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#### HISTORY OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN INDIA

#### VINAY KUMAR BOLLOJU RESEARCH SCHOLAR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY WARANGAL

## A. SREENIVAS RESEARCH SCHOLAR KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY WARANGAL

#### ABSTRACT

Handloom sector play key role in the economic development of the country, providing direct employment to 43 lakhs people in this paper has covered. History or handloom. Hindu epics Ramayana, Mahabharata, as well as buddies, kalidas-Hamsa chihita Doloolo, kautilya's arthesatra ramous Ajanta wall paintings Christians era. Handlooms are located in India also other Asian countries Srilanka Bangladesh, Thailand and Cambodia.

#### KEYWORDS

handloom industry, economic development.

#### INTRODUCTION

andloom sector plays a vital role in the economic development of a country it is one of the largest economic activities after agriculture. Providing direct employment to more than 43 lakhs weavers in India. With 23 lakhs handlooms. This sector contributes nearby 15% or the total cloth produced in the country and also contribute to the export earning Rs. 3,000 Crores 95% or the world handloom Fabric come from India.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The study will be focus on the following objectives

- 1. To study the present position of handloom industry.
- 2. To study the history of handloom.
- 3. To draw the conclusion.

#### SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study broadly examines the history of handloom

#### METHODOLOGY

The required data has been collected using secondary data. Secondary data Collecting from. Govt annual Reports, Books, Articles, thesis & dissertation.

#### **HISTORY OF HANDLOOM**

The Hindu epics such as the 'Ramayana' and the "Mahabharata" as well as "Buddhist" sources, chant in detail the processes and uses of handloom fabrics. The history of the handloom, industry in India could be backed back to hoary of dates back to the Epic times and it is reported to have been in a highly developed stage even then. In the Vedas and "Puranas" there are innumerable reference to the exquisite qualities and wide range of fabrics worn by the Gods, Kings said to have been very much fascinated by the exotic designs and textures of fabric work, by women on the earth, and there are stories of such Gods falling in love with mortal ladies by their dress.

"Kalidas" has described ruptial customers as Hamsa Chihita Dokoolo" of swan like wear."Bana Bhatt," great poet in his work at many places has referred in detail to the artistic Weaving of valuable cloth and contemporary elegance by mentioning garments made of extra fine thread. In Kautilya's "Arthasastra" the duties of sutradhyaksha, a sort of sartorial officer have been described in great detail. In "shukrathi" too these are in mention of "Vastrya" an officer who looked after the demand and silken fabrics, in the market, kept an eye on the production of cloth manufacturing material and arranged for their collection of necessary sartorial information. The famous 'Ajanta Wall Paintings' of the 5<sup>th</sup>,8<sup>th</sup> Centuries A.D, provided an invaluable record of the refined nature of the Indian- Textile Industrial of the time. The cave frescoes clearly depict dancers, nobles, servants and musicians clothed in coin loom cloths and blouses, most probability patterned by the resist techniques of printing, tie and dye and ikat as well as brocade weaving.

Though India was famous even in ancient times as an exporter of textiles to most parts of the civilized world, few actual fabrics of the early dyed or printed cottons have survived. This it is explained is due to a hot moist climate and the existence of the monsoons in India. It is not surprising; therefore that Egypt which has an exceptionally dry climate would provide evidence which India lakhs. The earliest Indian fragment of cloth (before the Christian era) with a hansa (swan) design was excavated from a site near Cairo where the hot dry sand of the desert acted as a preservative. The last 100 years have witnessed the growth of mechanized textile production internationally. In part due to competition, handloom has lost much of its market and is almost non-existent in most countries. However, hand-loom are still a force to reckon within India and some other Asian countries such as Srilanka, Bangladesh, Thailand and Cambodia. Later, fragments of finely woven and madder –dyed cotton fabrics shuttles were found at some of the excavated sites of Mohenjo-Daro (Indus valley civilization). Indian floral faints, dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century AD were covered by sir aural stein in the icy waters of Central Asia. The evidence shows that of all the arts and crafts of India, traditional handloom textiles are probably the oldest. Thought it employs the largest number of people, the handloom sector is considered a sunset industry, and there is an air of inevitability given the relentless march of mechanization, modernization and sophistication. Still, there are many advocates of handloom for reasons including ideology, philosophy, sheer love for handloom products and economic arguments. However, Irrespective of the policies, projects and aspirations arising out of various quarters, the handloom sector is undergoing changes, that are showing impact on the livelihoods of handloom weavers.

#### HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The handloom industry dates back to the epic times. It is reported that the industry was in a highly developed stage even in those times. The gassmer silks of Banaras and the fine muslins of Dacca and Bengal were famous. The people of other countries were wondering at the skill of the handloom weavers' In India. Even in the pre –British period, the Indian handloom industry was world popular. The ancient Indian not only produced raw cotton but also exported a considerable

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMMERCE, ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed (Refereed/Juried) Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories http://ijrcm.org.in/ amount of finished fabrics woven on handlooms. Sir Henry cotton opined that in the year 1890" less than a hundred years ago, the whole commerce of exports of Dacca muslins to England amounted to 30 lakhs rupees"

However, the invention of the spinning ginning and consequent revolution in the textiles production in England posed severe competition to Indian handloom textiles. Thus the decay of this industry has standard in the British period. Sir Henry cotton states that in 1817 they had ceased altogether. The arts of population have now become extinct. The families which were formerly in a state of affluence have been driven to desert the towns and betake themselves to the village for a livelihood. This decadence had occurred not only in Dacca but also in all parts of India. Further, it is worst affected in period of Second World War. Consequently, the handloom industry in general and the weavers' in particular were in a sad state at which even British India government has tried to take measures to promote handloom industry.

In the process, it has appointed the aspects of size and scope of the Fact Finding Committee in 1941 to inquire into the aspects of size and scope of the handloom industry. On the basis recommendations, the 1<sup>st</sup> All India Handloom Board had come into existence in 1945, to solve the difficulties of the handloom sector, to provide raw materials and to arrange marketing facilities for handloom goods. However, the Board ceased to exist in 1947. After independence, in 1948, the Government of India has created a new body called the standing Handloom Commission under the cottage Industries Board to look after the interests of the handloom weavers. The committee was reconstituted in July 1950, and recommended the government regarding the reservation of certain varieties of cloth production for the handloom industry. In spite of the functioning cottage Industry Board will not be sufficient to meet the requirements of entries small industries sector in India. Therefore, the government of India has divided the small Industries Sector into six categories and has set up six Boards.

- i) All India Handloom Board (1952)
- ii) All India Handicrafts Board (1953)
- iii) All India Khadi and village Industries Board (1953)
- iv) Small Scale Industries Board (1952)
- v) Central silk Board (1954)
- vi) All India Coir Board (1954)

Thus, the second All India Handloom Board has come into existence in-1952 to promote and developed handloom industry. in addition, the government of India has also constituted a

Textile Enquiry Committee in November 1952 to make an enquiry into the structure and organization of the various sectors of the cotton textile Industry. As a result of the measures adopted by the institution meant for the promotion of the handloom sector, impressive progress in terms of production, employment and exports was results of this the consumers prefer mill made cloth so as weavers community lost their livelihood. He suggested the government should supply raw material at subsidized rates, with quality and in right time to overcome this situation.

#### CONCLUSION

Handloom sector play key role in the economic development of the country, providing direct employment to 43 lakhs people in this paper has covered. History or handloom.

Hindu epics Ramayana, Mahabharata, as well as buddies, kalidas-Hamsa chihita Doloolo., kautilya's arthesatra ramous Ajanta wall paintings Christians era. Handlooms are located in India also other Asian countries Srilanka Bangladesh, Thailand and Cambodia.

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