

BANGLADESH NATIONAL MUSEUM
Object ID Record Sheet

1 Object ID Number:																
0	1	0	2	0	5	3	1	9	6	3	0	1	7	5	2	
2 Name of the Museum:		Bangladesh National Museum														
3 Name of the Department:		Department of Ethnography and Decorative Art														
4 Classification:		Arm														
5 Date of Accession:										6 Accession Number:						
Day	4	Month	2	Year	1963							0	1	7	5	2
7 Name of Object:		Sword of Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah														
8 Materials of the Object:		Steel and Ivory														
9 Measurements:																
Height or Length		Width		Depth		Diameter		Weight								
107.315	cm	0	cm	0	cm	0	cm									gm
10 Inscriptions/Markings:		There are three inscriptions in Arabic, one of which is illegible.														
11 Distinguishing Features:		A Firanagi with hilt of pure Persian form														
12 Title:																
13 Subject:		Decorative Art														
14 How Acquired:		Permanent Loan														
15 Received From:		Government of East Pakistan														
Address:		The Department of Education and Cultural Affairs, East Pakistan Secretariat, Dhaka														
16 Price Paid:										Estimated Price:						
17 Insurance Value:																
18 Date or Period:		1756-57 A. D.														
19 Maker:		Unknown														
20 Brief Description of the Object:																

The hilt of the sword is 5.3 inches long. The grip, 4 inches long, is tubular, made of steel but covered with ivory, the ivory covering being slightly damaged now and consequently part of the steel plate exposed. The top of the tubular grip is rolled forward, and the forward-curved part forming the pommel is capped with steel, and there is a small ring on the capped pommel. The quillons forming the guard in the shape of a straight, slim crossbar are tipped with small knobs. The quillons are 4.9 inches long, formed of a piece with the ecusson which is a simple lozenge set lengthwise. The quillons and ecusson are of a separate piece of steel, not of one piece with the grip and pommel.

The blade, 37 inches long, is straight not with parallel but with tapered edges. It has three shallow grooves. Though double-edged, it is sharp entirely on one side only, the other side being mostly blunt with only the upper part of the foible being edged. The weaker edge is little thicker. The tip is not so sharp-pointed. The blade is 1.9 inches wide at the most. On one face of the blade near the root is an incised inscription in Arabic, giving the name of Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah. The inscription was tinged with gold, much of it having disappeared now. On the other face of the blade is another inscription. This inscription was also done in Arabic by incision but not tinged with gold. It is now black-filled probably being heated just as the greater part of the other inscription. There is yet another inscription which occurs, curiously enough, on the blunt surface of the weaker edge. This inscription is now illegible, much of it having been worn out. The English translation of the bigger inscription is as follows: There is no young man except 'Ali and there is no sword except Zulfiqar. Help is from Allah and triumph is near at hand; and O Muhammad (Sm.) convey the believers the good tidings. Allah is the best protector and He is the most benevolent and compassionate.

21 Place of Origin/Discovery:	Murshidabad																								
22 Provenance/Acquisition History:	This sword was formerly in the collection of the Baldha Museum which does not exist now, all of its collections having been taken over by the Government of East Pakistan and transferred to Dhaka Museum in 1963. It is not known whence and how the Baldha Museum acquired the sword.																								
23 Present Condition of the Object:	Good																								
24 Location within the Museum:	Gallery No. 23																								
25 File Reference:																									
26 Conservation/Restoration Record:																									
27 Bibliographical Reference:	Firoz Mahmud, 'A Sword of Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah in the Dhaka Museum,' <i>Bangladesh Lalit Kala</i> , Volume 1, Number 2 July 1975, pp. 127-130																								
28 Comments:	The sword is older than Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah to whom it apparently belongs.																								
29 Date of Object ID Sheet:	19-Oct-2011																								
30 Author of the Record Prepared:																									
31 Photograph(s):	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>0</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td></td> </tr> </table>	0	1	7	5	2		0	1	7	5	2		0	1	7	5	2		0	1	7	5	2	
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Registration Officer

Head of the Department

Director General