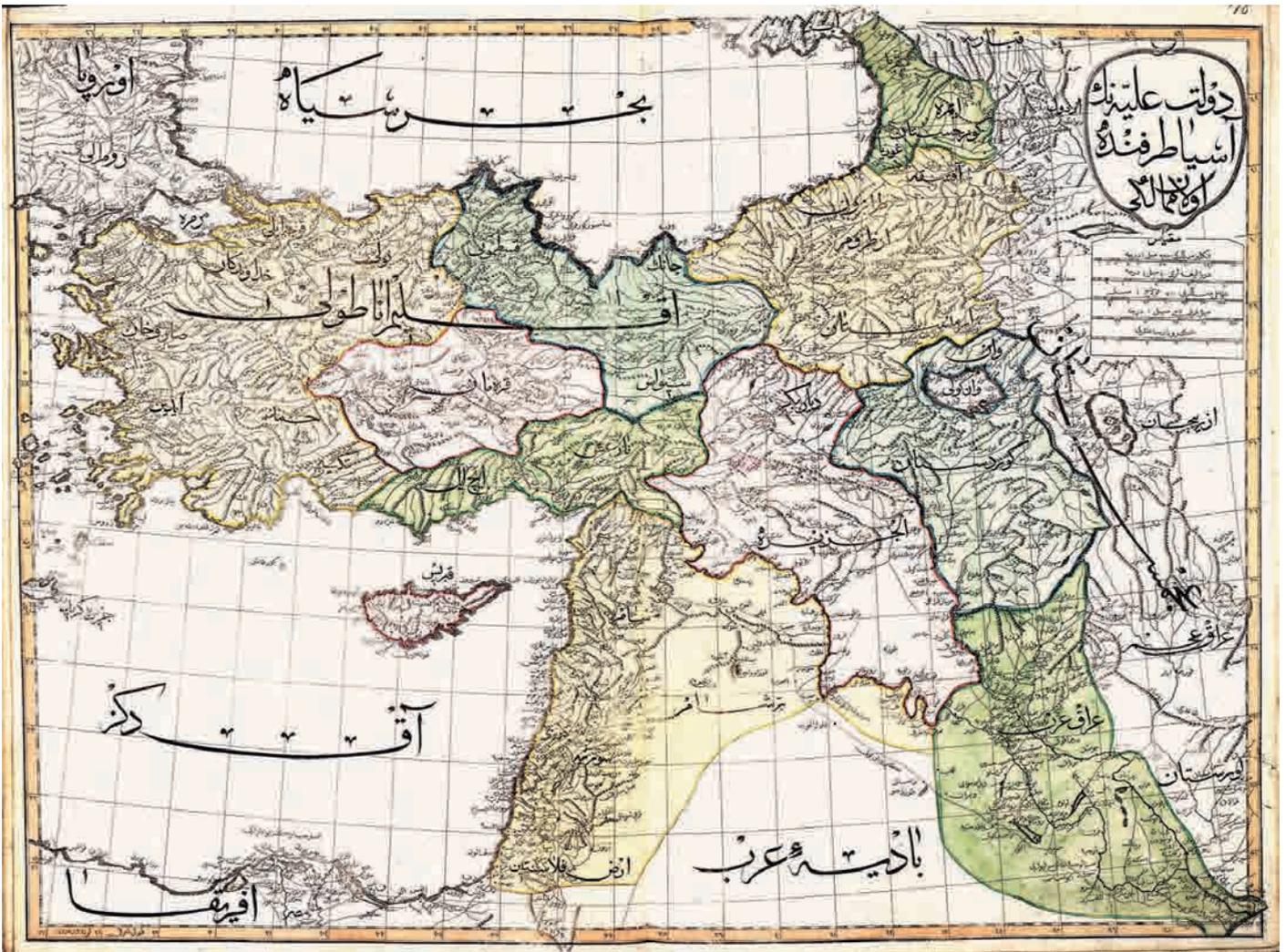


Fig. 48: This map of 'Turkey in Asia' is from the *Ottoman World Atlas*, printed in Üsküdar (one of the districts of Istanbul) in 1803–4, which in itself is a translation of William Faden's (1750–1836) *General Atlas* published in London in 1797. The translator is Mahmud Raif. Instead of the 52 maps of the English atlas, the Ottoman work contains 24 maps only, which are in large format, carefully prepared and coloured. The first 78 pages of the atlas are dedicated to geography, giving descriptions of various features of the earth, the sun and the moon, as well as various races of people, followed by descriptions of various countries, with names of important towns and other data. It bears the date AH 1218.

The map shows the Asiatic parts of the empire, whose vilayets (counties, as delineated by the Ottomans) are shown in different colours. Here Armenia is shown divided between Ajamestan (Persia) and the Ottoman Empire, and some of its provinces are given their Armenian names. Yerevan, here is named Revan, and Mount Ararat is shown under Persian domination, while the regions around Van and Erzerum are specified as Armenia. The shape of Lakes of Van and Urmia is incorrect. In this map, too, Azerbaijan is shown south of the River Araxes.

