

# **DHALAPATHAR PARDA & FABRICS**

## **STATEMENT OF CASE**

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### Proof of Origin (Historical Records)

1. About a century ago a number of beautiful sarees were hand loomed with a special technique of weaving in the village of Dhalapather, by a community known as 'RANGANI', a community included in the entry no. 48 of list of Other Backward Class in the Central list now. The sarees were popularly known as in the name of 'KUSUMI KAPTA' KANKANA PEDI, MUKTAPUNJI, NAHATI and AKATA. As a proof, one KUSUMI SAREE has been displayed by the Orissa state museum in its Gallery which was purchased from a person named Shri Nityananda Mekap from Berhampur in the date July 31<sup>st</sup> 1962 with a cost of Rs 10.75 (as per the record of Orissa state museum Acc. No 62.11.4).
2. The population of the DHALAPATHAR village is mainly dominated by "RANGANI" community and their sole livelihood is weaving on Handloom. The community with the weaving profession is living more than a century and almost every elder member of each family are well known about the technique of dyeing and weaving. Many old people of the community say that 'RANG' means color and "ANI" means "to bring" so who knows the art to bring the color on cloth are recognized as "RANGANI".
3. Their family members are purely vegetarian and the influence of "BUDHISM" on their lives is clearly visible from their lifestyles. (Prusty S.K., Dhalapathar – Kalar Konark Bhangi Paduchhi, Prajatantra weekly 21-27 October, 1990, p.20-22).
4. Out of those sarees woven by them at that time KUSUMI KAPTA & KANKANA PEDI, saree were used as bridal sarees in many places of Cuttack, Sonapur & Madhya Pradesh. Due to entrance of low cost mill printed sarees in the market these sarees lost their importance. Then the weaving community faced a very crucial moment for their livelihood. During that period, a person named GANES PUJARI' with his visionary thinking motivated the community to use the craft of those sarees in making of door curtain (parda).
5. By the inspiration of Shri Ganesh Pujari the struggling weaver community put their efforts in making of Pardas. As the result, the first Dhalapathar parda came from loom in 1936. The first parda was of yarn dyed with natural colors extracted from different leaves, fruits and trees with very beautiful figures. Afterwards two weavers, Late Udayanath Sahoo and Harekrushna Rout came up with beautiful parda designs with special weaving technique.
6. The dedication of these two weavers was vital to give a unique place to the Dhalapathar Parda craft in the craft map of India. (Dixit. Rita. Parda kalare Parad, SACHITRA BJAYA, A MONTHLY ORIYA MAGAZINE) As a proof till today a beautiful Parda woven by Shri Krushna Rout with the design of TAJMAHAL and the year of manufacture(1945) below the TAJMAHAL was preserved with his son Shri Madhusudan Rout, At-Gopinathpur, Samil Dhalapathar, Po- Kalapathar, Dist-Khurda, Pin-754009, Puri, Orissa (Photograph produced).

7. Then the weavers Narayan Sahoo, Baidyanath Rout, Dasarathi Rout, Udayanath Nayak, Kapil Das, Raghunath Prusty, Arjuna Rout, Mohan Behera, Krushna Rout, Nidhi Sahoo, Krushna Sahoo created many designs on Parda like TEMPLES, HANSA KALAS, TAJMAHAL, FIGURE OF INDIRA GANDHI, SURYA NAMASKAR, SCENERY OF SUN SET, BAGHA SABAR, ASHOKA CHAKRA, MAP OF INDIA, MAP OF ORISSA, BUDHADEB on Parda.
8. Shri Brundaban Sahoo S/O Late Udayanath Sahoo , the then president of Dhalapathar WCS. Ltd. the known legendary Parda weaver had taken a number of steps for the betterment of Parda weavers – Sambad News Paper daily, 12.07.1994).
9. The temple designs on parda have an aesthetic look and became very popular as in any door it created a temple feeling at home in the minds of the viewer. Due to popularity of temple design parda, the weavers created designs of all the famous temples of Orissa like PURI JAGANNATH TEMPLE, KONARK TEMPLE, LINGARAJ TEMPLE etc. on Parda.

### Technical Specifications

The items are manufactured in Dhalapathar are mainly parda (Door Curtain), wall hanging, table cover, lungi, shirting, furnishing and saree.

