



within more recent times.

Dimensions

36 × 22 1/2 × 1 in. (91.4 × 57.2 × 2.5 cm)

Axe Haft Currency

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Massim

Medium

Wood, fiber and paint

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. Painted presentation axes are not altogether unusual; however there were no examples of painted axes found at the time of acquisition. The blue paint might suggest that the axe was created recently, or that a previously made axe was painted