During the period of the publication of this map the Ottoman Sultans still accepted the existence of the indigenous Armenians and their ancestral lands, which the newcomer Sultans had occupied.

Fig. 49: This map, entitled 'Asia Minor, Armenia, Circassia and Syria', is by Conrad Malte-Brun (1775–1826), a Danish cartographer who worked in Paris. His *Atlas Complet*, which contains this map, was published in 1812. Although the map was published at the beginning of the nineteenth century, its borders of Armenia are very different from that in earlier ones. Here the area of historic Armenia is outlined and the names of the provinces are given. The shape of the lakes in the area, though still not correct, is much improved. Once again the area of Atropatene (Azerbaijan) is shown to the south of the River Araxes, within the territory of Media (Persia), while the region north of the river is entitled Albania.



Longitude du Méridien de Lutèce.



Ecrit par Cuvillier



Fig. 50: This map of 'Ancient Persia Elam with Adjacent Countries' is taken from John Dower's (fl. 1825-1863) *Atlas* published in the 1850s. The map shows the early kingdoms existing in the area, with Asia Minor divided into various countries, including Armenia. Atropatene (Azerbaijan) is shown as a province of ancient Persia. Albania is placed north of the River Kura. Here Lake Van is named Arissa (Arjesh) and the towns shown within Armenia include Samosata, Satala, Chorsa (Kars) and Nachuana (Nakhijevan). Atropatene is shown as part of Media, south of the Araxes River.



Fig. 51: This sketch map of 'Armenia' is taken from the Rt Hon. Robert Curzon's (1810-73) famous tome *Armenia: A Year at Erzeroum, and on the Frontiers of Russia, Turkey, and Persia*, printed in London in 1854. Curzon was working at the British Embassy in Constantinople and from 1843 was a member of the team delineating the Turco-Persian border. The map, which is inserted at the back of the book, shows the area of Armenia, as it was known then, including the regions of Van, Bitlis, Bayazid, Erzerum, Moush, Bayburt, Kars, Ardahan, Erivan and Gumri, as well as the twin peaks of Mount Ararat. Gumri and Erivan are shown in the territory under Russian rule, while the rest of the country is shown under Ottoman rule.

