

National ICH INVENTORY.



Name of the Element:

Rickshaw and Rickshaw Art in Dhaka

Name of Inventory: National ICH Inventory (NII), 2022 - 2023

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Brief Description

The Rickshaw, a human-propelled transport on three wheels, is a recognized feature of Dhaka and Bangladesh as a whole. Rickshaw craftsmanship has been highly renowned for its traditional process of fashioning the Rickshaw by hand. Almost every part of a Rickshaw is decorated and painted. Tassels, tinsel and twirling bits hang from its different parts. Some parts are pinned in bright patterns. Plastic flowers sprout on the front and sides. Dhaka's Rickshaw Painting is an enthralling representation of transport art in the world. Painting is the embodiment of the Rickshaw as it is found in profusion on its body. Part of the aluminium sheathing and the entire rectangular plate of corrugated iron, both appearing at the Rickshaw's back, have pictures elegantly painted. The front part of the seat usually displays three popular movie stars. Being efficient and convenient as a mode of transport for short distances and highly decorative with thematic pictures Rickshaws have become significant and attractive. As Rickshaws are slow-moving vehicles, the paintings that they carry are easily visible to the onlookers who can enjoy them fairly well even in the movement. The moving Rickshaws are viewed as a roving exhibition of paintings as mobile panorama which is seen nowhere else in the world. Rickshaws with their decorations and paintings create such a pervasive and emblematic feature of urban life in Dhaka that it has given birth to exhibitions and festive events. New Rickshaws are always a blaze of colours and paintings in Dhaka, why it is often called the Rickshaw Capital of the World.

Region:

Dhaka, Dhaka District, Dhaka Division

Photographs: Video: Consent: Submitted

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