

QUIPU AS147

Museum identification: No. VA44866A (Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin)

Main cord: color LB:B

- § 2.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (1-2), then space of 2.0 cm.
 5.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (3-4), then space of 0.5 cm.
 6.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (5-6), then space of 0.5 cm.
 7.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (7-8), then space of 0.5 cm.
 8.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (9-10), then space of 2.0 cm.
 10.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (11-12), then space of 0.5 cm.
 11.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (13-14), then space of 0.5 cm.
 12.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (15-16), then space of 0.5 cm.
 13.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (17-18), then space of 59.0 cm.
 73.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	2s(6.0);7s(15.5);2L(23.5)	46.0ç	B:GG	272	
2	3s(6.5);8s(15.0);5L(24.0)	42.0ç	B	385	
3	5s(12.5);1E(25.5)	50.0ç	B:GG	57	
4	6s(12.0)	27.5ç	B:GG	60	
5	5s(12.0)	40.5ç	B:LC	50	
6	4s(11.5)	33.5ç	B:GG	40	
7	4s(12.0)	40.0ç	B:LC	40	
8	3s(11.0);1E(23.0)	33.0ç	B:GG	31	
9	3s(12.0);2L(27.5)	42.0ç	B:LC	32	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
10	2s(10.0);3L(22.0)	34.5¢	B:GG	23	
11	3s(13.0);1E(24.0)	35.5¢	B	31	
12	5s(13.5)	37.5¢	B	50	
13	2s(11.5)	36.0¢	B	20	
14	5s(12.5)	43.0¢	B	50	
15	2s(12.5);3L(24.0)	31.5¢	B	23	
16	6s(13.5);2L(26.5)	37.0¢	B	62	
17	2s(13.0);3L(24.0)	37.0¢	B	23	
18	6s(13.5);5L(23.5)	37.0¢	B	65	

Observations

1. AS147-AS149 are associated in that they were all designated by the same Museum number. They were acquired by the Museum in 1907 with provenance Ocucaje. For a comparison of them, see #4 below.
2. By spacing, AS147 is separated into 3 parts. Part 1 consists of 1 pair of pendants, and parts 2 and 3 consist of 4 pairs of pendants each. With the exception of the first pendant in the first pair, each pair in part 2 has the same color pattern: B:LG, B:GG. All pendants in part 3 are the same color, B.
3. The values of the pendants in part 1 are related to the sums of the values in parts 2 and 3. They can be interpreted as inexact sums. The sum of the values of the first pendants in the 8 pairs in parts 2 and 3 is 270; the

value on the first pendant in the pair in part 1 is 272. Similarly, the sum of the second pendant values is 381 and the value of the second pendant in the pair in part 1 is 385.

4. Comparison of AS147-AS149:

- a) The 3 quipus are similar in grouping. In all of them, the first part sums the following parts. AS147 and AS148 are both separated into 3 parts with the second and third parts each containing 4 pairs of pendants. In AS147, the pair in part 1 sums the 8 pairs in parts 2 and 3 position by position. In AS148, there are 2 pairs in part 1 so the sums are separate for each part and each position in a pair. AS149 is also in 3 parts but it differs in the number of groups per part and the number of pendants per group. Again, the values in part 1 are sums, but only of values in part 2, which in turn contains sums of values in part 3.
- b) The quipus use the same basic colors. The colors used, alone or in combination, are B, LB, LC, GG, and GØ. Three of the 5 are used on AS148, and AS147 and AS149 each use 4 of them.
- c) The values on the quipus differ in order of magnitude: on AS147, the values in parts 2 and 3 are 23-65 and the sums in part 1 are 272-385; on AS148, the values in parts 2 and 3 are 125-638 and the sums in part 1 are 941-2061; and on AS149, the values in parts 2 and 3 are 0-3410 and the sums in part 1 are 660-21243.