Rug

Place of origin: Multan (Manufactured in Multan Jail, made)

Date: ca. 1880 (made)

Artist/Maker: Unknown

Materials and Techniques: Woven cotton

Museum number: IS.2457-1883

Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description

A dari (or durrie) is a flat-woven general-purpose cotton rug. Daris are produced across South Asia, frequently in villages for domestic use. However, from the mid-nineteenth century into the early twentieth century, dari weaving was a common form of penal labour in India and many were made in jails. This dari was woven by prisoners in the jail at Multan, which was especially renowned for its fine dari production.

Descriptive line

Cotton woven rug, Multan, Pakistan, ca. 1880.

Physical description

Flat-woven cotton rug with geometric pattern in registers alternating between light blue, red, dark blue, and white backgrounds. Framed by a dark blue border with white fringe on either end.

Dimensions

Length: 220 cm, Width: 135 cm

Museum number

IS.2457-1883

URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O69703/rug-unknown/