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ICH Domain (1)

Oral Traditions and Expressions

Codes	Titles of Major Elements and Sub-Elements	Description	Status
1.1	S'Maatin English	The creolized English dialect used by most communities on the island. Slight variations exist in grammar and pronunciations.	Thriving
1.2	Gibberish	A code language created, spoken, and meant to be understood only by the persons in the conversation.	Declining
1.3	Singing of the National Song	"Oh Sweet St. Martin's Land" (often also referred to as the St. Martin Song) is the most popular "national" song of St. Maarten and is performed during official ceremonies and events. This is standard and it is also taught in schools.	Thriving
1.4	Christmas Caroling	An annual practice during the Christmas holiday season. Usually church choirs and other groups gather and go from house to house or business to business serenading.	Declining
1.5	Singing of Spiritual Songs and Hymns	Spiritual and religious songs are usually sung in churches and parochial schools. In school, this is done during the morning devotions.	Thriving
1.6	Use of proverbs and other sayings to express oneself, make a point, or teach a lesson	Popular and traditional proverbs and sayings are widely used throughout different communities. Many are shared throughout the Caribbean region while others are unique to St. Maarten.	Surviving

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1.7	Oral history/ account	A field of study and a method of gathering, preserving, and interpreting the voices and memories of people, communities, and participants in past events.	Declining
1.7.1	Diamond Estate 26 (Run/Escape)	The historical event that occurred on May 28, 1848, when 26 of the enslaved people from Diamond Plantation in Cole Bay ran into the hills and into the North, a possession of France, which had declared the abolition of Slavery on May 27, 1848.	Surviving
1.8	Storytelling	The telling of stories is used as a means of entertainment, education, cultural preservation, and instilling values.	Declining
1.8.1	Jumbie Stories	These are stories about ghosts, spirits, or demons. For example, it is said that Jumbies can chase a person but cannot follow over water. It is also believed that upon coming home late at night, a person must turn around and enter the home backwards to prevent a Jumbie from following him or her inside.	Declining
1.8.2	Nansi Stories	Stories that are not true and intended to deceive others. The phrase "Oh, stop your Nansi stories" means to stop making up or inventing things. The name Nansi derives from the Anansi character in popular West-African folklore.	Declining
1.9	Telling of Urban Legends/Myths/ Folktales/Superstitions	Telling a story of an urban legend, myth, folktale, or superstition for entertainment purposes or to explain random events. It is based on hearsay and circulated as true.	Declining
1.9.1	Gudder's Head	There are two versions of this story. In the first one, Gudder was an enslaved man who was having a relationship with a White woman. When the relationship	Declining

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		<p>came to light, he was sentenced to hang until death. Then his head was chopped off and placed on a stake close to the current Prince Bernard Bridge on the A.T. Illidge Road to discourage other slaves. It is a mystery what became of the head. In the second story, Gudder is the son of an enslaved woman and a slave owner, who also had a son with his wife. Gudder was talented, and his jealous half-brother killed him.</p>	
1.9.2	Chupacabra/ Soucouyant	<p>Soucouyant is a shape-shifting, evil female demon. By day, she is described as an old woman who has made a pact with the devil. At night, she sheds her skin. However, in order to do that, she searches the graveyards for dead people's livers from which to make an oil that would allow her to strip her skin. To protect the skin, she hides it in a hollowed-out tree trunk. Like a ball of fire, she then flies around at night seeking her victims. She could enter a home through a keyhole and, like a vampire, suck people's blood while they sleep, leaving blue marks on their arms, legs, necks, and soft parts. In the morning, the victims either are dead or have turned into soucouyants themselves. To catch a soucouyant, one has to place rice in heaps around the house or at crossroads. The soucouyant will then be forced to gather the grains one by one before dawn, so she can be caught in the act. To destroy her, one has to either sprinkle salt on her or sprinkle coarse salt or pepper in the tree trunk where her skin is hidden. This way</p>	Declining

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		she will not be able to re-enter her skin, and she will die.	
1.9.3	Lajabless	Lajabless (from French: La Diablesse) is a devil woman. She is described as a pretty woman, although her face is always hidden under her wide-brimmed hat. She has a beautiful figure and wears a long, black dress that covers the fact that she has one good foot and the other a cow’s hoof. She walks with one foot on the road and her cow’s hoof in the grass at the side of the road. She hangs out on lonely dark roads waiting for men to stop and offer assistance. She then leads her victims deep into the forest or bush. Once in the bush, she disappears, and the man, who is then confused, lost, and scared, runs around the forest until he falls into a ravine or river or gets eaten by wild dogs and dies. However, men can protect themselves from her by removing all their clothes, turning them inside out, and putting them back on.	Declining
1.9.4	One Titty Loke/One-Tété Lohkay	Lohkay was a young woman, or perhaps a girl, enslaved on a plantation on the island. She rebelled and ran away but was hunted down by the slave owner, recaptured, and brought back to the plantation. As punishment and a warning to other slaves, the slave owner ordered that one of Lohkay’s breasts be cut off. She was told that if she ever disobeyed again, her other breast would also be cut off. However, after being nursed back to health, the brave youngster escaped again and lived in the hills, occasionally coming down to visit her people and to raid the plantations in Cul-de-Sac. According to the story, as the other	Thriving

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		<p>slaves headed out to the fields in the early morning, they could see the smoke from Lohkay's camp in the hills. Lohkay is admired because she managed to escape Slavery and live freely.</p>	
1.9.5	The Partition Tale	<p>Folklore tells a tale of how the island was divided into the territories of Saint Martin and Sint Maarten. According to the tale, in 1648 the European inhabitants were told to choose two walkers, one by the French-dominated community and the other by the Dutch-dominated community, who were put back to back on one extreme part of the island. They were made to walk in opposite directions along the coastal line and were not allowed to run. The point where they would eventually meet was the other extreme of the island, and the line between those two points chosen as the border, dividing the island. Supposedly, the Frenchman walked more than his Dutch counterpart, and they got their respective parts, 54 km² and 32 km². The French inhabitants' explanation for this discrepancy is that, prior to the race, the Frenchman chose wine as his stimulant while the Dutchman chose Jenever (Dutch Gin). The Dutch inhabitants instead accused the French walker of running.</p>	Thriving
Total Number of Major Elements and Sub-Elements:	16		

