

Kalis

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 368.1-2 

Type: weapons and armament; metalwork; carving

Date of production: 19th century

Place of production: Philippines, Southeast Asia

Materials/Technique s: steel, silver, wood, bamboo, carved, forged

Dimensions: length: 73. 5 cm
width: 16. 5 cm

Acquisition: collection of Ferenc Hopp

The kalis is a Philippine weapon showing strong similarities to the Javanese kris. But while its smaller cousin is mostly used for stabbing or some ritual tasks, the warrior wielding the longer, sword-like kalis aims to inflict slash wounds on his opponent. Its sheath is made of two separate pieces of wood bound together by plant fibres, and its handle is wrapped with strips of bamboo for a more comfortable grip. It has a double-edged blade, partly wavy and partly straight. Collected by Ferenc Hopp.

