

## QUIPU AS159

Museum identification: No. VA16138 A (Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin)

Main cord: color W

- § 3.5 cm: group of 7 pendant cords (1-7), then space of 0.5 cm.  
 6.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (8-9), then space of 0.5 cm.  
 7.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (10-11), then space of 1.0 cm.  
 8.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (12-13), then space of 1.0 cm.  
 10.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (14-15), then space of 1.0 cm.  
 11.5 cm: group of 7 pendant cords (16-22), then space of 9.0 cm.  
 22.5 cm: group of 6 pendant cords (23-28), then space of 7.0 cm.  
 31.0 cm: group of 7 pendant cords (29-35), then space of 3.0 cm.  
 36.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	1E(14.5)	33.0ç	W	1	1:0.5
1s1	1s(7.5);8L(13.5);2L(17.0)	22.0ç	W	18+2	
2	1s(8.5);6L(13.5);1E(18.0)	22.5ç	B:W	16+1	
3	1s(8.5);6L(13.0)	18.5ç	B:W	16	
4	1s(9.0);6L(14.0)	17.5ç	B:W	16	
5	1s(9.0);8L(13.5)	15.5ç	B:W	18	
6	1s(9.0);2L(14.0)	24.5ç	B	12	
7	1s(8.5);6L(14.5)	23.0ç	B:W	16	
8	2L(17.0)	30.5ç	W	2	1:0.5
8s1	8L(17.0)	24.0ç	W	8	
9	4s(9.0);8L(19.0);1E(21.0)	41.5ç	B	48+1	1:0.5
9s1	8L(18.0)	23.5b	GA	8	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
10	2s(7.0);5L(12.5)	21.5¢	B	25	2:0.0-1.0
10s1	3L(12.0)	22.5	GA	3	
10s2	4L(13.0)	33.0¢	W	4	
11	1s(7.0);8L(12.5)	21.0¢	B:W	18	2:0.0-1.0
11s1	3L(12.5)	28.0¢	W	3	
11s2	3L(11.0);1E(12.0)	29.0¢	GA	3+1	
12	4L(12.0)	19.5¢	B:W	4	1:8.0
12s1	3L(4.5)	10.0¢	GA	3	
13	1EE(11.5)	40.0¢	W	1	
14	2s(9.0);1EE(10.5);3L(11.5)	19.5¢	W	21 +3	
15	7s(9.5);9L(19.0)	24.5¢	W	79	1:4.0
15s1	1E(8.0);2L(14.5)	18.5¢	W	1+2	
16	2s(9.5);5L(19.0)	31.0¢	B	25	1:0.5
16s1	1s(8.5);2L(17.0);3L(18.0)	27.5¢	W	12+3	
17	4L(12.5)	31.0¢	B:W	4	1:0.5
17s1	8L(12.5)	22.0¢	W	8	
18	4L(12.5)	41.0¢	B:W	4	1:0.5
18s1	--	28.0¢	W	0	
19	4L(9.0)	27.0¢	B:W	4	1:0.5
19s1	3L(9.0)	21.0¢	W	3	
20	4L(8.5)	19.0¢	B:W	4	1:0.5
20s1	3L(8.5)	21.0¢	W	3	
21	4L(9.0)	34.5¢	B	4	1:0.5

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
21s1	3L(7.0)	20.5¢	W	3	
22	5L(8.5)	36.0¢	B	5	1:0.5
22s1	1E(8.0)	21.5¢	W	1	
23	2L(8.0)	29.0¢	W	2	1:0.5
23s1	2s(4.0);3L(7.5)	28.0¢	W	23	
24	1s(5.0);6L(10.5)	23.0¢	B	16	
25	1s(5.0);6L(10.5)	23.5¢	B	16	
26	1s(5.0);6L(10.0)	22.5¢	B	16	
27	1s(5.0);6L(10.5);1E(11.5)	19.0¢	B	16+1	
28	1s(5.0);6L(10.5)	23.0¢	B	16	
29	1s(5.0)	41.5¢	B	10	
30	7L(8.0)	23.5¢	B	7	1:1.0
30s1	4L(6.5)	25.0¢	B:W	4	
31	6L(8.5);1E(9.0)	27.0¢	B	6+1	
32	1s(4.5);2L(8.0);1E(8.5)	28.0¢	B	12+1	
33	5L(8.0);1E(8.5)	26.0¢	B	5+1	
34	3L(8.0)	33.5¢	B	3	
35	7L(8.5)	28.0¢	B	7	

Observations

1. This is one of several quipus acquired by the Museum in 1904 with provenance between Ica and Pisco. For a discussion of them, see AS98.
2. By spacing, there are 8 groups with different numbers of pendants. There are much larger spaces on the main cord between groups 6-7 and 7-8 than there are between others. The only consistent colors are in the 3 groups with 7 pendants each (groups 1, 6, and 8). Group 8 is unified: all pendants are B. Groups 1 and 6 both have the pattern X, 4B:W, 2X where X=W in group 1 and X=B in group 6.
3. Several of the pendants have multiple unit knots so that there are 2 distinct values in some positions. (See, for example, Pl4.)
4. The value on the first pendant in group 6 is the sum of the other pendants in the group. Similarly, the value on its subsidiary is the sum of the values of the other subsidiaries in the group.
5. The sum of the 2 pendant values in group 5 is 100 & 3. The sum of all pendant values in groups 6 and 8 is also 100 & 3.