



Stone and Fiber

Daily life in the Baliem valley, Papua

Christopher Buckley

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- Authoritative text, written in an accessible manner
- Full color, studio photography and field images
- A guide for collectors and curators for identifying objects from this region
- Anthropological perspectives and contexts on the island of New Guinea and the Pacific region

The Baliem valley lies in Papua, a remote eastern region of Indonesia and home to some of the last peoples on earth to come into contact with modern civilization. When anthropologist O.W. Hampton visited in the 1980s, he found isolated peoples using stone tools, spears, and bows and arrows. Over the following ten years he documented life in the valley, including the making of stone axes and adzes—the last such tools to be in daily use on our planet. He collected sacred stones wrapped in orchid fiber and feathers, tools, net bags, and many other objects, and documented their uses in rituals of war and healing. In this book, author Christopher Buckley presents Hampton's fieldwork alongside new studio photographs of his collection with detailed explanations.

The book will be of value to archaeologists, anthropologists, students, collectors and curators of Papuan art, and anyone with an interest in how mankind lived in millennia past.

Christopher Buckley obtained his first degree at Balliol College, Oxford, and his PhD at Wolfson College, Oxford. He is an anthropologist and art historian with a focus on the Asia Pacific region, and the author of several books including *Tibetan Furniture* (Floating World Publications, Thames and Hudson) and *Roots of Asian Weaving* (Oxbow books).