

An Exploratory Study of the Classical Craft of Tarkashi in the Region of Multan, South Punjab, Pakistan

Rabia Shaukat¹, Asna Mubashra²

¹Lecturer, Department of Textile Design, Lahore College for Woman University, Lahore, Pakistan.

²Associate Professor, Department of Textile Design, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan.

Correspondence: asna.cad@pu.edu.pk²

ABSTRACT

Aim of the Study: The intricacies of the skill have been a part of the inherited abilities and expertise. One of these techniques is Tarkashi. It is one-of-a-kind technique that gives an overlook of the lace work. It appears like an inlaid woven lace that provides a beautiful and delicate value to the surface. This needlework involves removing threads from the structure of the surface and regrouping and securing in place the remaining threads on the fabric surface by stitches creating various motifs using the inspirations of floral patterns, geometrical themes and other textile motifs.

Methodology: This exploratory study gives an in-depth detail about the craft and its creation constraints. The data collected was from the observation methods and in-person conversations and interviews along with a collection of physical samples comprising of various design details traditionally been practised here. A thematic analysis was drawn from the interviews of the craft persons information about the materials used and tools needed were also compiled. The researcher collected samples of Tarkashi embroidery from the area of Multan from the artisans. The fabric chosen for these samples was lawn and an in-depth analysis was made by the researcher about the technique..

Findings: Pakistan's rich cultural legacy is embodied in Tarkashi embroidery, which maintains traditional methods, motifs, and craftsmanship with historical and symbolic value. Its aesthetic value is secondary to its cultural significance.

Conclusion: The continued use of Tarkashi embroidery not only preserves a centuries-old artistic tradition but also strengthens the artistic, cultural, and economic identities of the regions in which it is most widely used. The legacy, customs, and motifs of Pakistani textile arts will endure for future generations due to their sustainability.

Keywords: Craft, Heritage, Multan, Traditional Technique.

Article History

Received:
February 07, 2025

Revised:
May 04, 2025

Accepted:
May 08, 2025

Online:
May 17, 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

The major contribution towards the intricate embroidery of Tarkashi is the hard-working craftsmanship that defines how the end product is going to appear. The Tarkashi word denotes the Persian origin. Tar is referred to as wire and Kash means extraction or removal. So, the term overall means the removal of threads from the surface of the fabric. It is a very detailed process beginning from the thoughtful thread removal from construction of the fabric and skilfully regrouping the remaining threads with needle and embroidery floss completing the intricate embroidered patterns of various kinds. The removal involves the counting of the threads and carefully pricking out the threads by needle and a sharp razor blade. The thread count of the construction weave is calculated that helps the embroiderer to precisely calculate according to the pattern or the border. The threads are very carefully drawn out.

The origin history of this craft has been subtle throughout the records, but the popularity has been widespread in the subcontinent as the folks of those areas are very keen on using extravagant expressions in attire and everyday textile products. In the prior times, the craft of Tarkashi embroidery only used threads on fabric but the skilled artists who have been practicing it since then have now been using sequins, pearls, or beads incorporated in the completion of this work. The custom and heritage that have been associated with Tarkashi embroidery have made it far more than a mere craft.

Women of different regions find it very suitable to adorn their dresses with this embroidery for several occasions. As the world is evolving and we are getting various substitutes for hand embroideries, people are truly getting to admire the real worth of this work. People find these crafts very interesting and have great value for these. The areas around the regions of Multan are enriched with craftpersons who use Tarkashi embroidery for making bridal dresses and formal clothing. The pieces of embroidery are also used to be given as a souvenir to foreigners and tourists. These embroideries are getting less common and are endangered to extinction as the current generations are less likely to take upon their heritage and culture due to fewer occupational opportunities. The legacies of these regions have been carried throughout the centuries and the artisans in Pakistan have been very keen to take upon the craft and make their way through evolution. They have used different types of fabrics and threads and have changed the motifs according to taste and selection. The customization of the patterns according to the client's choice has also been a common practice.

The artisans work on thread extraction from fabrics like silk, cotton lawn, etc. The patterns or motifs are designed on the themes of floral, geometric patterns, or other naturally inspired objects. Several themes are common in practice in Tarkashi. Artists can create a pattern by arrangement of leaves and flowers. The use of mathematical shapes like squares and triangles is also common. The reason for this is that Tarkashi is created by counting the threads instead of tracing. Due to this counting, it is easier to create geometrical motifs rather than floral patterns. Another reason is that the threads are woven in horizontal and vertical rows. When the threads are being taken out or unravelled, they mostly create rectangular surfaces. This allows the artist to create the geometrical patterns.

