

Collectors' corner

Mauritanian necklace

David Nevill

This is an intricately strung traditional Mauritanian fashion necklace on copper wire with a central cotton core. It weighs 500g and is 46cm (18") long. It is made using mostly Czech glass beads from the late 1800's to the early 1900's.

The traditional Mauritanian stringing of this type of necklace is very time consuming, involving stringing a few beads together on short lengths of copper or brass wire to make a tiny strands of beads often only a couple of centimeters long. The two ends of the wire are then twisted together to form a loop and many of these mini strands are then attached to a central core of cotton forming very robust and heavy necklaces.

For other examples of this type of necklace, visit: www.africantradebeads.com



photo: David Nevill

Fight Hunger beads

Cordelia Salter *et al*

FightHunger.org is a division of the United Nations World Food Programme, which has been set up to help end child hunger by 2015, which is part of the first Millennium Development Goal. There are currently 350 million hungry children and every six seconds a child dies of hunger. But there is enough food in the world for them all to eat – what is missing is the political will and resources to make it happen.

As part of our awareness, we have commissioned five specially designed Hunger Beads in the FightHunger colours – orange and blue – which signify all the hungry children in the world. The beads are made from recycled glass by traditional African artisans in Ghana. The beads are sold singly with a blue synthetic suede cord or you can buy beads only, in sets of five.

They come in five styles:

- Star Bead – powdered glass
- Barrel Bead – painted glass
- Round Bead – painted glass
- Bicone Bead – powdered glass
- Rectangular Bead – powdered glass

Unlike many 'awareness' products (such as the rubber wristbands that are so popular) the Hunger Bead is a socially valuable product as it provides work for African artisans as well as an outlet for their creativity.

Each bead comes with a synthetic blue suede necklace length thread and is packaged as a gift. Beads can also be bought in bulk (without the threads) for those who wish to use the Hunger Beads to make their own jewellery. They are all for sale in the online shop of the FightHunger.org website. We are also in the process of designing a beaded Hunger Belt using Hunger Beads and are interested in any other items too.

We're making a collection of people all over the world wearing Hunger Beads. If anyone has (or will take) a photo of themselves wearing the Hunger Bead please email it to team@fighthunger.org telling us who you are and where you are.



The Hunger Beads were expedited by the Fair Trade African ecommerce website eShopAfrica.com.

Hunger Beads can be purchased online from the FightHunger.org online shop at this link: <http://www.fighthunger.org/en/store/15>

All money raised from the sale of Hunger Beads goes to supporting the WFP School Feeding Programme which feeds hungry children all over the world: http://www.wfp.org/food_aid/school_feeding/index.asp?section=12&sub_section=3

Wear your hunger bead with pride – and tell your friends. If you would like to know more about the Hunger Beads or make a larger purchase please contact us on team@fighthunger.org

