

THE ENIGMATIC MIRROR FROM ARANMULA KERALA

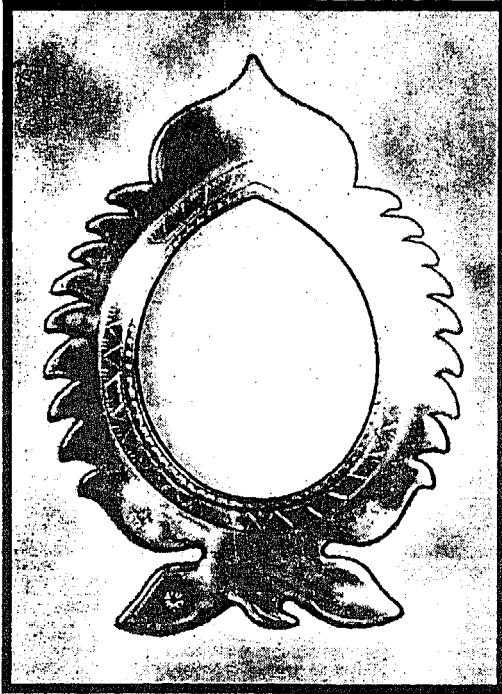
Situated on the banks of River Pamba in Kerala. Aranmula is a little village in the district of Pathanamthitta, which is well known for its ancient temple dedicated to Lord Sree Krishna as Parthasarathy, the colourful snake boat Regatta and the ARANMULA KANNADY or METAL MIRROR from Aranmula.

Mysterious in its creation, unequalled in its beauty, the Aranmula Kannady is a unique object Exclusive to Aranmula this mirror is made of metal, not glass! There in lies its uniqueness and its creation, a closely guarded secret, known to only four families, has been handed down from father to son for generations. Therein lies its mystery.

The metal mirror, a marvel in the annals of metallurgy was in vogue long before appearance of to-day's silicon synthetic glass mirror. Records dating back to the Sixteenth Century show that the Metal Mirror was in use in far off Egypt and Baghdad. And one of the temples at Khajuraho portrays a woman looking in to a metal mirror while applying her bindi. Archaeological excavations at Harappa have also yielded a mirror made of copper with a five inch diameter. The Rigveda also mentions the presence of the metal mirror. The ancestors of this craft could have migrated to South India from the Saptha-Sindhu and are descendants of the great masters of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

This metal mirror resembles the glass mirror in every respect and any object placed against it is reflected with complete clarity without any refraction in as much as the image falls just on top of the surface of the metal mirror unlike the glass mirror where the image falls on the mercury coated surface inside the glass.

Metal Mirror....



AN ANCIENT ART OF BRONZE CASTING IN THE LOST WAX PROCESS IN A PRECISE PROPORTION TO FACE YOU WITH A CRYSTAL SURFACE. THIS UNIQUE CRAFT NOW RESTS IN JUST ONE SMALL FAMILY LIVING IN A REMOTE VILLAGE (ARANMULA) OF SOUTH INDIA.

.... The Bronze Marvel

that traces its origin to a family of master-craftsmen, members of a sect of temple architects, sculptures and decorators of medieval Dravidian culture:

that had the privilege of royal patronage at its peak period:

that found its image even in the age-old cave carvings of Khajuraho and that the like:

that had a pride of place at the homes of all elite;

that had to remain remote long awhile as a result of the dislocation and deterioration of the one and only family to which its techniques belonged (and still belong); is back again in all its splendour and regale to meet the challenge of your domestic decor !.

Besides the general range your specific choice shall dictate our special production programme.

Your esteemed enquiries may please be sent to :-

VISWASARATHY HANDICRAFTS CENTRE,

PANDALAM ROAD,

ARANMULA P.O. - 689 533,

CHENGANNUR (VIA), KERALA, S. INDIA.

☎ (Ara.) 0468-2319163

Res. 0468-2319697

Aranmula Kannadi

(The wonder Metal Mirror of Aranmula)

INSTRUCTIONS

Keep the mirror under room temperature away from heat and dust. Do not touch by fingers on the reflective surface. Finger prints with moisture should be cleaned off immediately preventing corrosion.

For Cleaning:-

Sprinkle the Red Oxide Powder, Blue or Talcum Powder on the mirror and hold it in a slant position allowing the dust and other particles rolled off from the reflective surface. Use cotton wool and rub the surface very softly and smoothly in vertical direction.

In case of any fungus formation due to careless handling use just few drops of edible oil on the affected portion with the fingers and rub it for one or two minutes and then clean it as mentioned above. The red-oxide process of cleaning can be repeated continuously five times or until you get the original reflection.

Do not use any other metal polish on the Mirror.