Much emphasis is applied to the uneven distribution of rectangular shapes which can be further joined by the threads during embroidery. The application of intricate embroidery is as important as the selection of motifs. The final look and the intricacy is enhanced by the application of threads and embroideries. The material selection is equally as important as the motif selection. The most difficult task in Tarkashi is the management of intricacy. The detailed patterns must be according to the theme and the thread should hold the neatness that the crafter is pouring in. In some places, Tarkashi embroidery serves as both a cultural practice and a means of income for communities and artists. The manufacture and sale of embroidered textiles at retail strengthens the local economy. Being able to do Tarkashi embroidery well is usually regarded as a sign of exceptional talent and craftsmanship. Artists who can create this kind of embroidery are highly respected in their communities. Working together to create intricate pieces is a potential social activity associated with Tarkashi embroidery.

Tarkashi is exceptionally intriguing yet in addition one of the most muddled handmade works. Its examples and fastens look so imperial that this type of weaving never leaves the spotlight. It is, truth be told, to a great extent respected for its magnificence and tastefulness in practically all regions of the planet. The multifaceted nature of Tarkashi's work is the result of eliminating even and vertical strings of the texture in an embellishing design. The excess strings are tied, wound, and got with embellishing fastens. The actual sewing in Tarkashi is generally both embellishing and useful, as the fastens keep the leftover strings intact while enhancing the region being worked. The outcome gives an exceptionally silky look and change as a result of the sort of texture and strings utilized all the while. Its frilly impact gives a remarkable touch to all Western and Eastern outfits.

Tarkashi's work is well established in the social legacy of the locales where it began. It frequently consolidates customary themes and plans that have been gone down through the ages, filling in as an impression of the rich social history and imaginative practices of the district. It requires exceptionally gifted craftsmen who have complicated weaving strategies and skills in working with metal wires. These craftsmen frequently go through long stretches of preparing to dominate the art, and their ability adds to the conservation of conventional craftsmanship and the advancement of high-quality abilities. Tarkashi's work improves the magnificence and allure of materials by adding multifaceted examples, surfaces, and embellishments. Whether utilized in pieces of clothing, home decorations, extras, or stately clothing, Tarkashi embroidery raises the visual and material characteristics of materials, making them stick out and accumulating adoration for their craftsmanship.

In Pakistan, there is a wide population that caters to the Tarkashi embroidery and the public who adorns them in daily and festive wear. But there is a wide issue that these artisans and artifacts are not catered to as much as they deserve. The media recognition or publishing lacks information about these artifacts and the artisans who are making a huge contribution to keeping this craft alive (Radaviciene, 2014). The areas that practice Tarkashi are renowned because of this skill and have a centre of attraction or point of emphasis for documentation. Even though the recognition is very subtle, the importance or significance is still widespread (Wood,2000). These distinct motifs and patterns have specific meanings drawn from religious values or cultural beliefs. The conclusions were drawn by the analysis of the cultural thoughts, areas of emergence, the perspectives of folks, etc. This importance would lead to creating a larger cultural context (Brooks, 2015). There is a very endearing need for the preservation of this craft as the artistic needs need to be catered and the legacies of the nations have to be preserved. The embroidery techniques are a very exquisite part of the subcontinents heritage. If proper measures are not taken for their preservation, they will slowly disappear from history and cultural values (Ojha,2018). Common crafts that are made with Tarkashi are developed in several different articles. Some of the examples that the artisans develop are,

Formal Wear: - There is a wide variety of formal or bridal wear that is produced near Multan and its suburbs. These clothes can be worn as bridal or luxury wear. Specifically, now when there is an incorporation of beads, pearls, or sequins.

Special Occasion Robes: - There is also a major trend in south Punjab to wear Tarkashi embroidered clothes along with other types of embroidery in festivals and ceremonies. People like to celebrate Eid, special holidays, and other festivities in these clothes.

Home Décor: - Home furnishings or upholstered items are very common to be made in these crafts. Skilled craft men and women would make special types of tablecloths, runners, or other upholstered products with these embroideries.

There are multiple reasons why the craft is endangered. One of the reasons is that the new generation is not taking up their ancestor's craft as there is not much revenue that can be generated from this craft technique. Specifically, in times of inflation, when an average person must meet the ends, it is not preferred by the next generation to take such jobs which do not provide much profit. Especially if the point is merely to keep the craft alive, therefore, it is very important to take measures to keep it alive in

the heritage. As the craft is taking many turns, some museums have displayed the artifacts of Tarkashi. These artifacts are very impressive and are very informative for the researchers for having a deep analysis of the craft that holds rich cultural values and historical beliefs (Nichols, 2012).

