



Kanjeevaram Silk Sari: Tamil Nadu

Why in News

National award winning artisan weaver, B Krishnamoorthy, has created **a repository with samples of all the designs, patterns and motifs traditional to Kanjeevaram silk sari weaving**, preserving fine pieces for next generation.



Key Points

▪ About Kanjeevaram Sarees:

- Traditionally, the **Kanjeevaram is a sari** that is usually handwoven in **mulberry silk** and has **pure gold or silver zari** that renders it a festive quality.
 - Handloom silk saree is identified as the most luxurious and classy fabric in Indian traditional clothing.
- Originating from the village **'Kanchipuram' in Tamil Nadu**, Kanjeevaram is considered the queen of silk sarees.
- The **temple architecture of south India** and especially around Kanchipuram has historically served as a mood board for **design inspiration for the traditional Kanjeevaram motifs**.
 - One can spot motifs such as the **mythical creature called the Yali** (an elephant-lion fusion), the **Ganda Berunda** (a two-headed majestic mythical bird) and the **ubiquitous temple border called reku**.
- Tracing its long and rich history from the **Chola Dynasty**, Kanchipuram sarees today are considered as one of the **oldest and rich legacies of the Indian textile industry**.
- Kanchipuram silk has also received **[Geographical indication \(GI Tag\)](#)** in 2005-06.

▪ Other GI tagged Sarees:

- **Tamil Nadu:** Kandangi Saree, Thirubuvanam silk sarees, Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees

- **Uttar Pradesh:** Banaras Brocade
 - **Karnataka:** Ilkal Saree, Molakalmuru Saree
 - **Andhra Pradesh:** Uppada Jamdani Sarees, Venkatagiri Sarees, Mangalagiri Saree
 - **Kerala:** Balaramapuram Sarees, Kasaragod Sarees, Kuthampully Sarees
 - **Telangana:** Gadwal Saree, Pochampally Ikat (logo)
 - **Madhya Pradesh:** Chanderi Saree, Maheshwar Sarees
 - **Odisha:** Orissa Ikat, Bomkai Saree, Habaspuri Saree
 - **West Bengal:** Santipore Saree, Baluchari Saree, Dhaniakhali Saree
 - **Maharashtra:** Paithani Sarees and Fabrics, Karvath Kati Sarees and Fabrics
 - **Chhattisgarh:** Champa Silk Saree
 - **Gujarat:** Surat Zari Craft, [Patola Saree](#).
- **Silk Production in India:**
- India is the **second largest producer of silk** in the world, producing around **18% of the world's total silk**.
 - There are **five major types of silk of commercial importance**, obtained from different species of silkworms. These are **Mulberry, Oak Tasar & Tropical Tasar, Muga and Eri**.
 - Except mulberry, other non-mulberry varieties of silks are wild silks, known as vanya silks.
 - India has the unique distinction of producing all these commercial varieties of silk.
 - **South India is the leading silk producing area** of the country and is also known for its famous silk weaving enclaves like Kancheepuram, Dharmavaram, Arni, etc.
 - The Government of India in 2017 launched a scheme called **"Silk Samagra"** for the development of sericulture in the country.

[Source: TH](#)

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