

Kantha Stitch

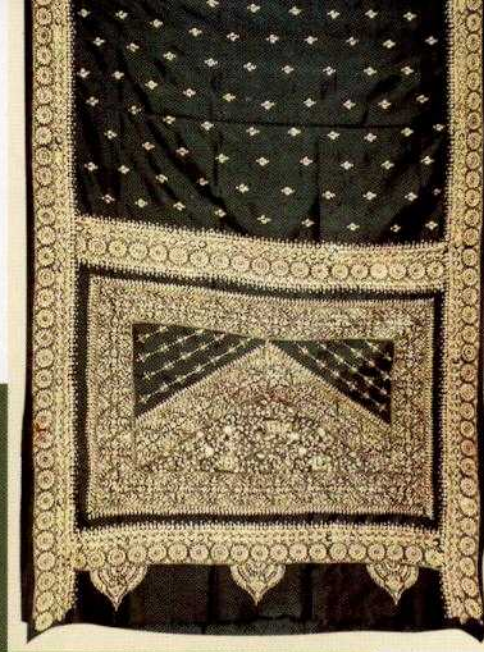
Introduction

Birbhum has a history of traditional art and crafts practiced by the rural artisans whose expert hands did give life to inanimate objects such as Iron, Brass, Bell metal, Lac, Gold, Silver, Clay, Solapith, Wood Cane & Bamboo etc. Prior to the advent of Britishers this district had a traditional background of agro-based rural industries and crafts e.g. Sugar & Molasses, Silk, Tassar, Cotton & Cotton fabrics etc. Now some of them are in existence, some struggling for existence, and some have gone to almost oblivion. In some of the crafts diversification has brought some glimpses of prospect of which the most glaring example is 'Kantha Stitch'.

This craft is spread over considerable areas in Bolpur, Labpur, Suri-I & II, Sainthia, Ilambazar, Dubrajpur, R/Hat-I, Mayureshwar-I and Nanoor. In these areas the high quality Kantha Stitch works are done that are quite popular in different parts of the country and those are also of high demand in the international market. Almost 10,000 female artisans are engaged in this craft across the district



Saree



Wall Hanging



Cushion Cover

Historical Significance

Kantha evolved out of necessity to drape or protect against cold. Kantha on Sanskrit means rags. It can rightly be called the recycling art. The precious silks and muslins when became worn-out, women instead of throwing them away, piled them in layers and stitched.

Another legend relates Kantha origin to Lord Buddha and his disciples. It is said that they used to cover themselves with the thrown away rags patched and stitched together.

The term nakshi kantha, popularly used in West Bengal, is found even in medieval literature. The name nakshi kantha became particularly popular among literate people after the publication of Jasimuddin's poem Naksi Kanthar Math (1929).

Kantha was said to be a lady's self expression. The real Kantha narrates a story, the emotions and the life of the artist.

Raw Materials

Plain sarees and dress materials are procured from the adjacent villages of this district at a price range of about Rs. 500-750/- Sometimes, thaans and tie-dyed sarees are also procured.

Other raw materials required are threads with which the stitches are done. These are brought from local markets without hassles.

Product range & Price range

The products made out of this process are mainly sarees. Punjabis, Salwar suit, Dopatta, Stole, Shawls, Jacket, Top, Hanky, different types of bags, and some other materials for home furnishings are also made.

Product range: Some of the popular Kantha pieces are stoles, bedspreads, wall hangings, cushion covers, napkins and beach bags, sarees salswar suit, punjabi, jacket.

Hanky, top, kuarti, dopatta, frock different types of shopping bags and ladies purse.

Ladies Side Bag





Salwar set



Bag



Bag (different types)

PRODUCT & PRICE RA

Product	Description	Whole sale price (Rs.)	Retail price (Rs.)	Price R
Tasar	Saree			2000-3
	Saree (Batique + Bandhni + Kantha)			2500-3
	Punjabi Jacket			700-6
	Chadar (Stole)			900-10
	Dopatta			700-10
Bangloresilk	Saree			2200-4
	Saree (Bandhni + Kantha)			2300-2
Cotton	Salwar Set			700-14
	Jacket			450-5
	Blowse piece			120-1
	Top			250-4
	Wall hanging	300	350	
	Magazine holder	90	100	
	Cushion-cover (4pcs)	450	500	
	Cushion-cover (1pc)	100	110	
	Bags (different types)			95-1
	Purse (differenet size)			35-
	Mobile bag			
	Frock			150-2
	Bed cover			1100-420
	Bed-sheet			200-40
	File cover			110-15

