



## Kurdish Hat

Kurdistan is an extensive plateau region of southwest Asia. After the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire after World War I, it was divided between southeast Turkey, northeast Iraq, and Northwest Iran, with smaller sections in Syria and Armenia.

Kurdistan is a land rich in oil and mineral resources. Its soil is fertile, rainfall is abundant and there are many rivers. Kurdistan has high mountains from where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers originate.

Kurdistan is the least developed region of Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria. Consequently the Kurds derive their primary living from farming and shepherding. But Kurdistan is considered to be rich in mineral resources such as iron, lead, uranium, chrome, coal, magnesium, gold, silver, copper, zinc, tin, gypsum and of course oil.

The hat pictured above is part of the traditional male dress in Kurdistan and has been hand knitted by Kurds.

