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Dagger or short sword
Southern India, Deccan, fifteenth century
Steel
L. 63 cm
Inv. R-710

The all-steel hilt of this dagger bears typical Deccani down-turned quillons terminating with *makara* heads. The guard and pommel also terminate in dragon heads. The grip is attached in two plates to the tang and the pommel is structured likewise. The slightly recurved blade bears several fullers. The *makara* heads not only parallel a known hilt in the Bikaner Museum but also relate closely to cat. no. 198 and also to R-736 in the Furujiya Collection. This piece, however, is probably slightly earlier and therefore of the Bahmanid dynasty.

Kastane