



Prosperous Heritage of Gujarat (India) : Patola of Patan

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The art of Patola developed in Gujarat as far back as the 6th - 12th century of Jesus Christ. Patola was also worn by Nagars, Brahmins, Jains, Designias, Marwadis as well as Vohras and Muslims. Wearing Patola at this time was considered special. And there was a special attraction of Patola on the occasion of marriage. It was considered the pride of the family to wear Patola on weddings, *simanta* (fulfilling the pregnant mother's wishes) and other auspicious occasions.

Patola is mentioned in the 19th century poet Premanand's story '*Kunwarbai Nu Mameru*'. During the golden age of Gujarat (tenth to twelfth century), Patola making industry was booming in Patan. *Salvi Wado* still exists today. 'Patola Farm' is situated outside Fantiya Darwaja in the south of Salviwada. Some of the Salvi families there have kept the art still alive with the work of making Patola.

Origin and development of Patola:

The craftsmen of Patola weaving like *Shirmora* (crown for haed) of Indian textile weaving have been living in Salvi families. The art of weaving Patola has come only from these artisans, the dynasty is more than traditional, some beliefs are prevalent about where these Salvi families came from. According to a legend, Siddharaj Jaisinh's mother Mayanalladevi (Minaldevi) brought the Salvi family to Patan to make beautiful silk saris for herself. Similarly, as mentioned in '*Kadi Prant Sarva Sangraha*', Mulraj Solanki brought the Salvi families from South India to Patan and established their connection with the *Leua Kanbi* caste. In the same way! According to Valikar, Siddharaj brought Salvi families from Maharashtra (Paithan). Besides, there are mentions that Kumarapala settled Salvi families from Rajasthan. When Kumarapala, as mentioned in *Kumaraprabha*, asked the king of Sapadalaksh to send a silk garment, he disobeyed Kumarapala. So Kumarpal sent Aahad Mantro with an army. After defeating the king of Sapadalaksh, Kumarpal brought seven hundred Salvis who wove silk cloth to Patan. This support is based on the handwritten Sanskrit, Prakrit texts by well-known scholar Dr. Bhogilal Sandesara proved bygiving evidence that the Salvis of Patan were originally natives of Marwar. Kumarapala brought him to Patan in the twelfth century.

Seeing the various mentions in this way, it seems more likely that Kumarapala Solanki brought the Salvi families from Rajasthan. Called Dr.Bhogilal Sandesara has proved it on the basis of evidence. While it can be speculated that the artisans settled by Siddharaj Solanki may be different.

The first capital of Gujarat, inhabited by Vanraj Chavda in the memory of his friend Anhil Bharwad, is described in the ancient splendour of Patan, as noted by Jeen Harshguni (Kumarapala Charit). Everyone had a different market. The residences of these artists were kept near the gold and silver mints in front of the palace so that the artisans would not be harassed and they would be absorbed in the creation of their works of art. They used to weave colorful saris, thepadis (Indian trousers of superior quality), incense-colored cloths with linen inlays of golden thread embroidered in silk weaving, the value of which could only be paid by the courtiers or the rich. From the reign of Mulraj to the death of Kumarapala, Patan reached the pinnacle of prosperity in the craft industry in a span of two hundred years. The area inhabited by the Salvi families, Salviwado was abuzz with the multicolored, graceful veriegated Patola industry. Patola brought fame in the country and abroad. At that time, the art of weaving was improved by the Indian artisans, the muslin of Dhaka

and the Patola of Patan became world famous. Thus, in the art of hand weaving, Patola has been flying his flag with an elevated head. Which has attracted people from home and abroad. Demand for this specialty has grown significantly as a result of recent various fashions. Today it takes months and years to make Patola. And the cost is in the millions. So only the rich can take advantage of it. Which is a remarkable thing.

The meaning of the word “Patola” :

Meaning of the word Patola: In *Bhagavathagomandala*, Patola means silken fine texture, a kind of colorful garment worn by women. Also *Patori*: Silk seller trader *Patoladi* small sari to wear, *Patoli*: a kind of beautiful colored silk cloth; *Patora*: There are also words like upper garment (*Kutchi*) for women to wear. The word *Patola* comes from *patt* (clothing). *Patta* means *tasar* (a kind of silk cloth); Silk undergarments are scarves, turban, red silk turban. *From it came pattakula* (weaver clan) : *a garment to wear. Clothing to wear. Pattakar Weaver Salvi pattabandh* : A type of headdressed silk weaver people etc. words and interpretations are given in *Bhagwadgomandala*. From the 4th century BC, silk garments from China were known as *Chinpata* or *Chinanshuka*. In Tamil, Malayalam and most of the languages of India, "*Patt*" is known for its silk. The word '*pattuda*' is popular in Kannada for silk garments. Well known scholar Shri K. K. Shastri Pattakalam states that Patola word came from Sanskrit word.