Preservation of Tradition: A priceless piece of Pakistani history is safeguarded and traditional techniques and motifs are passed down from one generation to the next by making sure Tarkashi embroidery is practiced and preserved. With appropriate measures taken, Tarkashi can become one of the very significant internationally recognized elements of Pakistani culture. Tarkashi embroidery is not only beautiful to look at, but it also has cultural significance as a craft that is deeply rooted in Pakistani history and art. The intricate and sophisticated patterns produced by craftspeople employing Tarkashi embroidery are evidence of their proficiency and creativity, as they manage threads without relying on specific stitches or knots. Tarkashi embroidery often uses motifs and designs with historical and cultural significance, symbolizing aspects of Pakistani spirituality, prosperity, and tradition. Because Tarkashi embroidery uses metallic threads to give fabrics a touch of opulence and luxury, it is highly sought after for ceremonies, special occasions, and expensive clothing (Juciene, 2012). The only requirement for the production of this craft is intrinsic labor and deep-down careful attention to the details of the embroideries (Sophie, 2013). The present literature on the topic of Tarkashi is very insufficient but it is very important and feasible for the researchers to gain knowledge about the historical context and cultural insights (Mc Neill, 1993).

2. METHODOLOGY

Current study is exploratory in nature. Researcher accessed the area known for the production of Tarkashi to extract meaningful outcome of the study.

2.1 Target Area

The data collected for this research was from the southern Punjab specifically from the area of Multan. The craftswomen of these areas are highly skilled and proficient in their work.

2.2 Data Collection

The data collected was from the observation methods and in-person conversations and interviews along with a collection of physical samples comprising of various design details traditionally been practised here. A thematic analysis was drawn from the interviews of the craft persons information about the materials used and tools needed were also compiled. The researcher collected samples of Tarkashi embroidery from the area of Multan from the artisans. The fabric chosen for these samples was lawn and an in-depth analysis was made by the researcher about the technique.

2.3 Procedure of Making of Tarkashi

To make sure the fabric is taut and easier to work with; it is stretched in an embroidery hoop first. The design ordinarily starts with the determination of a plan. Customary plans frequently include botanical themes and geometric or elaborate scenes. These plans might be drawn on paper or straightforwardly onto the fabric. Commonly utilized themes in Tarkashi revolve around, blooms, leaves, plants, and petals , these are organized in multifaceted examples to make an astounding impact. Tarkashi weaving regularly incorporates scalloped or complex lines and lawns that decorate the edges of surfaces, working on the general arrangement. The fabric to be decorated is chosen, which can go from silk to cotton or some other reasonable material. The texture must be appropriately settled to endure the embroidery. To mark the design onto the fabric, use a light pencil or an erasable fabric pen. The Tarkashi sections will be created by this design. Pull out individual threads in the fabric with a needle, being cautious and gentle to follow the marked design. The foundation of the pattern is made up of these pulled threads. Tarkashi embroidery's begins point. One thread is divided into a line at various points. Cut the threads with a blade; cut the threads on the opposite side; and use a needle to effusion each thread individually. In the art of Tarkashi embroidery, certain threads are extracted from the fabric, and the remaining threads are then

used to create incredibly detailed patterns and designs. Work a line of small, neat stitches along the edge of the drawn thread area to keep the fabric from unraveling beyond those areas. Tarkashi areas are decorated with a variety of embroidery stitches using the remaining threads. Satin, eyelet, and basic running stitches are examples of common stitches. To improve the design and add depth, add extra elements such as seed stitches, French knots, or other textured stitches. Finishing the design complete the intended pattern by merging the embroidered and drawn thread portions of the design. Certain themes and examples utilized in Tarkashi weaving might have social or emblematic importance. For instance, a few plans might address components of nature, otherworldliness, or old stories. The Tarkashi work found on formal materials adds to the general magnificence and meaning of unique events. This class might incorporate things like wedding covers, stylized decorative liners, and strict garbs. Tarkashi weaving is an effective method for empowering pride in one's way of life. It transforms into a portrayal of history and customs that networks can attempt to save and give to people in the future. Every motif used in Tarkashi embroidery has a distinct cultural meaning with terms that are only used in local areas and are often drawn from historical customs and beliefs. Depending on the motif's personal or regional significance, different interpretations within the larger cultural context may be made of it.

