



Hat-Ornament

Date

1644-1912

Medium

Glass, metal alloy, card

Description

Spherical transparent glass ball on a supporting ornamental mount of gilt metal decorated with feathered or clawed motifs and layers of paper underneath. This would have been mounted on top of a Mandarin's hat. There were nine different classes and the colour of the button indicated a Mandarin's rank. A transparent white button such as this was worn by those of the fifth class.

Dimensions

Object/Work: 70 x 35 mm