Folding Occasional Table

£980


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REF: 84224

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Height: 62.84 cm (24.7")

Width: 74.27 cm (29.2")

Depth: 73.63 cm (29")

Description

A padouk, northern Indian campaign Occasional or Lamp Table.

This form of portable table was a common piece of furniture sold to members of the Raj or visiting westerners either side of 1900. The foliate decoration was a common theme to many of them. This example, however, stands head and shoulders above most for the quality of its elaborate carving which is exceptional. Clicking on an image and then clicking on it again will allow you to zoom in to study the fine work of the carver.

The octagonal top is carved with an undulating ribbon to the edge of the centre which then has a wide intricate pierced border with eight individual plants on a bed of interwoven foliage. The eight individual plants are also relief carved to each of the eight boards that form the column, surrounded by further interwoven foliage within a shaped border design that extend to create decorative feet.

Each board that forms the column is hinged to the next in two places except the two end boards which are only hinged on one side to allow the whole to fold to a more compact size. The edges of the boards, where they are joined by hinges, are angled to create a clean straight edge when the butt up against each other. The boards are also angled to make the column wider at the feet than the top to make it more pleasing to the eye.

To dismantle the table the top is simply lifted off and the boards folded against each other. The underside of the top has a number of bars screwed in place to fit over the top edges of the octagonal column when it is assembled.

Visually this table stands out but it is also a practical size for use next to an armchair or to put a lamp on etc. Late 19th Century

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