

Design Resource

Bandhani

The craft of Tie and Dye

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral and Mr. Antony William

NID, Bengaluru

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/bandhani>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Process
4. Final Products
5. Contact Details



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<http://www.dsource.in/resource/bandhini/introduction>

Introduction

Bandhani also known as “Bandhej” is a Tie & Dye craft. The term Bandhani refers to the technique of crafting patterned textiles by revisiting parts of a fabric by tying knots on it before it is dyed. This craft is believed to have travelled from Sindh to Gujarat via Rajasthan and further on to Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The Kutch bandhani is renowned for its extremely fine dots and sophisticated sense of composition. Bandhani is worn for both everyday and ceremonial clothing. The social, economic and cultural connotations are determined by the base fabric (Gazzi silk, fine cotton muslin or wool. This craft is done at Kutch, Jaamnagar and some parts of Rajasthan. Earlier tying was done by the women of the house while pattern making and dyeing is done by men. The tying varies from small to big. The smaller ones sell at a higher price considering the intricate patterns. The purpose of the fabric is decided before hand and cut and designed accordingly. This study covers master craftsmen Jabbal Bhai's works and style of practice.



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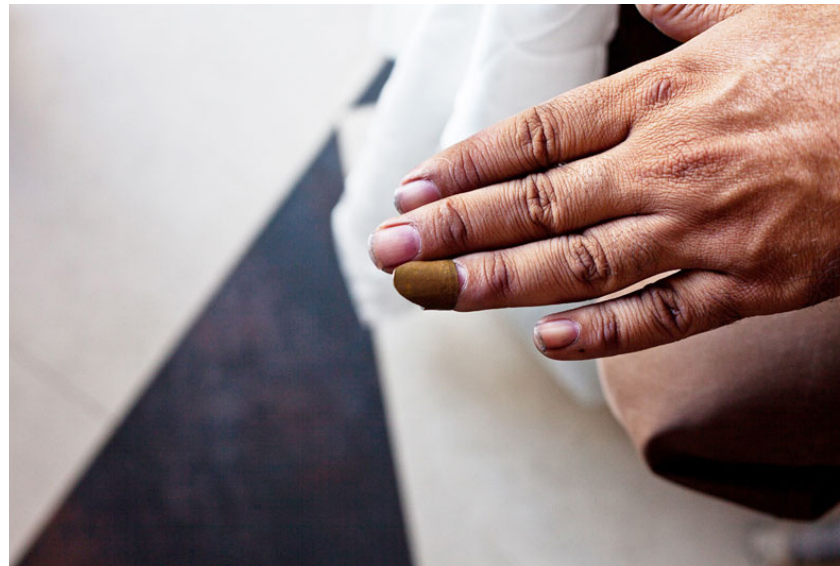
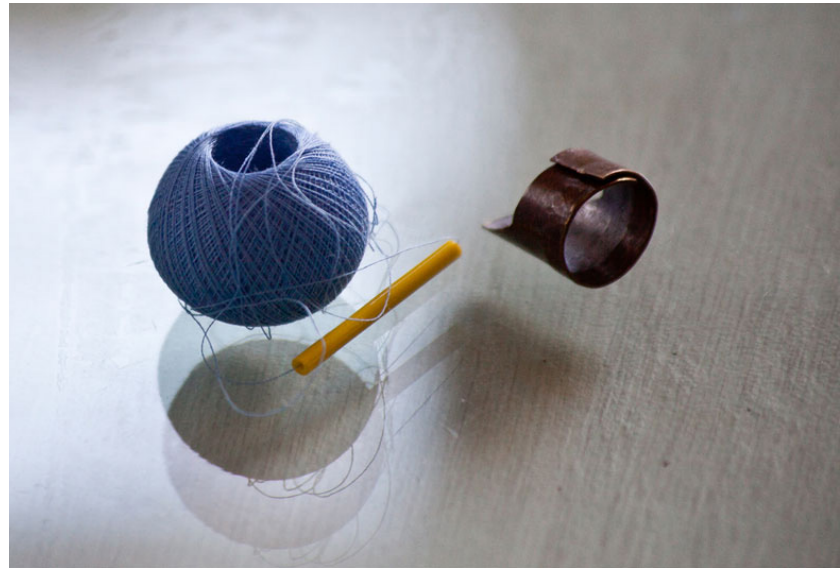
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Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/bandhini/tools-and-raw-materials>

Tools and Raw Materials

1. Dheri (Ball of Thread), Nau (Metal Nail), Bhungari (Glass tube)
2. Chemical colours and washing tanks used for dyeing the fabric.



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Process

1. The design is drawn on the tracing paper/ butter paper (Gharwal sheet). The design is then Punched- marking the design using the needle.
2. The design is then traced by placing the butter sheet with punched motifs, on the fabric and rubbing fugitive ink on the tracing sheet using a brush. The ink passes through the punched holes on to the fabric. The fugitive ink is used only for tracing the designs and it is washable.
3. The fabric is then sent for tying, which is usually done by the women folk in their spare time. The tying is done using a metal nail (Nau), which acts as a false nail, a Glass Tube (Bhungari) and thread. The thread passes through the glass tube and helps in tightening the thread around the knot. The artisan with the help of nau raises the cloth and then holds a pinch of it and then ties the knot. This process of tying knots is repeated throughout the design at regular intervals.
4. Once the tying is done the fabric is washed in hot water to remove the fugitive ink and dried. Before dyeing the fabric is soaked in Alum. Alum works as a mordant and helps in the colour absorption.



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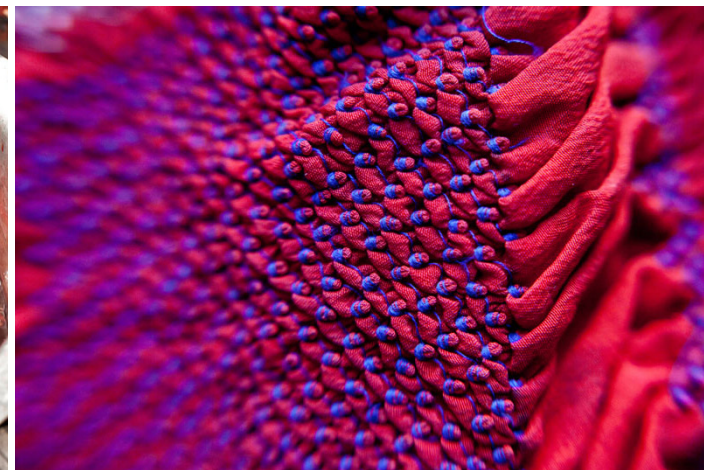
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Final Products

Products are as follows:



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<http://www.dsource.in/resource/bandhini/contact-details>

Contact Details

This documentation was done by **Professor Bibhudutta Baral** and Mr. Antony William at **NID, Bengaluru**.

You can get in touch with Professor Bibhudutta Baral at **[bibhudutta\[at\]nid.edu](mailto:bibhudutta[at]nid.edu)**.

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