

**BATIK PATTERN AND NATURAL DYES IN HOME DÉCOR  
USING CONTEMPORARY ART**

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**Abstract:**

*Designing and constructing of various home decors by combining different batik & natural dyes can become a remarkable endeavor for the introduction of an innovative and easy method to upsurge small entrepreneurs in the present era. Products that are considered eco-friendly for their sustainability draw the interest of many consumers, one of which includes naturally dyed textile products. Though, the limitation of knowledge and technology is one of the many obstacles in gaining good quality materials and a wide range of colors, therefore, product diversification is needed by improving the techniques in designing batik (based on local values) to increase the local's ability in producing interesting ornate designs that symbolize the artistic tenet.*

*Through this research paper, an effort is made to create awareness about the natural dyes and batik patterns so as to make it stand as an asset in developing creative natural products with the hope of popularizing the region's batik crafters and its use in home decors using contemporary art.*

**Keywords:** *Batik Pattern, Natural Dyes, Contemporary Art, Entrepreneurs.*

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## **Introduction**

Craftsmanship is an oeuvre that showcases the creator's virtuoso and specialized expertise that is expected to be valued for its passionate force. The craftsmen use their innovative thinking to make a piece of art. It may be hard for these artists to characterize or portray anyone's normal style in Contemporary Art, therefore, specialists approach their work in a large number of ways to guide and promote their skills.

The most straightforward approach to invigorate the space of houses is to deal with walls. There needs a large number of potential outcomes to transform those vacant walls into the most honorable home. There are a couple of insightfully handpicked increments that make the walls resemble a magnificent work of a specialist inside architect. Wall frames have come a long way from the dated mid-century installations and add a touch of beauty to the empty walls. Today's [wall frames](#) offer a range of benefits, including high-tech materials, low-maintenance and easy installations. They can transform the uncovered room into a sharp focal point. There are a few different ways to keep up the dividers of your office or house which effectively add to one's taste and character.

From all corners of the earth, man has contributed something of himself to the decoration of woven material. Beautification of cloth with hand painting is one of the distinctive ways of the ornamentation of textile. There are many types of traditional hand-painting techniques which nowadays are declining due to less knowledge and craftsmanship. So, an effort has been made to popularize one of the declining textile arts i.e., Batik which is the most expressive and pleasingly artistic medium, where the customary fabric is made by employing the wax-oppose coloring method that has been practiced in the East for centuries.

The present-day configuration of Batik is conceived for vantage purpose, making a decent attempt to part from convention to contemporary art. The threads are tied in with exhibiting independence and individual style. Accordingly, special structures regularly become the dominant focal point in a contemporary space. (Belfer, 1992)

The attractive presentation of the batik prints is eye-catching and its method of preparation has been very intensely described. Utilizing hot fluid wax, lines and shapes are attached to material with brushes, extraordinary apparatuses, or stamps. The wax infiltrates the fabric shaping a stand-up to. The unwaxed segments of the texture are colored; the segments of the texture ensured by the wax oppose stay liberated from the colors. This cycle is known as batik all through Indonesia, India,

and the orient. (Belfer, 1992). Crafted works are a significant component in the social legacy of India. The handiworks of India are hence really representative of the satisfaction of the passionate inclinations of her kin. (Jaitly, 2012).

A dye is a colored medium having an attractive, descriptive, and creative affinity to the substrate to which it is being applied whereas dyeing is the process of applying the color to textile material like fibers, yarn, and fabric. Natural dyes are extracted from plants, invertebrates, and minerals. But most of the natural dyes are vegetable dyes that are obtained from roots, bark, berries, flowers, leaves, and wood of a plant.

Natural dyes are mostly used in the coloration of the most of the natural fibers such as cotton, linen, wool, and silk-fiber. Natural dyes require mordant to create a bonding between fabric and dye particles. Natural dyes are non-toxic, non-allergic, and create less pollution, causing fewer side effects. In China, dyeing with plants, insects, and bark has been discovered earlier more than 5000 years. (Goodwin, 1982).

Natural dyes are sustainable resources that can contribute to rural economic development. Earlier, these dyes were used in fewer amounts by artisans and craftsmen because of the discovery of synthetic dyes in the mid -19<sup>th</sup> century. But synthetic dyes have several drawbacks. Some of the synthetic dyes are carcinogenic and mutagenic and have also been banned. Now, globally the demand for natural dyes is significantly increasing because it is cheaply available, widely applicable and its extraction is carried out by green methods from natural resources (Siva 2007, Kadolph2008, Jaffer et al, 2009). Natural dyes can offer not only a rich and varied source of dyestuff but also the responsibility of an income through sustainable harvest and sale of these dye plants. (Joshi 2008).

In this research, an effort has been made to make a fusion of traditional and modernity by blending interesting motifs with batik and natural dye on cambric cotton fabric in the creation of wall frames. The present study entitled “The Utilization of Batik Pattern and Natural Dyes in Home Décor Using Contemporary Art” has been undertaken with the following objectives.

