Heritage Information

Unique Id:

BGD-30.26.2023.00103

Section-1: Identification of the element

Heritage Location

Division

Dhaka

District

Dhaka

Upazila

Details Address

Geolocation(Latitude)

23.782735

Geolocation(Longitude)

90.381358

Community Category

Professionals

Community

Name of the Heritage, (as used by the community or group concerned)

Jamdani Saree

Short title of the Heritage, (preferably within 200 words)

Unique and Traditional Art of Jamdani weaving

Concerned Community(ies)/Group(s), (who recognize the element as part of their cultural heritage)

Jamdani weavers of Dhaka

Physical location(s) of the element/how often it is practiced

Dhaka and its surrounding area

Short description of the Heritage, (preferably within 350 words)

The art of Jamdani weaving is a time-consuming and labor-intensive form of fabric production by hand on a traditional loom built with wood and bamboo and with little use of metal. Jamdani weaving is based on traditional knowledge and skills dating back to the fourth century BCE. The distinguishing hallmark of Jamdani weaving is that its designs are neither embroidered nor printed but created directly on the loom in the process of weaving. The product from this style of weaving is called Jamdani, a highly designed cotton fabric that owes its origin to Muslin, the finest and most transparent cotton cloth ever woven by human hand. Of classic beauty, Jamdani effectively combines the intricacy of

design with muted or vibrant colors. Jamdani is also a highly breathable cotton cloth that brings relief to its users in the hot and humid climatic conditions of Bangladesh. The Jamdani weavers have remained in the weaving profession from generation to generation as a means of family livelihood. The element represents Bangladesh's rich textile heritage, contains a significant historic value, and has been designated as a unique element of the intangible cultural heritage of the country. Jamdani weaving has survived and thrived due to the growing popularity of Jamdani fabrics among Bengali women both at home and abroad. Almost the entire production of Jamdani is carried on in the form of a saree, the principal dress of Bengali women. A saree is a long flowing piece of cloth, part of it wrapped around the waist, and the remaining climbs and flows over the shoulder. Women wear more charming or elaborately designed Jamdani sarees during festivities and on formal occasions.

Domains of the Heritage (applicable fields)

- [ ] Oral Traditions and Expressions
- [ ] Performing Arts
- [ ] Social Customs and Traditions
- [ ] Knowledge and Practices related to Nature and Universe
- [x] Traditional Craftsmanship
- [ ] Food

Section-2: Characteristics of the element

Practitioners(s)/performer(s) directly involved in the representation or practice of the Heritage (including roles, name, age, gender, social status, and/or professional category etc.)

Md Yakub Ali (Male: Age-54, Jamdani weaver), Hazia Akter (Female: Age-35, Jamdani weaver).

Other tradition bearers (individuals/groups and their roles))

Some neighbors are involved to make Jamdani weaving stages

Language(s), register(s), speech level(s) involved

Bengali

Associated tangible elements used (if any)

Yarns, taku, a bamboo basket, a shell and a stone cup

How are women and people of other genders associated with this Heritage?

Both male and female are simultaneously involved for weaving Jamdani

Division of labour during the practice of this Heritage

Both male and female are simultaneously involved for weaving Jamdani but maximum labour provided by the males.

Elements to which other customary practices or practices may be connected or accessed in any respect of the heritage (if any)

N/A

Modes of transmission to others in the community

Generation to Generation

Organizations concerned (non-governmental organizations and others)

Bangladesh National Museum, Shilpakala Academy, Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC)

Section-3: State of the element (viability)

Threats to the enactment

Modern Machineries and Urbanization

Enactment Threats Description

N/A

Threats to the transmission (if any)

Awareness is a threat to transmission of this element

Threat to associated tangible elements and resources (if any)

Yarns, and lacking of Jamdani weaving peoples

Viability of associated intangible elements (if any)

N/A

Have been taken any safeguarding measures to preserve this Heritage practices? (if any)

BSCIC Jamdani Industrial Estate & Research Centre is one of the important safeguarding measure of this process. Jamdani mela is also a safeguarding measure.

