

Bows 2 and 3 are almost identical, one of which has a string (page 93). The bow without string (not shown) is 7 cm shorter and 1 mm thinner in the middle. The bow with string is 2.09 metres long and 36 mm wide in the middle. The shorter bow weighs 692 and the longer one with string 780 grammes. Both bows are made of palm wood, brown on the more domed inside with two longitudinal grooves, blackened on the outside and slightly fluted on the inside. The string is firmly wrapped around the bow end on the lower side and protected with a thick pitch. The string is attached to the upper side with a string knot. Since the string was obviously torn at the lower point, it is secured here with a thin wire. The bark bast fibre string is twisted, rubbed with a dark substance and polished, perhaps with the flowers of Hibiscus, which the tribals of southern India use for protecting their strings. It is wrapped with various plant fibres over long distances.



The third bow (B) is made on Buka and apparently made of mangrove wood, not decorated and with a complete string, which is permanently attached to both ends and coated with a varnish. The string is like the string on the other bow, but has fewer wraps. (see also page 77)

On the outside you can see, at both ends, that the marked inside of the trunk steps outwards and is therefore the outside of the trunk on the inside of the bow. This channel seems to be filled with a solid substance (marrow?) and therefore continues over the entire bow.

The wood has a long drying crack on the inside and a short one on the outside. The bow is 176.5 cm long, 2.8 cm wide in the middle and weighs only 382 grammes.



These three arrows, acquired together with the last bow, differ significantly from those which are otherwise known from this area. Although they are also provided with patterned scratches, the tips are made of bone parts that could be made from animal nasal bones (dog or pig).