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ICH Domain (2)

Performing Arts

Codes	Titles of Major Elements and Sub-Elements	Description	Status
2.1	Performing of Folk/ Traditional Songs	Singing songs originating among the people of a country or area, passed by oral tradition from one singer or generation to the next.	Surviving
2.1.1	Mr. Jambole	A work song that was used to accompany the arrowroot tradition in Colombier in the North. The song itself is about a man from Colombier who owed someone a dollar bill and explains how Mr. Jambole got on his donkey. It is a song that is performed during cultural events and performances, in choirs and during activities at schools and on the southern side of the island of St. Maarten.	Surviving
2.1.2	Mama Make Yo' Johnny Cakes Christmas Comin'	A festive tune with a calypso rhythm, played during the Christmas season throughout the island and other parts of the Caribbean	Surviving
2.1.3	Good Mornin', Good Mornin', I Come Fo' Meh Guavaberry	A song sung during the Christmas season. In the olden days, serenaders would sing the song as they went from house to house. In return, the residents of the home would offer the serenaders a glass of Guavaberry.	Surviving
2.2	Performing of Traditional Dance	Performing of a folk dance of the common people of a country or region.	Surviving

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2.2.1	Ponum Dance	A dance of emancipation or freedom, created when Slavery was abolished on the island. The accompanying song was reportedly sung by the recently emancipated, who had known about the impending abolition, though the slave master tried to hide the information from them. So when the slave master made the official announcement, the joke was “pon ’um” (on him).	Surviving
2.2.2	May Pole Dance	It is a dance of European origin that involves persons plaiting ribbons while moving around a pole.	Declining
2.2.3	Moko Jumbie (stilt dancers/walkers)	A form of festive stilt walking and dancing, said to be West African in origin. In the olden days, the Moko Jumbie, a larger-than-life character, instilled fear and obedience in children.	Surviving
2.2.4	3- Step Polka	A form of creolized polka that consists of step and swing movements and was usually danced to string-band music, performed by popular local bands such as Tanny and the Boys.	Declining
2.2.5	Majorettes	This refers to both the dancers and the dance involving the twirling of batons and performing stunts during parades and other special events.	Declining
2.2.6	Waltz (Dance)	A dance of European origin that includes two persons holding each other, turning across the floor in movements of 3 steps (in triple time).	Declining
2.2.7	Quadrille (Kwadril)	A dance of European origin but creolized by African retentions and consist typically of four couples forming a square.	Declining

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2.3	Performing of Traditional Music (Genre)	Performing of folk music during festivities and social events	Surviving
2.3.1	String Band Music	Folkloric music consisting of mainly string and some wind and percussion instruments	Declining
2.3.2	Calypso Music	A style of Caribbean folk music which draws upon African rhythmic influences and usually performed during the annual Carnival season. Calypso songs are essentially based on local political and social issues.	Surviving
2.3.3	Drum Band Music	Music made by a band consisting of hand-drums and other percussion and wind instruments. Drum band music originated in Africa.	Thriving
2.3.4	Bottleneck Music	Music made by blowing into a broken off bottleneck. Bottleneck music is played during Christmas season for serenading purposes and during cultural and other festive events.	Surviving
2.3.5	Steel Pan Music	Music made from the steel pan, usually performed during ceremonies, festivals, and other organized events. Steel pan lessons are a part of the music curriculum in some schools and in private programs.	Thriving
2.4	Playing of traditional musical instruments	Folk musical instruments used when performing traditional music, but not limited to, string bands, drum bands, and Calypso performances.	Surviving
2.4.1	Cowbell	A bell similar to a cowbell used as a hand percussion instrument in various styles of music on the island, including Calypso, drum band, and string band.	Declining

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2.4.2	Marimba	A bass instrument made from wood with steel springs placed around the front to give different tones. The musician sits on top of the marimba to play it.	Declining
2.4.3	Guiro	A percussion instrument consisting of an open-ended hollow gourd, with parallel notches cut on one side. It is played by rubbing a stick or an afro pick to produce a ratchet sound.	Declining
2.4.4	Tambora	A two-headed drum played in string band music.	Declining
2.4.5	Palitos/Clavis	A pair of sticks that are banged together to provide percussion rhythm.	Declining
2.4.6	Tambourine	A shallow percussion instrument with metallic rings that jingle. It is most often used during church services and cultural performances and taught in music classes in schools.	Surviving
2.4.7	Guitar	A stringed, curved musical instrument, played by strumming and plucking with the fingers. It is used as an instrument in string band, drum band, and other local musical bands.	Thriving
2.4.8	Banjo	A string instrument, with a long neck and circular body, played by strumming, plucking, or picking the strings. It is used in the string band.	Declining
2.4.9	Conch Shell	Also known as a seashell horn, it makes a variety of sounds depending on the specific techniques used by the musician. It is usually blown during rituals and ceremonies.	Declining
2.4.10	Drum	A barrel-shaped percussion instrument, sounded by beating with hands or sticks. Used in just about all local bands.	Thriving

