AMIR MOHTASHEMI



Enamel Ottoman Pipe

Turkey, 19th century

Silver, enamel and wood

60cm long

Stock no.: A3535

This pipe has an elongated wooden stem that is divided into four sections, each section has tapering on both sides. The stem is mounted with silver in a fish scale pattern throughout. The silver stummel is of black enamel with the same silver fish scale pattern. The lily-shaped bowl has a pierced hinged cover with a silver ball handle in the centre and terracotta lining inside the bowl. Tobacco was introduced to the Ottoman empire in the seventeenth century and tobacco consumption soon became a fashionable activity. In an Ottoman album dated circa 1620 at the British Museum (1928,0323,0.46.96; 1928,0323,0.46.110), there are some single-page paintings that depict Ottoman courtly personnel consuming tobacco with the same type of elongated pipe.