

ILLUSTRATIONS

Illustration on back cover: a very rare Caucasian *kazak sevan* from the year 1891, probably from an Armenian church, as it has two crosses in the medallions and the first letters of the word “God” in Armenian. The inscription means “Holy Carpet” [by kind permission of Nalbandian-Tapis d’Orient, Beirut-Ashrafiyeh].

Spine: Bishop’s crosier with six dragon’s heads in the shape of serpents. The serpent, as a symbol of wisdom, is a frequent figure in Armenian art. Van, eighteenth century.

Frontispiece: a *kashkar* (Armenian cross sculpted in stone), Cilicia, 1723.