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2.4.11	Tire Rim	An instrument made of a tire rim. The rim is struck by a metal rod at different angles to produce various sounds. It is used in string bands.	Declining
2.4.12	Bath Pan Bass	An instrument created from a metal bath tub with a string attached to the bottom center of the tub and to a stick, which the musician plucks on to make music.	Declining
2.4.13	Hoe	An instrument created using a hoe and a metal rod. The hoe is struck by the metal rod at different angles to produce various sounds. It is used in string bands.	Declining
2.4.14	Harmonica/Mouth Organ	A small wind instrument held against the lips and moved from side to side to produce different notes when blown into. It is used in string bands.	Declining
2.4.15	Accordion	A box-shaped wind instrument consisting of a folded central part and a keyboard. It is played by pushing the two ends toward each other and using keys and buttons to make the notes. It is used in string bands.	Declining
2.4.16	Maracas	A percussion instrument in the form of a hallow gourd or gourd-shaped container filled with dry beans or pebbles and usually played, in pairs, by being shaken. It is used in string bands and during church services.	Surviving
2.4.17	Steelpan	A percussion instrument made out of an oil drum and originating in Trinidad. The steelpan is beaten and tuned to produce different sounds. It is used during cultural performances.	Thriving
Total Number of Major Elements and Sub-Elements:	36		

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ICH Domain (3) Social Practices, Rituals, and Festive Events

Codes	Titles of Major Elements and Sub-Elements	Description	Status
3.1	Festivals and Social Customs	Celebrations and activities that are held throughout the year and practiced by many residents/citizens	Surviving
3.1.1	St. Maarten Carnival	Held annually after the lent season in April. It is a time of public revelry and celebration involving colorful children and adult parades, music, dancing, and shows.	Thriving
3.1.2	St. Martin Day Celebration	Celebrated annually on November 11 th . Governments of the French and Dutch sides alternate each year to host a number of festivities, including swim races, kite-making competitions, dominoes tournaments, cultural parades, traditional food/drink sales, and cook-offs. The colors of the St. Maarten flag—red, white, and blue—are widely decorated around the island and worn by people to commemorate this national event.	Thriving
3.1.3	Christmas Season, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day Celebrations	The Christmas celebrations are usually observed from around December 1 to January 1. During the season, several parties are held, and Philipsburg (capital) is bustling with shoppers and shopping. Christmas trees and lights are widely purchased and homes are decorated inside and outside. Specific foods/drinks are made during this time, and gifts are exchanged among families, friends, and colleagues. Boxing Day, an official holiday after Christmas, is used to	Thriving—parties, shopping, Christmas trees & lights, specific foods/ drinks made, gift exchanges, church attendance Surviving-house decorations Surviving- Boxing Day observances

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		continue the Christmas celebration or for leisure time or rest.	
3.1.4	Old Year's and New Year's (Eve)	During Old Year's, several people attend church and/or gather in the main town of Philipsburg and other villages such as Maho to watch fireworks at midnight. Well wishes are exchanged, and several parties are held after the fireworks display.	Declining—fireworks display
3.1.5	Easter Traditions Associated with Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday	On Ash Wednesday the cross of ashes is placed on the foreheads of Roman Catholics. During the Easter season, churches hold Palm Sunday parades, give out palms, and make crosses out of palms. In addition, during the Easter weekend there are beach picnics, camping, egg hunts, and avoidance of meat on Good Friday.	Thriving
3.2	Traditional Rituals/ Ceremonies	Secular or non-secular routines/methods widely practiced among families and individuals throughout their lives	Surviving
3.2.1	Baby Baptism/ Christening	A religious ceremony where a baby has water poured on him/her to symbolize initiation into the Christian faith	Thriving
3.2.2	Adult Baptism	A religious ceremony where adults are immersed into water or sprinkled with water, symbolizing purification or regeneration and admission to the Christian church.	Surviving
3.2.3	Baby Protection Rituals	Rituals are performed in order to protect babies and ensure their healthy upbringing. -Placing of an open Bible in the baby's cradle, sometimes with scissors placed on the Bible for God's protection.	Declining

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		-Passing the baby over the coffin of a close relative who has passed on so that the person's spirit does not harm the baby.	
3.2.4	Courting Rituals	Young man asking the father of a young woman permission to date her.	Declining
3.2.5	Wedding	A ceremony in which two people get married	Thriving
3.2.6	Wake, Funeral, and Burial	The wake is a social gathering associated with death and held before burial. Traditionally held at the deceased person's home, more and more it is being held at a funeral parlor or public space. A funeral is a ceremony connected with the burial, interment, or cremation of a deceased person.	Thriving
3.2.6.1	Burial Practices	Throwing of all funeral ribbons and personal items in the coffin; throwing dust on the closed coffin	Thriving
3.2.7	Holy Communion	Holy Communion is an important religious service in the Christian church in which bread and wine are consecrated and shared as a symbol of the Last Supper and the death of Christ.	Thriving
3.2.8	First Communion	First Communion is a ceremony in some Christian traditions/churches during which a person first receives the Eucharist, also called Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper. In churches that celebrate First Communion, it occurs only after receiving of Baptism, and once the person has reached the age of reason (between seven and thirteen), often acting as a rite of passage. For Catholics,	Thriving

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		Holy Communion is the third of seven sacraments received.	
3.2.9	Confirmation	Confirmation is seen as the sealing of Christianity created in baptism. It is a ceremony in which a baptized person, especially one baptized as an infant, affirms Christian belief and is admitted as a full member of the Roman Catholic church.	Thriving
3.2.10	Jollification	A traditional gathering of people to help build a house, well, or fence and at which food is served as compensation.	Declining
3.3	Traditional/Popular Sports and Hobbies	Sports and hobbies widely practiced and taught throughout the country for leisure, physical activity and/or pleasure.	Thriving
3.3.1	Whistling	To produce a high-pitched sound or a clear musical sound by forcing air through a small hole between one's lips or teeth. It is usually done for recreational purposes.	Surviving
3.3.2	Volleyball	An indoor/outdoor team sport played on a (18 by 9 meters) court and involving hitting a ball over a net with the objective to score by getting the ball to fall on the opponent's court. In St. Maarten it is played indoors and on the beach.	Thriving
3.3.3	Cricket	An outdoor bat and ball sport played on a field with a 22-meter pitch at the center and a wicket, made of bails and stumps, at each end. The two teams either bat first or last to make all their rounds at that time.	Thriving

