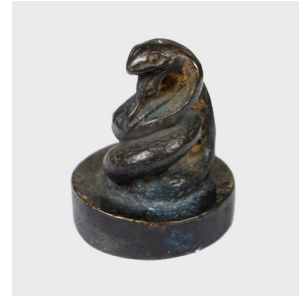


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# PAGODA RED

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## COBRA CHOP

**\$348**

c. 1850 • Shanxi, China • Bronze • Collection #BJAA036H

H: 2.25" Dia: 1.75"

Chops have been used by Chinese merchants and emperors since 1000 BC. The ancient tradition of dripped-wax seal has given way to pre-inked stamps, but they still carry the same weight they have for millennia. This chop is unique as a thumbprint—150 years ago a businessman from China's Shanxi Province used it to ratify important documents. The cobra decorating the chop's handle probably had great personal significance.



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