

Kris

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **63.9.1-3** 

Type: **bone objects; religious or cult object; weapons and armament; metalwork**

Date of production: 18th – early 19th century

Place of production: **Madura, Indonesia, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique
s: **steel, bone, wood, forged, embossed, carved**

Dimensions: length: 54 cm
width: 14. 5 cm

A wavy-edged dagger (Indonesian: keris) with a carved ivory hilt and ornately carved silver-plated wooden scabbard. The embossed scabbard depicts scroll and floral motifs and ends in a demon mask with a frontal design, which almost completely covers the handle guard.

A peculiarity of the Madurai 'donoriko' decoration is that the surface of the hilt, which imitates a bird's head, is covered with meticulously carved vegetation and small animal and human figures - barely visible, since the Islamic religion avoids figurative representation called 'donoriko' style. The bone handle in question contains typical Madurai symbols: winged horses (Si Mega) and dragons and a royal crown.

