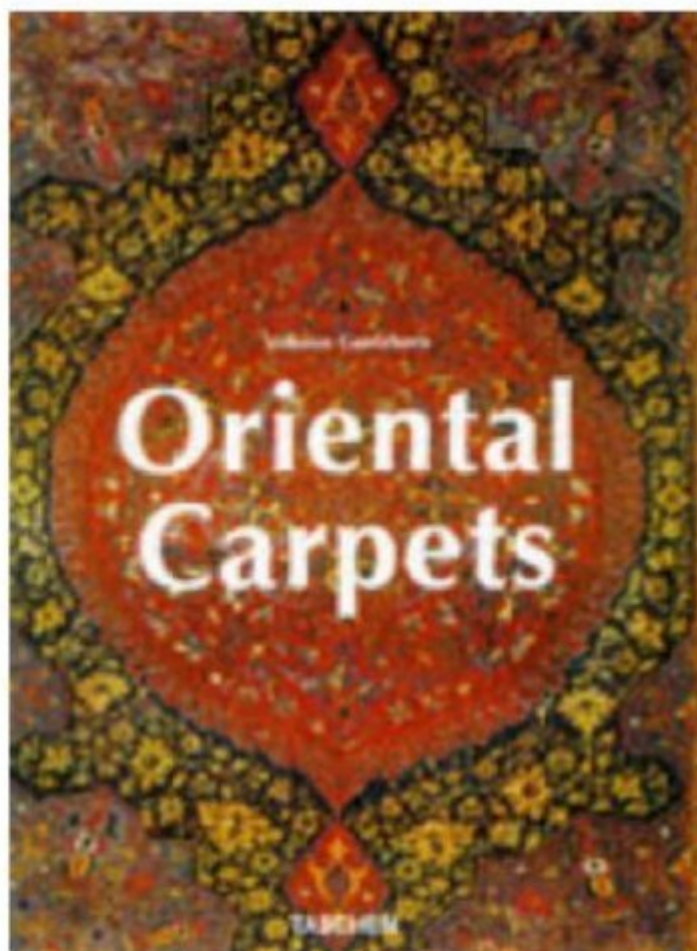


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# Oriental Carpets (Jumbo)



## Synopsis

Book by Gantzhorn, Volkmar

## Book Information

Hardcover: 532 pages

Publisher: Taschen; First Edition edition (June 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3822805459

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Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 1.4 x 12.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #860,267 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Houseware & Dining > Rugs](#) #854 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Textile & Costume](#) #4506 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism](#)

## Customer Reviews

Please see the Images above I have uploaded so you can see how luscious the massive number are of photos in the book. In this huge, glorious (and quite heavy) tome, Volkmar Gantzhorn, a world-renowned expert makes the case that the vast majority of Oriental carpets throughout history depict Christian symbols. In this huge 532 page book, the author moves chronologically from ancient times to the 18th century going overboard to designate virtually all carpet designs less than 2,000 years old as having Armenian and, thus, Christian, symbolism. While he acknowledges that carpets predate Christ, the traditional designs were fundamentally changed by the Armenians and Syrians to incorporate Christianity. He states that he has proved that the knotted pile carpet did not originate in the Turkmen region which has always been accepted, rather they were imported from the Armenians who largely influenced the entire world of the oriental carpet--including that in China during the Sung Dynasty--because Armenians "made up what was often a very significant part of the population" of all of Asia and Europe. He claims that illuminated manuscripts such as in the Book of Kells, and his own research showing centuries of migration, help establish this. (While he admits that Armenia has often been in war, the Christian symbolism was allowed to thrive underground under the guise of the protection of Islamic rulers...??) The theme of almost every single carpet is the Cross. Although anything with an "S-shape" represents God and all single

columns and trees are the Tree of Life or of Jesse. In the final Summary and Outlook: "The author now regards this volume as part of a complete revision of the history of the carpet."

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