

Basic Detail Report



Baby Carrier

Date

c. 1960

Primary Maker

Miao

Medium

Cotton, silk and batik

Description

Miao baby carriers are symbolic of the love and care a mother has for her child. Baby carriers require a great deal of time and attention to make as well as a well-developed skill in embroidery. They are normally made by

girls prior to marriage, but can also be made by family members of a bride and presented to a new mother and father after a baby is one month old. Baby carriers from Huangping County are typically covered in complex geometric designs, as is seen in this example. This baby carrier is also missing straps.

Sometimes, Miao mothers do not part with the straps of the carriers but rather retain them as a keepsake as well as a way to symbolically ensure the health of the child and the continuity of the family. The Miao of the Gejia area specialize in batik and small batik accents can be seen in the triangular corners on either side of this baby carrier.

Dimensions

27 × 24 in. (68.6 × 61 cm)