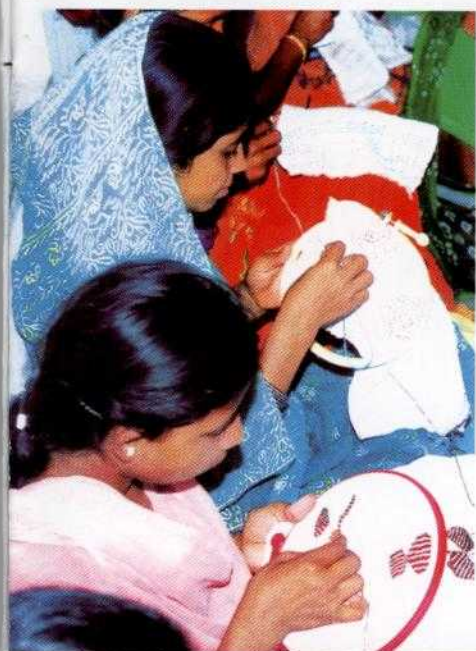
ADDRESS OF COMMUNICATION

1. SHG: **SRIJANI**
Group Leader: Jharna Dutta
Other Member: Purnima Das Thakur
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
G.P.: Rupur, Village: Surul
Phone No: 03463-264552 / 264705
2. SHG: **KARABI**
Group Leader: Milan Ghose
Other Member:
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
G.P.: Bahiri, Village: Bahiri
Phone No: 03463-223231 (G.P)
3. SHG: **PRAGATI**
Group Leader: Meherunnisa Begam
Other Member:
Block: Illambazar G.P.: Bilati.
Village: Bilati P.O. : Metekona
Phone No: 03463- 274257
4. SHG: **SANGRAMI CLUSTER**
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
Phone No: 03463-221281
5. SHG: **SIBAN SWANIRVAR DAL**
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
Phone No: 03463-264809
6. SHG: **KHAJABABA SWANIRVAR DAL**
Group Leader:Smt Afrunessa Begam
Other Member:
Block: Nanoor Dev. Block
G.P. Jalandi G.P Thana : Nanoor .
Village: Gram: Kulia, Post. Bangachhatra .
Phone No: 03463-227-468 (R)
7. SHG: **ESHANI SWANIRVAR DAL**
Group Leader: Ms Sima Ghose,
Other Member:
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
G.P.: Ruppur
Village: Jambuni, Sriniketan
Phone No: 03463-256-584
8. **ANANDAMOYEE SWANIRVAR DAL**
Group Leader:Joshna Ghosh
Block: Bolpur-Sriniketan
G.P.: Rupur, Village: Surul,Kalitala
9. **RATHI SWANIRVARDAL,**
Group Leader::Aparna Patra
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G.P.: Rupur, Village: Surul,Tantipara
Ph.03463-256584

10. **TAJ SWANIRVAR DAL,**
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Illambazar
Village: Rayerpukur
Name of the Gr. Rashmoni Maddi
11. **BANANIHA SWANIRVAR DAL,**
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Illambazar, Village: Ramnagar
Name of the Gr. Sonali Das
12. **DHARMARAJ SWANIRVAR DAL,**
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Illambazar, Village: Baruipur
Name of the Gr. Bulbul Das
13. **BINAPANI SWANIRVAR DAL,**
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Illambazar, Village: Ramnagar
Name of the Gr. Kalpana Dhibar
14. Name of the SHGs: **BANDHANA**
SHG, Monmanena SHG, Nazrul Islam
SHG, Nabagram SHG, Sabujpur mahila
SHG, Monermill SHG,
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Nanesole
15. **JAYGURU SWANIRVAR DAL,**
Block: Batikar
G.P: Illambazar, Village: Balta
Name of the Gr. Lalita Mahato
16. Name of the SHGs: **MOTHER TERASA**
SHG, Sonia SHG,Agradut
SHG, SubhoSHG,Pragati SHG,Sorot
SHG, Pragati,Dhurobotara SHG,Kalpataru
SHG, Rupashi bangla,Milan SHG,
Block: Illambazar
G.P: Mongaldihi
17. SHG.: Abhaarthana SHG
Block: Rampurhat- II GP: Bishnupur
Village & P.O.: Telulia Ph. 03461-25234
GL: Annapurna Das
18. SHG.: Sudakshina SHG GL: Kaklata Dalal
Block: Rampurhat- II GP: Bishnupur
Village & P.O.: Bishnupur



Cushion Cover



Ladies Purse (different size)