

Art & Culture

## Celebrating Emotions and Memories as Reflected in Legendary Indian Textiles

by admin    May 8, 2023

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India's rich craft heritage of traditional textiles is set to be celebrated in an upcoming exhibition titled 'Aina' aimed at preserving the country's textile legacy for future generations. Curated by Sareekah Agarwaal, textile archivist and researcher, the focus of the exhibition is to document the timeless textile objects lying unacknowledged in the wardrobes of select Indian families that are not just representative of the Indian craftsmanship but also are embedded with stories of their owners/makers, often unheard.

"These stories will forever be instrumental to facilitate a dialogue between generations of their makers or owners without which these valuable textiles may lose their essence and become 'just stuff' to be either given away or discarded. To document a textile object in totality, it's important to document the emotional connection and memories that people have with their textiles", says the curator.



Brocade

The exhibition, the first of its kind to be held in the country, will showcase Indian handmade textiles and embroideries from different regions, including the beautiful brocades of Varanasi, enchanting kasuti of Karnataka, the stunning Kanjivaram, gorgeous Gadwal, among others. Through documentation and storytelling, the exhibition will present the textile objects in the broadest context for a wider audience that includes both scholars and the general public.



The exhibition, supported by India International Centre, will be inaugurated on May 12th, 2023 by **Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA**; **Ruchira Ghose, Former Chairman, National Crafts Museum** and **Purnima Rai, Former President, Delhi Crafts Council**.

The event will also feature a conversation with experts on the topic "Does unfolding layers of stories from textiles help in their preservation?" The conversation will be held on May 13th, 2023, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Seminar Hall, First Floor, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre, New Delhi 110003. Registration for the event starts at 4:30 pm. Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson, TCRC and Former Curator of the National Museum, will serve as the Chief Advisor for the event.



With this exhibition the curator wishes to rally the residents of the country who possess one or more exquisite textile pieces lying unacknowledged in their closets imbued with meaning and emotions to share their valuable textile possessions and their stories of existence to be preserved for posterity.

AINA    BROCADE    DIALOGUE    EMOTIONAL CONNECTION AND MEMORIES    EMOTIONS AND MEMORIES    EXHIBITION    GENERATIONS    INDIAN TEXTILES    LEGENDARY    SAREEKAH AGARWAAL

TEXTILE ARCHIVIST AND RESEARCHER

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