The ivory artefacts of the decorative arts collection at the National Museum are finest examples of leisure and ancient games’ traditions of India. All these artefacts help in understanding the artistic taste of patrons and craftsmanship of artisans prevalent during the 18th -19th century. It highlights boxes, sandals, utilitarian artefacts and images of Hindu and Christian religious figures.
Musician
Maharashtra
Early 19th century
Carved, painted
Acc. no. 87.291/1-10
Dashavatara shrine
South India, Late 18th cent.
Carved, painted
Lt.22.5; Wd. 16; Ht. 16.7 cm
Acc. no. 72.251/(a)
Detail of a carving on Elephant tusk depicting Buddha’s Life scenes
Delhi, Early 20th century
Carved
Acc. no. 85.508/1
Chaupar gamesmen
Odisha, 18th century
Carved
Dia. 3.5; Ht. 3.1 cm
Acc. no. 75.518-19
Chaupar players
Rajasthan
20\textsuperscript{th} century
Carved, painted
Lt. 9.5; Wd. 9; Ht. 11.5 cm
Acc. no. 87.435
Handle depicting Narasimha
Northern India, 19th century
Carved
Lt. 3.5; Wd. 2; Ht. 14.4 cm
Acc. no. 82.150
Rattles
Gujarat, 19th century
Carved, painted
Lt. 18; Circum. 12.5 cm
Acc. no. 62.1753/2-3
Jewellery box decorated with flora-fauna
Gujarat, 19th century
Inlaid with ivory
Ht. 6.7; Dia. 17.3 cm
Acc. no. 62.2707
Chess gamesmen
Gujarat, 19th century
Carved, painted
Ht. 4.5 (biggest); 2 cm (smallest)
Acc. no. 53.15/123 (A-Z)
Décor objects
Harappan Civilization
c. 2700-2000 BC
Carved
Visiting Information

National Museum
Janpath
New Delhi-110011
Open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (Tuesday to Sunday; Monday closed)
Phone: 91-11-23019272
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