## Finch & C°



19 An unusual and large Indo Portuguese set of rosary beads with a Damascus olivewood and mother of pearl engraved cross Late Disk/outy Into CENTURY

Nam: 2011 cm. houg, hergest facual lices a firm-

This fine resary was most probably used to draw a large processional figure of the Virgin Mary. As a form of devotion the smarp's traditionally assribled to Saint Dominic (1110)-12215. Each of the fire decades processes one of the scenario in the file of Christ and the Virgin, scenario (Lipoffa and adjurism). The processe process mediances on the backs while asyling Holl Mary ten times; neuralizing with a Glovia, and then asyling an One Father in the larger back of the scenario in the file of Christ and the the Middle Appet this also devotions was use shiftly such that the nanodistrane of mouries was a shifting inducely arriving actions iskifts of the highest order, Methods of anying the many tacked as full the number and order of backs. This division into file darades additiolated by large partermaters all conductors in mounter of the process.

## AN INDO PORTUGUESE SET OF ROSARY BEADS 17TH/18TH CENTURY

AN UNSUAL AND LARGE INDO PORTUGUESE SET OF ROASARY BEADS WITH A DAMASCUS OLIVEWOOD AND MOTHER-OF-PEARL ENGRAVED CROSS LATE 17TH / EARLY 18TH CENTURY SIZE : 311 CMLONG , LARGEST BEAD 3CMX2CM

## LITERATURE

THIS FINE ROASARY WAS MOST PROBABLY USED TO DRESS A LARGE PROCESSIONAL FIGURE OF THE VIRGIN MARY. AS A FORM OF DEVOTION THE ROSARY IS TRADITIONALLY ASCRIBED TO SAINT DOMINIC (1170-1221). EACH OF THE FIVE DECADES REPRESENTS ONE OF THE EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST OR THE VIRGIN; SORROWFUL, JOYFUL AND GLORIUS. THE PERSON PRAYING MEDITATES ON THE BEADS WHILST SAYING HAIL MARY TEN TIMES, CONCLUDING WITH A GLORIA, THEN SAYING AN OUR FATHER ON THE LARGER BEAD TO COMMENCE THE NEXT DECADE. IN THE MIDDLE AGES THIS AID TO DEVOTION WAS SO WIDELY USED THAT THE MANUFACTURE OF ROSARIES WAS A THRIVING INDUSTRY ATTRACTING ARTISTIC SKILLS OF THE HIGHEST ORDER. METHODS OF SAYING PATERNOSTERS STILL CONFORMS TO MODERN PRACTICE.