



## Club (Vunikau)

### Date

mid 19th Century

### Medium

Wood

### Description

Warfare was a constant feature throughout Fijian history, even into the 19th century. As weapons intended to break bones, clubs filled an equally important symbolic role as items of immense power in Fiji. Root clubs tended to be made from the root and shaft of ironwood trees, a catchall term for several extremely dense woods. For this club the roots are trimmed down to create nubbins. The density of this root head would have made it extremely deadly in combat. The most ornate of these clubs were also inlaid with ivory, but we can see its hilt there may have been something around it that has since been removed.

### Dimensions

46 × 3 1/2 × 3 3/8 in. (116.8 × 8.9 × 8.6 cm)