



Mapwete

Cloth of male royalty

Corpus-based asset

ASSET RECORD | TRANSLATING KUBA RAFFIA DATASET

MOTIF AND SOURCE

- Meaning** A cloth of status associated with male royalty, worn wrapped around the waist on occasions of authority and lineage. Its labyrinth line belongs to a shared graphic vocabulary that each weaver reworks according to lineage and subgroup.
- Source** Kuba Kingdom, DRC. Corpus piece. Acquired and documented in Kinshasa, June 2026, directly from its holder, with his consent.

MATERIAL

- Original** Shombo fibre, hand woven, motifs in appliqué and embroidery. Long panel.
- Digital** Weave modelled fibre by fibre, keeping the irregularities of hand weaving. Adjustable: weave density, fibre width, motif scale, dye tone.

DIGITAL ASSET

- Format** Seamless parametric PBR material (Base Color, Normal, Roughness, Height, AO). Adobe Substance 3D Designer ; tested in CLO3D.

CREDIT AND RIGHTS

- Credit** Mapwete. Kuba Kingdom. Documented in Kinshasa with the consent of its holder. Digital translation: Nsaka Sandrine NGANGA, KIMA3D.
- Rights** The physical piece remains the property of its holder; the motif remains the cultural knowledge of its makers and their families. The 3D asset file is not included in this dataset and is held within the KIMA3D library.
- Asset page** kima3d.com/product/kuba-1

Preview file in this folder: Mapwete_sphere.jpg · Nsaka Sandrine NGANGA, LJMU, 2026