



Cloth Piece 1: Introduction to Weaving Techniques

The first cloth piece is a simple, foundational sample to practice basic weaving techniques.

- The **bottom 5 inches** consist of **plain weave**, serving as a base.
- The **next 5 inches** transition into a **twill weave**.
- The fabric is made using an **8-shaft handloom**, woven in a **plain weave** structure.
- This piece helped me understand the fundamental mechanics of handloom weaving.



Cloth Piece 2: Pattern and Color Exploration

For the second cloth piece, we were given the freedom to choose our own patterns and color combinations.

- I carefully observed the **thickness and texture** of the available threads and selected those that would best suit my envisioned design.
- My intent was to create a **kerchief-like pattern**, and I experimented with **color contrasts and thread alignment** to achieve that effect.
- This piece was a creative exploration in design choice and material compatibility.



Cloth Piece 3: Thematic Cloth – Hindu Wedding

The third and most elaborate piece was based on a chosen **theme**, with the freedom to explore materials and symbolism. I selected the **Hindu wedding ceremony** as my theme.

- The cloth narrates the wedding progression from **bottom to top**:
 - **White pancha** for the groom, bordered with **violet and gold**.
 - A section of **red threads** symbolizes **kumkuma**.
 - Followed by **yellow threads**, representing the **thaali** – the sacred wedding thread.
 - Next comes **akshintalu**, represented through woven textures.
 - Then, the **bride's saree** is depicted in **blue** with a **pink, silver, and gold border**.
 - Above that, woven **flower patterns** in **orange and pink** represent **marigold flowers and rose petals** scattered over the couple.
 - At the very top is a **maamidi toranam** (mango leaf garland), above which stands the **PELLI PANDIRI** (wedding canopy) created using **green and gold threads**. I added small **sticks** to enhance the authentic look of the pandiri.
- On the **left side**, I tied a **miniature pancha and saree together with a thaali**, symbolizing the strength and sacredness of the couple's bond in a traditional Hindu marriage.

UTTARIYA:



I wove my **convocation scarf (uttariya)** myself, making it a truly **lifetime memory**. I spent nearly **8 hours weaving an 80-inch plain weave** on a **large handloom**, where both hands and feet were used in the process. This was a physically engaging and deeply meaningful experience.

After completing the weaving, I got the **IIT Bombay logo printed** on the fabric. The uttariya, which is traditionally **distributed by the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay** to graduating students, holds special significance for me because I created it with my own hands as I graduate.
