

Finch & C^o



A RARE TIBETAN IVORY , SILVER AND COPPER SEAL IN THE FORM OF A CHORTEN

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18 TH CENTURY

SIZE : 7 CM HIGH , 5 CM DIA – 2¾ INS HIGH , 2 INS DIA

LITERATURE

ALL TIBETAN MONASTERIES CENTRE ON CHORTENS AND INDIVIDUALS OFTEN OWN SMALL ONES ON HOUSEHOLD ALTARS AS A FOCUS FOR MEDITATION . THEY ARE THE SYMBOL OF THE ENLIGHTENED MIND AND EACH ASPECT OF THEIR DESIGN SYMBOLISES A FACET OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT EXPERIENCE AND THE PATH LEADING TO IT . THIS SEAL IS PROBABLY FROM A MONASTERY . ABOVE A ROW OF SKULLS AROUND THE BOTTOM EDGE THERE ARE THE EIGHT BUDDHIST EMBLEMS OF HAPPY ANGURY IN SILVER . ON THE BASE THERE IS A DEVICE WHICH IS A REPRESENTATION OF THE BUDDHIST DHARMA .