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**R**esearch **P**aper

## To access the printing practices of Kashipur in Uttaranchal

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■ABSTRACT : Handicrafts have been a very basic activity of human society. They are a very integral part of our life. The growth of handicrafts in society was an embodiment of cultivation of sensitivity. Handicrafts, defined simply are the objects made by skill of hand that carry the creator's imagination along with the centuries of tradition in which these have been created and are the result of years of almost conscious experiment and unconscious evolution. Handicrafts, therefore, are activities which were inherited and acquired with time. Block printing is the hand method and the oldest and generally considered as the artistic of all methods of printing textile. Many types of hand woven textile disappear due to the competition from imported and domestically produced mill made cloth. But these remained mainly localize demand for the block printed, usually unstiched garments such as dhoties, lungies, sarees, rumals, pagdies and floor spreads. It has been seen that block printing is done mainly on utility articles, sarees and in negligible amount on dress materials. Moreover, the sarees which are made not of such high quality as compared to the utility article, specially designes used are very limited. A very little effort is done to promote new designs or to make new designs on the articles.

**KEY WORDS:** Handicrafts, Blockprinting, Motifs colours

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