

QUIPU AS33A

Museum identification: No. 41.52.30/293B (Peabody Museum, Harvard University)

Main cord: color R-AB-CB

\$16.0 cm: group of 12 pendant cords (1-12), then space of 37.5 cm.

61.5 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	1s(5.0); 2L(14.0)	29.0ç	R/W*	12	
2	--	3.0b	CB	?	
3	1s(5.5); 5L(13.0)	25.0ç	R/W	15	
4	6L(9.5)	23.5ç	R/W	6	
5	1s(5.5); 4L(12.5)	25.5ç	R/W	14	
6	--	1.0b	CB	?	
7	--	5.0b	R	?	
8	--	1.0b	R	?	
9	--	4.5b	R	?	
10	--	0.5b	R	?	
11	--	1.0b	R	?	
12	--	4.0b	R	?	

Observations

*1. Construction note: R/W does not represent R joined to W. The color R alternately appears and disappears on the single cord.

2. A photograph of AS33 is in Ascher (1975).
3. Quipus AS33A-AS33G form a collection of 7 quipus that were connected together. The main cords of AS33A, AS33E, and AS33G were tied together to form a circle. Suspended from them were their own pendant cords and the quipus numbered AS33B, AS33C, AS33D, and AS33F. The connections were complex.
4. The colors used in the collection show some similarity. GG appears only on AS33B, LC appears only on AS33C, and BB appears only on AS33E. However, AB, AB/W, or AB:W appear on AS33A and B, E, F, G; R or R/W appears on AS33A and B, D, G; and CB appears on AS33A and G.
5. The quipus in the collection share the following features: groups separated by space, uniform in size, united by color pattern, and with low values.
 - AS33B--6 groups of 3, color consistent with position, values 2-10.
 - AS33C--7 groups of 2, color consistent with position, values 0-3.
 - AS33D--10 groups of 2, color related to position, values 0-6; higher values on sum cords (16, 30, 24, 36, 60).
 - AS33E--2 groups of 2, values 0-4; some higher values (32, 47).
 - AS33F--2 groups of 10, color consistent with position, values 3-14; sum cord (47).
 - AS33G--2 groups, colors same within each group, values 0-13; and two other cords with higher values (10, 22, 35, 37).
6. The higher values on AS33E and G could be related to sums of values on other quipus as follows. The values:
 - 47: Sum of W cords on AS33F and sum value on AS33F;
 - 32, 47: Sum of values in first position in groups on AS33B, sum of values in third position in groups on AS33B;
 - 22: Sum of all values on AS33C.

QUIPU AS33B

Main cord: color AB-GG

- § 0.5 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (1-3), then space of 4.0 cm.
 5.5 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (4-6), then space of 1.0 cm.
 7.5 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (7-9), then space of 1.5 cm.
 10.0 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (10-12), then space of 1.5 cm.
 12.5 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (13-15), then space of 1.0 cm.
 14.5 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (16-18), then space of 32.0 cm.
 47.5 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color*	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	7L(6.5)	16.0ç	W	7	
2	5L(6.5)	19.5ç	R/W	5	
3	5L(8.0)	22.5ç	GG/W	5	
4	7L(8.0)	21.5ç	AB/W	7	
5	6L(8.0)	21.0ç	R/W	6	
6	1s(6.0)	24.0ç	GG/W	10	
7	7L(8.5)	22.5ç	AB:W	7	
8	9L(8.5)	19.0ç	R/W	9	
9	2L(9.0)	24.0ç	GG/W	2	
10	3L(8.5)	27.5ç	AB/W	3	
11	3L(9.0)	24.5ç	R/W	3	
12	1s(8.0)	25.0ç	GG/W	10	
13	5L(9.0)	23.0ç	AB/W	5	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color*	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
14	3L(9.0)	23.0¢	R/W	3	
15	1s(8.0)	25.5¢	GG/W	10	
16	3L(9.0)	27.0¢	AB/W	3	
17	2L(9.0)	24.0¢	R/W	2	
18	1s(7.0)	24.5¢	GG/W	10	

Observations

- *1. Construction note: R/W does not represent R joined to W. The color R appears and then disappears on the single cord. Where GG/W and AB/W appear, they do represent joins, but the place where the cords are joined has not been recorded by us.
2. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
3. This quipu has 6 groups of 3 pendants each by spacing. With the exception of the first pendant in group 1, the colors are consistent with position in group: AB/W, R/W, GG/W.
4. The only values on the pendants are 2-10 excluding 4 and 8.

