Finch & Co



A FINE EXAMPLE OF A CHOKWE 'CHIEF'S STAFF' OR 'SCEPTER' OF CLUB FORM

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ANGOLA

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THE SHAFT DECORATED WITH FINELY COILED BRASS WIRE AND FURTHER BRASS STUDS

THE WHOLE DISPLAYING A SUPERB COLOUR AND DARK RICH PATINA

DARK DENSE WOOD / EBONY (?) BRASS, WIRE

ANGOLA

19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 69CM LONG - 27½ INS LONG

LITERATURE

THE 'SCEPTER' OR 'SCEPTRE' WAS AN EMBLEM OF RANK WITHIN THE CHOKWE'S HIERARCHY. CLUB-LIKE SCEPTRES TOOK THE GENERAL FORM OF WEAPONS ONCE USED IN WAR OR 'FOR PROTECTION AGAINST SLAVE RAIDERS'. IN CEREMONIAL CONTEXTS THE SCEPTRES BECAME SYMBOLS OF POWER AND STATUS.