

EXPLORATORY STUDY OF INSPIRATIONAL SOURCES USED FOR MOTIFS OF CHIKANKARI EMBROIDERY

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ABSTRACT

The rich treasury of traditional designs developed by Indian artists over thousands of years contains motifs characterised by their close resemblance to their inspirational sources. Motif is the most basic unit with the help of which a design or a composition is developed. The present investigation made an attempt to study type of chikankari motifs and inspirational sources used by the artisans of Lucknow. All three GOs, and ten NGOs in the list of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) Office, Barabanki, Lucknow, and thirty PEs comprising of fifteen enterprises from each of the Aminabad and Chowk market areas were randomly selected for the investigation. The study is based on primary and secondary data collected from the chairpersons/owners of chikankari organizations/enterprises through interview technique and observational method. Kairi (mango shape) and creepers were the most popularly used motif by GOs (mean score 10.5), NGOs (mean score 11.7) and PEs (mean score 11.0). Creepers (bel), fish (mahi), mango (kairi), jasmine and lily (phool boota) were most popular motifs of chikankari.

KEYWORDS: Lucknow, Chikankari, Motifs & Inspirational sources

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