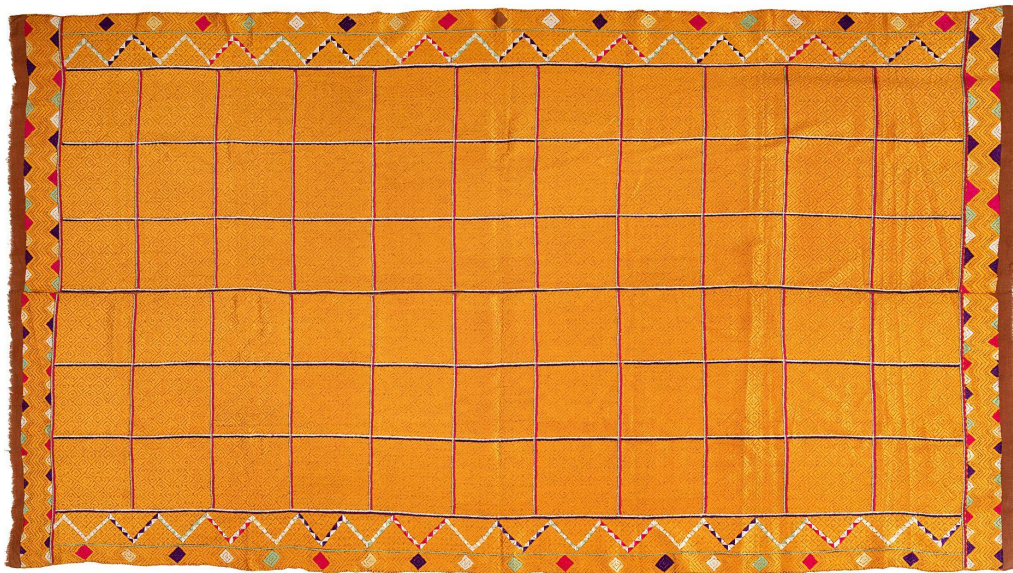


MAP StoriesWithArt: Step Inside A Phulkari



Phulkari (meaning 'flower work') is an embroidery tradition that originated in the region of Punjab. Women would get together and embroider these shawls on the coarse khaddar cotton, mainly for gifting at auspicious events such as weddings, festivals and the birth of new-borns.

The *phulkari* piece from the MAP collection you see below is an example of a ***bagh phulkari***. *Bagh* (meaning garden) is a term used to describe a piece where the embroidery covers the entire surface and the base is no longer visible! In this one, the grid decoration is supposed to indicate a field and the golden diamond-shaped details within each square (you will have to look very-very closely to see this!) suggest a good harvest.



There are different types of *phulkaris* named after the types of designs they feature. Most of the common designs are geometric or based on the natural world such as the *chand* (moon), *surajmukhi* (sunflower) or *mor* (peacock), for instance.

Among the rare exceptions that show human figures is the **Sainchi Phulkari**. These commonly feature village scenes, people and animals going about their everyday lives. Later, from the 19th century on, they also included things like English officers, trains and other signs of modernity at the time. Here is one, from the MAP collection, that features people, animals, birds and even different kinds of vehicles. What do you think this scene is supposed to represent? What kind of a place?




What if you could step inside and spend a day in this Sainchi Phulkari? Ready? Let's go!





Don't forget to take photographs of your creations and DM it to us on Instagram @mapbangalore. You can also email them to us at education@map-india.org

Imagine taking a train to Destination Sainchi Phulkari! How will your day pan out interacting with the people inside it? How will you greet them, what will you talk about, what new sights and sounds you will see and hear? What new creatures will you encounter? Let's get started!

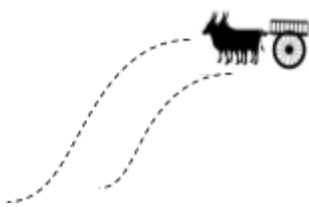



You get down at the train station, and see this man wearing a black mask and sitting under a tree!

Who do you think he is? What kind of conversations do you have with him?

You walk a little further ahead, and see this figure wearing a crown and...are those wings? Who is it? Is it a real person or a statue? What do you do here?

You get a lift from a passing bullock cart, and reach the other side of town. Here you see a monkey doing tricks!

You stop to speak to the owner of the monkey after the show. What do you ask him?

If you had fun doing this, look around the phulkari piece to see other interesting details and write about how your day progresses in this imaginary world!