Finch & Co



BERING SEA INUIT SALMON PRIEST OR CLUB 'ANAUTAG'

A BERING SEA INUIT SALMON PRIEST OR CLUB 'ANAUTAG' MADE FROM A FOSSILISED SEAL'S PENIS BONE
18TH CENTURY
SIZE: 34CM LONG - 13½ INS LONG

LITERATURE

SEVERAL SPECIES OF SALMON ASCEND THE RIVERS OF THE BERING SEA COAST FROM JUNE TO OCTOBER AND BECAUSE OF THEIR GREAT NUMBERS THEY PROVIDE A LARGE AND RELATIVELY STABLE FOOD AND OIL RESOURCE. FISH ARE A PRINCIPLE FOOD FOR BOTH MEN AND DOGS SO SURPLUS FISH WERE DRIED OR FROZEN FOR USE IN LEAN SEASONS WHEN THERE WAS LITTLE ELSE FOR PEOPLE TO EAT. THE SKIN OF THE FISH WAS ALSO USED FOR LIGHT FOUL WEATHER PARKAS, BOOTS AND FOR WATER RESISTANT BAGS. SEALS ARE THE CHIEF PREDATOR OF FISH AND SO THIS CLUB MADE FROM A SEAL'S PENIS BONE IS A SPIRITUALLY COMPATIBLE HUNTING TOOL.