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3.3.4	Softball	An outdoor bat and ball sport, similar to baseball, but played on a smaller field with a softer ball. In St. Maarten it is currently played at the John Cooper/Jose Lake Sr. Ballpark.	Thriving
3.3.5	Baseball	A bat and ball game played between two teams of nine, taking turns to bat during nine innings. The field comprises a diamond shaped circuit of four bases, which the player must pass in order to score points.	Thriving
3.3.6	Football (Soccer)	An outdoor sport played on a field with two teams of eleven players attempting to kick a ball into a net at the opposite side of the field. It is also played indoor but with six players on each team.	Thriving
3.3.7	Basketball	An indoor/outdoor game played by two teams of five players. Goals are scored by throwing a ball through a netted hoop fixed above each end of the court. A court can be found in virtually every district in St. Maarten where one can find teams of two, three, or one-on-one.	Thriving
3.3.8	Swimming	An activity that requires the use of one's arms and legs to move the body through water. There are swimming clubs that teach old and young to swim. Talented swimmers are coached and represent the island in national and international competitions. Others are self-taught from going to the beach. Swimming lessons are mandatory in primary schools (third grade).	Thriving

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3.3.9	Fishing	An activity of catching fish either for sport or for food. Traditionally, men go out at sea in their fishing boats and fish with home-made nets. The catch of the day is sold—traditionally on a string—to the islanders. Others fish from ashore using a round wooden block with fish line, lead, and bait or with fish pots. Lobsters are caught in shallow areas in fish- or lobster traps. Today, it is more popular for people to fish with modern fishing rods, and many do it merely as a pastime.	Surviving
3.3.10	Whelking	The picking of whelks or sea snails from the rocks. They are usually prepared in boiled seawater.	Declining
3.3.11	Boat Racing	A sport involving the racing of boats. Traditionally it was a competition among local owners of fishing boats, but over the years, it has increased in numbers of participants and different types of sailing boats, becoming popular during special island holidays and internationally famous with the annually organized Heineken Regatta.	Thriving
3.3.12	Bicycle Racing/ Cycling	A sport or activity of riding a bicycle. In the past racing was mainly part of special festivities, but lately cycling is increasing in popularity with the increase in bike owners, who hold competitions at regular times and events.	Thriving
3.3.13	Horse Racing	A sport in which horses and their riders take part in races. Horse and donkey racing was popular in the old times when most households had one of those noble animals. Nowadays, there are some parks where visitors and locals can take	Declining

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		lessons or go on excursions in remote areas or swim with the horses in the sea.	
3.3.14	Dominoes	A strategic game played with a maximum of 4 persons and involving 28 rectangular domino tiles, each with a line dividing it into two squares that are numbered with zero to six dots. The game is highly popular especially among males but females also participate. Domino tournaments are held throughout the year.	Thriving
3.3.15	Card Games	A popular game that is played by all ages and families using a set of playing cards. Popular card games on St. Maarten are Romie 500, poker, I declare war,...	Thriving
3.3.16	Board Games	A game played by persons of all ages which involves the movement of pieces on a board such as chess, Chinese checkers or checkers.	Surviving
3.3.17	Cockfighting	A blood sport of setting two game cocks to fight each other, held in a ring called a cockpit. This practice continues to be done in secret.	Thriving
3.3.18	Ram Goat Showcasing Competition	Once a year, goats of different breeds are showcased to the public and jury at Colombier in the North (French territory) for being best of the island. Participants from both Northern and Southern sides of the island enter their rams and compete in this event.	Surviving
3.4	Partner Hand	An informal system of saving and collecting money in a savings club or partnership. Each month, one person in the group collects the sum of money put into the group by the partners.	Thriving

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3.5	Plaiting/Braiding of Hair/Guinea or “Ginny”/Cornrows	Plaiting—The practice of joining three or more strands of hair by weaving them over each other in a special pattern; Ginnying—Plaiting the hair close to the head in thin rows; Braiding—The use of store-bought hair that is added to one’s hair in a plaited pattern. Especially schoolgirls’ hair is regularly plaited and styled either at home or in salons.	Thriving
3.6	Traditional Childhood/ Playground Games	Games played with minimal equipment, and which children learn by example from each other and play without reference to written rules. They are usually done during school recess and at home, after school, or in the playground.	Surviving
3.6.1	Ring Games	Players form a ring by holding hands while the person inside the ring starts skipping around to the song being sung by the ones holding hands. Most popular songs include: - Ring around the Rosie - Four White Horses up the River - A Rick Chick Chick (Tamandeh) - Little Sally Water - Brown Girl in the Ring - London Bridge is Falling Down - Down by the Alley	Declining
3.6.2	Clapping Games	Hand games, usually non-competitive and generally played between 2 or more persons and accompanied by nursery rhymes/songs. Such as: -Four White Houses -Ms. Mary Mack	Surviving
3.6.3	Game of Jacks	Played with six-point spiked jacks which must be picked up before the ball bounces twice. The winner is the first person to complete a prescribed series of throws.	Declining

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3.6.4	Pitchin' Marbles	Played with marbles made of plastic or glass, which are placed inside of a circle drawn on the ground at the start of the game. The objective is to knock the marbles out of the circle.	Declining
3.6.5	Jump Rope/ Skipping Rope	A game in which a player jumps in the rope while it is being turned in a circular motion by two other players holding the rope at the two ends as they chant a rhyme. The jumper must move in, complete the jump, and move out without touching the rope. Players take turns jumping in and out of the rope.	Surviving
3.6.6	Tag Games	Games where children run away from the person trying to tag them. Once caught and tagged, that person becomes "it" and runs out to tag others as s/he shouts "lalick" (last lick).	Declining
3.6.7	Hide & Seek	One child has to find others who are hiding from him or her. Once a player is found, s/he becomes the one that seeks the others. Mostly played in the neighborhood or school play area.	Declining
3.6.8	Top Spinning	A top is put in motion by tossing it on the ground with a string which is used to keep it spinning. Another variation is to use a whip or one's fingers to keep the top moving and spinning.	Declining
3.6.9	Hopscotch	A game played by children who throw a stone or other object unto a set of joined squares drawn on the ground. The children jump into the squares either on one or two legs in order to get the stone or object.	Declining

