





*Craftmark wishes you
a very happy & prosperous 2018
Stay warm and happy!*

FEATURED MEMBER

Farooq Ahmed Mir

Kani Weaving

Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir

A national awardee and master artisan, Mr. Farooq Ahmad Mir has been engaged in making kani shawls since more than a decade now.

With an objective to continue the age old tradition he had setup his own enterprise, where he and his son weave kani shawls. Each shawl is woven in pure wool, often pashmina with intricate hand woven details. The designs are woven freehand by inserting extra wefts, counting warp using fingers, without the help of any jacquard. This is the reason why a kani shawl may contain more than 10 colors too and take several months to complete. Farooq Ahmed Mir sells his masterpieces through exhibitions and personal orders. They also do one-of-a-kind pieces on order.

Their product range consists of stoles, scarves and shawls which are specially designed by Mr. Farooq Ahmed and his team. The designs range from floral motifs to poetry in calligraphy carefully woven into his shawls.



FEATURED MEMBER

Porgai

Lambadi Embroidery
Dharmapuri, Tamilnadu

Porgai is an initiative by two committed Indian doctors, Lalitha Regi and Regi George. They began by establishing Tribal Health Initiative to provide medical care and training facility in a remote area of Tamil Nadu. Soon they discovered that some of the local women still knew the traditional Lambani embroidery. Hence, Porgai was founded.

Porgai identified two Lambani women in the community who knew many of their traditional embroidery techniques. It was proposed that the women revive their craft by stitching on ready-made garments and selling them at exhibitions and stores around India. Women from the local community showed interest in pursuing this idea further and these two women trained the others. They began with a batch of 16 women and today there are 60 women between the age of 20 and 60 who work from home.

Porgai specializes in making garments, fabric jewellery and home furnishings.



FEATURED MEMBER

Dariyapur Dokra Artists Cooperative Industrial Society Dhokra, Lost wax Metal Casting Bardhaman, West Bengal

Dariyapur Dokra Artists Cooperative Industrial Society is a Cooperative setup by Dhokra craftsmen of Bardhaman with the determination to increase their access to markets and financial opportunities for their craft.

Dhokra is one of the oldest known method of lost-wax metal casting. It is an extensive 13 step long process. The mud is sieved and mixed with water to form a smooth dough. A rough model is made and kept under the sun for drying. Then elastic threads made from a mixture of wax and tar is coiled around it to bring out the shape of the product. After this, a thick layer of mud is pasted on the structure, perforated on top and metal pieces are introduced in it through a metal funnel. Once baked the wax melts and the molten metal fills the gap. It is then allowed to cool down, the mold is dismantled and the casted metal piece is polished using buffing machines.

Dariyapur dhokra artists specialize in this craft to make home décor and jewellery items.





MARKET WATCH

The lamps featured here are by Mukul Enterprises. They specialize in hand crafted brass and copper items with a timeless appeal. Write to marketing@aiacaonline.org to place orders or collaborations for bespoke designs!

Awards & Recognition

ABDULLAH, FROM MUBARAKPUR WEAVES RECEIVED SUTRAKAR SAMMAN

Abdullah, a handloom weaver from Mubarakpur Weaves (an independent handloom weavers' enterprise set up and supported by AIACA India) which is also a Craftmark member, received the prestigious "Sutrakar Samman" award by Delhi Crafts Council (DCC) for excellence in traditional skill of handloom weaving and sustenance through innovation. The award was given by Ms. Sally Holker at the inauguration of Saris of India organized by DCC, an annual exhibition for handloom saris from various regions of India.



On-going and upcoming exhibitions



Pause for a Cause – 10th to 11th Jan'18 | Royal Cannaught Boat Club, Pune

Crafts Bazaar - 2nd to 8th Jan'18 | Crafts Council of India, Chennai

Instore event at Bandhej by Mubarakpur Weaves and Varanasi

Weavers Hub - 15th to 25th Jan'18 | Bandhej Store, Ahmedabad

Crafts Bazaar - 2nd – 8th Jan'18 | Crafts Council of India, **Chennai Times**

Jalsa – 15th to 18th feb'18 | World Trade Centre, Mumbai

Kala Ghoda Festival – 3th to 11th Feb'18 | Kalaghoda exhibition ground, Mumbai

Pause for a Cause – 2nd to 3rd Feb'18 | Brilliant Convention Center, Indore

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