

M?ori tokotoko ceremonial cane

Sold



REF: 6377

Height: 92 cm (36.2")

Description

Late 19th century M?ori tokotoko ceremonial cane with carved masks inset with shell.

A *tokotoko* is a traditional M?ori carved walking stick or ceremonial cane, symbolising authority, wisdom, and the storytelling heritage of M?ori elders, especially orators and leaders. Each tokotoko is intricately carved with designs that reflect tribal lineage, personal achievements, and cultural values. During speeches, it serves as a physical symbol of the speaker's knowledge and mana (prestige), and its patterns often illustrate significant ancestral stories, passed down through generations as a living testament to M?ori culture.