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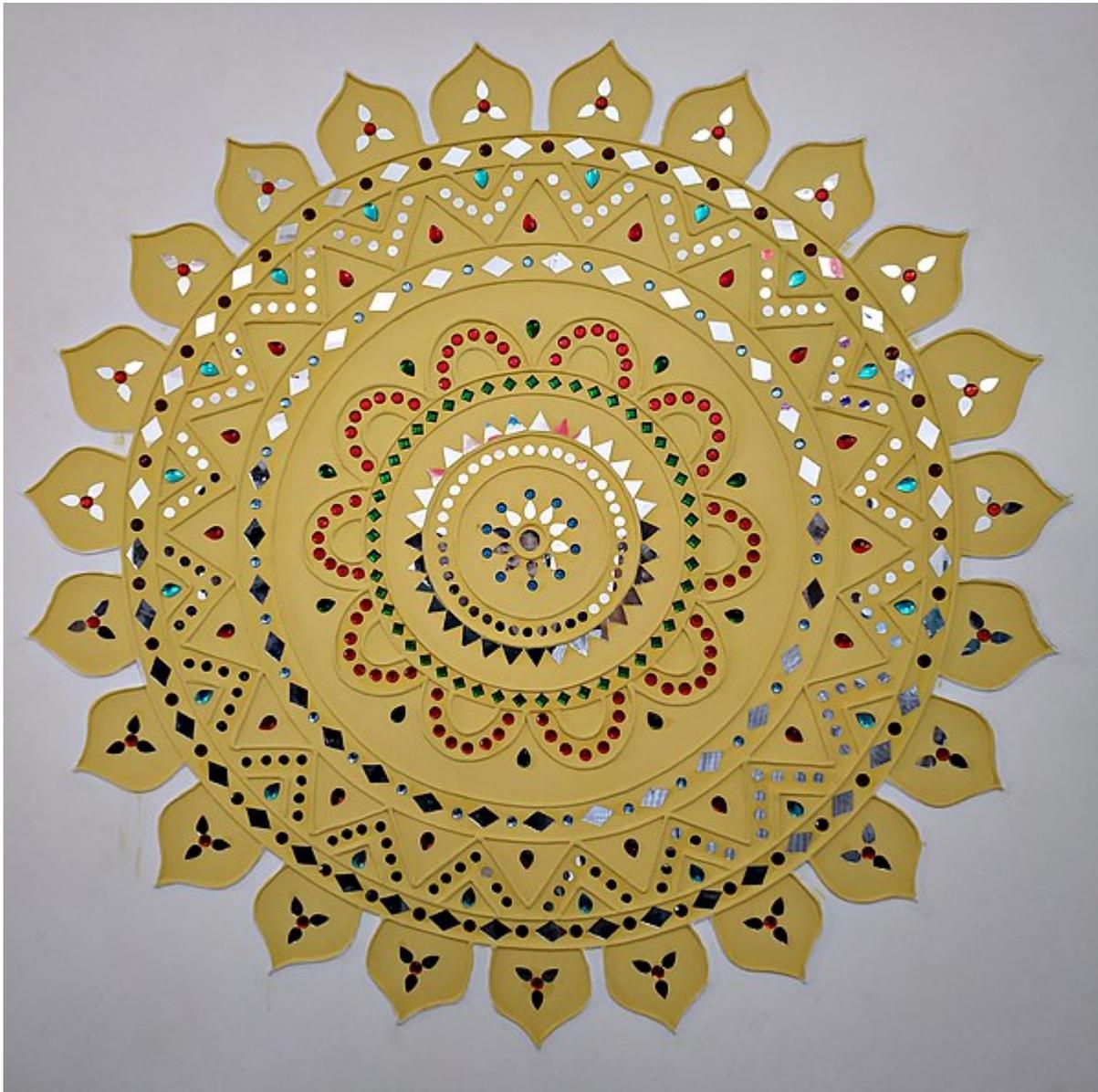
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KUTCHI MURAL WORK FROM GUJARAT- II

We had a talk about **Mud-Mirror Work** or Lipan kaam and **Bhunga Mud House** in our previous posts in detail. They contributes to the rich folk heritage of Gujarat. The art originates from the **Rabari community** of Gujarat but has now gained vast popularity and practiced elaborately by **Modern artisans** and art lovers.