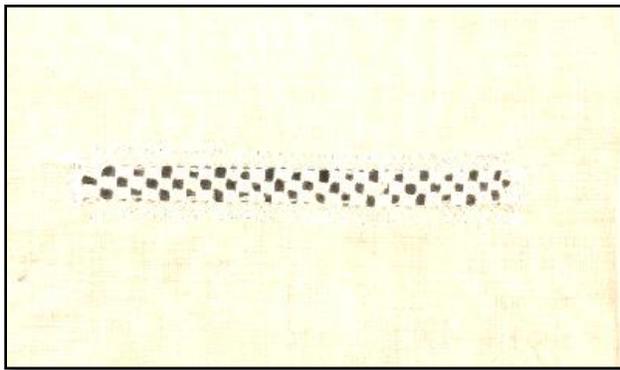


Fig1: - *Dal Dani Tarkashi sample by author*

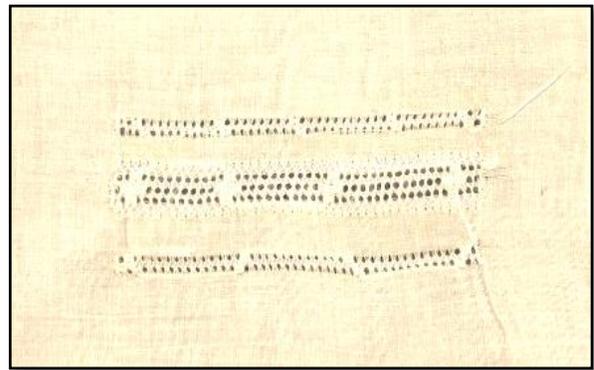


Fig 2: - *Triple border of Tarkashi. Picture by author*

The above Fig 1 in local terminology is referred to as Dal Dani, Dal in the local language is also taken in the same terms as bale or branch. The color scheme is the same as others that is white on white. The cotton thread is used on the lawn fabric. The artist has created a significant Tarkashi border that depicts the cultural values of Multan, the city of Saints, i.e. peace, spirituality, and tranquillity through the choice of colors that are subtle such as green and white in tints.

Fig 2 explains the specific pattern of Tarkashi which is called Sui Chunut. The name is based on the procedure that makes the net of the thread in embroidery. Sometimes the referred style is also taken in terms of Jali design. Local artisans have crafted amazing artifacts using this style. The color scheme is the same as practiced in many areas of Multan.

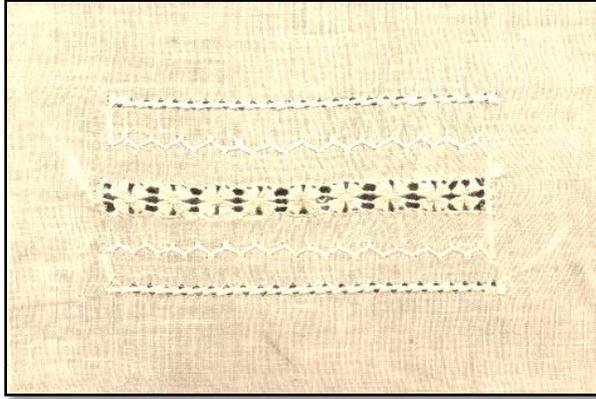


Fig 3: - 4 Patti Phool of Tarkashi by author

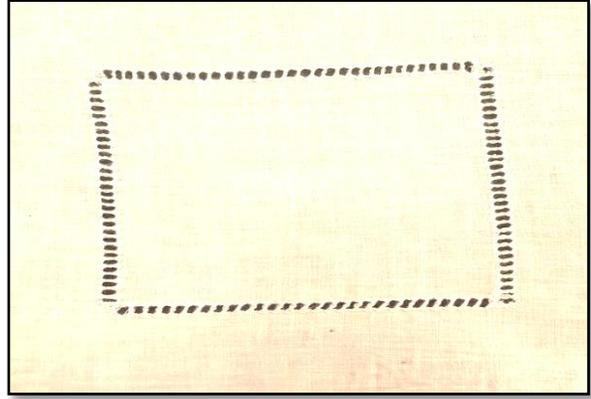


Fig 4: - Unique Tarkashi square pattern by author

Figure 3 represents a Tarkashi border that is made up of 4 petal flowers. Significantly divided into four petals, the flowers continue to make a straight line as a pattern and the embroidery is topped off with different stitches of embroidery on top and bottom. The color scheme of the sample is chosen to be the same as of others that is white. The cotton thread is used in the same color. In most areas of Multan, spirituality, and tranquillity have their roots dug deep down culturally. The same influence can be seen in art and design also.

The above Figure 4 is locally termed as sirhi style. Sirhi is the terminology for the ladder. The consecutive pattern makes it harmonious for the pattern to appear in a square. The threads are cut through a blade with the use of a graph or simply by counting the number of threads. This mathematical expression is the basis upon which the whole pattern of embroidery is formulated.

