



Collection Number:

Creator: Sarah B. Sherrill

Title: Sarah B. Sherrill Papers

Dates: c. 1970s

Volume of collection:

Language of materials:

Collection summary: Photo slides taken by Sarah B. Sherrill of the Bakhtiari and Qashqa'i people of Iran in day-to-day activity and textile production.

Biographical note: Sarah B. Sherrill is a scholar on textile production of America, Europe and the Middle East.

Collection description:

The Bakhtiari people primarily occupy the plains and mountains of western Iran, part of the Lurs population, their territory being closer to Isfahan and Khuzistan. They are divided into two main tribal groups, the Chahār Lang (“Four Legs”) and the Haft Lang (“Seven Legs”). They speak the Luri dialect of Persian and are Shi‘ite Muslims. While mostly sedentary now, some groups migrate their flocks 150 miles each year between their winter pastures in the plains and the summer pastures in the mountains.

Similarly, the Qashqa'i people consist of five major tribes originating from Central Asia and were originally nomadic pastoralists. They moved to their present location in the Fars Province from the Caucasus and Azerbaijan in the 16th century.

During the spring and autumn migrations, the bazaar at Shiraz becomes an important trading hub for rugs and carpets of the Bakhtiari and Qashqa'i.

Arrangement:

Digitized copies: Digital copies of collection material are not available. Items donated to The Textile Museum by Sarah B. Sherrill can be found on the museum's collections website.

Access restrictions: Requests to use the archive must be made in advance of a research visit; please contact the Arthur D. Jenkins librarian to schedule a visit.

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Preferred citation: Sarah B. Sherrill Papers, Arthur D. Jenkins Library, The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum.

Recommended Reading:



Allgrove, Joan. "Fars, The Land and Its People," in *Woven Gardens: Nomad and Village Rugs of the Fars Province of Souther Persia*, eds. David Black and Clive Loveless, 8-21. London: David Black Oriental Carpets, 1979.

Britannica Academic, s.v. "Bakhtyārī." <https://academic-eb-com.proxygw.wrlc.org/levels/collegiate/article/Bakhty%C4%81r%C4%AB/11872>.

Huang, Julia. *Tribeswomen of Iran: Weaving Memories Among Qashqa`i Nomads*. London; New York: Tauris Academic Studies, 2009.

Minahan, James B. "Qashqai," in *Encyclopedia of Stateless Nations: Ethnic and National Groups Around the World*. Westport: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2016.

Nejad, Aaron. "Bakhtiari." *Hali*, no. 124 (September 2002): 96–103.*

Oberling, Pierre. *The Qashqa`i Nomads of Fars*. The Hague: Mouton, 1974.*

Sherrill, Sarah B. *Carpets and Rugs of Europe and America*. New York: Abbeville Press, 2007.*

Willborg, Peter. *Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari Including the Feridan area: Village: Workshop & Nomadic Rugs of Western Persia*. Stockholm, Sweden: J.P. Willborg, 2002.*

*Items in the Arthur D. Jenkins Library collection.

Acquisition note: Collection donated by Sarah Sherrill in 2017.

Indexed terms:

Subjects:

Bakhtiari (Iranian people); see also "Bakhtyārī"

Textiles—Iran—20th century

Qashqai dialect

Nomadic groups – Fars—Iran – 19th century

Names:

Sherrill, Sarah B.

Places:

Fars—Iran

Shiraz--Iran

Related Items in The Textile Museum Collection:

Tools

- 2017.16.1 (Turkey; Kula, rug beater)
- 2017.16.2 (Iranian, southeastern, Rug beater)
- 2017.16.3 (Rug beater)
- 2017.16.4 (Rug beater)
- 2017.16.5 (Rug beater)
- 2017.16.6A (Turkish drop spindle)
- 2017.16.6B (Turkish drop spindle)
- 2017.16.7A (Turkish drop spindle)
- 2017.16.7B (Turkey; Bodrum, drop spindle)
- 2017.16.8 (Drop spindle)
- 2017.16.9 (Drop spindle)
- 2017.16.10 (Drop spindle)
- 2017.16.11 (Turkey; Isparta, Scissors for knotted pile weaving)
- 2017.16.12 (Scissors for knotted pile weaving)
- 2017.16.13 (Scissors for knotted pile weaving)
- 2017.16.14 (Beater/comb)
- 2017.16.15 (Turkish rug beater)
- 2017.16.16 (Rug hook)

Textiles

- 2017.16.17 (Bakhtiari strap)
- 2017.16.18 (Bakhtiari strap)
- 2017.16.19 (Bakhtiari strap)
- 2017.16.20 (Philippines; Igorot, Woman's childbirth belt)
- 2017.16.21 (Qashqai band, animal)
- 2017.16.22 (Bakhtiari band)
- 2017.16.23 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.24 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.25 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.26 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.27 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.28 (Qashqai band)
- 2017.16.29 (Central Asia; Turkmenistan, camel trapping)
- 2017.16.30 (Turkmen camel trapping)
- 2017.16.31 (Bakhtiari saddlebag)
- 2017.16.32 (Bakhtiari cartoon, carpet)