



Two African Spears From The Drc (northeastern Zaire), Late 19th Century

200 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Other

Length : 101 cm



Description

These two spears are African, originating from what is now the DRC (formerly Zaire, formerly the Belgian Congo). They were collected in the 1890s, which corresponds to the golden age of blacksmithing in Central Africa, before the use of imported Western iron caused a decline in traditional blacksmithing techniques. For these 2 spears, the steel was indeed handcrafted from local iron ore. The region of origin is northeastern Zaire, and can be attributed to use and/or production by the Nzombo, Lobala, Ngiri, and Ngbaka ethnic groups. Unfortunately, the shafts have been cut down, which was a common practice during transport back to Europe for reasons of convenience. The one with the longest and thinnest blade has two brass rings at the socket. It measures 44.5cm for the tip alone, and

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69 cm for the entire metal section. Total length including the shaft = 98 cmThe one with the blade flared at its base measures 32.5 cm for the tip alone and 53 cm for the entire metal section. Total length including the shaft = 101 cmThese are two beautiful examples of the craftsmanship of 19th-century African blacksmiths and of the warrior culture of Central AfricaShipping fee: France EUR30, Europe EUR40 Ref 4Y 00-XX