

**Name of the Element: Mud Houses in North Bengal**

**Name of Inventory: Test Inventory 1**

**Serial No: D5-00001**

**Brief Description**

Mud-houses are a historically traditional way of housing practiced in North Bangladesh and other parts of the region. The practice and knowledge of developing mud houses falls under the domain of traditional craftsmanship. Innumerable mud houses can be found in the villages of the vast plains of North Bengal of Bangladesh. A unique feature of mud houses is that mud houses are cold in summer and hot in winter.

There are mud houses in most of the districts of North Bengal. The people of the northern districts claim to be the children of the soil. Especially in Santal, Garo and Hajong areas. In terms of structure, the earthen structures in the tribal areas are very simple. However, the earthen walls / designs of the indigenous villages are more colorful, complex and pictorial than the earthen walls of the respective communities. Especially in the villages of Santal communities, the walls are much more patterned and colorful.

The walls of earthen two / three storey houses in the area concerned are so thick and stiff that they are stronger than concrete (in some cases). Although brick walls can be easily broken, clay walls are not easy to break, in some cases very difficult and arduous work. For this reason, mud houses have survived for ages.

**Region: North Bengal**

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**Photographs: Video: Consent:**

**Submitted by: Maznu Miah, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University**

E-mail: folklorist.maznu@gmail.com