1. To explore batik with natural dye.
2. Developing sample of batik and natural dye on cambric cotton fabric.
3. Designing and construction of wall frames by combining batik and natural dye.
4. To check the marketability and consumer acceptability of the developed wall frames for home décor.

## Methodology

In this study, the method used is Inspective Intuition, i.e., the research was done by direct involvement in the object and the problem being studied. The implementation of the research was systematically done as follows:

### 1. To Study the Batik

To study the batik process, many books from different libraries and websites were reviewed.

### 2. Selection of Contemporary Designs for Batik

Designs were selected by the process of evaluation done by the faculty of KVA DAV College for Women Karnal.

### 3. Preparation of Dye Solution using Natural Dye Material



Fig.1. Material Used for Extraction of Natural Dyes

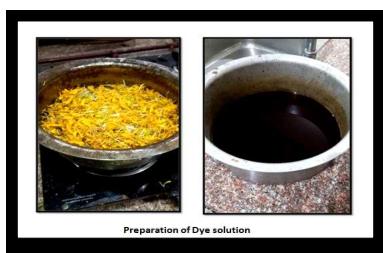


Fig.2. Preparation of Dye Solution

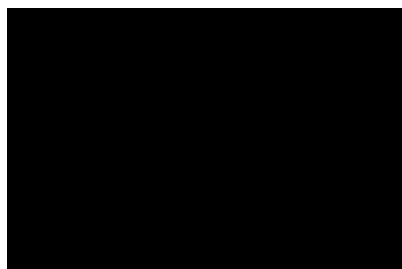


Fig. 3 Allum

Natural materials like onion peels, tea, supari, turmeric, and marigold flower were used for the extraction of dyes.

- a) Two liters of water were taken into bowl and kept on a burner for boiling.
- b) Then 100grams of each material with 20 grams of alum was put in water for dye extraction and kept for boiling for 2 hours.



**Fig.4.**Preparation of Dye Solution

- c) After that, the dye material was strained from water and kept for cooling at room temperature for 1 day

#### **4. Preparation of Fabric for Applying Wax on Selected Designs**

The fabric was washed before tracing the design to remove starch from the fabric and then kept for drying in sunlight.

#### **5. Applying of Wax on Traced Selected Designs**

- a) The fabric was ironed before applying wax.
- b) The selected design was drawn on the fabric with the help of a pencil/chalk



**Fig.5.** Applying of Wax on Constructed Design

- c) Wax was melted and applied to designs with the help of paintbrushes.

#### **6. Dying of Waxed Fabric**

When the wax dried on fabric, then it was put in the extracted dye for 2 days for colorabsorptionafter which it was rinsed from water and kept for drying

in shade.

#### **7. Removing of Wax**

After the drying of the dyed fabric, the wax was removed by dipping the dyed fabric in warm water and then rubbing the wax from the cloth. Afterward, that fabric was kept for drying again.

#### **8. Construction of Wall Frames**

Wall frames were prepared by using a wooden frame, glass, and cardboard.

#### **9. Marketability and Consumer Acceptability**

A market survey was conducted to see the marketability of wall frames. 100 leading shops in Karnal, Panipat, and Kurukshetra were surveyed. The main aim of the survey was to seek the viewpoint regarding the appearance of the wall frames. A proforma was prepared and responses were noted down from the owners and the managers of the shops. The data was analyzed from the recorded responses.

To know the consumer acceptability of wall frames, a display of the prepared wall frames along with price tags was put up for the prospective buyers i.e., the faculty and students of KVA DAV College for Women, Karnal. Responses were coded, tabulated, and analyzed.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

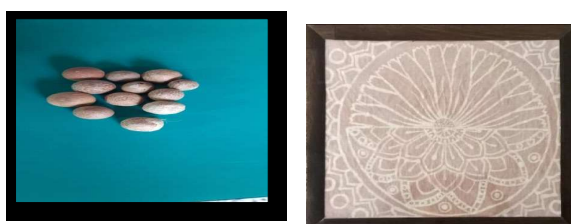
#### **Developed Wall frames**

There are various types of plants found in the study area which can generate colors optimally with a particular treatment.

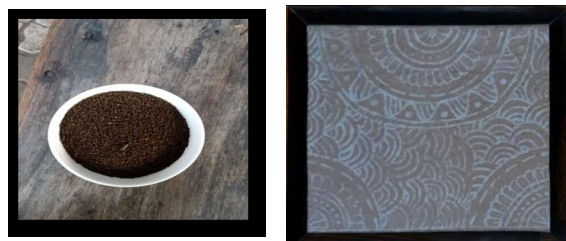
1. **Turmeric:** It belongs to the family of the Curcuma group. The main coloring component present in turmeric is curcumin which can produce a range of yellow color to the shades of orange color depending on the type of mordant used and the process of fixation performed.
2. **Supari (Betel Nut):** It belongs to the family Arecaceae and its botanical name is areca catechu. Betel nut is the one of the important commercial crops in India and it plays the main role in the religious, social, and cultural functions. It can also be used for dyeing of fabrics, producing pale brown color.
3. **Tea:** India is a major consumer of tea. One can collect leftover waste of the tea and can use it for dyeing purposes. It belongs to the family Theaceae. The main coloring component present in tea is flavonoids, flavanols and phenolic acid which gives a range of cashmere to dark ballerina colors.



