



## Paithani Sarees

**Source: AIR**

The Prime Minister of India highlighted the cultural significance and traditional craftsmanship of **Paithani sarees** ( known as **Mahavastra of the state of Maharashtra**).

- Paithani sarees originated in Paithan, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (Maharashtra) around the 6th century B.C.
- Paithani sarees are handwoven silk sarees with rich zari (**gold or silver thread**) work, known for vibrant pallus and motifs like peacocks and lotuses, inspired by [Ajanta and Ellora caves](#) art and mythology.
- Recognised for their uniqueness and cultural value, Paithani Sarees and Fabrics have been granted **Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2010**.
- The craft has a 2000-year-old legacy, dating back to the [Satavahana era](#), when Paithan was a silk export hub to the **Roman Empire**.
  - Dynasties like the **Vakatakas, Rashtrakutas, Tughlaqs, Mughals, and Marathas** supported its growth.
- The other GI-tagged saree from Maharashtra is **Karvathi Kati Tussar Silk Saree**, handwoven exclusively in the Vidarbha region. Inspired by **Ramtek temple** architecture, these sarees feature temple-like borders ((like the Vimana).



Read more: [Kanjeevaram Silk Sari: Tamil Nadu](#)

[Patola Sarees from Gujarat](#)

[Chendamangalam Saree: Kerala](#)

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