

Kris

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	58.48.1-2 
Type:	religious or cult object; weapons and armament; metalwork; carving
Date of production:	18th – 19th century
Place of production:	Java, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	steel, wood, copper
Dimensions:	length: 48.6 cm width: 14.1 cm

Wavy-edged dagger or kris (Indonesian: keris), with a carved handle and a wooden sword guard, which in this case is separated from the scabbard covered with copper plates and decorated with floral ornamentation. 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 valour, and a status symbol.