Section-4: Data gathering/documentation, Consent and preparation of inventory entries

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

Uploaded as an attachment

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any)

No

Section-5: Resource Person

Data provider/Resource person (persons/groups, community representatives)

Md. Yakub Ali

Date of data collection

25-01-2022

Place(s) of data collection

Dhaka

Section-6: Safeguarding techniques

Existing safeguarding techniques adopted by the community for the safeguarding of the Heritage

Bangladesh National Museum displays Jamdani saris and the best weavers are acknowledged with awards. The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) has established a township at Noapara of Rupshi where 420 weaving families live. The Bangladesh Folk Arts and Crafts Foundation has established an emporium of Jamdani saris at Sonargaon.

Suggestions for safeguarding of the Heritage from the community

Jamdani can be protected by taking these steps: 1) collection, identification, research, documentation, and display; 2) preservation and protection; 3) promotion and enhancement; and 4) revitalization.

Section-7: References to literature, discography, audiovisual materials or archives

References to/in literature

1. Banu, Z.M. and Reza, M. 2012. Jamdani. In: Islam, S., Miah, S., Khanam, M. And Ahmed, S. (eds.). Banglapedia: the National Encyclopedia of Bangladesh (Online ed.). Dhaka, Bangladesh: Banglapedia Trust, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh. ISBN 984-32-0576-6, OGLC 52727562 Retrived 15 January 2023. 2. Dawn. (2011). Jamdani: Weaving history. Online Newspaper. Available at: < http://www.dawn.com/news/630713/jamdani-weaving-history>.

3. UNESCO. (2013). Traditional art of Jamdani weaving. Available at: < http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/RL/traditional-art-of-jamdani-weaving-00879>.

4. Ghuznavi, S.R. 2006. (2nd ed.). Textile Traditions of Bangladesh. National Crafts Council of Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh. 5. Sarkar, S. 2016. Inventive Employ of Jamdani: An Idiosyncratic Cram and Analysis. European Journal of Business and Management. 8(12): 74-80. 6. Ghuznavi, S.R. 1981. Naksha: A Collection of Design of Bangladesh. Dacca, Bangladesh.

Audiovisual materials or archives

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3E99whjRUk

Discography or archives

1. Jamdani: A fabric of then and now (The Daily Star, 28 January 2023), 2. Jamdani, a hand-woven wonder (The Business Standard, 28 January 2023), 3. Jamdani: its heritage and recognition in the world map (Bangla Tribune, 28 January 2023).

Section-8: Modalities for updating the information contained in the inventory entry

Data Compiler (persons/groups, including community representatives, who compiled the information)

Dr. Sumona Afroz, Deputy Keeper, Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbag, Dhaka

Date of Community Consent

25-01-2022

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

Uploaded as attachment

Present Condition of Heritage

Still maintaining

Brief description of Present condition of the Heritage, (if any)

Some businessmen involved in the Jamdani saree business said that these sarees are being made the most in Sonargaon and Rupganj upazilas. This sari market is held in Demra every Friday. From here the traders of different districts including the capital buy sarees at wholesale rates. Jamdani Saree Sonargaon Crafts and Crafts Shop Owner Bhumukhi Cooperative Samity Ltd. Its president. Abdul Halim said, after muslin, Jamdani has retained the glory of the weaving industry of our country. The artisans make this saree with corpus cotton. Currently, the cost of production has increased due to the increase in the price of silk. Apart from that, many do not want to join this profession as the salaries of the artisans cannot be increased.

Section-9: Community suggestions

Brief description of suggestions for safeguarding of the element by community members/experts/holders, (if any)

Jamdani weaving is one of the most outstanding elements of traditional craftsmanship that has come down to us.The Ministry of Cultural Affairs held extensive consultation with Jamdani weavers, traders, entrepreneurs, researchers, academia, media and related public organizations to take a comprehensive look at Jamdani weaving both as an element

of the intangible cultural heritage that strengthens the identity of the Jamdani Shilpa Community through job creation and poverty alleviation. As a result of these consultations, a consensus has developed for undertaking a comprehensive set of actions by different public and private sector actors to safeguard Jamdani weaving as an element of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity in the following ways: 1) collection, identification, research, documentation and display, 2) preservation and protection, 3) promotion and enhancement, and 4) revitalization.

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any).

No

Section-10: Upload Document

Heritage Details Document

