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## Torfan Pendant With Twenty-six Heads - Gan Culture, Burkina Faso - 19th Century



740 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Other

Description
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TORFAN pendant with TWENTY-SIX HEADS  
Gan culture, Burkina Faso  
19th century  
Copper alloy  
H. 38 ; L 15.2 cm

Twenty-six-headed snake in copper alloy with a sinuous body punctuated by twisted lines referring to the reptile's scales. The twenty-six radiating heads are arranged around a disc incised with concentric circles. A suspension ring is set into the smooth reverse.

The Torfan is a spiritual entity. He manifests himself in the form of a snake which, depending on the representation, may have from one to ten heads. This divination could only be preserved by

Dealer
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the fetish healer.

We should add that among the Gans, the role of the blacksmith fulfils this duality of sorcerer and diviner. He is the one who masters fire.