

JOB ROLE – HAND EMBROIDERER (ADDAWALA)

Sector – Apparel, Made-Ups and Home Furnishing
(Qualification Pack Code: AMH/Q 1010)



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UNIT 2: INTRODUCTION TO *AARI* WORK

Session 1: History and Materials for *Aari* Work

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Session Objectives

The students will be able to:

- State history of *aari* work
- Describe types of *aari* work
- Identify tools and materials for *aari* work
- Use tools and materials of *aari* work for making embroidered article/product

Introduction

Aari embroidery is mostly done using different types of silk and *zari* threads. *Aari* work is very intricate form of embroidery. To carry out *aari* work embroidery, identification, selection and handling of embroidery tools and materials is important. Selection of suitable fabrics, needles (*aari*), *adda* (frame), threads, thimble, scissors etc. is also very important.

Origin and History

Aari or *Adda* work is a form of embroidery that has its earliest roots in vedic period. The word *zardozi* is derived from two Persian words 'zar' which means gold and 'dozi' , which means embroidery. It was mainly used by the Mughals and their royal families on wall hangings, as well as on garments and accessories for elephants and horses etc.

Aari or Zari Work

The cloth to be embroidered is first stitched to the thick cloth strap attached to the *adda*. Thereafter, with the help of *aari* (needle), the embroidery is started. The metallic thread is used for this form of work.



Adda Work

The embroidery on *adda* may be worked in mainly two distinct styles. The first, *zardozi* work and other style is *Kamdani*.



Zardozi Work

Zardozi embroidery requires patience and expertise. It is one of the most common choices for bridal and designer wears like lehenga-choli, dupatta etc. giving the clothing a rich look. In *zardozi*, mainly *dabka* (spring type of a thread), *katori*, *tikena*, and sequins are used. The *aari* or hand needle is selected as per the type and style of work. It is also known as *karchobi*, which is derived from the term '*karchob*', meaning frame.



Kamdani

It's a lighter type of needle work also called *mukaish* work. A simple flat metallic wire is used and the wire is pressed down with the stitching, producing a dotted-stitch effect.



Tools and Materials for *Aari* Work

Tools	Materials
<i>Adda</i> (wooden frame)	Threads (gold and silver)
<i>Aari</i> (needle)	Metal wires
Scissors	<i>Dabka</i> and <i>sitara</i>
Needles	<i>Katdana</i> and <i>poth ke moti</i> (beads)
Thimble	Shiny stones
	<i>Khadiya</i> (chalk powder)
	Embroidery threads

Tools for *Aari* Work

- good work requires good tools and this is very true of embroidery. Identification, selection and handling of embroidery tools and materials is important for carrying out embroidery operations.



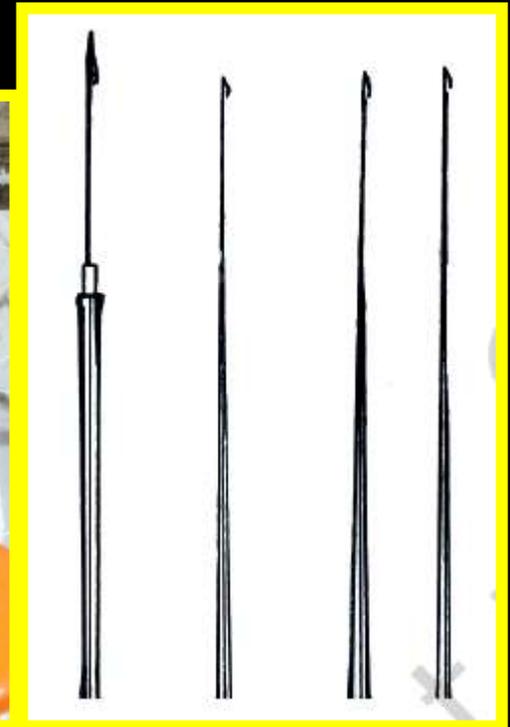
Adda (Frame)

- It's a horizontal wooden adjustable frame, consisting of four wooden bars. The fabric on which the embroidery is to be done is first stitched on the two horizontal wooden bars and stretched apart. Then it is fixed tightly and locked onto the other two vertically parallel wooden bars of the *adda*.



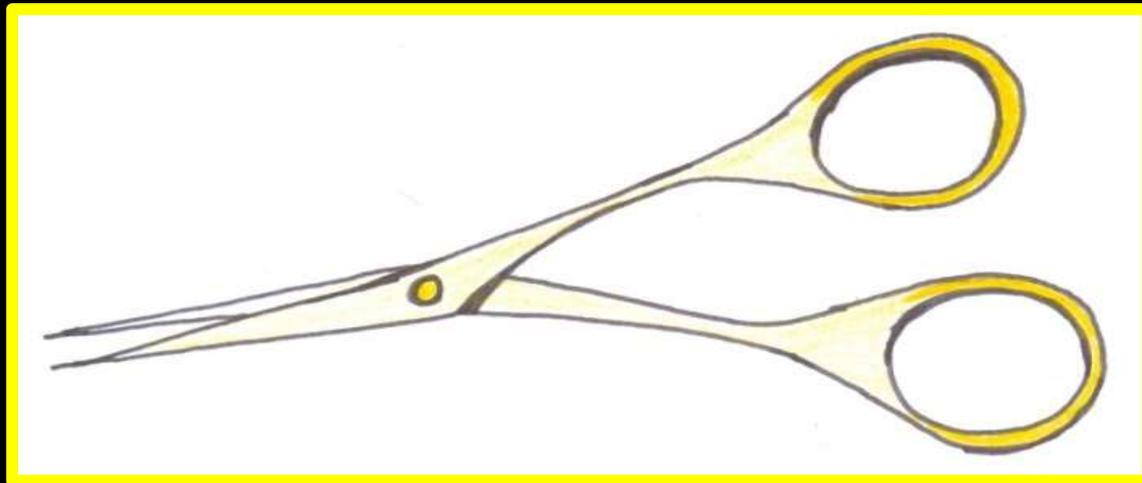
Aari (Needle)

