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Mongolia, Order of the Precious Rod (aka Order of Vajra), 3rd class, 4th grade, 1913 through mid-1920s.

Bronze gilt, enamels, lapis lazuli. Measures 55.9 mm in height not including the suspension, 55.5 mm in width; weighs 32.5 grams. The badge is of remarkable quality, most likely of Russian or European manufacture.

This is the first decoration of the independent Mongolian state. Although it was later replaced by the new generation of Communist awards, some of the Orders of the Precious Rod were still bestowed upon both Mongolian and Soviet citizens after the 1921 revolution.

Excellent overall condition, with just a touch of wear to the lapis stone and a couple of minor chips to the white beads, not detracting. Magnificent red enamel is intact and all of the gilt is still present. Ribbon is missing, but original eyelet, suspension and loop are included.

/See Dr. A. Battushig, "Mongolian Orders, Medals and Badges", pp.41, 42/

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\$7,700.00













