

Draft

Introduction

Through thousands years of history developing, humanity from all over the world has developed for themselves hundreds of unique weapons for hunting, for battling, etc. One of the special weapons we can barely see nowadays through television or newspapers is the atlatl, or a spear-thrower for an easier imagination. Developed in Europe for more than 30 000 years and by the Native North-Americans tribes 12 000 years ago, the atlatl is supposed to be the first true “weapon system” consisting of a projectile (the dart) and a launching device (the atlatl). The target of this research is to study the movement of the dart based on the movement of thrower’s body.

Composants

This weapon consists of a launching device of 2ft long with a handgrip one end and a “spur” (which is used to fix the dart) at the another end and a projectile.

Technical aspect

The motion used for an atlatl is somehow similar to that of an overhand baseball pitcher. The thrower holds the atlatl handgrip in the palm of his hand and pinches the dart shaft with her fingers. Then, she flings the dart forward allowing it to slip out of her fingers as it flies towards the target. As the dart flies, the snap of the wrist at the end imparts much of the velocity. The technology of an atlatl is that of a system of levers, which together combine and increase the force of the human overhand throw.

Sources

The Atlatl and Dart - An Ancient Hunting Weapon

Ancient Atlatl

Atlatl Throwing Description

Atlatl Technique

Atlatl Throwing

Atlatl Throwing Movement

Atlatl Throwing Movement Image