

Kodali Karuppur Silk Sari

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Kodali Karuppur Silk Sari Latest News

The iconic Kodali Karuppur silk sari, a luxury garment once patronised by the Maratha kings of Thanjavur is facing a crisis as its traditional handloom weavers dwindle in number.

About Kodali Karuppur Silk Sari

- It derived its name from Karuppur, a village near Kumbakonam, **Tamil Nadu**.
- The handwoven silk saris, dhotis, and furnishings of Karuppur that combined hand painting, block printing, and brocade-weaving **were popular up to the 19th Century**.
- **History of Kodali Karuppur Silk Sari**
 - These evolved under the patronage of the Maratha ruler **Serfoji Raja Bhonsle Chhatrapati II** in 1787-1832 and were made exclusively for the Ranis of Thanjavur up to the 19th century.
 - The ancestors of the weavers comprised about 400-500 families who migrated from Saurashtra to Madurai, Salem and Kancheepuram.

- The Karuppur cloth was worn only by the Thanjavur nobility, **who gifted some as khillat or clothes of honour.**
- In some Maratha states like **Baroda, Kohlapur and Satara, the Karuppur** sari was an essential part of the bride's trousseau, as was the Karuppur turban for the groom.
- **Design:** The design vocabulary of the Karuppur sari is limited, **mostly geometric and linear patterns, vine-like designs, stars,** veldarri and the thazhambu or screw pine flower design.
- This saree **does not have a GI** (Geographical Indication) **tag.**

Source: TH

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