Silver armlet

Place of origin: Odisha (or possibly Tamil Nadu, made)

Date: 20th century (made)

Materials and Techniques: Silver wirework and granulation

Credit Line: Given by Dr W. Ganguly

Museum number: IS.52-2019

Gallery location: In Storage

Descriptive line

Silver rigid armlet, Tada, from Odisha (Orissa)

Physical description

A heavy silver armlet made in two parts with a hinge and screw-pin lock. The bracelet is made of three pairs of semi-circular silver rib-like tubes kept separate by slender vertical silver rods. The ornamentation is made of interlinking wirework between the tubes and four bands of sheet silver decorated with bands of stamped and wirework motifs. The hollow ribs are also decorated with applied motifs and both the upper and lower edges have a row of balls with granulated finials. The central lock has a stepped element with granulated ornaments and beaded wirework edging which resembles the shikara of a Hindu temple.

Dimensions

Height: 11.5 cm, Diameter: 9 cm, Depth: 5.5 cm excluding locking pin, Weight: 289 g

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Object history note

This armlet is part of the large donation of Indian folk jewellery from Dr Waltraud Ganguly which was collected over the last few decades before her death in 2015 from dealers in both India and Europe, in parallel with extensive fieldwork she carried out in the Indian Sub-Continent. It was bought from a dealer in Heidelberg for 390 Euros in April 2009.

Historical context note

Worn on the upper arm.

URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1312734/silver-armlet/