



Inv. no. 43/1980

DAGGER (KATAR), STEEL

INDIA; END OF 17TH CENTURY

L: 35.2 CM

The distinctive Indian dagger, the *katar*, was used in close combat. In contrast to the ordinary dagger, which is held with the blade at a right angle to the arm, the *katar* is held by the cross bar, so that the blade points straight ahead. This enables the bearer to deal even an armored opponent a fatal blow.

As is often the case, the *katar*'s blade is decorated with ornamentation in relief, and the gilded handle is stippled with a floral pattern.

Published in:  
Unpublished;