



Fiji Basket-Hook or ililili Ex Ohly, London

An important basket-hook or ililili. The central section supporting the lower knob sprouting four dowel-like hooks is a large open-work diamond. Hooks of this type were used by the Fijians to suspend either food baskets or ceremonial items in order to preserve them from vermin. Suspension hooks of this type were used by the Fijians to suspend either food baskets or ceremonial items in order to preserve them from vermin. A hook of this caliber and stylistic representation can only have belonged to a man of importance.

Fiji Islands, Polynesia.

Hard wood, vesi (*Intsia bijuga*), with a thick crusty patina.

42,5 cm.

18th/19th century.

Literature:

See photos Berkeley Galleries and William Ohly