

Basic Detail Report



Hat with Rank Finial

Date

1644-1911

Medium

Lacquer, cotton, silver, glass and coral

Description

This object is a man's hat with a rank finial attached at the top, made during the Qing dynasty. These hats were worn on varied occasions, and the finial would be

switched out for other colors or styles depending on the rank of the wearer and the occasion. The royalty and nobility used various numbers of pearls. An officer of the first rank wore a translucent red ball (originally ruby); second rank, solid red ball (originally coral); third rank, translucent blue ball (originally sapphire); fourth rank, solid blue ball; fifth rank, translucent white ball (originally crystal); sixth rank, solid white ball (originally mother of pearl). Officers of the seventh to ninth rank wore gold or clear amber balls of varied designs.