QUIPU AS33C

Main cord: color LC:W

- \$ 5.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (1-2), then space of 1.0 cm.
 6.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (3-4), then space of 1.0 cm.
 8.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (5-6), then space of 1.0 cm.
 9.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (7-8), then space of 2.0 cm.
 12.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (9-10), then space of 0.5 cm.
 13.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (11-12), then space of 1.0 cm.
 14.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (13-14), then space of 0.5 cm.
 15.5 cm: pendant cord (15), then space of 14.5 cm.
 30.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	1E(9.0)	28.0ç	W	1	
2	1E(9.0)	24.0ç	LC	1	
3	3L(9.0)	25.5ç	W	3	
4	3L(8.5)	27.0ç	LC	3	
5	1E(11.0)	32.0ç	W	1	
6	1E(8.0)	24.5ç	LC	1	
7	2L(11.0)	33.5ç	W	2	
8	--	15.0	LC	0(?)	
9	1E(8.0)	26.5ç	W	1	
10	1E(7.0)	25.0ç	LC	1	
11	1E(10.0)	33.0ç	W	1	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
12	1E(10.0)	27.0ç	LC	1	
13	3L(9.0)	9.5b	W	3	
14	2L(7.5)	12.0	LC	2	
15	1E(7.0)	23.0ç	W	1	

Observations

1. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
2. The quipu has 7 groups of 2 pendants each by spacing and then 1 single pendant.
In each group, the first pendant is W and the second LC.
3. All values on the quipu are 0-3.

QUIPU AS33D

Main cord: color W

- *\$ 0.0 cm: 2 pendant cords (1-2), then space of 3.0 cm.
 3.0 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (3-5), then space of 2.5 cm.
 6.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (6-7), then space of 0.5 cm.
 7.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (8-9), then space of 1.0 cm.
 8.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (10-11), then space of 1.0 cm.
 10.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (12-13), then space of 1.0 cm.
 11.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (14-15), then space of 2.0 cm.
 14.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (16-17), then space of 0.5 cm.
 15.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (18-19), then space of 0.5 cm.
 16.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (20-21), then space of 1.0 cm.
 17.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (22-23), then space of 0.5 cm.
 18.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (24-25), then space of 20.0 cm.
 39.5 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	1s(6.5); 6L(14.0)	30.5ç	W	16	
2	3s(7.0)	33.5ç	R	30	
3**	3s(7.5); 6L(14.0)	27.5ç	R	36	
4	2s(10.0); 4L(16.5)	29.5ç	W	24	
5	6s(7.5)	26.5ç	W	60	
6	2L(6.5)	26.5ç	W	2	
7	5L(6.5)	7.0b	R	5	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
8	6L(9.0)	20.0¢	R	6	
9	3L(6.0)	24.0¢	W	3	
10	1E(6.0)	23.0¢	R	1	
11	1E(6.0)	25.0¢	W	1	
12	5L(7.5)	17.5¢	R	5	
13	2L(6.0)	27.0¢	W	2	
14	2L(8.0)	23.0¢	R	2	
15	2L(5.0)	25.0¢	W	2	
16	1E(8.0)	25.0¢	R	1	
17	2L(6.0)	25.5¢	W	2	
18	4L(6.5)	23.5¢	R	4	
19	1E(5.0)	26.0¢	W	1	
20	--	26.0¢	R	0	
21	1E(6.5)	24.5¢	W	1	
22	5L(8.0)	20.0¢	R	5	
23	2L(9.0)	27.0¢	W	2	
24	--	26.0¢	W	0	
25	1E(8.0)	27.0¢	R	1	

Observations

- *1. Construction note: Pendants 1 and 2 are tied to the end of the main cord.
- **2. Construction note: Pendants 3 and 4 are linked together by pendant 3 being tied around pendant 4.

3. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
4. After the first 5 pendants, there are 10 groups of 2 pendants each by spacing. Each group has a W pendant and an R pendant. Groups 2-9 are R, W, while groups 1 and 10 are W, R.
5. The values on the pendants in the 10 groups are 0-6.
6. Pendant 1 is W and its value is the sum of the W pendants in groups 1-10. Pendant 2 is R, and its value is the sum of the R pendants in groups 1-10.
7. Pendant 5 is the sum of pendants 3 and 4.

QUIPU AS33E

Main cord: color W

§ 1.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (1-2), then space of 1.0 cm.

3.0 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (3-4), then space of 19.0 cm.

22.5 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	4s(3.0); 7L(20.0)	34.0ç	W	47	
2	3s(4.5); 2L(11.5)	17.5ç	AB:BB	32	1:3.0
2s1	3L(7.0)	21.0ç	W	3	2:0.5-1.0
2s1s1	--	6.0ç	AB	0	
2s1s2	--	24.0ç	W	0	
3	2L(9.0)	22.0ç	AB	2	
4	2L(16.0)	19.5ç	AB:W	2	2:0.5-1.0, 1:6.0
4s1	4L(14.0)	28.0ç	AB:BB	4	
4s2	4L(13.0)	30.0ç	W	4	

Observations

1. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
2. The quipu has 2 groups separated by spacing. Each group has 2 pendants and subsidiaries appear only on the second pendant in the group.

