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राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
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AHMEDABAD

Dabu Hand Block Printing

Akola, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan

Seats Available 13

OE26A07
Ahmedabad Campus



Akola in the Chittorgarh district of Rajasthan is a renowned hub for Dabu, an ancient hand-block, mud- resist printing technique practiced for over 500 years.

The craft is traditionally practiced by the Chhipa community in a village often referred to as “Chippon Ka Akola”.

Artisans use a specialized hand-mixed mud paste—made of black clay, lime, and local gum—applied with carved wooden blocks to block specific areas from absorbing dye.

The fabric is typically dyed in rich natural indigo or bright red shades. Distinct local traditional patterns like Phetia and Chunder are historically worn by local agrarian communities, alongside contemporary items like sarees and dress materials.

The word Dabu comes from dabanna, which means “to press,” reflecting how the resist paste is stamped onto the fabric.



Om Prakash Chhipa

Om Prakash Chippa is a Dabu Hand- block printing artisan from Akola, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan, committed to preserving his family’s centuries-old craft. He combines contemporary design with traditional techniques and continues to promote Rajasthan’s GI-tagged Dabu Hand-block printing.