

3. Bows and Arrows :-

The Onges bow is generally made from a single piece of wood. The bow is almost straight and is about 1.5 mtrs. long. It is thicker in the middle and gradually tapers at the two ends. While the inner surface is almost flat, it is markedly curved or convex on the outer surface. There are necks or notches at the two ends to hold the loop of the bow string, which is made by twisting a long thin strip of ficus bark. A small loop is made at one end of the string to put it around the neck of the bow. The bow is used for hunting and fishing.

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The Onges use two different types of arrows for pig hunting : one with a detachable arrow-head and the other with a fixed head attached with a shaft. The pig hunting arrow consists of a shaft, about 80 cm in length, made from a straight and slender stem of a tree. The Onge generally use the other type of arrow with the fixed arrow-head to kill the pig. The arrow with detachable head is used not only to inflict a fatal blow on the pig but also to prevent it from running away into the forest.

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The fishing arrow is called 'Korange' is simpler than the pig hunting arrow, the shaft is a slender piece of bamboo measuring about seventy cm to a mtr in length. The arrow is used for piercing the fish. The Onge have learnt and adopted the method of preparing iron arrow-heads, knives etc., by smelting the iron and then hammering it to obtain the required size and shape of the implements. They have also been provided by the Administration some iron tools by the Samiti.

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4. Turtle-Hunting Harpoon :-

This implement called the kno consists components viz. the iron harpoon heads, a long shaft and a long string or rope. There are two types of iron harpoon heads for turtle-hunting. One is a ten cm long sharply barbed piece of iron with a rectangular cross-section, except the tip, having a maximum width of about 0.5 cm. The other type of harpoon head is a slender piece of iron, about eight cm long with a circular cross-section, having a diameter of about two cm. This type of harpoon head, unlike the previous one, is pointed only at the tip. The Onge operate the implement while standing on the platform of the outrigger canoe.

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5. Chisel :-

The implement comprises of a shaft, measuring about 90 cm to a mtr., fastened to an iron blade, about 15 cm in length, 1 cm in thickness and 4.5 cm in breadth. The sharp cutting edge of the blade is slightly broader than its butt.

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