Patterns and methods of ‘Patola’ :

About twelve different patterns of Patola are made which are as follows. (1) Nari Kunjar (Dancing woman and elephant pattern) design (2) Paan (Leafy pattern) Design (3) Ratnachok (Jewel like pattern) Design (4) Chhabadi (Floral Basket pattern) Design (5) Vagha Kunjar (Tiger and elephant pattern) Design (6) Falwadi (Double pattern) Design (7) Chokadi (Quaternion pattern) Design (8) Phool (Flower pattern) Design (9) Jhummar (Chandelier pattern) Design (10) Vairangji (Colorful patten) Design (11) Laheriya (Wavy line pattern) Design (12) Saravariya (Overall pattern) Design.

In addition to this, many other patterns (designs) are found, such as ras design or nach (dance) design. In all of these the first seven designs are very prevalent, Which is as follows.

(1) Nari Kunjar (Dancing woman and elephant pattern) Design :

In this Patola of design, the puppets (woman) are made into a Quaternion and the design of kanjar (elephant) is uplifted on both sides of it. While in the horizontal diagonal direction, parrots are seen on both sides and fruit trees are seen in the straight pockets of the dolls. Due to the puppet, female and elephant design, these women are attracted to the elephant design.

(2) Paan Design (Leafy Pattern) :

In the Patola, the pan of design, it looks as if it is arranged in the middle of a leaf and fruit. Its edges are made very simple and without pattern. Only flower stalks are found in the hem.

(3) Ratnachok Design (Jewel like pattern):

In Ratnachok (Jewel like pattern) design, as if the entire Patola texture is full of gems, the four corners of the quadrangles and the diamond ruby faceted design are found in the center. While the edges are sometimes filled with sixty silken strips or floral or figured design in embroidery. And a variety of gems arranged in the hem is embossed.

(4) Chhabadi (Floral Basket Patter) Design:

In the Patola of Floral basket pattern has different frames. Which is drawn by an elephant in a frame. These frames are connected like a quarter of a circle.

(5) Vagh Kunjar (Tiger and Elephant Pattern) Design:

The tiger and elephant pattern in the Patola has elephant design after tiger. And in this design the tiger is followed by the elephant.

(6) Phoolwadi (Floral Pattern) Design :

The Patola of this design have flowers drawn in a straight line.

(7) Chokdi (Quaternion Pattern) Design :

The Patola of this design has a diaphragm, drawn in double lines. And the diaphragm has three flowers.

Patola - Various Workmanship:

The colorful pattern of Patola does not have any harshness, disgusting design. Different colors blend into each other, the simplicity of these colors and its aesthetic (erotic matters) perfect harmony of colors. These colors are never too bright or 'flashy'. These colors are like the colors of the stone on the earth. And are made of stone. In which diamond-pearl-like luster is seen. And this stone is dug out from the earth crust. There are only five traditional colors: red, white, green, black and yellow. Patolas are found in light colors instead of dark colors, chemical colors instead of flora colors and figure variations. So for foreigners now table covers, scarves, window curtains, sofa covers, bedsheets etc. of Patola design are made. Greeting cards, office files and handbags are also available in Patola's designs.

Patola in Literature :

Patola postage stamps worth ₹5/- have also been issued by the government. Similarly, many folk songs of Patola of Patan are also sung. Which have become an excellent means of dissemination. Which is as follows.

*“Tame ek vaar Marwad jaajo re, Ho Marwada,
Marwadthi Patola laavjo re, Ho Marwada.”*

(O Marwada ! Once you will go to Marwar, and Will bring Patola from Marwad)

This is also a folk song in the Gujarati film 'Sona Kansaari'. Which shows the greatness of Patola,

“Patanthi Patola mongha laavjo...

Chhelaji re, Mare haaru Patanthe Patola mongha laavjo...

*Ema ruda re moraliya chitaraavjo,
Patanthe patla mongha laavjo*

Chhelaji re, mare haaru Patanti patla mongha laavjo...

*Ranga sumbal kora kasumbal,
Palav pran bichhaavjo... re
Patanthi Patola mongha laavjo, Chhelaji re mare...
Olya Patan Shaheni re maare thaavun
padamaninaar Odhi ange Patola re eni relaayun
rangdhar
Heere madhela chundalani jod monghi madhaavjo...re
Patanthi Patola mongha laavjo
Chhelaaji re, maare haatu Patanthe Patola mongha laavjo.*

(Hey Darling! Bring expensive Patola from Patan... Many beautiful peacocks drawn, the edges of its scarf are painted red, diamond-ruby paired of bracelets on Patola. I want to be the most beautiful woman in Patan city by wearing it and spreading the stream of color in the whole city.)

