



Men's Ear Drop (Sochi)

Date

19th to 20th Century

Medium

Brass, turquoise, mother-of-pearl, and wood

Description

For Tibetan men, jewelry and adornments reflected their position in society. Worn singularly, not as a pair, this thin, pencil-like ear ornament known as a sochi was hung from the left ear as a badge of office by ministers and officials for the Tibetan government. Officials also wore hats with stone finials of different colors to convey their rank to everyone they met.

Dimensions

Earring: $6 \frac{1}{16} \times \frac{3}{8} \times 1 \frac{3}{16}$ in. ($15.4 \times 1 \times 3$ cm) Case (with lid on): $6 \frac{7}{8} \times 2 \frac{1}{8} \times 1 \frac{1}{4}$ in. ($17.5 \times 5.4 \times 3.2$ cm)