“A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SANGANER AND BAGRU PRINTS WITH REFERENCE TO SCOPE OF MODERNIZATION AND THEIR MARKET POTENTIAL”

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Summary

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“A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SANGANER AND BAGRU PRINTS WITH REFERENCE TO SCOPE OF MODERNIZATION AND THEIR MARKET POTENTIAL”

From the dawn of civilization man has been using various techniques of printing out of which block printing and screen printing are the famous ones. In Rajasthan, Sanganer and Bagru can be described as the lands of most colorful dyed and printed textiles. India has been renowned for its printed and dyed cotton cloth since the 12th Century and the craft flourished as the fabric received royal patronage. Though the earliest records mention the printing centers in the south, the craft seems to have been prevalent all over India. The earliest centers for block printing seem to have been located in what are now the states of Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. From these centers, the craft appears to have spread gradually with the migration of craft workers to other areas. Centers such as Sanganer in Rajasthan rose to prominence in the 18th Century. Other centers such as Serampur developed even later, becoming the hub of block printing in West Bengal only in the 1940s. Now, there is the increasing phenomenon of block printing units being set up in urban areas including Calcutta and Jaipur city.

The main colours used in Bagru are red and black. A few other colour are also used but not in general. Formerly natural dyes indigo madder, pomegranate rind and turmeric were used as colouring material. Synthetic alizarin and indigo have however since replaced...
madder and indigo. Congo red is used for brightening the red colour and pink colour. Direct yellow colour is used for yellow in prints. However, other natural dyes continue to be used along with the traditional processes for preparation of mordants, resists and colours. In 1978 Bagru prints were started on mulmul cloth. Later in 1985 another successful experiment was carried out by printing khes and durries and in the year 1986 silk sarees were printed. However, good printing cannot be obtained on fine cloth and the colour also is visible on the reverse of the cloth. But at the same time it is also true that exquisitely fine designs can be printed on fine cloth with better results, as it is not possible on coarse fabric (Kothari, 1995, Maharshi, 1994).

Competition from modern highly commercialized methods of dyeing and printing, the need is, therefore, felt that not only to investigate the process of Sanganer dyeing and printing but also suggesting ways and means for the revival of this age old textile art and improving the lot of printers so that this textile heritage of India can be preserved for posterity.

“A study on dyeing and printing units of Sanganer and Bagru Rajasthan” carried out with the following objectives:

1. To study the finance and annual production of the units.
2. To study the different types of tools and equipments used in dyeing and printing.
3. To study the various motifs different fabrics, dyes and other raw material used in Sanganer dyeing and printing.
4. To study the methods of dyeing and printing and their techniques of application.
5. To study the problems faced by the industry and its future prospects.

The literature related to the study was reviewed for the conduction of study. Survey method was adopted and interview schedule was formulated and administered to sample selected by random sampling which included 200 dyeing and printing units. Observation method was also made use and to support the gathered information. The data collected was analyzed, tabulated and graphically represented for clear interpretation of the results.

**SAMPLE SIZE**

- **STATE**
  - **RAJASTHAN**
  - **DISTRICT**
    - **JAIPUR**
      - **VILLAGES**
        - **SANGANER**
          - Respondents
        - **BAGRU**
          - Respondents

**200 Total Respondents**
Dependent Variable: Effect of raw material and source of finance was taken as dependent variable for the present study.

Independent variables: Background information like age, sex and education of workers.

The major findings of the study were:

It was told by all the units that the profession of dyeing and printing of all the respondents was hereditary and all the unit were established by their forefathers 6-7 generations ago. Presently proprietors were just carrying out this hereditary profession and maintaining the units.

- Most of the units were established by forefathers of the owners.
- Most of the units owners did not have any technical qualification regarding the field as they learnt each and every thing during their childhood.
- Majority of owners of the unit were dealing with business than job work.
- Majority of organization of units were sole traders.
- Majority of units were self financed due to lack of government support.
- Most of the units were small scale and medium scale.
- Working capital was plenty for most of the units.
- Most of the units were having separate washers, dyers and printers.
Number of Washers varied from 2 - 12
Number of dyers varied from 2 - 8
Number of printers varied from 2 - 20

- In all the units combination of skilled semi-skilled and unskilled workers were appointed.
- Most of the units chose to employ their workers on contract basis rather than purely on regular basis.
- Wage rates were fixed according to rates prevalent in market.
- Wages in all units were paid on daily as well as piece basis.
- Working duration of workers depended upon weather as well as on orders.
- Raw material required for dyeing and printing were mainly natural dyes like heena, fola haldi, casula flowers, pomegranate rind. Neel, blocks, screens, limestone, geru etc.
- Most of the raw material was purchased from local market.
- Owners themselves preferred buying of raw material.
- Raw material was purchased against cash, credit or both according to the requirement.
- In most of the units supply of raw material was plenty and of good quality.
- Raw material was purchased with priority being given to its colour, quality and durability than price and availability.
- Most of the units owners preferred to buy the raw material as the need arised.
Summary