This is how it is realized through folk songs. We realize how important it will be. In the same way, a specimen of Patola and its loom has been placed in a museum in Switzerland. At the age of 70, American gentle lady J. Brown came to Patan six times in eight years and stayed there for two months to study the art of Patola. And in 1979 AD, the English text "The Patola of Gujarat" was published in seven hundred pages. (Price : ₹1500/- - Rupees fifteen hundred).

Honors for Art and Craftsmanship of Patola :

The world-famous Patola art of Patan has been appreciated in the country and abroad and as a part of it has received many honors (awards). Salvi Umeshchand Kauchand has won gold medals for his artistic skills in the 1917 Mumbai Exhibition, the Vadodara Industrial Exhibition and the 1921 Patna (Bihar) Exhibition. Sevantilal Baherchand Salvi received the national honor at the hands of President Zail Singh in 1983. Mafatlal Dahyalal received the national honor in 1993 at the hands of President Shankardayal Sharma. Kanubhai Salvi went to America, Russia and Japan to exhibit Patola handicrafts. Keshavlal and Chhotalal have also received national honors. Mr. Vinayakbhai and his family have received national honors at the hands of dignitaries like R. Venkatraman. Then in the year 2002, the then President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam has given him the title of Sculpture and has also issued postage stamps worth ₹3/- and ₹5/-, which the one-time US Secretary of State Colin Provel visited Patan to see. And this art was appreciated.

Visitors to Art and Craftsmanship of Patola :

Eminent personalities like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Sardar Vallabhbhai and Subhash Chandra Bose visited Patola's art and craftsmanship. When Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited US President Sherald Reagan in 1985, Sonia Gandhi initially wore a Patola of Patan. When Hitendra Desai, at once Chief Minister of Gujarat, went to meet Queen Elizabeth, he gave her this Patol gift from Patan. In this way, this art has been created and is being used for building relations between the country and abroad. It has to be noted at the same time.

Conclusion:

With the advent of the mechanical era of Patola weaving, which at one time blew the trumpet in the domestic and foreign markets, its appeal has diminished like a tidal wave. The

cheap and attractive saris made in the mills became popular. And the industry gradually began to face difficulties. Over time, in addition to cotton, nylon saris, silk saris, various saris have come into the market, and in the fashionable age, the home industry is facing more difficulties. These Patolas are getting expensive today. And again, these would mean that the artisans have to spend for these processes. The new generation is less interested in weaving Patola. Now very few of these families have retained this professional art to keep it alive. It also takes months and years to weave. Also the cost is in the millions. That's also trouble. That is to say, this art has been maintained even in different difficulties at different times. That is the important thing. It takes six months to one year to make one sari due to the long process of dying each strand separately before weaving them together. Patola are usually woven in Surat, Ahmedabad and Patan. But velvet patola styles are majorly made in Surat. It has received a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** in 2013/14.

-: Footnote :-

<i>No.</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Book and Publisher</i>	<i>Page</i>
1.	Jadav Joravarsinhji. (1992)	Gujaratno Lok Kala Vaibhava. Ahmedabad. Publisher – Joravarsinhji Jadav.	103
2.	Ibidem	“ “ “ “ “ “	104
3.	Maharaj Bhagvatsinhji. (1986)	Bhagvadgomandal. Rajkot. Re-print, Pravin Prakashan.	5262
4.	Face to face interview :	Vinayakbhai Salvi, Patola Industry and Savantbhai Salvi, Civil Engineering	
5.-18.	Ibidem		
19.	Makad Mahesh (Editor) Gujarat State Information Department	Gujaraj Dipotsavi Issue – 1997 AD, Gandhinagar	38
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2.	Jadav Joravarsinhji. (1992).	Gujaratno Lok Kala Vaibhava, Ahmedabad : Joravarsinhji Jadav.
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4.	Makad Mahesh (Editor).	Gujaraj Dipotsavi Issue – 1997 AD, Gandhinagar.
5.	Face to face interview / Age	
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	2. Chhotalal M. Salvi 65	Patole Industry
	3. Rohitbhai Salvi 52	Patole Industry
	4. Sarjubhai Ke. Salvi 31	Patole Industry
	5. Bharatbhai K. Salvi 50	Patole Industry
	6. Rahulbhai V. Salvi 26	Studying
	7. Savanbhai Salvi 21	
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6.	http://www.patanpatola.com/	