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3.6.10	MISSISSIPPI Game	A skipping game played by two or three children with a rope/elastic tied around the ankle of one child while the others jump in and out spelling the word Mississippi.	Declining
3.6.11	Hula-hooping	A game played by twirling a hoop around one's waist, limbs, or neck.	Surviving
3.6.12	String Games	Making string figures and tricks by manipulating the string with one's fingers or fingers of other people.	Declining
3.6.13	Yoyo	A game played by throwing yoyo downwards and catching it as it springs back up. Different tricks can be played with the yoyo.	Declining
3.6.14	Sack Race	A game in which two people each put a leg in a sack and hop forward together from a starting point to a finish line. Played during special events with the use of potato sacks.	Declining
3.6.15	Wheelbarrow Race	A game played with one person sitting inside and the other pushing the wheelbarrow as fast as possible to the finish line. A variation of the game has one person functioning as the wheelbarrow while the other functions as the driver.	Declining
3.6.16	Egg (or Lime) & Spoon Race	A game in which children have to race to the finish line while holding a spoon with an egg or lime without dropping it.	Declining
3.6.17	3-Legged Race	A race involving participants completing the race with a leg of one runner tied or strapped to that of another runner. The aim is for the pair to run together to the finish line without falling over.	Declining

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3.7	Making of and Flying Kites	Kites are made from paper and other materials such as tape, ribbon, twine, etc. and taken to a flat area to fly. Usually done around the Easter holidays.	Declining
3.8	Games Played Using Paper	Games enjoyed by both adults and children and involving the use of paper, pencils and pens for entertaining purposes	Surviving
3.8.1	Paper Guessing Games	Pieces of paper are folded in such a way to make the participant guess what is hidden under the folds to reveal a message.	Declining
3.8.2	Pen and Paper Games	Games using paper and pencil/pens: i.e. Tic Tac Toe, Hangman, Connecting the Dots (Squares), doodling	Surviving
3.8.3	Objects out of Paper	Pieces of paper are folded in such a way that they could be used to create objects such as boats, planes, or hats.	Declining
3.9	Food Preparation	The preparation and consumption of locally made cuisine are an integral part of St. Maarten's history, culture, and identity	Thriving
3.9.1	Seafood Dishes	Seafood is a regular dish. Fish/shellfish (shrimp, oysters, octopus, mussels, crab...) is caught or bought at the fish market or shop; cleaned with lime or salt; and cooked, boiled, fried, steamed, or made into a soup. Seafood is also prepared and sold during special occasions and barbecue events and usually served with fungi, salads, plantain and/or rice and peas.	Thriving

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3.9.1.1	Crab Backs (catch, purge, clean, cook, etc.)	Crabs are caught, and the shells are removed and cleaned. The meat is seasoned and stuffed in the shell and served as a dish.	Thriving
3.9.1.2	Fish (catch, purge, clean, cook, etc.)	Fish is caught in a net, by line, or in a trap. The scales and the insides are removed. Cuts are made on both sides, especially for frying, and seasoning/ spices added to maximize flavor.	Thriving
3.9.1.3	Conch and Dumplings	The conch is a large, protected shellfish which can be eaten steamed or preserved in vinegar. The best way to make it tender is in the pressure cooker. Dumplings are made of flour or cornmeal and boiled with the conch.	Thriving
3.9.1.4	Boil(ed) Fish with Provisions	The fish is cleaned and cut on both sides, then boiled and served with provisions (pumpkin and other root vegetables such as sweet potatoes, yams, eddos, cassava, etc.)	Thriving
3.9.1.5	Fish and Fungi (Cornmeal)	Fried, boiled, roasted, or steamed fish served with dough made from cornmeal, pepper, and salt boiled together; once cooled, the dough can also be baked or fried.	Thriving
3.10	Local Dishes	Local dishes are usually prepared and served daily. Examples are: rice and peas, fish and dumplings or fungi, stewed goat, chicken, fish, plantain, fried rice, cassava, arrowroot, and soups. There are special occasions where specific dishes are served (i.e. ham during the Christmas season).	Thriving

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3.10.1	Salt Fish	Made from salt cod, this is a savory staple dish in St. Maarten cuisine and eaten any time of the day. This is seasoned with minced vegetables and normally served with rice and peas or Johnny cakes or dumplings.	Thriving
3.10.2	Saltfish & Dumplings	Saltfish is served with dumplings, which are made of flour or cornmeal. Cattle-tongue is a special-sized dumpling shaped like a cow's tongue.	Thriving
3.10.3	Rice Dishes	Rice dishes can be made from different types of rice, along with different types of meat, poultry or seafood, and vegetables.	Thriving
3.10.3.1	Locri	Made with cooked rice and broth, seasoning (spices), vegetables, and pieces of chicken; a very popular dish among the locals and also called Rice Pilaf or Cook Up.	Thriving
3.10.3.2	Rice and Peas	A rice dish with added peas (can be different types of peas) to the cooked rice and mixed with spices. The rice and peas can also be boiled together to give it a special flavor.	Thriving
3.10.3.3	Stew(ed) Peas	Soak peas overnight until soft then boil on a low temperature. Add salt or other spices.	Thriving
3.11	Soups	The soup is usually named after the meat or fish source used.	Thriving
3.11.1	Peas Soup	Peas are usually soaked overnight and boiled in water with salt, spices, pumpkins, onions, leeks, garlic, ginger, carrots, and meat. Peas used include lentils, pigeon peas, black-eyes peas, and kidney beans.	Thriving

