

QUIPU AS59

Museum identification: No. 5B (O. Núñez del Prado, Cuzco)

Main cord: color W

§ 6.0 cm: group of 4 pendant cords (1-4), then space of 1.5 cm.

8.5 cm: group of 4 pendant cords (5-8), then space of 26.5 cm.

36.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	1s(5.0); 3L(11.5)	37.0ç	MB	13	
2	9L(11.0)	39.5ç	MB	9	
3	1s(5.0)	41.0ç	W	10	
4	7L(10.5)	33.0ç	W	7	
5	1s(5.0)	41.0ç	W	10	
6	1s(4.5); 3L(11.5)	36.0ç	W	13	
7	1s(4.0); 1E(10.5)	38.5ç	W	11	
8	8L(11.0)	25.5ç	W	8	

Observations

1. By spacing, this quipu has 2 groups of 4 pendants each. The first group is subdivided by color into 2MB, 2W and the second group is all one color.
2. All values on the quipu are between 7 and 13.
3. This quipu, along with AS60-AS67, was found with a cloth bag at Chala. Dorothy Menzl, one of the excavators at Chala, deposited the bag and its contents with Oscar Núñez del Prado in Cuzco. Also in the collection were a set of 13 prepared

blank pendants tied together, a set of 48 prepared blank pendants tied together with a fragment of a broken quipu, and several individual broken pendants tied together. This collection is also discussed in *Knot Records in Ancient and Modern Peru*, C. J. Mackey, University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D. thesis, 1970, Chapter 4, pp. 83-99. Details of portions of AS61 and AS67 are further described by the author on pp. 259-262.

4. There is some similarity of colors used in this collection of quipus but no one color is very distinctive. For example, KB appears on AS62-AS66 and MB appears on AS59 and AS65-AS66.
5. Top cords appear on AS66 and AS67. In AS66, both common forms of top cords are used--those uniting pendant cords and those attached to the main cord. In AS67, the only form used is attachment to the main cord. Both quipus have these top cords centered within groups of 8 pendants.
6. AS63, AS64, AS66, and AS67 all have the twisted end of the main cord knotted.
7. Several of the quipus in this collection have restricted values. AS59 has values 7-13; AS60 has values 1-8; AS61 has values less than 7; AS62 has values 6-15; and AS64 has values 0-10.
8. Most of the quipus in this collection have groups that are set off by spacing and color (AS59-AS61, AS65-AS67). However, three of the quipus also have groups subdivided in half by color. On AS59, the first group of 4 pendants is 2MB, 2W and the second is all W; on AS60 the second group of 4 pendants is 2YB:W, 2W and the third is all W; and on AS66 some groups are 4 pendants of one color, followed by 4 of another color, while the rest are 8 of one color.