

# Damaru, two-headed ritual hand drum

Mongolian Collection

Accession Nr.: 74.13.1 

Type: **musical instruments; religious/ritual equipment**

Date of production: 19th century

Place of production: **Mongolia**

Materials: **leather; silk; wood**

Dimensions: height: 13 cm  
diameter: 17.5 cm  
length: 102 cm

The damaru, a two-sided hand-drum covered in leather, was originally made from human skulls, but this exemplar was made from wood covered in green painted leather and its side decorated with skulls and garlands. Kauri shells are attached to the middle of the drum. The Eight Auspicious Symbols of Buddhism are visible on the ribbons. Traces of use are visible.