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3.11.2	Conch Soup	The conch is cleaned and cooked with tomato paste, pumpkin, pimento, veggies, and peppers.	Thriving
	Oyster Soup	The oysters are bought fresh and are cleaned and boiled with onion, garlic, ginger. The soup is made with a creamy or watery consistency.	Thriving
3.11.3	Pigtail Soup	The pigtail is soaked overnight and boiled at least once before it is combined with peas and other vegetables and spices.	Thriving
3.11.4	Bull Foot Soup	A soup made with cow's or bull's feet that have been pressure-cooked with vegetables and seasoning and cooked in a pressure cooker until tender.	Thriving
3.11.5	Goat Water	This soup is made with goat meat cut into small pieces and boiled with other ingredients and spices until tender; it is served with or without dumplings.	Surviving
3.11.6	Callaloo	A soup made with a type of locally grown wild spinach and sautéed vegetables, salt, and pepper.	Thriving
3.12	Conkie	This dish combines yellow corn flour, grated sweet potatoes, pumpkin, coconuts, raisins, margarine, and sugar. Small portions of the mixture are placed in banana leaves, grape leaves, or aluminum foil and then folded, tied, and boiled in water.	Declining
3.13	Roast Corn	Ears of fresh corn are roasted over the fire, the coal pot, or on the barbeque grill.	Surviving

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3.14	Making of Local Snacks	These local snacks eaten on a daily basis and served at parties and special occasions include croquette, tuna or cheese and crackers, pig-in-a-blanket (sausages rolled in dough), patties, and deviled eggs.	Thriving
3.14.1	Johnny (Journey) Cake	A round bread made of flour, salt, sugar, and baking powder and fried in oil or baked. Widely prepared and eaten throughout the year and particularly during the Carnival season. Available on the menu in most local restaurants and food trucks.	Thriving
3.14.2	Patties	A filling is prepared from either meat, chicken, saltfish, tuna, vegetables, or cheese and placed inside dough, which is then folded and closed at the ends with fingers or fork and then fried or baked.	Thriving
3.14.3	Croquettes	The meat is prepared and minced then cooked with flour and spices, shaped into balls or long cigar-like shapes, and rolled in raw egg and breadcrumbs. Then they are deep-fried.	Thriving
3.14.4	Saltfish Balls	The saltfish is prepared by mincing it and adding spices, onions, and flour. Then it is shaped into balls, rolled in raw egg and breadcrumbs and deep-fried.	Thriving
3.14.5	Snacks with Crackers (tuna fish, cheese)	Tuna fish is prepared with onions, mayonnaise, black pepper and season salt and mixed together and placed on store-bought crackers. Various cheeses are diced and also placed on the crackers. These snacks are served usually at parties and other special occasions.	Surviving

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3.14.6	Kebabs (also called saté and made of cheese, olives, sausage, onion, chicken, meat)	Mini kebabs-The ingredients (olive, onion, sausage, and cheese) are diced and placed on toothpicks. Kebabs-Pieces of chicken, meat or seafood are marinated and placed on wooden skewers. They can be broiled in the oven or put on the barbecue grill.	Surviving
3.14.7	Deviled Eggs	Eggs are boiled, cooled, and peeled. Then the whites are removed from the yolks and the cooked yolks are then mixed with mayonnaise, salt, and pepper to one's taste. The yolk mixture is squeezed/spooned back onto the egg whites. This is served during special occasions.	Thriving
3.14.8	Porridge/pap (cornmeal, flour, rice, arrow root, cassava, cream of wheat, oats)	Water is boiled and the rice, oats, cornmeal, etc. is added to the pot and then stirred until cooked. During the cooking process, other ingredients such as milk and spices are added.	Surviving
3.15	Local Candies and Sweets	Local sweets are usually prepared in the homes and sold by vendors in small stores or on the roadside.	Thriving
3.15.1	Tarts (coconut, guava, prune, guavaberry, pineapple, stewed tomatoes)	Tarts are prepared with filling of locally picked or canned fruits. The delicacies can be ordered from the bakers or bought at stores, in the market, or during festivals.	Thriving
3.15.2	Sugar Cakes	Grated coconut is mixed with brown sugar, water, milk, flavor, and coloring. Then it is boiled until syrupy, cooled, and cut in pieces or rolled in balls and sold along the road or at special occasions.	Thriving
3.15.3	Puddings (potatoes, sweet potatoes, bread)	Potatoes/sweet potatoes are grated and mixed with sugar, margarine and grated pumpkin. For the bread pudding, raisins, cinnamon, nutmeg, prunes and rum are usually added.	Thriving

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3.15.4	Cakes (black, fruit, carrot)	These are made by using a plain cake recipe with butter, flour, eggs, milk/water, and salt. Fruits of your choice are added and mixed in and the cake is baked in the oven. Fruit and black cakes are mostly prepared during the Holiday season and for weddings.	Thriving
3.15.5	Tamon or Tamarind Balls	Tamarind paste (with or without hot sauce), salt, and sugar are shaped into bite-size balls and dusted with sugar.	Thriving
3.15.6	Jams (cashew, gooseberry, guava, stewed tomatoes)	These are made by fruits being cleaned and stewed in water. Sugar is added until it is thickened. The jams are used on breads, cookies, and/or in tarts.	Declining
3.15.7	Guava Cheese	The same procedure as used with the jam used here, but the guava becomes thicker in substance, sometimes by using gelatin. After cooling, it is cut into pieces and sold or presented in that way.	Declining
3.16	Drink Preparation (Local Alcoholic and non-alcoholic Drinks)	Making of juices and/or fermented beverages from fruits, parts of fruits, or bark grown locally. The preparation and consumption of locally made beverages are an integral part of St. Maarten's history, culture, and identity	Thriving
3.16.1	Fruit Juices	Whenever a certain fruit is in season, it is picked, cleaned, and prepared for boiling or brewing. Water and sugar, and sometimes other flavors, are added to make it into refreshing delicious drinks.	Thriving
3.16.1.1	Sorrel Juice	This is made from a flowering red plant and brewed to produce a rich liquid. Sugar is added and the juice is served cold. It is mostly consumed during the Christmas holiday season.	Thriving