Mud mirror art- Lippan

Traditional work is done on walls and floors and doorways etc. But new concept of Mud- mirror work has been introduced in commercial markets. Lets see the **modern twists** in exclusive folk art of Lippan-



MODERN DAYS MUD-MIRROR WORKS:

With the passage of time, intricate work of Lipan is recreated by craftsmen to make them handy for **Indian contemporary home décor**. Now as the **mud-mirror work is available in frames/wooden panels**, this stunning art finds its way to the **modern markets and online-stores** and achieved its place in the form of a **wall décor** in homes and workplaces.

Replacing the pungent-smelling materials (dung) with new materials like **chalk powder, sawdust and the plywood or hardboard** used for base makes them **durable, washable, waterproof and non-breakable**. Modern mud mirror work offer vibrant colors in clay base and often customizable as per customer need.



Kutchi Mud Mirror Lippan Wall Work, [INDIAMART](#)

PROCESS OF MUD MIRROR WORK/ LIPAN :

BINDING AGENT :

Locally available **camel or donkey dung** is mostly used with clay as a binding



agent. Sometimes **husk of millet** is used as an alternative to the dung. The dung attracts termites, but husk does not.

MAKING DOUGH :

Fine clay is mixed with the dung in equal proportion and **kneaded thoroughly** to form a smooth dough for lipan. Clay is mixed with water to make it soft and pliable and then rolled into long **cylindrical** pieces.



PROCESS OF LIPAN, D'SOURCE

PREPARING BOARD :

The canvas i.e. **wooden board or panel or wall** is first moistened with water. Artwork starts by creating a well define border by using the dough which marks the boundary of the artwork.

PREPARING MOTIFS :

Artist then start preparing different patterns and motifs. Mostly **freehand**, the clay mixture is shaped into **beautiful patterns** by using palm and fingers. Mirrors and other accessories are also incorporated at this point.



MUD WORK WALL HANGINGS- GARVIGUJARATI

SUN DRYING :

The work is finally placed outside in sun, to make it dry for almost **4-5 days**. Light moisture is applied time to time to the long pieces of clay to prevent them from crack while being applied on to the design .

THE FINAL OUTCOME :

Authentic Lipan is mostly all **white or in shades of neutral**s but occasionally bright colors like red and green are painted on the dried clay work.



Yuvarti Craft Mud and Mirror Art, **INDIAMART**

FUNCTIONALITY OF LIPAN :

Lipan is not only decorative but functional. It serves other purposes like-

- **INSULATOR**- Lipan, when done on the outer walls of the homes acts as an insulator. It reflects heat, thus keep the interior of the home cool.
- **IMPROVE LIGHT**- Lipan inside the home, creates a beautiful light effect. A single lamp is enough to lighten the room because the glittering mirrors on lipan reflects good amount of light.
- **EMPOWERING WOMEN**: Lipan work is usually done by the women of the community. They work together, sing songs, and spend quality time with each other while creating amazing pieces of lipan. Some women even sell their artwork and open up new income sources for themselves.

SIMPLE DIY TUTORIAL :

DIY Easy Ceramic Wall Hanging, Quick and Simple Mandala Wall Decor Idea,



Ceramic Mirror Work <https://youtu.be/sjKexaRkkd8>

So, do try this amazing DIY Lippan art at home. Take pride in celebrating the rich heritage of our country and **encourage the local art** and artisans by appreciating their work.

In every aspect Lipan is a perfect artwork to be cherished. This sense of **community and heritage** makes Lipan even more special. It is one of the finest examples of improvised creativity that make Lipan popular in both **rural and urban** platforms.

Hope you enjoy the article. Feedbacks are appreciated.

RELATED: "BHUNGA" - THE MUD HOUSE FROM GUJARAT, MUD MIRROR ART FROM GUJARAT

INSPIRATION: <http://www.dsource.in/resource/mud-mirror-art/introduction>

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