



Necklace

Date

early 20th Century

Primary Maker

Dani

Medium

Fiber, ribbon, bamboo, human finger and bone

Description

Crafted from human finger bones and collected in New Guinea during the early 20th Century, this necklace strings through eight human finger bones separated by relatively small bamboo shafts. The pendant hanging at center is a human finger with the nail and skin still attached. The origin of this necklace is likely a practice of mutilation used by the Dani people to mourn their dead.

Dimensions

2 5/8 × 30 1/4 × 1/4 in. (6.7 × 76.8 × 0.6 cm)