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Knife/dagger 'ikhula' With Copper Blade From The Kuba Tribe From Congo



400 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Brass

Length : 35

Width : 8 cm

Description

A rare, prestigious Kuba knife, known as an Ikhula, from the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This ceremonial weapon is distinguished by its elegantly shaped leaf-like blade and its carved hardwood handle, finely decorated with geometric motifs characteristic of Kuba art.This example has an exceptional feature: its blade is made of brass, whereas the vast majority of known Ikhula have a wrought-iron blade. The use of brass--a prestigious material associated with power and social status in many Central African cultures--makes this a particularly rare and sought-after piece.The blade, adorned with fine parallel fluting and decorative perforations, attests to remarkable metallurgical craftsmanship. The handle, with its aged patina, is embellished with delicate incised motifs and

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metal inlays, underscoring the object's ceremonial and symbolic nature.More than just a weapon, the Ikhula was a symbol of prestige used during ceremonies, high-level exchanges, and as a marker of status within Kuba society.