Description of plaques composition key

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| A Benin soldier with different helmet | A Benin soldier with Portuguese soldiers | A Benin soldier |
| A Chief and his wife | A chief celebrating with a soldier | A chief with his Eben |
| A Chief | A European | A European soldier with his dog |
| A Portuguese war mercenary | A priest | A Queen receiving a European |
| A school teacher with cane | A warrior chief celebrating with musicians | A full composition of a warrior chief celebrating with musicians and 2 Europeans showing off their gifts (probably ivory boxes) from the king.  They point to their gifts. |
| A warrior king with the Ada and Eben | A palace attendant holding circular gift bowl probably containing kola nuts | An Oba stepping out during Igue festival shielded from the sun by attendants |
| Benin soldiers with European mercenaries | Benin soldier with sword and arrows | Benin soldier |
| Benin soldiers with helmets and spears | Benin soldiers with captured king from neighbouring kingdom | Benin soldiers |
| Chief in celebration dance | Chief Priest Osuan (the king’s chief priest) with 5 attendants and chiefs | Chiefs in brocade and coral beads |
| Chiefs upholding the Oba’s hands | Edion or community elder (guardians of Benin customs) | European mercenary with sword and matchlock |
| European mercenary with sword and matchlock | Europeans watch as a chief dances during a festival | Heads of 2 Europeans |
| Oba saddle side on horse back | Oba with chiefs supporting his hands which he uses to rule the kingdom | Rites of passage group of young men 2 |
| Rites of passage group of young men | Benin soldier with sword | Special duties chiefs or emissaries |
| The Oba with 2 chiefs and Europeans | A priest | A chief with his eben |