QUIPU AS33F

Main cord: color AB:W

*\$ 0.0 cm: cord (1), then space of 6.0 cm.

6.0 cm: group of 10 pendant cords (2-11), then space of 3.0 cm.

12.0 cm: group of 10 pendant cords (12-21)

16.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	4s(5.0); 7L(11.0)	23.0ç	W	47	
2	6L(8.0)	23.0ç	W	6	
3	1s(6.5); 1E(11.5)	25.5ç	LB	11	
4	7L(7.5)	26.5ç	W	7	
5	1s(7.0); 4L(11.0)	23.5ç	AB	14	
6	4L(7.5)	25.5ç	W	4	
7	6L(11.0)	21.0ç	AB	6	
8	6L(6.0)	22.0ç	W	6	
9	1s(7.0); 4L(10.5)	25.5ç	AB	14	
10	--	0.5	W	?	
11	1s(6.0); 2L(9.0)	22.0ç	AB	12	
12	4L(8.0)	16.0	W	4	
13	1s(6.0); 3L(12.0)	19.5ç	AB	13	
14	4L(9.0)	24.0ç	W	4	
15	1s(7.5); 3L(13.5)	23.0ç	AB	13	
16	3L(8.0)	26.0ç	W	3	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
17	--	4.5	AB	?	
18	4L(8.0)	8.5b	W	4	
19	1s(7.0); 1E(11.0)	25.0c	AB	11	
20	3L(7.5)	8.0b	W	3	
21	6L(7.0)	7.5	AB	6	

Observations

- *1. Construction note: Cord 1 is linked through the twisted end of the main cord.



2. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
3. The quipu consists of 2 groups of 10 pendants each by spacing. Within each group, the pendants alternate in color: W, AB, W, AB, . . . etc.
4. With the exception of the cord dangling at the end of the main cord (P1), all values are 3-7 or 11-14.
5. The values on the AB colored cords are greater than or equal to the values on the adjacent W cords. With the exception of position 2, the values in group 1 are greater than the values in the corresponding positions in group 2.
6. The value 47 on P1, which is W, could be associated with the sum of the W pendants. However, there is one W pendant that is broken and so its value is unknown. For 47 to be their sum, this pendant value would have to be 6; this is consistent with the regularities observed above.

QUIPU AS33G

Main cord: color R

*\$ 0.0 cm: 2 cords (1-2), then space of 6.0 cm.

6.0 cm: group of 3 pendant cords (3-5), then space of 2.0 cm.

9.0 cm: group of 4 pendant cords (6-9), then space of 16.0 cm.

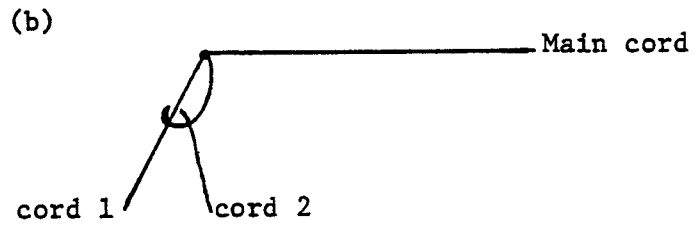
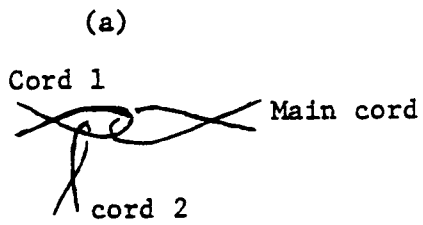
26.0 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	3s(3.0); 7L(13.0)	23.0ç	W	37	2:0.0-1.0
1s1	1s(9.0)	24.0ç	W	10	
1s2	3s(4.0); 5L(12.0)	27.0ç	CB	35	
2	2s(8.0); 2L(17.0)	28.0ç	R	22	
3	--	1.0b	W	?	
4	--	16.0b	W	?	
5	--	12.0b	W	?	
6	1s(1.5); 3L(5.0)	5.0b	AB:W	1(3?)	
7	--	20.0ç	AB:W	0	
8	--	22.0ç	AB:W	0	
9	--	8.0b	AB:W	?	

Observations

- *1. Construction note: (a) The twisted ends of the main cord and cord 1 are linked together and cord 2 is also linked through the open twist of cord 1.
 (b) Cord 2 is then looped around cord 1. Hence, cords 1 and 2 dangle from

the end of the main cord.



2. This quipu is part of the collection of 7 connected quipus numbered AS33A-AS33G.
3. The quipu has two groups by spacing. The groups are also separated by color: the first is all W; the second is all AB:W.