

BANGLADESH NATIONAL MUSEUM

Object ID Record Sheet

1 Object ID Number:															
0	1	0	1	0	3	3	1	9	7	1	0	0	0	3	3
2 Name of the Museum: Bangladesh National Museum															
3 Name of the Department: Department of History and Classical Art															
4 Classification: Hindu Sculpture															
5 Date of Accession:										6 Accession Number:					
Day		Month		Year	1971					0	0	0	3	3	
7 Name of Object: An image of Purusottama															
8 Materials of the Object: Gold-plated Bronze															
9 Measurements:															
Height or Length		Width		Depth		Diameter		Weight							
23.495	cm	12.7	cm	0	cm	0	cm							gm	
10 Inscriptions/Markings:															
11 Distinguishing Features:															
12 Title:															
13 Subject: Classical Art															
14 How Acquired: Collection															
15 Received From: Collected by Shafiqul Asghar Address:															
16 Price Paid:										Estimated Price:					
17 Insurance Value:															
18 Date or Period: 11th century A. D.															
19 Maker: Unknown															
20 Brief Description of the Object: Bangladesh National Museum boasts of a unique gold-plated bronze image of Purusottama, which was collected by Shafiqul Asghar in 1971 from Hatpukuri, Dinajpur district. A Vaisnava image, Purusottoma represents Balarama, Subhadra and Krsna combined in a single sculpture. Krsna is one of the main characters of the Mahabharata and one of the most popular incarnations of Visnu. Many charming pastoral legends of love and intrigue grew around him. An incarnation of Visnu, Balarama is described in some texts as the brother of Krsna. Subhadra is the sister of the two brothers. In this sculpture Balarama, depicted as four-armed, stands in <i>tribhanga</i> on the right, Krsna, depicted as two-armed, stands in <i>samapadasthanaka</i> on the left, and Subhadra, also depicted as two-armed, stands in <i>tribhanga</i> in between the accompanying brothers. Each of them stands on a <i>visvapadma</i> . There is a snake canopy over the head of Balarama, and Garuda, the vehicle of Visnu, is seen in the act of kneeling, on the left of Krsna, as an adjunct attached to the pedestal at a lower level. This metal sculpture, undoubtedly a masterpiece, is the only of its kind so far discovered in Bengal.															
21 Place of Origin/Discovery: Unknown															
22 Provenance/Acquisition History: Hatpukuri, Dinajpur district															
23 Present Condition of the Object: Good															
24 Location within the Museum: Gallary No. 17, Rood No. 217															

25	File Reference:				
26	Conservation/Restoration Record:				
27	Bibliographical Reference:				
28	Comments:	This Hindu sculpture of Purusottama is a masterpiece of Bengal Art.			
29	Date of Object ID Sheet:	10-Jan-2012			
30	Record Prepared by:				
31	Photograph(s):				

Registration Officer

Head of the Department

Director General