



Yëwaa Exchange Currency - Abelam Culture, Maprik Region, Papua New Guinea



320 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

Yëwaa EXCHANGE CURRENCY Abelam culture, Maprik region, Papua New Guinea First half of the 20th century Shell, cotton and cowrie shells Diameter: 8.5 cm This coin consists of a twisted ring made from white shell. It is adorned with a braided cotton band decorated with forty-seven cowrie shells. It was used on occasions such as weddings, funerals or trade. Thus, the young groom was required to offer a set of six rings to his future in-laws as compensation. They symbolised the four limbs of his future wife, her head and her torso. If the set of rings was not accepted, this promised strong ties between the two new households; if, on the other hand, all six were accepted, this signified a symbolic union of the two families. These coins required a specific ritualistic skill, reserved for

Dealer

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Text