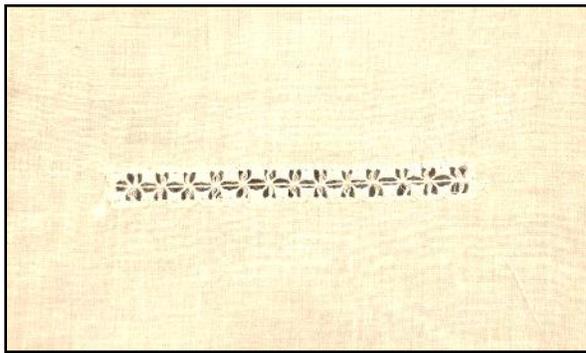


Fig 5: - Floral Tarkashi border; image by author

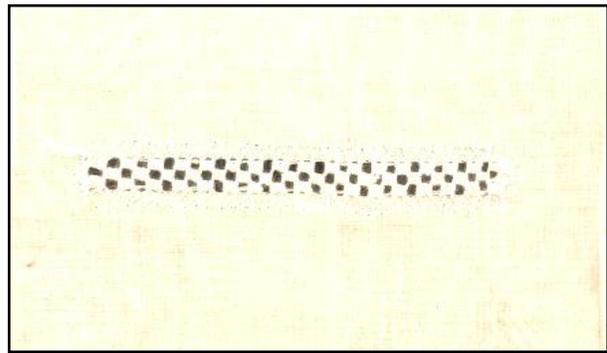


Fig 6:- Geometric Tarkashi motif (picture by author)

The above image 5 and 6 of the Tarkashi design is termed 8-kali Phool in the local language of the artisans. The name has roots in its appearance where the flower originates exactly with eight petals, two on each of four sides. The continuation of the floral line makes a pattern that looks visually appealing.

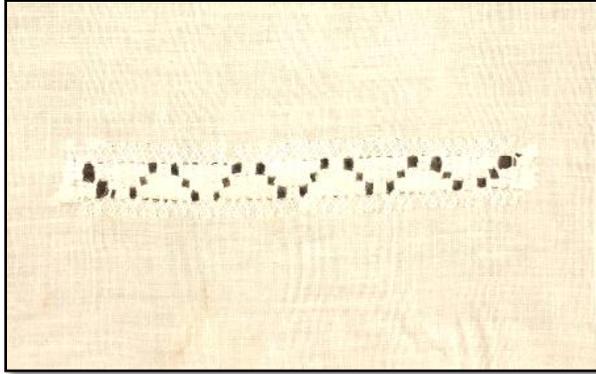


Fig 7: - *Tarkashi border of geometric pattern*

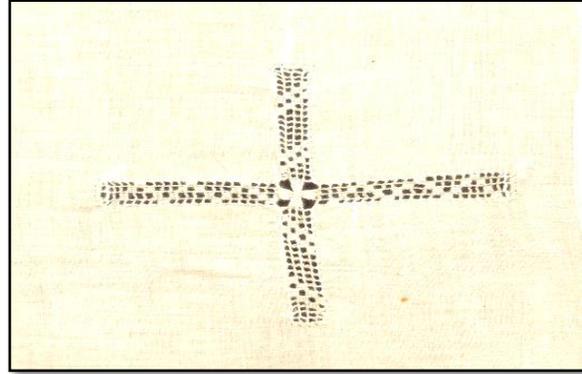


Fig 8: - *Floral Tarkashi pattern on lawn fabric*

Fig 7 and 8 explains the variation in the previous reference of Dal Dani, in local terms it is called Jali wali dal Dani. The sample is made up of a compilation of the same pattern and is joined in a positive sign with a flower at the match. This sample is also crafted on the lawn fabric with cotton thread and follows the same subtle color scheme as of the city of Saints i.e. white, the symbol of purity.

