

Camel driver or groom from Asia Minor

Chinese Collection

Accession Nr.: 9800.1-2 

Type: statuette; funeral object; pottery

Date of production: Turn of the 7th–8th centuries
Tang dynasty

Place of production: Shaanxi and Henan provinces, China

Materials: clay; earthenware

Techniques: stamped; with traces of paint

Dimensions: height: 34.2 cm

The long full beard and thick brows of the male figure, along with his high pointed cap and costume, demonstrate his foreign origin (he may be of Semitic origin or from Asia Minor). He is lifting his right hand; most probably, he used to hold the bridle of an animal. Under his left arm, he is holding some merchandise wrapped in a shawl.

