

Male figure in traditional Javanese attire

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 53.216.1 

Type: **carving; textile arts**

Date of production: late 19th century

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

Materials/Technique
s: **carved, painted wood, batik textile**

Dimensions: height: 24 cm
width: 16 cm

A cross-legged wooden figure dressed in a sarong and matching headdress made using waxed (batik) technique. On his belt is the generally wavy-edged dagger (Indonesian: kris), an indispensable part of Javanese costume, which is believed to have magical powers. This small-sized wooden doll with its attire gives an accurate picture of the multifaceted function of Javanese folk costume, which, as a ceremonial costume, is still a dominant identity-forming element in the life of the islanders.

