



## Headdress (Enkuraru)

### Date

20th Century

### Primary Maker

Maasai

### Medium

Leather and ostrich feathers

### Description

This is a 20th century ostrich feather headdress from the Maasai culture of Tanzania in Africa. It is constructed of a leather band with ostrich feathers attached. This type of headdress is called an enkuraru and is worn by morran, a class of Maasai male warrior herders. The enkurarus are worn exclusively by morran who have yet to successfully hunt lions. The design of this headdress is interesting as it bears a purposeful likeness to the feline's mane. The headdress was traditionally used for tribal warfare but is now primarily used ceremonially. Enkuraru

are primarily composed of leather with small straps that secure the surrounding ostrich feathers. Like many types of clothing and adornments from the region, the headdress also features colored glass beads, which are worked into a leather band attached to the headdress.

### Dimensions

Overall: 24 x 32 in. (61 x 81.3 cm)