



Rural
Craft
Hub

Terracotta

Panchmura
Bankura

Panchmura Mritshilpi Samabay Samity Limited

Supported by the Department of MSME&T, Government of West Bengal and
West Bengal Khadi & Village Industries Board

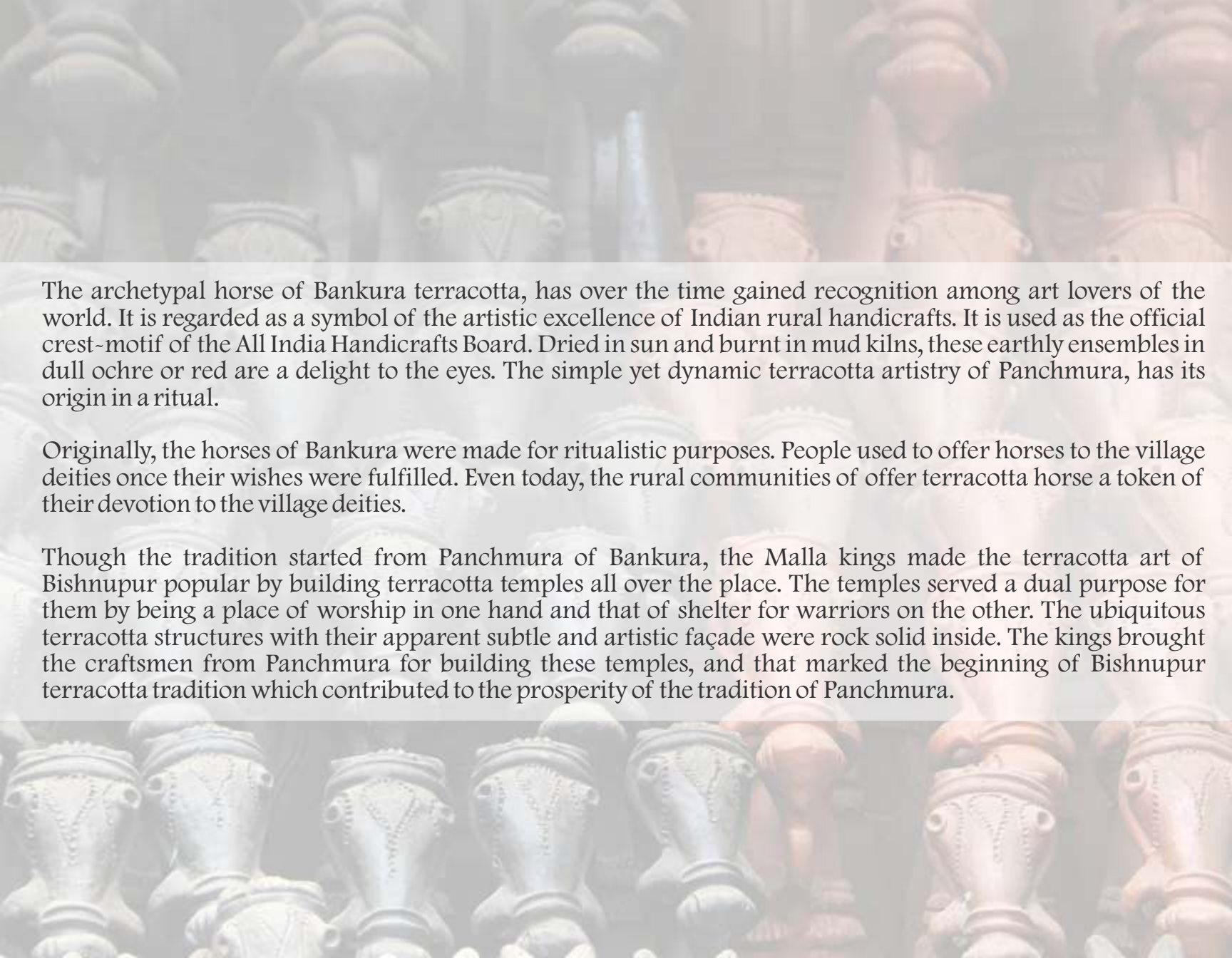


Rural Craft Hubs Of West Bengal



Handicrafts of Bengal embody our rich heritage of aesthetics, creativity and artistry. The craft sector provides low cost, green livelihood opportunities to more than 5.5 lakh men and women. The sector represents economic lifeline of the vulnerable sections of the society, with women accounting for around 50% of the crafts persons and a significant number belonging to the scheduled castes, tribes and religious minorities. In today's globalised world, the growing retail industry, fashion and luxury markets, demand for green production, potential for e-commerce have created new opportunities for developing a vibrant craft economy thereby providing increased income opportunities to the craft communities like the Patuas, potters, weavers, wood carvers, Dokra makers etc. Besides its high potential for employment, the craft sector is economically important from the point of low capital investment, high ratio of value addition, and high potential for export and foreign exchange earnings for the country. The Government of West Bengal thus aims to unleash the potential of the sector in terms of employment, enterprises, export and growth.

The Department of MSME&T, Government of West Bengal in collaboration with UNESCO, New Delhi is developing 10 rural craft hubs in the state. The vision is to develop the villages with families traditionally skilled in craft traditions like Sitalpati, Madurkathi, Terracotta, Patachitra, Dokra, Wooden and Chau masks, Wooden and Clay doll making and Kantha as vibrant craft hubs connected to national and international market.



The archetypal horse of Bankura terracotta, has over the time gained recognition among art lovers of the world. It is regarded as a symbol of the artistic excellence of Indian rural handicrafts. It is used as the official crest-motif of the All India Handicrafts Board. Dried in sun and burnt in mud kilns, these earthly ensembles in dull ochre or red are a delight to the eyes. The simple yet dynamic terracotta artistry of Panchmura, has its origin in a ritual.