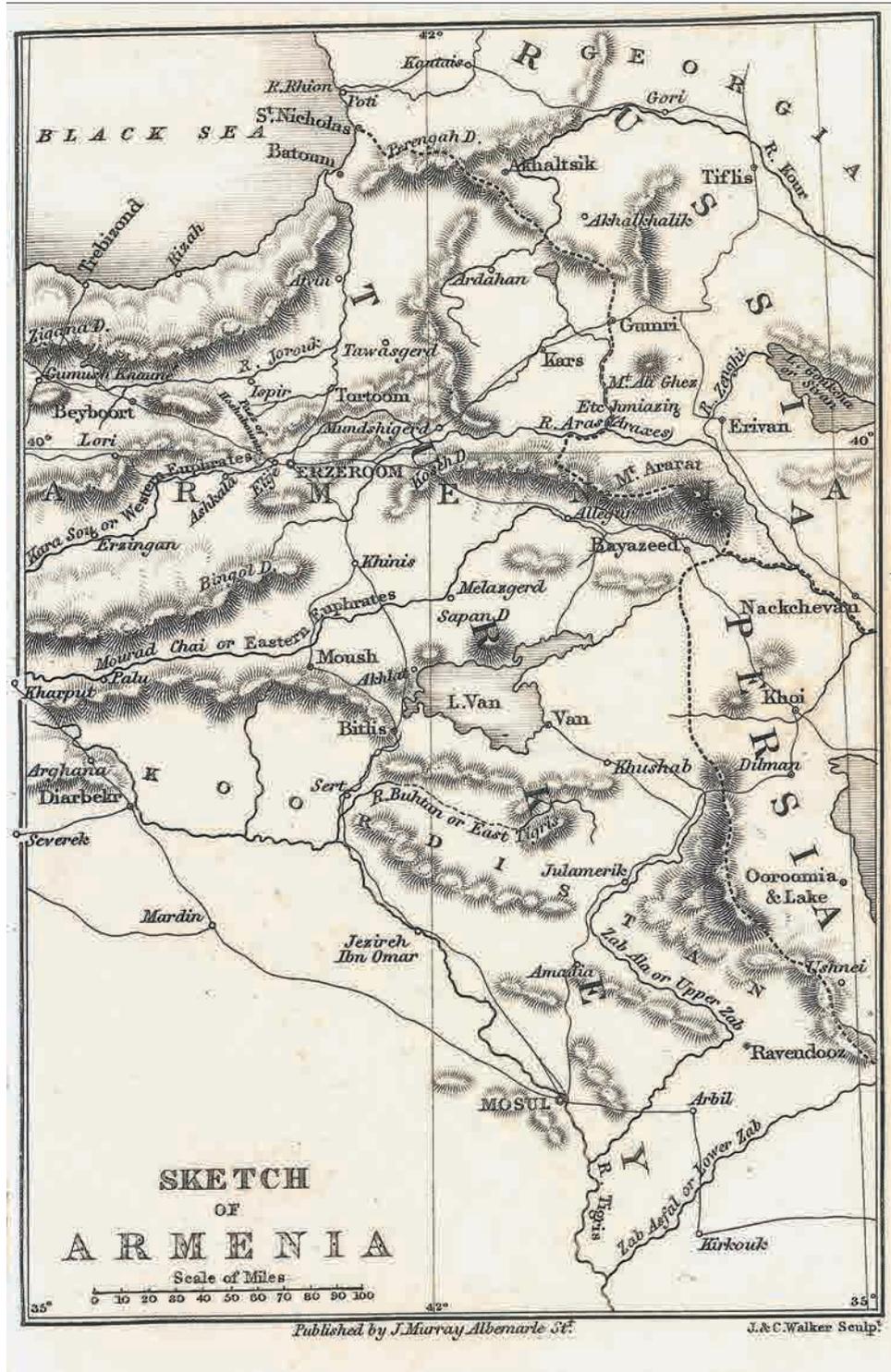




Fig. 52: Edward Weller's (d. 1884) map of the 'Isthmus of Caucasus and Armenia' is from his *Dispatch Atlas* of 1858. It shows Armenia divided mainly between the Russian and Ottoman Empires as it was during most of the nineteenth century, after the Persians had been driven out of the Southern Caucasus, and Eastern Armenia became an okrug (province) of the Tsar. This map is cartographically much more advanced and accurate than all the previous one. Azerbaijan is shown as the north-western province of Persia and the region north of Araxes is named Karabagh, Sheki and Shirvan.

Inside, as well as near the territory of Iranian Province of Azerbaijan there are a number of Armenian places that bear the Azeri prefix of 'kara', which in the modern Azeri and Turkish languages means 'black'. These include Karabagh (black garden), Karadagh (black mountain), Karakelisseh (black church) and Karasou (black water). The names do not seem logical, since Karabagh is a lush and green region, the mountainous area of Karadagh is not black and certainly Karakelisseh (Monastery of St Thadeus) is not black but an all-white marble cathedral, with a black strip of finishing stone on the rotunda of one of its churches.

According to the study *Tati and Harzani: Two Ancient Dialects of the Azeri Language*, by the Iranian linguist Abdolali Karang (see Karang Tabriz, 1954), the word 'kara' is a derivative of 'kaleh' or 'kala', which in the old Harzani language (a dialect of Pahlavi language spoken in Iranian Azerbaijan until around the 15th century), means 'large'. This could well explain the meaning of the above names. Karabagh - Large Garden, does look like a huge garden, Karadagh - Large Mountain, is a mountainous region with many large and small mountains and Karakelisseh - Large Church, is indeed the largest religious complex in the area, while Karasou - Large River, is a very wide and shallow river. Furthermore, the largest and oldest tree in Tabriz was called Kara-Aghaj (aghaj = tree). In the local dialect of the present-day Iranian-Azeri village of Gelin-Ghieh, the word used for large is 'kala', and even in Persian the word 'kalan' means large or huge, which could have been derived from the same root. The Iranian historian Ahmad Kasravi (*Lectures*, Tehran, 2536, pp. 365/431) and the Armenian historian Bagrat Ulubabyan (*History of the Principality of Khachen*, Yerevan, 1975, p. 2) also speak of the translation of the 'kara', which should be 'large' not 'black'.



Fig. 53: 'Armenia, Mesopotamia, Babylonia and Assyria with Adjacent Regions' is taken from the *Atlas Antique* of Karl von Spruner, published in 1865. This is already a comparatively accurate and modern map, showing most of the important landmarks, cities and towns. The majority of the names are written both in Latin and in the vernacular (in lighter Latin script). Similar to the map of Malte-Brun (Fig. 49), this shows ancient Armenia with its provinces and gives the old Armenian names of towns and provinces. Here Atropatene (Azerbaijan) is shown within the territory of Media, south of the River Araxes.





Fig. 54: This map of the 'Ottoman Country' (Turkey) is from an atlas of the world printed in Arabic in Constantinople in 1867. The atlas contains maps of the hemispheres, the continents and the coast of Sham (eastern Mediterranean).

In this map the territory of Armenia is divided between the Russian and Ottoman Empires. The regions of Van and Erzerum, although within the territory of the Ottoman Empire, bear the name Bilad Arman (Region of Armenia) and are considered being Armenian lands. This area includes the cities of Bayazid, Van, Erzerum, Bitlis, Moush and Erzinjan. The delineation of the border between Persia, Turkey and Russia is very similar to that in Weller's work, Fig. 52.





Fig. 56: The map of South Caucasus today.



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R o u b e n G a l i c h i a n

(Galchian) was born in Tabriz, Iran, to a family of immigrant Armenians who fled Van in 1915 to escape the Genocide, arriving in Iran via Armenia,



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For his services to Armenian historical cartography, Galichian was awarded in 2008 an Honorary Doctorate by the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia. In 2009 he was the recipient of Armenia's Vazgen I Cultural Achievements Medal.

He is married and shares his time between London and Yerevan.

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