

Title: Handcrafted tapestry from Pakistan: Magic created with embroidery and mirror work.

Pakistan is a land of diverse cultures and rich history. One of its provinces, Sindh, was the site of one of the oldest civilizations called 'Indus Valley Civilization' that flourished from 3000 B.C. This region had been home to various cultures associated with an assortment of crafts such as pottery, weaving, leatherwork, and patchwork, which are admired locally and internationally.

The handmade patchwork designs, practiced for over 1000 years, are famous for their innovative use of leftover fabrics. These leftover pieces of fabrics, adorned with embroidery and mirror work, are stitched together to create colorful and exquisite artwork in the form of garments and decorations. Mostly circular or diamond-shaped mirrors are embroidered in the cloth. In addition to being decorative, these mirrors reflect sunlight keeping the clothes and body cool in deserts.

These pieces of artwork are created in rural areas where the women excel in needle work and before marriage a girl and her female relatives use it expertly to prepare the girl's trousseau. This is seen as a sign of a girl's prowess with needle and her readiness to take care of her home after marriage. Using rich embroidery decorated with mirror work girls create new garments for themselves and their bridegrooms, hangings for their home, quilts, and even decorative trappings for their animals. The style of embroidery and mirror work changes from community to community bringing a richness of colorful styles associated with the region. In addition to being used in their homes, this rich set of artwork finds its way to local and international markets and are sold as a part of rich heritage of Pakistan.

This tapestry is representative of this heritage from this region of Pakistan. It is created by square pieces of black clothing decorated with various stitches and patterns of embroidery enhanced by circular mirrors. Each square piece is handcrafted and is adorned with a variety of colors using the same type of stitch to create a vivid, symmetric, and beautiful pattern. These patterned pieces are stitched together to create this gorgeous, striking, and vibrant tapestry.

Sources: 1)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sindhi_embroidery#:~:text=Sindhi%20embroidery%20\(Sindhi%3A%20%D8%B3%D9%86%DA%8C%D9%8A%20%D9%BF%D8%B1%D8%AA,regions%22%20displayed%20in%20a%20museum.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sindhi_embroidery#:~:text=Sindhi%20embroidery%20(Sindhi%3A%20%D8%B3%D9%86%DA%8C%D9%8A%20%D9%BF%D8%B1%D8%AA,regions%22%20displayed%20in%20a%20museum.)

2) <https://tarz.ae/blogs/news/exploring-the-rich-tapestry-of-sindhi-embroidery-types-and-traditions>

3) [The Crafts of Sindh - Wikipedia](#)