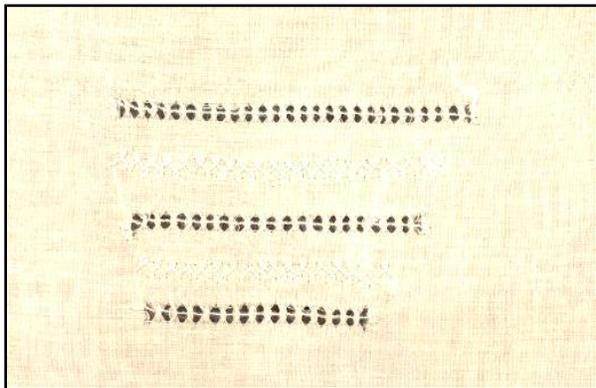


Fig 9: - *a mixed border of different embroideries, picture by author*

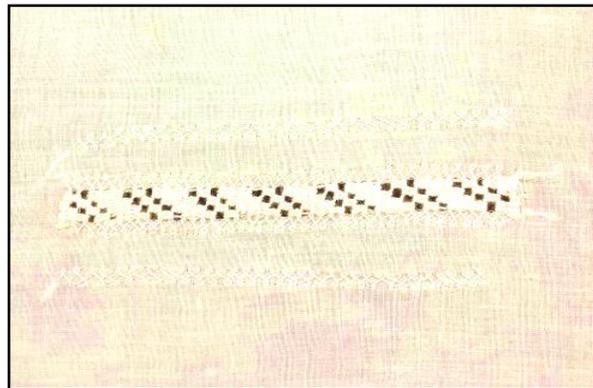


Fig 10: - *Tarkashi border ladder style, image by author*

Figure 9 and 10 explains the local style of Tarkashi which is termed as ladder style. The terminology refers to the actual ladder. The reference is carved from the step-by-step upbringing of the design. The closely knit design allows the embroidery to create a stunning masterpiece by joining different stitches. Along with the Tarkashi border, Herringbone stitch is also used on both sides of the border to create a finishing look.

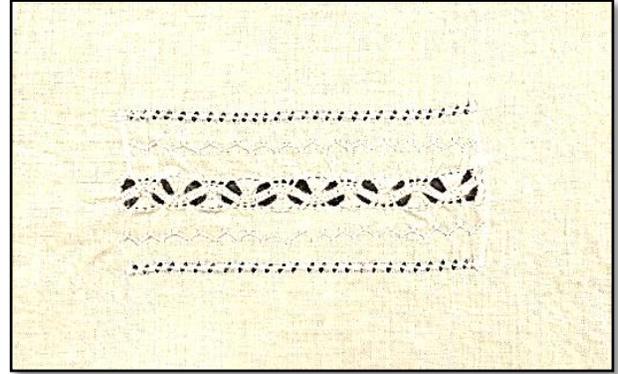
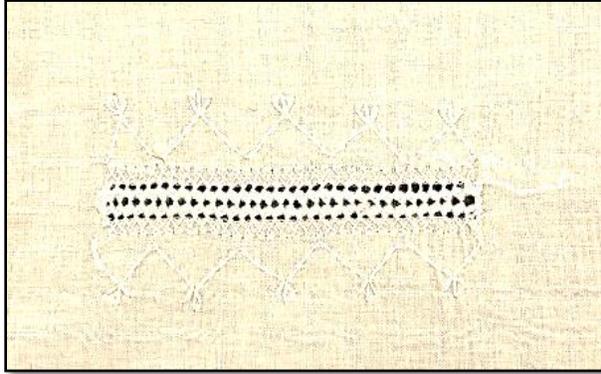


Fig 11: - a mixed border of different embroideries, **Fig 12:** - Tarkashi border (image by author)
picture by author

This Fig 11 and 12 explains the white-on-white embroidery of Tarkashi. This particular type of embroidery pattern is called tube wali bale in the local language. The pattern of the embroidery moves in swirls like the bale. The color scheme is mostly chosen as green or white referring to purity and tranquillity because of the reference to the city of saints.



Fig 13: - Butterfly style of Tarkashi

The above Fig 13 is locally termed as Guddi style or butterfly style. The outcome of this style looks like a lace that is formed through embroidery. The sample is created on the lawn fabric with cotton thread and has the same color scheme of Multan that is in trend and vastly followed there.

In many societies, materials play a pivotal part in communicating social character, values, and customs. Tarkashi's work frequently consolidates themes and plans that are representative of social character, filling in to protect and celebrate social legacy through material imaginativeness. The creation of Tarkashi materials upholds jobs for craftsmen and skilled workers engaged with the weaving system. By setting out open doors for business and pay age, Tarkashi's work adds to the financial supportability of networks and helps safeguard customary vocations in areas where it is rehearsed. Tarkashi's work has earned respect and appreciation on a worldwide scale, drawing in revenue from fashioners, gatherers, and buyers who esteem high-quality craftsmanship and distinctive materials. Its extraordinary magnificence and

social importance make it pursued in worldwide business sectors, adding to the advancement of customary craftsmanship and social trade.

Exactness is fundamental in Tarkashi weaving because the woven configuration is made by carefully controlling texture strings. The blend of pulled strings and additional weaving fastens makes the completed plan extraordinary and multifaceted. The sensitive treatment of strings without the requirement for specialty lines is the key to Tarkashi weaving's expertise. The resultant plan is sumptuous and many-sided, loaning the texture a demeanour of extravagance. While making botanical plans in Tarkashi weaving, deft controllers of different strings are expected to make the fragile structures and surfaces tracked down in blossoms. This cycle calls for persistence, precision, and a profound comprehension of both the strategy and the botanical plan that is being shown.

