

Sceptre (ruyi) with symbols of good luck

Chinese Collection

Accession Nr.: 1608 

Type: religious or cult object; lacquers; carving

Date of production: 18th–19th centuries
Qing dynasty

Place of production: China

Materials: red lacquer; wood

Techniques: carved

Dimensions: length: 40 cm

Acquisition: collection of Ferenc Hopp

The sceptre (ruyi, “Let it be done as you wish”) is an ancient Chinese ceremonial object and mark of high status, which later became the symbol of good luck. The widening end is similar to the head of a mushroom (lingzhi). It was usually bestowed as gift symbolising long life, happy marriage, and promotion in rank.

