

# *Pattiwork* : A unique applique craft of Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh

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■ **ABSTRACT** : *Pattiwork* has not been known by most of the people all over India. A need to create more awareness about this lesser known, yet not infamous craft of Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh has thus been felt. The present study has been undertaken to get an insight into the *Pattiwork* appliqué craft and also to find out how distinct and unique it is from the appliqué work of other states in India. *Pattiwork* is traditionally appliqué style embroidery done on fine white cotton fabric and the embroidered effect is created by a stiff fabric instead of threads. The craft has been flourishing in Muslim areas of Aligarh as a home-based enterprise for more than 60 years. The *Pattiwork* of Aligarh besides being different from other forms of appliqués in terms of techniques, the raw material used, colours, motifs and designs, share many things in common. Like other forms of appliqués, it has also been inspired by Mughals and predominantly done by muslims, women in particular.

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■ **KEY WORDS**: Appliqué, Craft, Handicraft, *Pattiwork*

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