



Harpun Used For Hunting Hippopotamuses - West Africa, Banks Of The Niger River, First Half Of The

340 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Etat d'usage



Description

Harpoon spear for hunting hippos - West Africa, banks of the Niger River, first half of the 20th century
This type of harpoon was used for hunting hippos on the Niger River. The harpoon was thrown at the hippopotamus, remained lodged in the animal's skin, and detached from the wooden shaft. However, it remained connected to the harpoon via the line that uncoiled. The wooden handle floated to the surface and thus served as a float to locate the hippopotamus once it had submerged again. Thus, the hunters, in their boat, followed the float and speared the hippopotamus with the harpoon when it came up to breathe at the surface. Traces of an old collector's label on the wood mentioning "hippo hunt." A few cracks in the wood, otherwise in good condition. Length 129 cm Blade length 20 cm Weight 967 g A lovely

Dealer

Galerie Mathieu

Antiquités, armes et art extra-Européens

Châteauneuf-sur-Charente 16120

1951 film by director Jean Rouch documented
hippopotamus hunting on the Niger
River. Available on YouTube under the title "Jean
Rouch Battle on the Great River: Hippopotamus
Hunt 1951"