


Portable lime box

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	978.1-2 
Type:	object for daily use; metalwork
Date of production:	before 1914
Place of production:	Thailand (Siam), Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	silver, gilt, niello
Dimensions:	height: 1.7 cm diameter: 2.5 cm
Acquisition:	collection of Ferenc Hopp

A portable lime box (sirih kapor) with a hanging tab consisting of two interconnected parts. Decorated in niello, a popular technique of the silversmiths of contemporary Siam, with its spectacular surface, showing floral motifs. The niello is a rather elaborate craft technique that was introduced to Thailand by the Portuguese or the Persians. It was mainly the aristocrats of the time who commissioned craftsmen to make niello objects.

