Name: Parang Berukir Kota Belud (Kota Belud Engraved Bush Knife)  
Country: Malaysia  

Date of registration: 14/09/2015

Main characteristics/features

The Kota Belud Engraved Bush Knife is an item that signifies the geographical location and culture of the Bajau community, who have lived in Kota Belud since time immemorial. There are 7 varieties of the bush knife including Pidah, Lading, Beladau, Keluan Gayang, Guk and Badih. Their uniqueness lies in the motifs that are engraved on the handle, blade and sheath of these bush knives. The selection of a suitable iron ore mixture and wood accounts for the high quality of the bush knife reflecting the craftsmanship of the Bajau community in general.

Geographical area

The centre of making these bush knives is in the area around Mukim Siasai, Kota Belud, Sabah, in places such as Kampung Siasai Jaya, Kampung Siasai Dundau, Kampung Siasai Kumpang and Siasai Tamu.

Production/processing

There are two parts in the process of making an engraved bush knife: making the blade and making the handle and sheath. The process of making the blade begins with blending the iron ore, cutting it according to required size and then forging it, which is known as nompo. This is followed by sharpening the bush knife, smoothening the cutting edge, engraving, gilding or plating, and finally attaching the handle to the blade. The process of making the sheath begins with selecting the required wood. A hole is formed that fits the size of the bush knife and then it is smoothened, engraved and glossed with paint or varnish.

Link between product and territory

The Bajau community of Kota Belud are well-known for their bush knives and their skill in making them, which they have inherited from their forefathers. The making and art of engraving bush knives are very much influenced by the culture of the Bajau community in Kota Belud.

Publication in the Official Gazette

09/06/2016

Competent authority

Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)
Sabah State Cultural Board
Tel.: +60 88288883
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Type of product

Tools/Knives

Control body

GI rights holder/GI association

Sabah State Cultural Board

File number

GI2015-00021

Websites

www.sabah.gov.my/lks

Source: LKN Sabah