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3.16.1.2	Tamarind or “Tamon” Juice	Made from the fleshy pods of the tamarind tree. It is boiled, sweetened, and served cold.	Thriving
3.16.1.3	Lime Juice	Made by squeezing limes and adding water and sugar to the juice. It is served cold.	Thriving
3.16.1.4	Soursop Juice	Made by peeling the soursop, adding milk, and letting it steep. The seeds are removed, spices are added if desired, and it is served cold. Instead of milk, water can be used.	Thriving
3.16.1.5	Passion Fruit	Made by taking the pulp out of the passion fruit and adding water and sweetener. The seeds are sifted out and it is served cold.	Thriving
3.16.2	Ginger Beer	The ginger root is grated, boiling water is added and it is rested for hours or days depending on the desired strength. It can be drank as is or rum can be added.	Thriving
3.16.3	Rum	Rum making is done by crushing the sugar cane stalks, extracting the juice, and distilling the liquid produced from fermented sugar cane juice. It is often used in our local beverages.	Surviving
3.16.3.1	Guavaberry	Made by extracting small guava berries, adding spices such as cinnamon, nutmeg, sugar, and other ingredients and put in a bottle to ferment for several weeks; served during the Christmas season.	Thriving
3.16.3.2	Mauby	A beverage made from extraction of a flowering tree bark, orange peel, and sugar. It is produced locally and sold in stores and by individual vendors.	Thriving
3.16.4	Punches from fruits (lime punch/Ti punch,	Rum and brown sugar are added to the fruit, soaked for a few weeks, and served in small glasses. The longer the fruits are	Thriving



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	pomserrette, guavaberry)	steeped in the rum, the stronger the drink becomes. The punches are popular during special occasions.	
3.16.5	Bush Teas	Herbs such as lemongrass, basil, mint, etc. are selected, washed, and then placed in a pot or cup, and boiling water is poured over it. It is steeped before drinking. Some bush teas are made by boiling the herbs in the water for a while before cooling and drinking.	Thriving
Total Number of Major Items and Sub-items:	115		

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ICH Domain (4) Knowledge and Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe

Codes	Titles of Major Elements and Sub-Elements	Description	Status
4.1	Practicing Obeah	Spiritual rituals originating from the African continent, developed and practiced clandestinely in the Caribbean. People tend to seek obeah spells for love, money, spiritual protection, healing, etc.	Thriving
4.2	Cooking in the Ground	A hole is dug in the earth, filled with twigs and coals, lit, and heated. Then meat wrapped in leaves is placed in it and covered up with dirt. Cooking time might be a day.	Declining
4.3	Cooking on Coal Pot; Three Stones	In a clay or metal coal pot food is slowly cooked, heated by charcoal. Alternately, three large stones are placed on the ground with charcoal in the middle and a pot with the food to be cooked is placed on top.	Surviving
4.4	Making of the Coal Keel (kiln)	Collected wood is cut up and placed orderly in a pit, covered with bush, lit, and covered up with dirt. Fire burns inside for a few days until the charcoal is ready.	Declining
4.5	Cooking in Stone Ovens	An outdoor oven was built using bricks and stones. Wood and coal are heated and bread and cakes baked inside.	Declining
4.6	Butchering and Hide Tanning of Animals (goat, sheep, rabbit, chicken, hogs, cows)	Butchering of the animals is done outside. Meat is distributed, cooked, or salted for later use.	Surviving
4.7	Use of Plants for Medicinal and Cosmetic purposes	Bush and plants or shrubs with medical values are gathered and prepared for	Thriving

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	(i.e. aloe (vera), bush tea, soursop, lemongrass, wiry wine bush)	use in teas, tisanes, ointments, and body wash. Some plants can be placed directly on wounds, hair, and skin.	
4.7.1	Making and Using of Aloe (Vera)	The gel inside the aloe vera's succulent leaves is used for treating and enhancing the skin, hair, and immune system.	Thriving
4.7.2	Making and Using of Prickly Pear Juice	Prickly pear is used for making liquor. It is made from juice of the prickly pear cactus and has medical value as well as a sweet taste.	Declining
4.7.3	Making and Using of Sea Moss	Sea moss is prepared as a health drink and for strengthening male stamina and fertility.	Declining
4.7.4	Making of Coconut Oil	The pulp of the coconut is used in making oil for cooking and skin and hair care.	Declining
4.7.5	Bush Tea	Different herbs such as lemon grass, mint, basil, and soursop are widely grown in people's yards and used as medicinal agents to remedy colds, flus, stomachaches, high blood pressure, insomnia, and other ailments.	Thriving
4.7.6	Arrowroot	This is made by harvesting tubers which are washed, bashed into pulp, and dried. Then the starch is used for porridge, cakes, and biscuits.	Surviving
4.8	Use of Traditional Healing Methods	The use of different traditional methods for cleansing and healing purposes.	Surviving
4.8.1	Alcolado, Maravilla Water, Witch Hazel, camphor, Vicks (mentholated ointment)	All products can be bought in the store and used to rub on the skin to provide cooling, relief from fever, and ease of mosquito bites, etc.	Thriving
4.8.2	Castor Oil	Castor oil is used as a cleanser of the intestines by drinking a spoon-full at regular times. Also used for hair care.	Surviving

