



Ethnology: Kiribati Sword With Shark Teeth Flying Fox Fur, Gilbert Islands South Pacific Ocean



1 600 EUR

Signature : KIRIBATi, Iles Gilbert, Micronésie (océan Pacifique Sud)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Width : 4 cm (avec les dents de requin de chaque côté)

Height : 84 cm

Depth : 1 cm

Description

CURIOSITIES / TRIBAL ART /
ETHNOLOGYKiribati ritual swordGilbert
Islands, Micronesia (South Pacific Ocean)Late
19th centuryThe handle is lined with woven palm
leaves.The blade is made of hardwood with an
oval profile, to which two rows of small shark
teeth are attached, in no fewer than 50 horizontal
rows (1 of the 100 teeth only is missing) These
teeth, which are extremely sharp and serrated,
were precisely drilled through their centers
despite their hardness and secured to each side of
the sword. According to the Kanak family
tradition of its former owner, the sturdy braided
cords--alternating black and white--used as
fasteners are said to be made from fur of
roussettes, a local species of bat... In conclusion,
a true curiosity, rare given the small population of

Dealer

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this archipelago of 16 atolls (just over 80,000 inhabitants today--what about in the 19th century?)Dimensions:84 cm tall* 4 cm wide (including the shark teeth) and * approximately 1 cm thickSigns of wearMounted on a matte black metal base, ensuring perfect stability for displaying the weapon upright.