

BANGLADESH NATIONAL MUSEUM
Object ID Record Sheet

1 Object ID Number:															
0	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	9	3	9	0	1	1	1	7
2 Name of the Museum:		Bangladesh National Museum													
3 Name of the Department:		Department of History and Classical Art													
4 Classification:		Buddhist Sculpture													
5 Date of Accession:										6 Accession Number:					
Day		Month		Year	1939					0	1	1	1	7	
7 Name of Object:		An image of the Dhyani Buddha													
8 Materials of the Object:		Black Stone													
9 Measurements:															
Height or Length		Width		Depth		Diameter		Weight							
101.6	cm	53.34	cm	0	cm	0	cm								gm
10 Inscriptions/Markings:		The image has a short inscription on the pedestal.													
11 Distinguishing Features:															
12 Title:															
13 Subject:		Classical Art													
14 How Acquired:		Acquired under the Treasure Trove Act of 1878													
15 Received From:		Government of Bengal													
Address:															
16 Price Paid:								Estimated Price:							
17 Insurance Value:															
18 Date or Period:		10-11th century A. D.													
19 Maker:		Unknown													
20 Brief Description of the Object:															
<p>The Dhyani Buddha is seated in the <i>bhumisparsha mudra</i> on a full-blown lotus in the adamantine pose (<i>vajrasana</i>). A folded <i>urna</i> appears on his left shoulder. The lobes of his ears almost touch the necks. The Dhyani Buddha is flanked on either side by two male figures, each holding a lotus in his left hand. The right hand of the figure on the right is in the <i>abhaya mudra</i>, while the figure on the left appears to be performing <i>arati</i> or <i>bandana</i> by his right hand. These are easily recognized as Maitreya on the right and Lokeshvara on the left. But the attributes of their hands do not tally exactly with those prescribed in the <i>Sadhanas</i> in the <i>Sadhanamala</i>. Below the seat of the Buddha, a powerful elephant crouches on its haunches and is flanked by two frisking lions. The figure of Vajradhara appears on the proper left-bottom corner. A trefoil arch, which rests on two solid pillars surmounted by a terrace-roofed temple ending in a prominent <i>amalaka</i>, is depicted above the head of the Dhyani Buddha. The foliage of an <i>asvatthva</i> tree is depicted above the <i>amalaka</i>. A <i>Krittikumukha</i> appears on the apex of the arch. The five Dhyani Buddhas, with <i>Aksobhya</i> in the middle, appears on the terrace of the roof of the temple. The image is almost in a perfect state of preservation. The short inscription on the pedestal in the script of the 10-11th century A. D. enhances its value as a dated piece of sculpture from Vikrampur, the seat of the Buddhist Chandra Kings.</p>															
21 Place of Origin/Discovery:		Vikrampur													

22 Provenance/Acquisition History:	It was dug up from a ditch at Madhyapara village in the Pargana of Vikrampur, Sirajdikhan thana, Dhaka district, in raising earth for repairing the approach-road to the angachandra Charitable Dispensary of the village. Rai Sahib R. K. Sen of the village took possession of the image. From him it was acquired under the Treasure Trove Act of 1878 by the Government of Bengal.											
23 Present Condition of the Object:	Excellent											
24 Location within the Museum:												
25 File Reference:												
26 Conservation/Restoration Record:												
27 Bibliographical Reference:												
28 Comments:	This Buddhist sculpture is a masterpiece of Bengal Art.											
29 Date of Object ID Sheet:	19-Oct-2011											
30 Author of the Record Prepared:												
31 Photograph(s):	0	1	1	1	7		0	1	1	1	7	
	0	1	1	1	7		0	1	1	1	7	

Registration Officer

Head of the Department

Director General