



Axe Haft Currency

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Massim

Medium

Wood, fiber and fabric

Description

The purpose of such axe hafts is not a functional one. Rather, together with stone blades, these axes are a prestige item and a form of currency within the Massim area. The overall purpose of the haft of the axe is to display and set off the striking qualities of the blade, which is where the axe’s value lies. This particular haft is not as ornately carved as other examples. It appears as if the top of the haft is missing. This missing portion might

have contained more detailed designs and openwork carving.

Dimensions

26 1/2 × 15 3/4 × 1 in. (67.3 × 40 × 2.5 cm)