

Set of 5 Medium-Sized Porcelain Pialas, by Tashkent Ceramic Factory, 1973-1990s.

Nearly 4" wide at the lip, 1 3/4" at the foot. Made in millennia-old design of a simple handle-less bowl, pialas are the vessel of choice for drinking tea in Central Asia. It can, and is, also used for other beverages and foods, such as rice, fruits and nuts, etc. Three of the pialas are maker marked on the bottom. This version of the Tashkent Ceramic Factory trademark graphic was in use from 1973 to 1990s (fig. # 697 in Volume One of Marks on Soviet Porcelain, Faience, and Majolica, 1917-1991 by Nasonova et al). Red color of the mark and "1C" to the left of the logo signify top quality rating by Quality Control. The ornament running around the wall of the pialas, although predominantly cotton-themed, is called "Deer" after its centerpiece silhouette of a running deer, in gold.

In good condition. Apparently, the quality standards of the Tashkent Ceramic Factory allowed for small imperfections to the porcelain mass and hand-painted designs. We can see a number of microscopic indented dots under the glaze, and the lines of gilt not always precisely border the white parts of the ornament. However, all these imperfections are lost in the busy pattern. The set has acquired mild use wear: tiny chips to the edges of the lip or foot, an occasional small scratch, wear to the gilt band running around the lip, or infrequent minuscule dings to the red paint. None of the wear is too intrusive to the eye.

Please note that the teaspoon in our last photo is for size reference.

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