


Kris

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	62.531.1 
Type:	religious or cult object; weapons and armament; metalwork; carving
Date of production:	19th century
Place of production:	Java, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	steel, wood, silver, forged, carved
Dimensions:	length: 50 cm width: 10 cm

Wavy-edged dagger, kris (Indonesian: keris) without scabbard. With carved handle, silver grip ring and double blood channel on the blade. Every detail of the kris has its own name, for example the tiny, wavy finish at the base of the blade is called the elephant's horn (Indonesian: belalai gajah).

For the Indonesians, the kris is much more than a simple weapon, it is a spectacular and effective expression of Javanese spirituality, a vehicle of spiritual power, a symbol of heroism and a status symbol.

