
PAGODA RED



KAREN WOVEN BETEL BOX

\$180

c. 1900 • Thailand • Bamboo, Lacquer • Collection #CBH090

H: 3.75" Dia: 3.25"

In many southeast Asian cultures, offering guests a betel quid to chew was the fundamental symbol of hospitality. A blend of leaves, nuts, seasonings, and sometimes tobacco, betel was kept in finely worked and decorated boxes. This round betel box by the Karen people of the Thai/Burma border is formed of woven bamboo strips coated in dark lacquer. Unlike Burmese betel boxes, which favor vibrant red and gold finishes, Karen boxes are colored with a natural soil-based pigment.



1740 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 • 773-235-1188 • info@pagodared.com

PAGODARED.COM