



Hat

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Miao

Medium

Cotton, silk and metal

Description

The importance of elaborate adornments and clothing extends to Miao children as well as adults. Ensembles for infants and young children would serve as evidence of a family’s wealth rather than as a means of attracting potential husbands, as is the traditional purpose of the ensembles of older girls. Among the adornments on this hat are bells with fish charms. The fish is an often employed design element that symbolizes health, fertility, and a good life.

Dimensions

4 1/4 × 6 × 5 1/2 in. (10.8 × 15.2 × 14 cm)