- it's the main tool of the *zardozi* embroidery. *Aari* plays a major role in embroidery work.
- for fine fabric, fine *aari* is used, while for a heavy fabric, a thick *aari* is used.



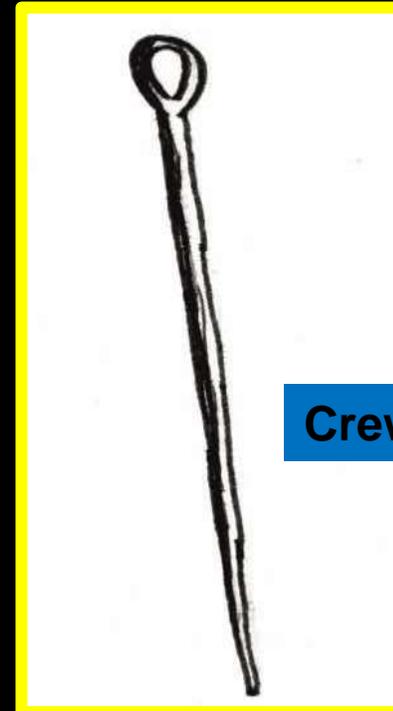
Scissors

- used to cut the embroidery threads
- small scissors are mostly used, have slender blades (1 ½ ”- 2 ½ ”) long that taper to narrow, sharp points.



Needles

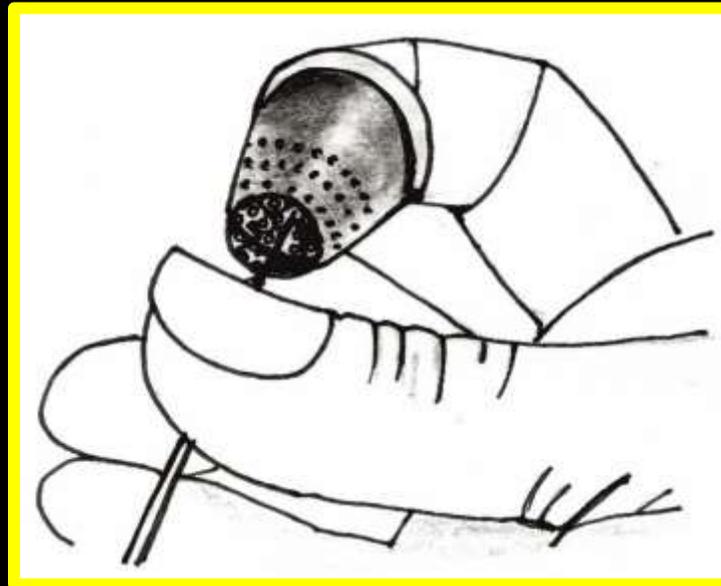
- in *adda* work, embroidery needles are also used.
- the most commonly used needle for embroidery is crewel.



Crewel

Thimble

- it's a small plastic, metal or rubber cap for the finger or thumb
- helps to protect fingers or thumb from needle pricks



Raw Materials for *Aari* Work

- raw materials plays an important role in *zardozi* or *aari* work embroidery
- selection of raw material is very important



Gold and Silver Threads

- threads were made by metal (gold and silver blocks)
- the craftsmen melted them and pressed them through iron sheets having perforations to make thin wires



Metal Wires

- these wires made out of mainly copper and steel
- these wires used through hand needle



Dabka and Sitara

- *dabka* is a spring-like thread
- these are used as ornamentations in the *zardozi* embroidery
- it's a smaller spangles with hole in center
- different shapes and colours are available in market



Katdana and Poth ke Moti (beads)

- the glass beads with a cylindrical structure are called *katdana*
- these beads come in different colours, shapes and sizes
- very small spherical beads are called *poth ke moti*



Shiny Stones

- these stones, which resemble diamonds are used to decorate the product, garment or fabric



Khadiya (chalk powder)

- it is used to prepare the *chalk* solution for tracing the design on the fabric

Embroidery Threads

- fine threads are usually employed on fine fabrics
- stranded threads, corded threads, highly-twisted lustrous threads, thick, matty, cotton threads and pure silk threads are mainly used in hand embroidery as well as *zardozi* or *aari* embroidery.



Summary

In this session, you have learnt about the identification and use of tools and materials for *zardozi* or *aari* embroidery.

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