



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Cynthia Cort films of Ikat Weaving, 1979-1981

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Cynthia Cort films of Ikat Weaving
Date:	1979-1981
Identifier:	HSFA.1983.10
Creator:	Cort, Cynthia Cunningham
Extent:	Film reels (105 minutes; color silent reversal; 3800 feet; 16mm) 0.25 Linear feet
Language:	Moving image materials are silent; supplementary materials are in English.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated by Cynthia Cunningham Cort in 1983.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

"Patola" footage filmed and directed by Cynthia Cunningham Cort, Cynthia Cort films of Ikat Weaving, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Footage of processes involved in double and single ikat weaving, shot by Cynthia Cort in Gujarat and Barpali, India in 1979, 1980 and 1981. Collection also includes notes, camera log notes, and articles about Ikat fabrics.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Dyes and dyeing
- Saris
- Weaving
- Women's clothing

Types of Materials:

- silent films

Places:

- Gujarat (India)
- Odisha (India)
- South Asia

Container Listing

Ikat Weaving, Gujarat, India, 1979-1981

Film reels (83 minutes; color silent reversal, 3000 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record documenting the process of producing *patola double-ikat* woven saris in Gujarat, India. Footage focuses on the work of a single family of master weavers in Patan, Gujarat, one of the few remaining families of weavers who produce the special ikat saris worn by brides of certain castes in the Gujarat region. The film includes footage of each step in the process from tie-dyeing the thread to warping of the looms to weaving the cloth to removing the sari from the loom. The unedited footage does not present the process in a step-by-step manner, rather, it documents the work as it occurred over the course of several visits during two years of research and filming.

HSFA 1983.10.1

Ikat Weaving, Odisha, India, 1980

Film reels (22 minutes; color silent reversal; 800 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record documenting the *ikat* weaving process in Barpali, Odisha, India. Footage documents all stages in the dyeing and weaving process of double-ikat which was historically influential on the development of textiles in south Asia.

HSFA 1983.10.2