

QUIPU AS120

Museum identification: No. VA47083 (Museum Für Völkerkunde, Berlin)

Main cord: color LB:GG:W

- § 11.5 cm: group of 8 pendant cords (1-8), then space of 4.5 cm.
 18.0 cm: group of 8 pendant cords (9-16), then space of 3.5 cm.
 23.5 cm: group of 8 pendant cords (17-24), then space of 4.0 cm.
 29.5 cm: group of 8 pendant cords (25-32), then space of 75.0 cm.
 107.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	2s(5.0); 5s(11.0); 6s(18.5); 9s(27.5); 1E(35.5)	38.0ç	GG	25691	
2	1s(11.5); 6s(27.5); 8L(35.5)	36.5	LB:B	1068	
3	4s(4.5); 2s(11.0); 7s(19.0); 6s(27.0)	40.0ç	B/LB (11.0/40.0)	42760	1:0.5
3s1	3s(17.5)	66.0ç	B/LB (14.5/66.0)	300	
4	1s(12.0); 8s(20.0); 9s(27.5); 6L(36.5)	64.5ç	CB/B (18.5/64.5)	1896	
5	1s(5.0); 9s(12.5); 2s(18.5); 7s(27.0); 4L(37.0)	51.0ç	B/CB:B (12.5/51.0)	19274	
6	5s(11.0); 4s(18.0); 8s(26.0); 5L(34.5)	40.0ç	B-GG	5485	
7	6s(11.5); 5s(18.5); 4s(26.0); 1E(35.0)	41.5ç	B/B:GG (11.5/41.5)	6541	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
8	4s(5.5); 3s(11.0); 3s(18.5); 7s(27.0); 2L(36.0)	48.5¢	GG:W	43372	
9	8s(12.5); 7s(19.0); 3s(26.5); 1E(34.0)	47.5¢	GG	8731	
10	3s(18.5); 6s(27.5); 2L(33.5)	51.5¢	LB:B	362	
11	1s(5.0); 4s(11.5); 7s(18.5); 4s(27.0); 3L(33.5)	42.0¢	B/LB (19.5/42.0)	14743	1:0.5
11s1	1s(17.0); 2L(33.0)	60.5¢	B/LB (20.0/60.5)	102	
12	6s(18.5); 4s(26.0); 1E(34.0)	38.5¢	CB/B (17.5/38.5)	641	
13	6s(13.0); 5s(19.0); 2s(27.5); 1E(34.5)	42.5¢	B/CB:B (19.0/42.5)	6521	
14	1s(11.5); 8s(20.5); 6s(28.5); 2L(35.5)	43.5¢	B-GG	1862	
15	2s(11.0); 2s(18.0); 2s(26.5); 2L(33.5)	50.5¢	B/B:GG (23.0/50.5)	2222	
16	1s(5.5); 4s(12.0); 7s(20.0); 1E(37.0)	42.0¢	GG:W	14701	
17	1s(5.5); 1s(11.5); 7s(19.5); 3s(27.5)	51.5¢	GG	11730	
18	4s(19.5); 5s(28.0); 7L(36.0)	44.0¢	LB:B	457	
19	1s(5.5); 8s(12.5); 5s(27.5); 3L(35.5)	42.0¢	B/LB (19.5/42.0)	18053	1:0.5
19s1	1s(18.5); 2s(26.5); 8L(34.5)	43.0¢	B/LB (27.0/43.0)	128	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
20	8s(19.5); 8L(35.5)	39.5¢	CB/B (23.0/39.5)	808	
21	8s(12.5); 2s(18.5); 2s(26.0)	41.0¢	B/CB:B (20.5/41.0)	8220	
22	2s(11.5); 3s(19.5); 3s(27.5)	58.0¢	B-GG	2330	
23	2s(12.0); 7s(21.0); 7s(29.5); 7L(38.0)	42.5¢	B/B:GG (26.0/42.5)	2777	
24	1s(4.5); 8s(12.0); 4s(19.5); 7s(28.0); 5L(36.0)	37.5¢	GG:W	18475	
25	5s(11.5); 2s(19.0); 3s(28.5)	70.0¢	GG	5230	
26	2s(18.5); 4s(28.0); 9L(36.0)	45.5¢	LB:B	249	
27	9s(11.5); 9s(19.5); 6s(28.5); 4L(35.5)	50.0¢	B/LB (19.5/50.0)	9964	1:0.5
27s1	7s(27.0)	58.0¢	B/LB (26.0/58.0)	70	
28	4s(19.0); 4s(27.5); 8L(35.0)	42.5¢	CB/B (20.0/42.5)	448	
29	4s(11.0); 5s(18.5); 3s(27.0); 3L(33.0)	36.5¢	B/CB:B (19.0/36.5)	4533	
30	1s(10.0); 2s(17.5); 9s(27.0); 3L(34.5)	45.5¢	B:GG	1293	
31	1s(10.0); 5s(17.5); 4s(25.5); 2L(33.5)	43.5¢	B/B-GG (18.0/43.5)	1542	
32	1s(5.0); 1s(17.5); 9s(27.5); 6L(34.0)	63.5¢	GG:W	10196	

Observations

1. This is one of several quipus acquired by the Museum in 1907 with provenance Ica. For a list of them, see AS100.
2. By spacing, the quipu is separated into 4 groups of 8 pendants each. The color pattern for each group is the same (with the minor exception that pendants 7 and 8 in group 4 are B:GG and B/B-GG rather than the B-GG and B/B:GG of similar positions). In each group, there is one subsidiary on position 3 and it is the color of the pendant to which it is attached.
3. The values in group 1 are the sums of the values of groups 2-4, position by position (with a discrepancy of 1 in the 4th position). The value on the subsidiary on position 3 in group 1 is also the sum of the values of the subsidiaries on position 3 in groups 2-4. Thus,

$$\sum_{i=2}^4 P_{ij} = P_{1j} \quad j=1,2,\dots,8.$$

4. The ratios of the corresponding values is surprisingly consistent. For $j=2,\dots,8$ and the position 3 subsidiary value

$$P_{2j}/P_{1j} = .342 \quad \text{max. deviation } 1.2\%$$

$$P_{3j}/P_{1j} = .425 \quad \text{max. deviation } .7\%$$

$$P_{4j}/P_{1j} = .235 \quad \text{max. deviation } .9\%$$

The values on the exceptional position ($i=1$) in the different groups, counterbalance each other. If 796 were subtracted from position 1 in group 3 and added to position 1 in group 4, the values in position 1 would also satisfy the above ratios.