

Kris

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	2222.1-2 
Type:	religious or cult object; weapons and armament; metalwork; carving
Date of production:	18 – 19th century
Place of production:	Java, Madura, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	steel, copper, wood, forged, carved
Dimensions:	length: 49 cm width: 16.5 cm
Acquisition:	collection of Ferenc Hopp

Straight edged dagger, hammered steel. The carved handle of the kris (Indonesian: keris) in question is meticulously carved with distinctive Madurese motifs. The base of the handle is surrounded by a copper hilt ring; the scabbard, like the guard (wrangka of the "ladrang" or boat-shaped type), is made of wood. For the Indonesians, the kris is much more than a simple weapon, it is a spectacular and effective expression of Javanese spirituality, a bearer of spiritual power, a symbol of heroism and a status symbol. Collected by Ferenc Hopp.