SWOT analysis of the Tarkashi embroidery in Pakistan

Strengths: -

- They are culturally associated with our heritage.
- Southern Punjab is densely packed with the recognition of this embroidery.
- Generations have been earning their livelihood from these techniques by producing this craft thus making it alive in our history.
- The complete technique holds much value towards sustainability as there is no machinery or chemicals involved.
- The export can be elevated using these cultural products thus contributing towards the economical perspective.
- The innovation and evolution have always been a part of these techniques.

Weakness: -

- The human force required, and labor intrinsic hours can be difficult to manage.
- It is very time-consuming and tough for the artist to provide that much attention to the details.
- The revenue generated is not enough.

Opportunities: -

- It can prove very fruitful for the economic platform to make exports and earn massive revenue.
- International recognition can make a softer and more interesting perspective of Pakistan.
- Investments can be made to make it more preserved.
- International collaborations can be proved to be very fruitful.

Threats: -

- As the world is moving towards more machine-based and less time-consuming projects, it is very difficult to convince the subject of the importance of handmade craft however, the designers and engineers can work on the introduction of Tarkashi embroidery through machines.
- If the time management in the preservation of this craft is not suitable, the cultural analysts will not be able to preserve it.
- As the younger generation tends to be more attracted to the current trends, the classics like Tarkashi and other embroideries go unnoticeable. It is very important to increase the information and importance of these embroideries and other handmade crafts in the younger generation.

3. FINDINGS

3.1 A True Embodiment of Culture

Maintaining the rich legacy as well as the historical significance of Tarkashi embroidery depends on its cultural preservation. The survival of unique and traditional techniques is ensured by maintaining the authenticity of traditional weaving. The perpetuation of symbolic elements with historical and cultural significance is ensured by the preservation of traditional Tarkashi embroidery motifs and designs. The next generation of master artisans who pass on their knowledge and skills in Tarkashi embroidery ensures the continuation of this unique craft. Events like workshops, festivals, and educational initiatives can promote a feeling of pride in one's craft and encourage community involvement, both of which are beneficial for maintaining cultural support and awareness. In our diverse cultural landscape, Tarkashi embroidery serves as a visual representation of cultural identity by reflecting historical narratives, traditions, and aesthetics. The history, techniques, and motifs of Tarkashi embroidery are documented through publications, exhibitions, and cultural events to promote the craft's appreciation and awareness. The preservation of Tarkashi embroidery is imperative for the benefit of this unique art form.

3.2 Evidence of Evolution

Because it can adapt to and appeal to modern tastes while retaining its cultural significance, Tarkashi embroidery is still relevant today. Tarkashi embroidery is evolving to suit contemporary tastes. Designers and artisans are experimenting with new design motifs and adaptations that speak to contemporary aesthetics without losing the spirit of the craft. Some contemporary techniques experiment with new materials in addition to traditional threads. Tarkashi designs can be given a fresh lease of life by adding contemporary elements like beads, sequins, or even unusual fabrics. In the fashion industry, Tarkashi embroidery is still popular, especially in upscale and luxury markets. Designers who wish to create one-of-a-kind collections are in high demand for these exquisite, handcrafted embellishments. Traditional craft preservation and revival are growing in popularity. Tarkashi embroidery's cultural and historical roots put it at the forefront of the expanding interest in indigenous art forms. Partnerships between contemporary designers and traditional craftspeople are generating new insights and interpretations of Tarkashi embroidery, leading to fusion designs that appeal to a broader spectrum of buyers. As the world becomes more interconnected, there is a growing appreciation for diverse cultural art forms on a global scale. Tarkashi embroidery's unique methods and striking appearance will help it gain recognition on a global scale. Tarkashi embroidery's ability to balance tradition and modern tastes gives it a contemporary relevance that makes it appealing in today's global markets for design-conscious products.

3.3 Artistic and Financial Embodiment in Culture

The artistic and economic significance of Tarkashi embroidery is complex. Particularly in regions where Tarkashi embroidery is practiced, it gives skilled artists and their families a means of subsistence. It helps local economies by providing these artisans with a means of employment and income. The craft supports the cottage industry ecosystem because it often involves small workshops and lone artisans who contribute to the creation of textiles embellished with Tarkashi. Since Tarkashi embroidery is a specialized and labour-intensive craft, it often fills higher market niches, drawing in customers who are looking for luxurious, high-end textile products. This increases its economic significance by producing revenue from high-end goods. Tarkashi embroidery, a kind of traditional Indian artistry and craftsmanship, guarantees the survival of this rich cultural legacy and has an artistic influence. It adds opulence and intricate designs that elevate textiles and apparel's aesthetic appeal. Tarkashi embroidery serves as a cultural representation by using motifs and traditional designs to represent historical aspects of heritage and culture in Multan. By showcasing the intricate and painstaking work of gifted artisans, the art form raises respect for handcrafted and traditional textile arts. In addition to adding aesthetic value, the artistic value of Tarkashi embroidery guarantees the preservation and promotion of India's cultural heritage. Its economic effects support small-scale businesses and local livelihoods.

