

## Week 2

Fact File About

### Dokra

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#### Description:

Dhokra (also spelt Dokra) is non-ferrous metal casting using the lost-wax casting technique. This sort of metal casting has been used in India for over 4,000 years and is still used. One of the earliest known lost wax artefacts is the dancing girl of Mohenjo-Daro.

#### Origin:

Dhokra art originated in West Bengal, over time the tribes moved to Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa and Chhattisgarh as well as places like Kerala and Rajasthan. Currently Dhokra art is spread all over India .

## Materials and Tools Used:

- Anthills Mud - Mud is the core material that is used for making the first model of the final product.
- Water - Water is used for kneading mud and cow dung.
- Cow Dung - Cow dung is mixed with mud to make the model.
- Wax Threads - Wax threads are wound around the clay model.
- Charcoal - Charcoal is burnt in the furnace to obtain high amount of heat.
- Brass - It is one of the core substances that are used for making dhokra metal products.
- Wood - Wood is used for firing purpose.
- Furnace - Furnace is used for baking the clay model.
- Graphite Container - Graphite container is used for arranging and melting metal (brass) crucibles.
- Hammer - Hammer is used for removing the clay mould.
- Customized Tool - It is used while rendering the required design.
- Sand - It is mixed with clay.
- Salt - It is added to metal crucibles while heating the metal.
- Hacksaw Tool - This is used for cutting out the extras of the metal product.
- File Tool - This tool is used for polishing purpose.
- Big Sized Brush - This brush is used for dusting and cleaning of the clay particles.
- Furnace - It is used for melting the metal and baking the clay moulds.

## Specialty:

Dhokra is the oldest form of metal casting and popular because of its simplicity. It is the specialty of Chhattisgarh. It is very important handicraft because of its labour extensive and largely exclusive folk character. Bastar district of Chhattisgarh provides the most distinct Dhokra crafts.

## Significance in local culture:

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It is a popular art form in the tribal regions of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. ... Apart from figurines and daily-use objects, this casting technique is also used to make tribal jewelry that's bold and artistic