

Basic Detail Report



Pointing Bone (Injilla)

Date

mid 19th - early 20th Century

Primary Maker

Aranda

Medium

Bone, resin and hair

Description

Injilla or a pointing bone is an item used for sorcery. The specific method of use for such items varies regionally, but its general purpose is consistent. This is a function as a symbolic object used to project harm on a specific individual. The hair affixed to the end of the bone is also symbolic as it represents the circulatory system of one's intended victim. While there are various ways in which the bone could be symbolically used to cause harm, it could later be altered by burning or gnawing in order to further tamper with the victim. The incised lines are decorative.

Dimensions

7 × 3/4 × 3/8 in. (17.8 × 1.9 × 1 cm)