- Most of the units were having adequate storage capacity.
- Most of the units preferred grey cotton and silk fabric than bleached fabric.
- The main equipment used in washing and bleaching was hauth.
- Various processes used in washing and bleaching were desizing, scouring and bleaching.
- Various equipments used in dyeing were tamda, tarseai dastana and brown.
- Various techniques of dyeing were Harda dyeing, alizarin dyeing, indigo blue dyeing, potna dye solution and alum water treatment.
- Mainly block printing was done in Sanganer.
- Majority of the unit owners were supplied with designs from external sources like exporters.
- Various motifs used in printing were flowers leaves and buds, motifs of intertwined tendrils, motifs of trellis designs motifs of figurative designs and motifs of geometrical designs.
- Most of the respondents selected motifs according to popularity.
- Most common colours were red, black, yellow, green, white and maroon used in printing.
- Most common colour combination used in printing were blue, black and white, green and yellow, yellow and white and maroon and yellow.
Various equipments used in block printing were pathiya gadi, buntas, buckets and brushes.

Various types of blocks were gad blocks and rekh block.

Most common shapes of blocks were rectangular, oval and segmental.

Maximum size of blocks could be about 18” by 18”

Various equipments used in block making were kabani, aari, randha, guniya, choursi, choursa, reti, bharra, prakar, tikora and aadha gola.

Equipments used in screen printing were printing tables screens and squeeze.

Various printing pastes were beggar paste, syahi paste, printing paste prepared with rapid dyes and printing pastes prepared with indigosol dyes.

Main equipments used in finishing were “mogri” and “dhansa” which were used in calendaring.

Different kinds of processes used in finishing were Tapai or whitening process, steaming, calendaring.

Finishing was necessary either from the above said methods.

Majority of the unit owners had separate rooms in the same premises for the storage of finished goods.

Annual turnover the 50% of the unit owner was between 80,000- 100000 (small scale units), 35% units had it between 1,00,000-18,00,000 (medium scale units) whereas 15% had
annual turnover between 18,00,000–60,00,000 (Large scale units).

- Most of the unit owners carried out business both on order as well as on anticipation of demand.
- Average percentage expenditure on labour was 48% on raw material it was 40%, other expenses were 2% whereas net profit was 10% only.
- Time gap between production and marketing of finished goods was from 5-7 days.
- Cost of finished goods was fixed according to the motifs used.
- Units received orders from the agents of the exporters and retailers who sold prints in local as well as in the natural market.
- All of the units worked purely on cash basis.
- All the finished goods were sold off in local, national as well as in international markets.
- All of the units had transport facilities like rikshaw, laddha or trucks.
- Major problems faced by the printers were shortage of water, economic expenditure, lack of government support, lack of advertisements, lack of education, lack of production, trade mark, use of conventional techniques, and lack of finance and adversity of season.
All the units wanted to expand their work into large scale and few dyeing units also wanted to launch power house in their business.

CONCLUSION

From the present study it can be concluded that with the increasing awareness among the people there has been a trend to move towards the ancient ethnic arts of the country. As the result of which Sanganer dyed and printed fabrics are also becoming popular day by day. Further of these dyes and printing techniques seems to be bright and prosperous people are conscious about the hazards of synthetics and are again preferring the use of natural ones much more.

Recommendations for Further Study

1. A Study on Textile Handicrafts of Rajasthan.
2. A study on dyeing and printing units of (basi, Joidhpur, Jaisalmer Udaipur, Kota etc) Rajasthan.
3. Comparative study on costumes of people of Sanganer with other villages like Bagru, Barmer etc.
4. An experimental study on dyed and printed fabrics of Sanganer and Bagu for evaluating their serviceability and colourfastness to washing light, perspiration and rubbning.
5. A study on different techniques employed for dyeing and printing in different states of India.

Implication of Study
The present study was undertaken to know the traditional art of dyeing and printing with natural dyes.

Sanganer printing is an age old art and enjoys the pride of place among the textiles of India.

The study revealed that the general status of Sanganer and Bagru printers is not very satisfactory. The Government should take note of this find and take immediate remedial measures to improve their condition.

The study will be helpful in increasing the popularity of the dyes and prints made in Sanganer and Bagru as people are not aware of the significance of different prints.

The study would be helpful to improve the export potential of India. This will also ultimately help to improve the conditions of dyers as well as printers.

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