



Club

Date

20th Century

Medium

Wood and turtle bone

Description

This fighting club originates from Wuvulu Island, also known as Matti Island. Attached to the main handle are eight thin blades made of turtle bone protruding out along either side. Island Oceania is divided into Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, but trade and migration have created a great deal of commonality among these cultural and geographic subregions. Despite being only 100 miles away from the coast of New Guinea, the center of Melanesian culture, most individuals on the island of Wuvulu are of Micronesian descent. Some of the earliest theories about the island's connection to Micronesia were surmised from the use of similar shark tooth weapons to those used in the Gilbert Islands. To this day the unique functional and decorative objects produced on Wuvulu show influences from both Melanesia and Micronesia.

Dimensions

51 × 14 × 2 in. (129.5 × 35.6 × 5.1 cm)