



Water Pipe

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Miao

Medium

Bamboo and brass

Description

This is a tobacco pipe from the Miao people of China. Tobacco was introduced to the Miao through trade shortly after its arrival in China in 1612. Mostly due to the environmental conditions of where the Miao live, tobacco is still traded for rather than grown by most Miao groups. Given the prevalence of bamboo in China and that it is already hollow it was a common medium for pipes. The natural qualities of bamboo helped longer pipes mellow

the flavor of tobacco.

Dimensions

a,b: 15 1/4 × 5 × 3 7/8 in. (38.7 × 12.7 × 9.8 cm) b, stem only: 1/2 × 10 5/8 in. (1.3 × 27 cm)