



Jilakat wist'alla (leader's coca pouch)

Date

Mid 20th century

Artist/Maker

Unknown, Aymara

Medium

Yarn, handspun sheep and llama wool, with more recent tassels of synthetic trade yarn

Description

Jilakat wist'alla coca pouch/bag used by male leader as a symbol of office. The pouch has two very uncommon external pockets on front side and fine needlework edging around the sides and top. The tassels were added later as a symbol of the leadership status of the owner (see remarks). The hourglass design represents the opposing forces of hanan and hurin in Andean ideology.

Dimensions

6" H without tassels; 11" with tassels x 6 3/8" W

Object number

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