


Damaru, two-headed ritual hand drum

Mongolian Collection

Accession Nr.:	99.6.1 
Type:	musical instruments; religious/ritual equipment
Date of production:	19th and 20th century
Place of production:	Mongolia
Materials:	leather; wood
Dimensions:	height: 6 cm diameter: 9.6 cm

The damaru was originally a double-sided percussion instrument made of human skull and covered with leather, which was used in funeral ceremonies. This drum is made of two hemispherical pieces of dark brown wood with a green dyed leather covering. A red silk ribbon is tied to the middle of the drum body, to which the drum sticks are attached. The embroidered bands usually attached to the veins are missing.

