

Component 2: Interactive Artifact & Comparison Engine

Description:

This component enables visitors to explore artifacts interactively through zoom, hotspots, and detailed explanations. It also supports cross-cultural comparisons between Sri Lankan artifacts and those from other civilizations, offering users rich contextual understanding and deeper cultural appreciation. All explanations are provided in English.

How It Works:

Artifact Exploration

- Visitors can tap or hover on artifacts to access detailed information.
- Hotspots highlight key regions (engraving, materials, design details) with pop-up explanations.
- Zoom features allow closer inspection of intricate details and craftsmanship.

Comparison Module

- Enables side-by-side comparisons with similar artifacts from other cultures.
- Highlights design, material, purpose, and cultural significance differences and similarities.
- Uses your artifact dataset and optionally curated global datasets for contextual comparison.

English Narration

- AI-powered explanations provide both factual descriptions and interpretive insights.
- Narration summarizes cultural, historical, and ritual significance of each artifact and its comparisons.

Interactive Flow

1. User selects an artifact → hotspots and zoom features become active.

2. User clicks “Compare” → system retrieves similar artifacts from dataset(s).
 3. Side-by-side visuals and contextual notes are displayed.
 4. AI-generated summary explains design, ceremonial use, symbolism, and historical context.
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Tasks to Develop:

- 1. Hotspot Mapping & Overlays**
 - Identify key regions on artifact images.
 - Overlay clickable hotspots with detailed pop-up information.
- 2. Comparison Engine**
 - Match artifacts with similar examples (using metadata, embeddings, or curated links).
 - Display side-by-side visuals and highlight comparison points.
- 3. AI Integration**
 - Use a trained LLM to generate dynamic, context-aware explanations and comparisons in English.
 - Train the model with your artifact dataset to understand materials, cultural significance, historical context, and cross-cultural similarities.

Example Use Case:

- Visitor taps a Kandyan sword → sees materials, engravings, and ceremonial meaning.
- Chooses “Compare” → system shows a Japanese katana side-by-side.
- AI generates a summary comparing blade design, ceremonial use, historical context, and symbolism.

Outcome / Novelty:

Transforms static artifact viewing into dynamic cultural exploration. By leveraging a trained AI model, the system generates insightful, context-aware comparisons in English, allowing users to explore Sri Lankan and global heritage interactively without manually writing explanations for every artifact pair.