WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image decoding method performed by an image decoding apparatus, the image decoding method comprising:

obtaining first information on whether a current picture might be partitioned, from a bitstream;

obtaining, from the bitstream, second information on the number of one or more subpictures included in the current picture based on the first information;

deriving one or more subpictures, based on the second information; and

decoding the one or more subpictures.

2. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein, based on the first information having a first value indicating that the current picture is not partitioned, the second information is not obtained for the bitstream and has a predetermined value indicating that the number of the subpictures is 1.

3. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the first information and the second information are included in a picture parameter set.

4. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein, based on the number of the one or more subpictures being two or more, the first information has a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned.

5. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein, based on the first information having a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned, the current picture containing one tile and each of the one or more subpictures containing one slice, the second information has a predetermined value indicating that the number of the subpictures is greater than 1.

6. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein, based on the first information having a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned, the current

picture containing one tile and the number of one or more subpictures being 1, third information has a first value indicating that each of the one or more subpictures includes one slice.

7. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein, based on the first information being not obtained from the bitstream, the first information has a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned.

~~8. An image decoding apparatus comprising:~~

~~a memory; and~~

~~at least one processor,~~

~~wherein the at least one processor is configured to:~~

~~obtain first information on whether a current picture is partitioned, from a bitstream;~~

~~obtain from the bitstream, second information on the number of one or more subpictures included in the current picture based on the first information;~~

~~derive one or more subpictures, based on the second information; and~~

~~decode the one or more subpictures.~~

~~9~~8. An image encoding method performed by an image encoding apparatus, the image encoding method comprising:

deriving one or more subpictures included in a current picture;

encoding first information indicating whether the current picture might be partitioned, based on the number of the one or more subpictures; and

encoding second information on the number of the one or more subpictures, based on the first information.

~~10~~9. The image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8, wherein the second information is not encoded based on the first information having a first value indicating that the current picture is not partitioned.

~~11~~10. The image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8, wherein the first information and the second information are included in a picture parameter set.

~~12~~11. The image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8, wherein, based on the number of the one or more subpictures being two or more, the first information has a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned.

~~13~~12. The image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8, wherein, based on the first information having a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned, the current picture containing one tile and each of the one or more subpictures containing one slice, the second information has a predetermined value indicating that the number of the one or more subpictures is being greater than 1.

~~14~~13. The image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8, wherein, based on the first information having a second value indicating that the current picture might be partitioned, the current picture containing one tile and the number of the one or more subpictures being 1, third information indicating that the number of slices included in each of the one or more subpictures.

~~15~~14. A non-transitory computer-readable recording medium storing a bitstream generated by the image encoding method of claim ~~9~~8.

15. A method of transmitting a bitstream generated by an image encoding method, the image encoding comprising:

deriving one or more subpictures included in a current picture;

encoding first information indicating whether the current picture might be partitioned, based on the number of the one or more subpictures; and

encoding second information on the number of the one or more subpictures, based on the first information.