Originally, the horses of Bankura were made for ritualistic purposes. People used to offer horses to the village deities once their wishes were fulfilled. Even today, the rural communities of offer terracotta horse a token of their devotion to the village deities.

Though the tradition started from Panchmura of Bankura, the Malla kings made the terracotta art of Bishnupur popular by building terracotta temples all over the place. The temples served a dual purpose for them by being a place of worship in one hand and that of shelter for warriors on the other. The ubiquitous terracotta structures with their apparent subtle and artistic façade were rock solid inside. The kings brought the craftsmen from Panchmura for building these temples, and that marked the beginning of Bishnupur terracotta tradition which contributed to the prosperity of the tradition of Panchmura.



Flower vase Old man
S: 9.4 x 5 inch
Code: HD121
RCH: Panchmura



Baul
S: 5.4 x 2.3 inch
Code: HD124
RCH: Panchmura



Flower vase lady
S: 6 x 4 inch
Code: HD125
RCH: Panchmura



Face flower vase
S: 6 x 5 inch
Code: HD139
RCH: Panchmura



Lady show piece

S: 5 x 3 inch
Code: Hd142
RCH: Panchmura



Tribal vase

S: 6 x 4 inch
Code: HD141
RCH: Panchmura



Horse show piece
S: 4 x 3 inch
Code: HD 160
RCH: Panchmura



Monk show piece
S: 6 x 4 inch
Code: HD 157
RCH: Panchmura



Durga ~ Ganesh show piece

S: 16 x 8 inch

Code: HD159

RCH: Panchmura



Owl show piece

S: 4 X 3 inch

Code: HD162

RCH: Panchmura



Figurative flower vase
S: 12 inch
Code: HD161
RCH: Panchmura



Mother with child
S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD212
RCH: Panchmura



Tribal lady

S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD213
RCH: Panchmura



Old man with Hukka

S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD146
RCH: Panchmura



Tribal woman
S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD214
RCH: Panchmura



Trumpet player
S: 6 x 3 inch
Code: HD148
RCH: Panchmura



Conch shell
S: 5.7 x 3.5 inch
Code: HD120
RCH: Panchmura



Santhal Couple
S: 5.7 x 3.5 inch
Code: HD215
RCH: Panchmura



Elephant show piece

S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD217
RCH: Panchmura



Mother with child

S: 8 x 3 inch
Code: HD216
RCH: Panchmura

Artists' Contacts

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