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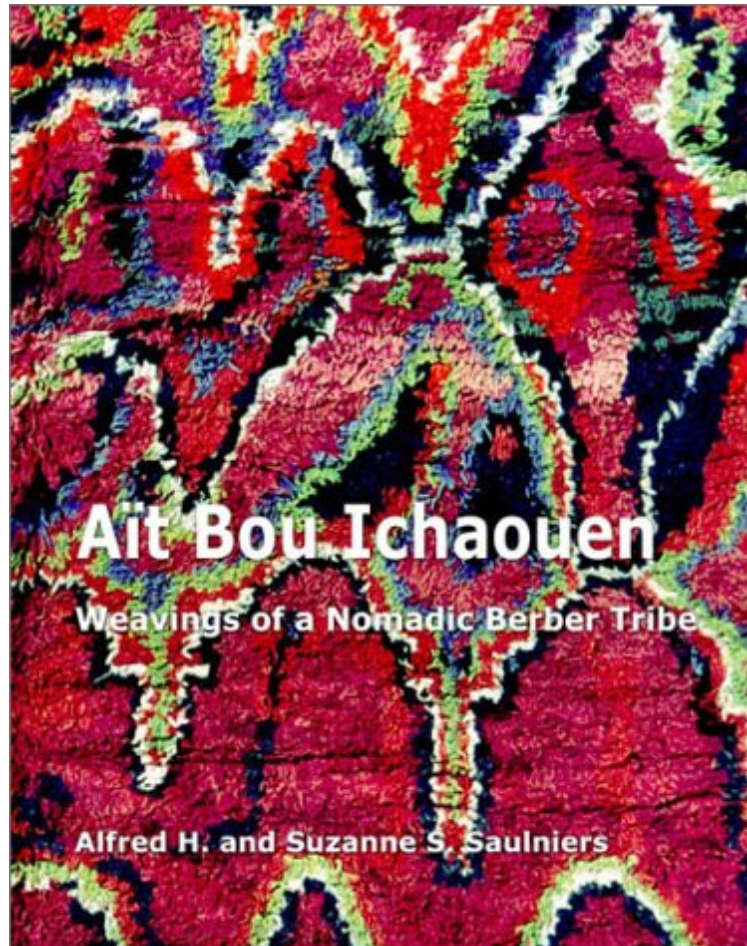


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## **Ait Bou Ichaouen: Weavings of a Nomadic Berber Tribe**

**Alfred H. Saulniers, Suzanne S. Saulniers : Ait Bou Ichaouen: Weavings of a Nomadic Berber Tribe** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ait Bou Ichaouen: Weavings of a Nomadic Berber Tribe:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book with rare weavings from MoroccoBy The Purple BeeBeautiful book with rare weavings from Morocco.I only wish I had purchase one when I was there. They have risen tremendously over the years are know for their creativity more than the precision number of the knots.Highly recommend if you are interested in weavings from Morocco tribal regions.

At Bou Ichaouen presents the beauty and diversity of textiles from a small Moroccan tribe whose weavings are unlike those found elsewhere. Living in an isolated area that was unknown to the carpet world until 1997, the women who wove these textiles boldly used colors in striking motifs. Many of their designs and techniques have not been identified elsewhere in Morocco. These women regularly invented motifs to record key events in the tribe's history. They wove Moroccan War Rugs in memory of the twenty-six-year struggle against French domination. Their newly

invented designs join many traditional carpet and textile motifs, some of which go back to the Bronze Age or earlier. These archaic designs reflect an older North African weaving tradition now almost entirely lost. In their isolation, the women of the tribe preserved an important part of the world's textile heritage while showing an ability to adapt to changing events. The Saulniers have collected Moroccan pile rugs, flatweaves, and other textiles since 1975. From their collection, *At Bou Ichaouen* presents 100 carefully selected weavings that originate in the pre-Saharan foothills on the eastern slopes of the High Atlas Mountains. *At Bou Ichaouen* also includes a rigorous structural analysis of each textile and a comprehensive appendix on the weaving techniques employed by the tribe's weavers.

About the Author Alfred H. Saulniers is an economist. He was economic and privatization adviser to the Moroccan government for eleven years. Suzanne Smith Saulniers is a rural sociologist and gender specialist. She has project and extension experience in many developing areas of the world. After having researched and taught in both Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, they bought their first Moroccan carpets in Marrakech in 1975. Falling in love with the carpets' bold colors and strong designs, they returned in 1977 to buy more. They collected widely while living in Morocco from 1986 to 1998. They have lectured extensively about Moroccan carpets and textiles and have researched and written about Haouderrane (Zemmour) women's wedding shawls, Sehoul weavings, and the *At Bou Ichaouen*.