

# Shaman's Paraphernalia Container

Borneo, Kalimantan, Dayak, 19th century  
Wood, bark, fiber, rattan, beads

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To determine the cause and cure for illnesses, a shaman contacted the spirit world to discover the source of the problem. Certain ritual paraphernalia were required during these efforts, such as polished shells, bones, teeth, beads, and various kinds of healing substances. Such items were kept in a special container. Here, the lid is ornamented with a sophisticated foliate design. In contrast, mounted on the sides are two seated figures with bared teeth and staring, beaded eyes.

