

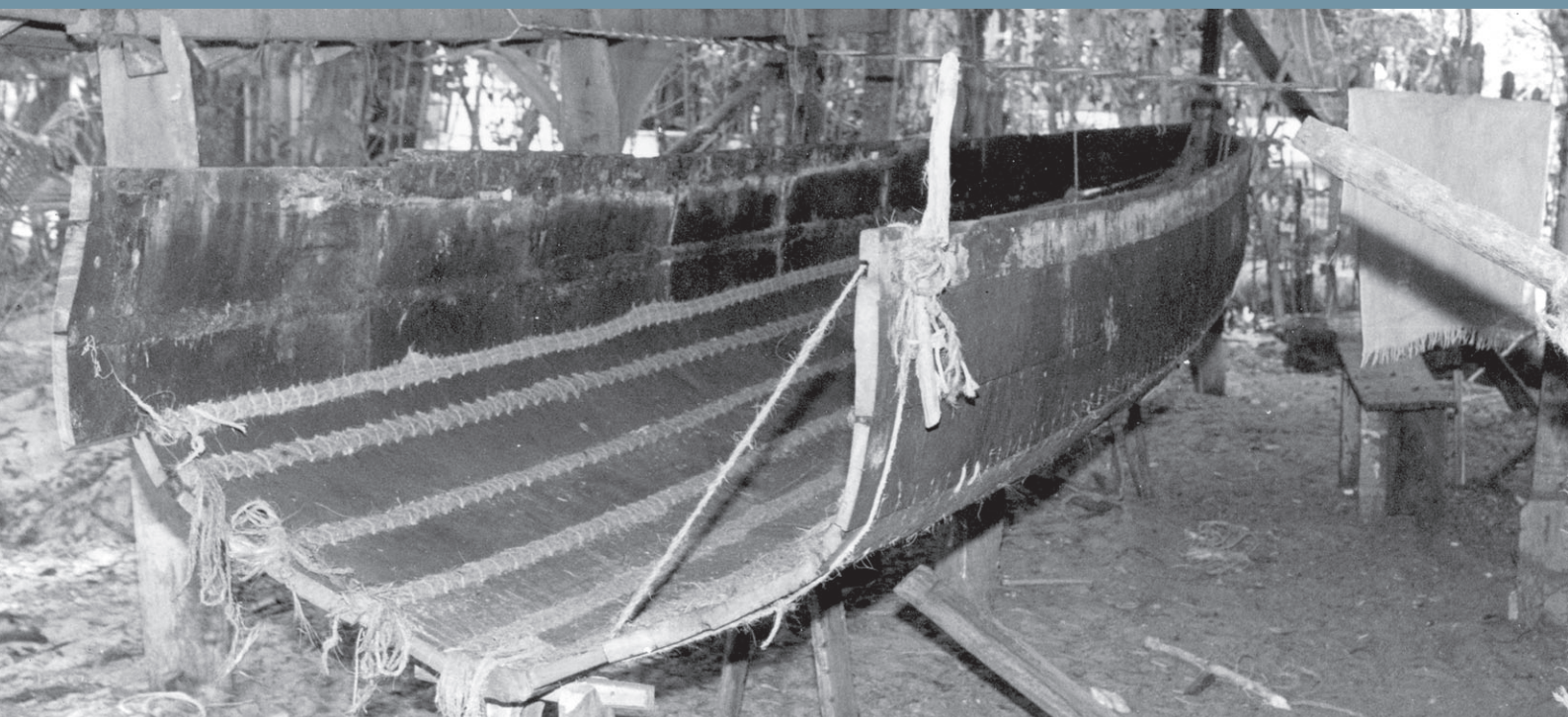
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1090

On a hump-back dolphin *Sousa chinensis* (Osbeck) washed ashore at Sangumal (Palk Bay) near Rameswaram

The Carcass of a female dolphin was washed ashore at Sangumal (Palk Bay) near Rameswaram on 9-12-2003. From the external characters, mainly the number of

teeth, it was identified as hump-back dolphin *Sousa chinensis*. The dolphin measured 249 cm total length and 175kg weight having fresh external wounds and

blood stains on its body, which suggested the possibility of collision with fishing boat. The morphometric measurements of the specimen are given below.

Date of observation 9-12-2003

Total length (snout to notch of caudal flukes)	249
Tip of snout to blow whole	216
Tip of snout to centre of eye	41
Tip of snout to anterior insertion of flipper	64
Tip of snout to centre of anus	179
Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus	172
Notch of fluke to posterior end of dorsal fin	146
Notch of fluke to centre of anus	64
Distance between extremities of fluke	63
Width at insertion of fluke	25
Length of dorsal fin base	51
Vertical height of dorsal fin	20

Length of flipper from anterior insertion to tip	32
Length of flipper along curve of lower border	27
Greatest width of flipper	15
Depth of body at anal region	33
Depth of body at origin of flipper	57
Depth of body at origin of dorsal	80
Depth of body in region of eye	45
Length of upper jaw	35
Length of lower jaw	33
Diameter of eye	2
Number of teeth on one side of upper jaw	34
Number of teeth on one side of lower jaw	32
Sex	Female
Weight	175kg

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