Sl. No.	Product	Specification	Specification
1	Dhalapathar Parda (Door Curtain)	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft: 20 <sup>s</sup> ×20 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) 2/20 <sup>s</sup> ×2/20 <sup>s</sup> 2/17 <sup>s</sup> ×2/17 <sup>s</sup> Extra weft :20 <sup>s</sup> (8 ply)/40 <sup>s</sup> (16ply)/ 10 <sup>s</sup> (4ply)	Reed :36 <sup>s</sup> /40 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :36-40 Extra Picks/inch :18-20 Length :127-204cm Width :102-112 cm Weight/piece :270-320gms/ 380-420gms
2	Dhalapathar Wall hanging	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 20 <sup>s</sup> ×20 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) 2/20 <sup>s</sup> ×2/20 <sup>s</sup> 2/17 <sup>s</sup> ×2/17 <sup>s</sup> Extra Weft :20 <sup>s</sup> (8 ply)/ 40 <sup>s</sup> (16ply)/10 <sup>s</sup> (4ply)	Reed :36 <sup>s</sup> /40 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :36-40 Extra Picks/inch :18-20 Length :51cm-102 cm Width : 102-112 cm Weight/piece :120-150gms
3	Dhalapathar Table cover	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 20 <sup>s</sup> ×20 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) 2/20 <sup>s</sup> ×2/20 <sup>s</sup> 2/17 <sup>s</sup> ×2/17 <sup>s</sup> Extra Weft :20 <sup>s</sup> (8 ply)/ 40 <sup>s</sup> (16ply)/ 10 <sup>s</sup> (4ply)	Reed :36 <sup>s</sup> /40 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :36-40 Extra Picks/inch :18-20 Length :170-174cm Width :112-122cm Weight/piece :260-300gms
4	Dhalapathar Lungi	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 2/80 <sup>s</sup> ×2/80 <sup>s</sup> Extra Weft :2/80 <sup>s</sup> (4 ply/2ply) Reed :60 <sup>s</sup> /64 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :60-64	Extra Picks/inch :30-32 Length :2.0 meter Width : 112-122cm Weight/piece :160-180gms
5	(Kusumi Kapta/kasta,Mukta punji, Nahati, Akata Saree)/Dhalapathar saree	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 26 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) )×26 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) 40 <sup>s</sup> (2ply)×26 <sup>s</sup> (2ply) 2/100 <sup>s</sup> ×2/100 <sup>s</sup> 2/120 <sup>s</sup> ×2/120 <sup>s</sup> Extra Weft :26 <sup>s</sup> (4ply) 2/80 <sup>s</sup> (single/2ply/3ply) Reed :40 <sup>s</sup> /44 <sup>s</sup> /68 <sup>s</sup> /72 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :48-52/48-56/64-68/68-72	Extra Picks/inch:24-26/48-52/ 24-28/48-56/ 32- 34/64-68/ 34-36/68-72 Length :5.5 mtr-6.4 mtr (12 hati-14 hati) 5.5mtr+Blouse piece (0.80 meter) Width : 115-122cm Weight/piece: 880-910gms/ 560-620gms
6	Running material (Shirting)	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 2/80 <sup>s</sup> ×2/80 <sup>s</sup> 2/80 <sup>s</sup> ×2/100 <sup>s</sup> Extra Warp :2/80 <sup>s</sup> /2/100 <sup>s</sup> Reed :60 <sup>s</sup> -64 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :60-64	Extra Warp/inch:60-64 Length :10 meter Width : 112-122cm Weight/piece :950-980gms
7	Furnishing	Yarn :Cotton Warp × Weft : 2/17 <sup>s</sup> ×2/17 <sup>s</sup> 2/20 <sup>s</sup> ×2/20 <sup>s</sup> Extra Weft :20 <sup>s</sup> (8 ply)/ 10 <sup>s</sup> (4ply)	Reed :36 <sup>s</sup> /40 <sup>s</sup> Picks/inch :36-40 Extra Picks/inch :18-20 Length : 10 meter Width :102-112 cm Weight/piece :1400-1800gms



### Uniqueness

1. A single repeat design on the whole body of the door curtain.
2. Designs like DIFFERENT TEMPLES OF ORISSA, SUN SET, TIGER WITH HUNTER, TAJMAHAL, ASHOK CHAKRA, LORD BUDHA, SURYA BANDANA ,NAVAGUNJARA, Arghya are woven.
3. The design is woven on the fabric without the use of dobby, jala or jacquard.
4. For such a single repeat design, where at least 400 hooks jacquard is required to weave, the weaver weaves this design only with the help of CHIARIS.
5. The fabrics are woven with warp rib structures woven with extra weft with the help of CHIARI technique.
6. The skill of these weavers is such that without the use of any graph they will be able to create very beautiful designs on the fabrics.
7. The CHIARIS are made of bamboo in form of a rectangular shape with slopes elliptically towards both the ends.
8. The base fabric of a door curtain is dark in color whereas designs are with contrast light color on it or vice -versa.
9. The bottom horizontal panel is with the help of small *butti* like fish, flower, diamond etc.
10. The sharpness and accuracy of the designs are very good.