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4.8.3	Epson Salts	Epson salts, a bitter white powder that is mixed with water to make a drink, is used to help people pass solid waste; also used for relief of pain and blood circulation purposes.	Surviving
4.8.4	Bola Mass	A black substance that is put in water for drinking. It prevents blood clotting, cleans the blood, and speeds up the healing process.	Surviving
4.8.5	Soft Candle	A soft candle is heated, and the wax is applied to boils on the skin to eliminate pain, draw out pus, reduce the size and get rid of the boil.	Surviving
4.9	Hurricane Preparedness Using Nature (reading weather)	People determine when bad weather is coming by monitoring the behavior of animals and watching the seabirds above land, looking at cloud formations, observing the waves or choppiness of the sea, and assessing the intensity of the heat.	Declining
4.9.1	Using Nature as Guide	Nature is used as a guide to determine the best time for planting, when to go fishing, when to cut hair, etc. Nature is also used for time telling with the changing of the sky's colors 4 times and using the stars for navigation.	Declining
4.10	Superstitions/ Beliefs	Superstitions passed on by the elders are an important part of how to live one's life and to recognize warnings, signs, premonitions, etc.	Surviving
4.10.1	Wearing Shirt Inside Out	This is done to ward off evil spirits.	Surviving
4.10.2	Entering the House Backwards in Evening	This is done to prevent evil spirits from following you into the house to do harm.	Surviving
4.10.3	Placing Aloes over the Door	This is done as protection against evil.	Surviving

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4.10.4	Using the Almanac/ Dream Books	The almanac, an annually printed guide, is widely used for its information on agriculture, astrology, and biology and for determining the meaning of dreams and which numbers to play in the lottery.	Surviving
4.10.5	Biting Finger after Pointing at a Burial Ground/Cemetery	A belief that pointing a finger at a grave or cemetery would cause the finger to fall off. To prevent this, the person should bite his/her finger.	Declining
4.10.6	Meaning of Hand Scratching and Eye Twitching	Hand scratching means a good omen that money is coming to someone. Eye twitching implies the person is being gossiped about.	Surviving
4.10.7	Meaning of a Dog Howling	This means that somebody near you will die.	Surviving
4.10.8	Meaning of Black Moth in the House	It is widely believed to be an omen of death.	Surviving
4.10.9	Meaning of Seeing a Grasshopper	Seeing a green grasshopper means good luck, and a brown one means bad luck.	Surviving
4.10.10	Baby Rituals (use of camphor, salt, blue, bush)	This is done to protect the baby's spiritual and physical wellbeing. An open Bible, open scissors, smelling ointments, and red and blue colors are placed in or near the crib. Salt and bush are good for the skin, and blue is used for protection against the evil eye. The mother shapes baby's head to give the skull a nice form. <i>(See Domain 3 as a social practice.)</i>	Surviving
4.10.11	Practice of Planting Crops When There is a Full Moon	This is done due to information received from the forefathers and from the almanac.	Surviving



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4.10.12	Practice of Cutting One's Hair When There is a Full Moon	This is done to make the hair healthy and shiny.	Surviving
Total Number of Major Items and Sub-items:	34		

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ICH Domain (5) Traditional Craftsmanship

Codes	Titles of Major Elements and Sub-Elements	Description	Status
5.1	Coal Keel	Branches of wood are collected, cut, and lined up in a large, often round hole. The hole is then covered with branches, bush, and dirt and lit and slowly burned for a couple of days until the charcoal is ready.	Declining
5.2	Fish Pots	These are made with wire and stripped wood. A frame is made in such a way that fish can swim in to get the bait but cannot get out. Pots are dropped in shallow water and emptied by fishermen every few days.	Declining
5.3	Fish Traps	A contraption/device made of wires, rods, fishing-net, or other suitable materials with the purpose of catching fish alive.	Declining
5.4	Fishing Nets	Fishing nets and throw nets are knitted from strong twine by men and women with the use of wooden tools.	Declining
5.5	Kite-Making	Kites are made from newspaper or other colored paper wrapped and glued around a frame of twigs or wood strips. A tail to stabilize the kite is added, and with the use of a ball of twine, the kite is flown mostly on the beach or other open places. (See Domain 3)	Declining

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5.6	Boat-Building	The trade to build small wooden fishing boats was started as early as the 19 th century. The wood used came from local trees but more often from wood imported from nearby islands. Drawings were made and the building of the boat involved the use of plywood and fiberglass.	Declining
5.7	Sewing Clothes	Today clothes can be sewn by hand or sewing machines and cloth is imported from all around the world. In the past, materials were imported, or bleached flour bags were used.	Surviving
5.8	Crochet, Embroidery, Patchwork	From young, girls were taught in school how to embellish clothes, bedcovers, and table clothes using cotton colored threads for crochet and embroidery and pieces of leftover materials for patchwork. Today, classes are offered for anyone wanting to learn this craft.	Declining
5.9	Wood-Carving, Whittling	This is done by using dead wood from local trees. Men carved and whittled toys, utensils, and other household objects. Today wood is carved for souvenirs such as masks, walking sticks, picture frames, sculptures, and musical instruments.	Declining

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5.10	Doll-Making	In the past, dolls were made by using bottles for the body and rope for the hair. Today dolls are outlined, cut, sewn, and stuffed with sponge and then decorated with different types of threads, cloth, or beads that are used for the features of the doll.	Declining
5.11	Palm Tree Basket-Weaving	In the past, palm or straw weaving or braiding for baskets or hats was taught to women, mostly from the Simpson Bay area. The straw was imported, and palm came from locally grown trees. Today beachside vendors make and sell palm products to tourists.	Declining
5.12	Making of Musical Instruments [i.e. banjo, trés, marimba (marimbola), bath pan bass, calabash maracas, tambourine, conch shell horn, steel pan, wax paper, and comb, “corndoodle” (flute made from corn cob), church bell, drums]	In the past, instruments were handmade on island from large gourds, tree trunks, animal skin, oil drums, farm utensils, or conch shells. Today few people still make instruments from these items/materials.	Surviving
5.13	Rockwall Construction	Rockwalls were constructed after the land was cleared for agriculture. The rocks were removed, collected, and carefully structured in walls to be used as cattle enclosures, estate boundary markers, or dams to prevent mud slides. Today, these walls are protected as monuments.	Surviving



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5.14	Head Tie	Headscarves are simply knotted on the side or in front or back. They are mostly used to cover the hair during celebrations, rituals, certain daily activities, ceremonial purposes, or as a display of African pride. Today head ties are styled according to one's taste.	Surviving
Total Number of Major Items and Sub- items:	14		



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