PAGODA
RED

FULANI CURRENCY BRACELET

$388

c. 1900 • Niger • Brass • Collection #KB021

W: 3.75″ D: 1.25″ H: 3.5″

Characterized by its open shape capped with geometric ends, this bracelet is but one form of the many types of body adornments favored the Fulani people of West Africa. The thick design and substantial weight of this woman's anklet gave a pleasing sway to the wearer's step, with a bovine movement much appreciated by the herding culture. It also enabled the woman to literally wear her wealth as bracelets were also used as a form of currency for rare major purchases. Continued...

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Because the Fulani are a nomadic people, the bracelet was probably made to a Fulani woman's specifications by a trusted artisan from another culture. Made of brass, the bracelet bears the unique marks of its lost-wax manufacture along with the etched and stamped decorations that decorate its prominent ends.