3.4 Measures to be Taken in the Future

Several significant factors impact the development, recognition, and preservation of Tarkashi embroidery, including obstacles and potential paths forward. Educating the next generation in this intricate craft is one of the biggest challenges. Since people's interests and aspirations for their careers are ever-changing, it can be challenging to find apprentices who are keen to learn Tarkashi embroidery—ensuring the survival of authentic techniques and themes in a rapidly evolving world where modern modifications or cost-cutting measures may compromise the craft's historical integrity. Maintaining the authenticity and cultural significance of Tarkashi embroidery while simultaneously catering to contemporary tastes and market demands is a delicate balance. The challenge is to compete with mass-produced, less expensive alternatives in a global market where handcrafted goods are often more expensive due to the time and skill required. Supporting and facilitating training programs that will entice younger artisans who are interested in learning Tarkashi embroidery is crucial to ensuring the craft's survival.

Considering innovative applications of Tarkashi embroidery that meet modern needs without compromising its historical roots. This might mean collaborating with designers and applying cutting-edge tools or materials. Market positioning is the process of strategically positioning a product as a high-end, handcrafted, and culturally significant item in the luxury market by utilizing the uniqueness and artisanal value of Tarkashi embroidery. The goal is to raise global awareness of Tarkashi embroidery through partnerships with international designers, participation in international exhibitions, and promotional campaigns. In a world that is changing rapidly, taking care of these problems and moving in these new directions could ensure that Tarkashi embroidery survives, develops, and becomes more well-known.

3.5 Worldwide Recognition and Appreciation

There are several reasons why Tarkashi embroidery might gain greater recognition and appreciation in the future, even though it may not have gotten as much attention as other embroidery styles around the world. Because of its intricate weaving techniques and use of metallic threads, Tarkashi embroidery is a unique and visually striking kind of embroidery that has the potential to attract attention from all over the world. Its historical significance, traditional motifs, and skilful execution could attract the attention of a wide global audience interested in diverse cultural art forms. Metallic threads in Tarkashi embroidery create an opulent and luxurious aesthetic that may appeal to markets seeking upscale, exclusive, and elaborate textile designs. The careful and expert craftsmanship of Tarkashi embroidery is a monument to the mastery of artisans for those who are interested in traditional, handcrafted art forms. Given the increasing global interest in traditional and culturally rich designs, Tarkashi embroidery could gain more recognition in the fashion and design industries. Tarkashi embroidery may be displayed in galleries, museums, and cultural exchanges as interest in cultural tourism grows globally, exposing it to a larger audience. Tarkashi embroidery is not as well-known as some other kinds, but because of its unique techniques, cultural significance, and aesthetic appeal, it has the potential to become more well-known and appreciated globally as interest in various traditional art forms grows. A research paper's conclusion and discussion on Tarkashi embroidery should aim to provide an overview of the art form's artistic, cultural, and historical significance as well as offer recommendations for future developments.

4. CONCLUSION

This study aimed to highlight the significance of Tarkashi embroidery, encompassing its historical significance, cultural worth, motifs, and creators. The essence of Tarkashi embroidery lies in the intricate weaving and manipulation of metallic threads directly into the fabric without the need for knots or specific stitches, demonstrating the accuracy and artistry of skilled artisans. The study concluded that Pakistan's rich cultural legacy is embodied in Tarkashi embroidery, which maintains traditional methods, motifs, and craftsmanship with historical and symbolic value. Its aesthetic value is secondary to its cultural significance. The continued use of Tarkashi embroidery not only preserves a centuries-old artistic tradition but also strengthens the artistic, cultural, and economic identities of the regions in which it is

most widely used. The legacy, customs, and motifs of Pakistani textile arts will endure for future generations due to their sustainability.

Acknowledgements

None.

Conflict of Interest

Authors declared NO conflict of interest.

Funding Source

The authors received NO funding to conduct this study.

ORCID iDs

Rabia Shaukat ¹ <https://orcid.org/0009-0006-6362-9377>
Asna Mubashra ² <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0743-6846>

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