

Reclining Buddha (Skt.: Mahaparinirvana)

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	8201 
Type:	religious or cult object; metalwork; statuette
Date of production:	19th century
Place of production:	Thailand (Siam), Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	tin, gilt
Dimensions:	height: 2.5 cm width: 6 cm depth: 2.8 cm

The reclining Buddha rests his right elbow on a cylindrical pillow; in front of him his beloved disciple Ānanda kneels with his hands facing each other in a salutatory posture (Skt.: *anāyāsāli mudra*). This iconographic type, common throughout Southeast Asia, depicts the Buddha's death, the final liberation from the bondage of the body, the bondage of earthly life, and the attainment of the state of nirvana.

