

## Mahua Lahiri

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### Profile

- Nearly 25 years of personal experience in traditional Bengal crafts, specializing in Nakshi Kantha embroidery.
  - Empaneled Designer for Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, India.
  - Extensive experience in teaching, workshops, and skill development for traditional crafts at both national and international levels.
  - Bachelor of Fashion Technology (Leather Design) from National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Kolkata (2003-2007).
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### Exhibitions

- **“Reviving Nakshi Kantha of Undivided Bengal”** at Artisans' Art Gallery, Mumbai (April 2024).
- **International Folk Art Market (IFAM)**, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA (July 2024, July 2019).
- Participated in **“Sutr Santati: Then, Now, and Next”**, showcasing “Rhythm of Charkha” across multiple global venues, including National Museum, New Delhi and Melbourne Victoria Museum, Australia.
- Conducted international workshops, including at **The George Washington University Museum**, USA (2020), and **Virtual Selvedge World Fair**, UK (2020).
- Organized skill development programs and entrepreneurship initiatives empowering women artisans.

### Guest Faculty, National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Kolkata

- Specialized in Surface Development Projects and Bengal crafts.
  - Conducted workshops and seminars on Nakshi Kantha embroidery and traditional Bengal crafts.
  - Served as an external jury member for various academic evaluations.
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### Education

- **Currently Pursuing:** Postgraduate Program in Anthropology, IGNOU.
  - **Bachelor of Fashion Technology (Leather Design)**, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Kolkata (2007).
  - **B.Sc. (Physiology, Zoology, Botany)**, University of Calcutta (2003).
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### Skills

- Expertise in **Nakshi Kantha Embroidery** and traditional Bengal crafts.
  - Proficient in design development, product conceptualization, and surface ornamentation.
  - Experienced in conducting workshops, mentoring, and capacity building for artisans.
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## Achievements & Highlights

- **International Collaborations:**
    - Represented Indian crafts at prestigious global platforms like IFAM, USA, and Selvedge World Fair, UK.
    - Participated in panels and exhibitions at The George Washington University Museum, USA.
  - **Recognition:**
    - Jury winner at Architectural Digest India X JSW Prize for Contemporary Craftsmanship (2023).
  - **Workshops & Training:**
    - Conducted numerous national and international Kantha embroidery workshops, including at the India International Quilt Festival (2021).
    - Delivered lectures and training programs for artisans under various government and private initiatives.
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## Languages

- English, Bengali and Hindi.