ABOUT GI

Geographical Indications (GIs) are associated with the legacy of a product connected with a specific location having unique blend of nature, culture, tradition, and artisan. In India, there are several registered GIs and there are numerous GIs which are not yet registered officially, but are potential registerable Gis.

GI based on classes to Natural Goods, Food Stuff Manufactured Goods, Handicrafts or Agricultural Goods

GI based on uniqueness, weather, and terrain of the place of origin

Legal Protection from unfair usage

Registered by the Authorized community of the GI

GI Sign or symbol indicating Geographical Origin or location

Economic empowerment to Artisans, Producers, and Manufacturers

Social Uplifting and continuing the Legacy of the Nation

700+ registered GIs and numerous unregistered GIs existence in India

Prevents counterfeiting and ensures genuineness of products

Preservation of local Culture, Tradition, and Legacy

A GI reflects a shared heritage that has evolved over generations, deeply influenced by local knowledge, distinctive environments, and cultural traditions. It highlights that certain products are far more than just items of trade; they represent the history, narratives, and dedication of the artisans, farmers, and communities who have kept these practices alive. By recognizing this inherent value, the GI system establishes a structure to safeguard and encourage these traditions, ensuring they thrive and adapt in today's competitive landscape.

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BANARAS WOOD CARVING

Banaras Wood Carving is a traditional hand-carved wooden craft from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, known for its miniature idols, Ashoka pillar replicas, temple décor, and lacquered toys. Crafted from Kaima, teak, and sheesham, it reflects the city's mythological, religious, and cultural narratives, blending artistry with storytelling.

UNIQUENESS

This craft is renowned for its unseasoned Kaima wood usage, multi-phase carving, and themes drawn from Indian epics and rural life. Artisans create 2D and 3D forms, often without machines, using ancestral tools and techniques. The finished products can last over 75 years, showcasing precision, symbolism, and generational skill.

RAW MATERIALS

Kaima, Teak, Sheesham, Eucalyptus, Lac, Distemper, Squirrel-Hair Brushes, Chisels, Lathe Machines

Price
Approx. Rs. 500 to 15000

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 3000 families

Proof of Origin
17th Century

Class of Goods
20

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Geographical Location
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Wood is sourced locally, cut into blocks, and hand-carved using chisels, hammers, and files. Designs are traced, shaped, and lacquered or painted with squirrel-hair brushes. Some items are lathe-turned, while others are fully hand-sculpted. Moisture is removed via slow heating, and parts are joined with adhesives or nails.

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