



Wedding Blanket

Date
19th to 20th Century

Primary Maker
Zhuang

Medium
Cotton and silk

Description

The Yao people are actually a group of many different cultures. Together this group numbers over two million people, the majority of which reside in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China. Generally speaking, the Yao are Taoists. Their religious beliefs shape their social and cultural structures. Clothing, adornment and appearance are of supreme importance to the Yao. Each group has different traditional dress and adornment. Like other ethnic minorities from China, the Yao group is known for skillfully made textiles and traditional garments. There is a strong cultural precedent for Yao women (and sometimes men) to wear elaborate silver adornments, particularly to festivals. Scholars have also suggested that the many Yao people can be identified by each other based on their specific dress. The swastika design seen here is likely to have originated in Longshen, Guangxi Province.

Dimensions

39 3/4 × 61 1/2 in. (101 × 156.2 cm)