

HISTORY OF MOLAKALMUR PURE SILK HANDLOOM SAREE

Molakalmur is a Taluka head quarter situated in Chitradurga district on the eastern part of Karnataka state spread along the border of Karnataka and Andrapradesh states. Molakalmur is 245 kilometers away from Bengaluru and it is known for pure silk Handloom sarees.

The art of weaving of Molakalmur pure silk saree was commenced just few decades back by Sourastra people of swakulasali community from Maharashtra and people of padmasali community migrated from neighbouring state Andrapradesh. It was published in the Mysore State gazetteer in 1967 that the weaving industry of Molakalmuru has provincial reputation and the molakalmuru is famous for pure silk sarees woven on primitive pit looms.

The patterns, motifs and designs used in border ,pallow & buttas of Molakalmuru silk saree are inspired by nature and these sarees received special patronage during the ruling of Nalvadi Krishnarajendra wadeyar, the prince of then Mysore province.

The techniques involved in production of Pure silk molakalmur Kuttu saree are:-

- i) Kuttu Technique – Manual interlacement of border & body weft using 3 throw shuttles.
- ii) Chalu Technique – Joining of existing warp ends with new warp ends at Pallow body portion.

During the periods of 80s & 90s there were about 2000 Handlooms engaged in production of Kuttu sarees using Pure silk and pure golden zari & there was good demand in the market.

How ever, inspite of various supportive measures taken by State & Central governments the number of handlooms in Molakalmur has come down to around 250 to 300 due to various circumstantial reasons. Normally the ladies would prefer to wear Molakalmur silk sarees during the special occasions like marriages, Gruhapravesham, festivals etc. hence still there is good demand for Molakalmur silk sarees in the market.

Government of India has provided assistance to molakalmuru handloom cluster under IHDS to develop & support the handloom weavers and also to protect the tradition & heritage of Molakalmur pure silk saree.

In order to protect the interest of producers of Molakalmur pure silk Handloom saree and to fetch reasonably higher price to the weavers of Molakalmur region, Molakalmur pure silk Handloom saree is registered under Geographical Indication act in 2006 vide GI registration number 77.

**Deputy Director
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Quality Particulars of Molakalmur Pure Silk Handloom Kuttu Saree.

S No	Details	Quality Particulars
1	Type of Saree	Molakalmur Pure Silk Kuttu Saree with double Zari border , rich pallow and butta with meena
2	Type of loom used	54" Pitloom with 3 Jaquards of 240 hooks each
3	No of shuttles used	3 Throw shuttles
4	Technique used	Kuttu Technique – Manual interlacement of border & body weft using 3 throw shuttles Chalu Technique – Joining of existing warp ends with new warp ends at Pallow body portion.
5	Reed	110s Bamboo Reed
6	Denting	4 ends per dent (Double warp)
7	<i>Raw material used:</i> Pure Silk warp Pure Silk weft Zari	16/18 Denier 20/22 Denier 2 ply Filature (4 plied) 2 colour. Polyester Zari
8	Design in the Border	Mango & Rudrakshi Banaras design 3" Zari border
9	Design for rich Pallow	Floral design
	Design for Butta	Leaf design with meena
10	No of punching cards used	400
11	Man power required per loom	2 persons
12	Ends per inch	220 (4 ends per dent)
13	Picks per inch	160
14	Saree length	6.25 Mts with blouse
15	Saree width	47.5"
16	Saree weight	700 to 800 gms

S No	Details	Quality Particulars
1	Wages paid per saree	Rs.1600/-
18	No of days required to produce the saree	8 days
19	Average earnings of weaver per day	Rs.200/-
20	Production Cost per saree	Rs.6500/-
21	Selling price	Rs.7500/-
22	Profit margin per saree	Rs.1000/-

Photographs of Molakalmuru Pure silk Handloom sarees

RUDRAKSHI LONG BORDER KUTTU SAREE:



Price

Rs. 6500/- approx.

Product Description

This Molakalmuru saree has 1520 zari rudraksi buttas. This saree with long border, buttas all over, rich pallu and intricate motifs is a preferred options for weddings.

Product Specifications

Type of yarn: 20/22 Dn. Filature pure mulberry silk

Length of Saree: 6.25 mtrs with blouse

Width: 48" to 50"

Body Designs: Solid, Checks, Stripes, Thiga, Brocades, Goemetrical in tradition and contemporary

Colors: Pastel, Medium, Dark and shot in traditional and latest.

Special Instruction

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1. Dry in shade.
 2. Wash with cold water

POOJA CHECKS KUTTU SAREE:



Price

Rs. 6000/- approx.

Product Description

Pooja checks is a revised version of traditional Balamani checks. This saree is woven with motifs of peacock, Kalasa, Mango and Rudrakshi. Molakalmuru designs are synonymous Balamani checks with zari buttas intricately woven in the checkered boxes.

Product Specifications

Type of yarn: 20/22 Dn. Filature pure mulberry silk

Length of Saree: 6.25 mtrs with blouse

Width: 48" to 50"

Body Designs: Solid, Checks, Stripes, Thiga, Brocades, Goemetrical in tradition and contemporary

Colors: Pastel, Medium, Dark and shot in traditional and latest.

Special Instruction

1. Dry in shade.
2. Wash with cold water

DOUBLE COLOUR BROCADE SAREE:



Price

Rs. 8,500 to 9,500 approx.

Product Description

This is a wedding saree with a rich pallu woven on jacquard looms. The highlight of this design is the splendid floral motifs that cover the entire saree to give a gorgeous and a creative look. This is commonly known as Peethambara saree.

Product Specifications

Type of yarn: 20/22 Dn. Filature pure mulberry silk

Length of Saree: 6.25 mtrs with blouse

Width: 48" to 50"

Body Designs: Solid, Checks, Stripes, Thiga, Brocades, Goemetrical in tradition and contemporary

Colors: Pastel, Medium, Dark and shot in traditional and latest.

Special Instruction

1. Dry in Shade.
2. Wash with cold water.

Molakalmur Handloom Pure Silk kuttu Sarees



















Molakalmur Kuttu saree on Pit loom