



Antique Vietnamese Vase Intended To Hold An Ink Stick And Three Seal Paste Boxes



1 850 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Ivory

Description

Ivory cylindrical "vase" height 11 cm. Inscription on the base (see red arrow) - The characters on the base are still directional (? , ? , ? , ? , ?) -- these can mean top, bottom, left, right, center -- indicating how to orient the holder or describing its contents' arrangement. This was common on containers that held precision items like a Luopan compass or a scholar's ink stick. ? Center: o ? (Zhong) -- "Center"? Around the outer circle: o ? (Shàng) -- "Up" o ? (Yòu) -- "Right" o ? (Xià) -- "Down" o ? (Zuo) -- "Left" o ? (Yi) -- "One" o ? (Èr) -- "Two" o ? (San) -- "Three" o ? (Sì) -- "Four" These show how the directions and numbers are laid out. They likely guided the correct orientation for the cylinder when stored or in use. Also three ivory boxes to contain paste for seals (chops). Genuine dark age patina. Diameter

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6 cm 4.5cm. 3.4cm.SOLD WITH A
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