

Talwar (sword)



A sword is a weapon used by the soldiers in ancient times to fight their enemies in war. This sword was found in the Mysore area and is believed to be made in 1740 CE. It has a steel blade and has a damascened hilt and is 96.3 cm long. The hilt has depictions of animals like the tiger and snake and appears to have some inscriptions on it. Today, it can be seen in the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vaastu Sangrahalay. Although this sword is beautiful and fulfils its purpose, there can be a few things that can be done to increase its effectiveness. For instance, the blade itself can be made out of an alloy of steel and mercury. The steel would ensure that the sword is strong enough and the little amount of mercury would make the sword poisonous. In combat, even if a soldier doesn't die from bleeding out of his wound, he would die from mercury poisoning. The grip of the hilt could also be improved for better precision and optimum results. The shape of the hilt could be made so that the fingers fit in that space. The pommel of this sword could also be a bit wider to avoid the hilt from sliding out of the hand. The gold on the hilt could be replaced with silver to make the sword lighter as heavier weapons won't be preferred for combat. Lighter sword would be fast and work in the soldier's favour.

Indian Miniature Painting



This miniature painting was done by an artist named 'Chokha'. It was found in Mewar, Rajasthan. It is believed to be made in 1811 CE. Its dimensions are 22.7 cm x 33.2 cm along with the border. The purpose of paintings was to tell stories and reflect the state of those times. This painting depicts a war. It shows two men trying to capture an elephant by tying its legs with chains. It also shows horses, chariots and some more men in action. The overall colour scheme of this painting gives the feeling of uncertainty, unease and destruction that is felt during a war. While it is impressive to have expressed so many elements in a canvas this small, it can be made better by using a bigger canvas. This would allow the painter to illustrate more elements. A bigger canvas would also allow the viewers to connect better with the painting and understand what it is trying to tell them. As time passes by, the paints on the canvas also start to fade away which appears to be the case with this painting as the illustrations are not very clear and can only be seen when looked at from a close distance. This happens due to humidity and heat. They should hence be kept away from those elements. It could also have an exterior coating of a resistant to avoid the paints from fading. This would ensure that the painting could be enjoyed by people for many more years to come.