



## Ajrakh Craft and Bela Block Printing

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Recently, Ajrakh, a craft of resist-dyeing from Kutch, received a [Geographical Indication \(GI\)](#) tag, providing legal protection to arts from specific geographical regions.

- Ajrakh, a centuries-old **block-printed textile art** from Kutch, Gujarat, uses natural dyes and intricate designs to tell stories on cotton fabric.
- Ajrakh textiles consisting of vibrant colours like indigo, red and white, are traditionally worn by [nomadic communities](#) like **Rabaris, Maldharis, and Ahirs**.

### Bela Block Printing:

- It is another craft from the same region of Kutch, which is **lesser-known** and obscure, mainly practised by the Khatri community.
- It is a **traditional textile art** known for its bold designs, striking colour combinations, and **graphic motifs such as elephants and horses** on textured fabrics.
- It has also been listed as an **endangered craft** by the [Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts](#), the national agency that works to promote and export Indian handicrafts.



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