Finch & Co

A FINE FIJIAN WAR CLUB 'GATA' COMPLETE WITH IT'S SENNIT BINDING

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EARLY 19 TH CENTURY
SIZE : 104 CM LONG – 41 INS LONG

LITERATURE

THESE GATA CLUBS REPRESENT THE WIDE OPEN JAWS OF THE PACIFIC BOA SNAKE 'GATA' . A CHARACTERISTIC OF THE FINER GATA CLUBS ARE THE ROUGHLY CARVED PARALLEL GROOVES ON THE UPPER INNER SIDE AS ON THIS EXAMPLE . THESE ARE DELIBERATELY MADE BY CARVING WITH STONE TOOLS INTO THE GROWING IRONWOOD SAPLING BEFORE IT IS HARVESTED AND FASHIONED INTO A CLUB .
THE SHARP EDGE OF THIS CLUB WAS DESIGNED TO BREAK BONES .