Large Aragonese Knife With Engraved Motto, Spain 19th Century



370 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Length : 31.5 cm

Description

This knife, bearing the inscription "Saluda al Diablo por mi," is a rarity. Spanish fixed-blade knives are much rarer than navajas, and daggers made in Albacete are most commonly found, with handles generally shaped like a typical lantern. In agreement with the most recent Spanish publications, this knife is probably from Aragon. It should be classified in the category known as "cuchillo de arriero" (= muleteer's knife) for its general shape, although its manufacturing quality is much finer than that of knives of this type usually encountered. BLADE: It is a strong blade with a single curved edge, of the type made in Albacete. A curved counter edge runs from halfway down the blade to the tip On each side, there are etched decorations of plant motifs, and cursive inscriptions On one side "Soy defensora

Dealer

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del honor de mi dueño" (= I defend the honor of my owner) This inscription is classically found on other 19th century knives On the other side "Saluda al Diablo por mi" (= Greet the devil from me) To my knowledge, this curse of the adversary is the only one known to date on a Spanish blade. Blade length 22 cm, width near the handle = 2.8 cm, width at the widest point 4 cm, thickness near the handle, 4.5 mm HILT : It is made of black horn plates (probably bull horn) and bone, riveted to the tang. These parts are decorated with engraved patterns, in the same style as the engravings on the blade. This knife can reasonably be dated to the very beginning of the 19th century. Shipping costs France EUR20, Europe EUR30 Ref 4Y- 02XX