The Power of Patterns:

Double Ikat for Textile Exchange in India and Indonesia
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EXHIBIT SCHEDULE
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An exhibit curated by Virginia Jing-yi Shih, Graphic Design support provided by Library Graphics

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In her honors thesis, My Chau highlights two distinctive types of textiles produced by tie-dying the warp and weft threads before they are woven, hence “double ikat”: *Patola* in Gujarat, India and *Gereinging* in Bali, Indonesia. Her thesis further explores the *patola* patterns depicted in palace murals and temple wall paintings as well as in pictures made from colored powder on temple floors, a ceremonial art form in Kerala, India. Ms. Chau argues that *patola* textiles thus have an international appeal across India and Indonesia.

Her research approach is innovative, exhaustive and resourceful. My Chau first saw and was captivated by a *gereinging* textile in the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris during her study abroad program in fall 2006. She analyzed the Gujarati *patola* textile in the Phoebe Hearst Museum, as well as 48 additional illustrations cited in her thesis. To enrich her primary source research, she consulted scholars, examined UCB library resources and requested publications through interlibrary loan.

Professor Joanna Williams comments that My Chau’s honors thesis “showed originality, intellectual imagination, and good judgment to produce a plausible new historical and cultural picture. Were she enabled to conduct fieldwork in Gujarat, Kerala, and Bali, this paper could readily be published.”

*Virginia Jung-w Shih
South/Southeast Asia Library*
“Bali Style” Patolu
Gujarat, India for the Indonesian Market
Silk; double ikat
18th/19th century
Collection of Thomas Murray
Mill Valley, California
Geringing Wiyang Kebo (sacred cloth)
Tenganan Pegeningan, Northeast Bali, Indonesia
Cotton; double ikat
19th/early 20th century
Collection of Thomas Murray
Mill Valley, California
“The Library awards annual prizes for outstanding examples of undergraduate library research in any discipline: arts, humanities, sciences, engineering or social sciences.”

“As many as six prizes will be awarded: $750 to lower-division students and $1000 to upper-division students. Winners, their faculty sponsors, and guests will be honored at a reception in the Morrison Library.”

Source: www.lib.berkeley.edu/researchprizes/
1. Albrecht Frenz, Krishna Kumar Marar
   *Wall Paintings in North Kerala, India: 1000 Years of Temple Art*
   Stuttgart, Germany: Arosche, 2004
   S/EA Asia ND2828.K47.F74 2004

   This fascinating, scholarly work in English and German captures the beauty of temple art and decorative wall paintings as documented in Indian mythology and philosophy in North Kerala of India.

2. Alfred Bühler, Eberhard Fischer
   *The Patola of Gujarat: Double Ikat in India*
   Basle, Switzerland: Krebs, 1979
   S/EA Asia NK8976.A1 B92 1979 (2 v.)

   A comprehensive and definitive reference guide to *The Patola of Gujarat*. It covers all aspects of *patola* from forms and motifs to manufacture and distribution as well as the history of *patola* weaving with numerous colored illustrations, plates and maps.

3. Brigitta Hauser-Schäublin, Marie-Louise Nabholz-Kartaschoff, Urs Ramseyer
   *Balinese Textiles*

   This splendid illustrated text captures the wealth and diversity of traditional Balinese textiles historically, from production to usage and its ceremonial functions in Balinese society.
Bibliography

Special thanks are due to My Chau for providing permission to Virginia Jing-yi Shih who revised and expanded the original bibliography of her undergraduate research prize project, The Power of Patterns: Double Ikat for Textile Exchange in India and Indonesia submitted in spring 2008 to the Library of the University of California, Berkeley (UCB). Call numbers are listed for those publications available at the UCB libraries.

Main Stack NK9504.7.C56 1988

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Main Stack NK9505.S.B81 1980

Anthropology TS1413.IS5.88

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Anthropology, Main Stack D5632.S58.F67 2001


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Harris, Henry T. Monograph on the Carpet Weaving Industry of Southern India. Madras, India: Printed by the Superintendent, 1908.

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