**Fig.6.** The color obtained by the use of turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)



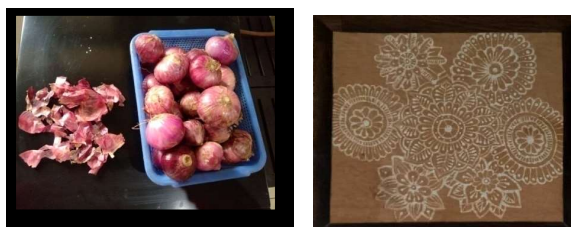
**Fig.7.** Color acquired by the use of Supari (*Areca catechu*)



**Fig.8.** The color obtained by use of tea (*Camellia sinensis*)



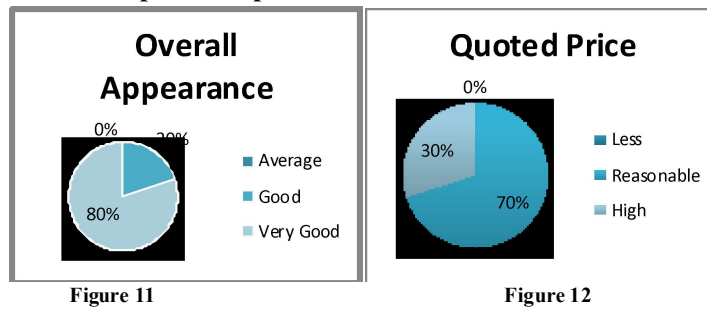
**Fig.9**Color fromMarigold (*Tagetes spp.*)



**Fig.10**Color from Onion Peels (*Allium cepa*)

4. Marigold: Marigold is a member of the Asteraceae family in which the chief coloring component present is lutein, a fat-soluble carotenoid, that produces a range of light to dark sap green color.
5. Onion: The papery skin of the onion is used for the dyeing of fabric. The principal coloring component present in onion peels is pelargonidin which can produce a range of golden brown to dark tan colors.

**Distribution of Respondents on the basis of their Liking of the Overall Appearance of Developed Samples: N=100**



Marketability of the developed wall frames was checked from leading shops of Karnal, Panipat, and Kurukshetra through survey method, and results of the responses are given in **Figure 11&12**.

**Figure 11** reveals that the majority of the respondents (80%) found the overall appearance of wall frames as very good while 20% of respondents found it as only good. They found that the designs were innovative and suitable in terms of the latest trends.

**Figure 12** depicts that majority of the respondents i.e., 70% found the quoted price of wall frames reasonable while 30% of respondents found the price was high and can be sold in the market.

**Consumer Acceptability Number: 100**

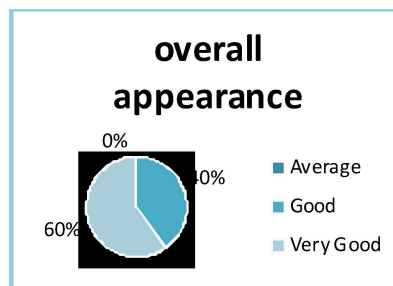


Figure 13



To check the consumer acceptability, an exhibition was organized for the buyers in KVA DAV College for Women, Karnal. Results of their responses are given in **Figure13**.

The majority of the consumer i.e., 60% found the overall appearance was very good and 40% found that the appearance was good and they were ready to buy it at the mentioned rate.

### **Research Benefits**

- Improved the quality of dyeing through simple techniques that are environmentally friendly, by raising the potentials of local natural resources.
- Work holders can become micro-entrepreneurs at home and run vocational trainings, etc. Expertise is the link between employment and the workplace and therefore its growth is the key to enhance household efficiency, employability, and incentives for designers to earn money, as well as to improve sustainable rural development and livelihood.
- It solidifies cultural diversity and supports the nation altogether.
- The main motive is to achieve new heights in design while maintaining the natural ethnic beauty with simplicity and originality of art forms.
- This study is to achieve something new and innovative for the upcoming designers, manufacturers, and customers of the modern era.

### **Conclusion**

The inspiration for this undertaking, i.e., making batik patterns and natural dyes and using them in home decors, originates from the fondness for articulation in workmanship and demonstrating the fixing of batik through normal printing for better appreciation. Workers/artists have painted on texture for a long period of time and the craftsmen likewise have created different uncommon textures viz. painting strategy which is the declaration of thoughts and feelings, with the making of certain tasteful characteristics, the process of creating innovative designs.

Thus, there are various local potentials in the target area in the form of different types of plants that can be utilized further as natural dyes. This may invite responses for optimization, through wise ways, and also by considering the sustainability. For this purpose, further research may be conducted to make the best value of the plant's utility so that the target community obtains the maximum benefits and enriches the studies among the academic community in general and promote entrepreneurship in particular in order to gain financial security of these craftsmen.

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