

Pedagogical Infrastructure for Craft Upliftment: Economic and Cultural Dimensions for Craft Upliftment

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Abstract: Craft upliftment fundamentally requires experiential integration within design pedagogy to effectively engage with its contextual purpose, influenced by climate and culture. It is not theoretical jargon - it is hands-on. This study foregrounds the economic dimension of craft and proposes its meaningful incorporation into societal systems. Primary to this mindset, this paper highlights a platform for engagement - artisans and academia, as a stepping stone to industry. This association forms the basis for an informed economic perspective that guides strategies for artisan empowerment and development. This research explores blending the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) into a design studies curriculum centred on Craft Revival, emphasizing the need for dedicated on-campus infrastructure. The pedagogical framework enables students to understand artisans' workflows, facilitating authentic, hands-on learning experiences. The outcomes indicate that establishing such infrastructure can substantially strengthen educational practices and revive sustainable craft revival. This model has potential to be replicated or modified to various institutional and community contexts.

Keywords: Craft Revival, Artisan Economy, Campus Craft, Design Integration, Interior Design Pedagogy

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