



Museum Men's Meeting House in 1969.

Dimensions

3/4 × 45 in. (1.9 × 114.3 cm)

Hip Cord (Tăgúl or Tăgělél)

Date

mid 20th Century

Medium

Turtle shell and fiber

Description

This is hip cord, referred to as tăgúl or tăgělél in Palauan vernacular, worn by Palauan women. The traditional attire of Palauan women consists of a grass skirt, known as a gerévut, worn on the hip area and secured with a belt and a hip cord. The tăgúl is traditionally black in color and made with dugong skin, slices of coconut shell or turtle shell. Not unlike the ptek, the tăgúl is tied by the wearer around their flanks for the purpose of supporting the many pieces of the grass skirt. In Palau, traditional attire is reserved for feasts or dance rituals. This particular tăgúl was worn by the donor, or the donor's sister, during a ceremonial dance on the opening day of the Palau