

Finch & C^o



A FINE AND RARE SHONA KNIFE AND SHEATH

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FINE COLOUR AND PATINA

WOOD, STEEL, COPPER

ZIMBABWE / AFRICA

19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 42.5CMLONG, 9CMWIDE - 16¾INS LONG, 3½INS WIDE

48CMLONG - 19 INS LONG (WITH SCABBARD)

LITERATURE

AXES AND KNIVES WERE PRESERVED AS HEIRLOOMS AMONGST THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND TRANSMITTED FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT AS IMPORTANT INDICATORS OF STATUS. THEY ALSO PRESERVED AND CARRIED AN AURA OF ANCESTRAL SYMBOLISM

IT IS VERY RARE TO FIND FIGURATIVE REPRESENTATIONS ON A KNIFE HANDLE, INDICATING OWNERSHIP BY A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL OR CHIEF.

PROVENANCE

EX CHRISTIES 28TH NOVEMBER 1983, LOT 236

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION