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राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN
AHMEDABAD

Parsi Gara Embroidery

Mumbai

Seats Available 13

OE26A01
Ahmedabad Campus



Gara is a highly detailed hand-embroidery style traditionally done on saris (and sometimes on borders called “kor,” wall frames, children’s frocks, men’s topis, etc.).

Fabrics & threads: Pure silk skeins (often from China) on fine natural fabrics like shammo satin, crepe, georgette, chiffon, organza, and silk; synthetic bases tend to pucker under such dense work.

Stitches: Khakha/“forbidden” stitch (tiny Chinese knots), French knots, satin stitch, stem stitch, petit point, long-and-short stitch, and straight stitch.

Motifs: Birds (roosters, parrots, peacocks), flowers (peonies, roses, lilies), pagodas, dragons, and sometimes personalized initials or borders.

Historically, Gara entered Parsi wardrobes via 19th-century trade links with Canton (China), where embroidered silk cloths were brought back and tailored into saris.



Ms. Zenobia S. Davar

Mumbai-based designer and art revivalist Zenobia S. Davar, is widely recognized for preserving and practicing the rare, hand-embroidered Parsi Gara tradition; a craft that blends Persian, Chinese, Indian, and European influences.