

THE ASIAN AGE

Delhi | Mumbai | Kolkata | London

Published on *The Asian Age* (<http://www.asianage.com>)

[Home](#) > [Newsmakers](#) > Legal ivory auction breaks records at \$630 a pound

Legal ivory auction breaks records at \$630 a pound

By *editor*

Created 10 Mar 2014 - 00:00

A French auction of legal ivory broke records on Saturday, with prices reaching up to 1,000 euros a kilogram (\$630 a pound and \$1,400 per kg), according to Alexander Debussy, associate director of auction house Cannes Encheres. All of the lots were acquired before 1976 — the only type of ivory that can be legally sold since a global ban on the trade in 1989. The top lot — two tusks weighing 120 kilograms (265 pounds) from an elephant that was “shot in 1966 by an Italian fighter in Kenya” — went to a wealthy Qatari for 125,000 euros, the auction house said.



[1]

An Armenian collector paid almost 69,000 euros for another lot, which included two tusks around 230 centimetres (90 inches) long from an elephant killed in the Central African Republic in the 1960s. All in all, 600 kilograms of ivory, made up of 47 tusks separated into 27 lots, went under the hammer for a total of 520,000 euros. “The selling price for these lots was around 800-1,000 euros per kilo, compared to an estimated price of between 300 and 500 euros per kilo,” said Debussy. Many of the lots were sold by people who have spent their lives in Africa but who, after retiring to the French Riviera, need to supplement their pension, said Debussy. “Often they are very attached to the tusks, which are souvenirs of their life there,” said the agent.

[Newsmakers](#) [AFP](#) [france](#) [Nice](#)

Copyright © 2011 The Asian Age. All rights reserved.

Source URL: <http://www.asianage.com/newsmakers/legal-ivory-auction-breaks-records-630-pound-673>

Links:

[1] <http://www.asianage.com/legjpg-672>