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Jaya Jaitly : Woven Textiles Of Varanasi before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Woven Textiles Of Varanasi:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Nice Read for lovers of Banarasi Sari and Fashion Designers working on Revitalization of Indigenous Handloom TraditionsBy Dr Anup K DasThe Banarasi Sari is the most popular bridal dress in Indian tradition, particularly widespread across the castes and creeds of Indian society. However, its adoration reached manifolds due to its manifestations in Bollywood and regional language cinemas. In Indian movies Banarasi Sari is projected as synonymous to a well-cultured family tradition, while some of them portray extravaganza wedding celebration matching bridegroom dressed in a Banarasi Sari. Like many jewelry ornaments, Banarasi Sari can also be inherited and passed through generations after generations. Its intrinsic designs can be traced back to pre-Mogul period, when many Hindu princesses and queens wore Banarasi Saris made of combination of silk and gold or silver threads (Zari) in their daily life. Later, its usage became limited within wedding celebrations and public festivals only due to several reasons. In 2009 "Banaras Brocades and Sarees" got recognized with a geographical indication (GI) right. So, the silk saris with exquisite designs produced in Varanasi or Banaras in

the state of Uttar Pradesh of India can only be labeled as Banarasi Sari. In book "Woven Textiles of Varanasi" author Jaya Jaitly explores the socio-economic conditions of weavers and transformation of the Varanasi city while producing most exquisite Banarasi Sari. This book is structured with mainly five chapters, namely, (1) Preface, (2) Varanasi through Time, (3) Types of Looms, (4) Weaving Techniques, and (5) Handloom, Continuity and the River Ganga. Jaya also explains possible conflicts between handloom and powerloom while seeking acceptability of Banarasi Sari as the most attractive fashion statement. This book also photographically illustrates several motifs used in Banarasi Saris for the last two centuries. This book is recommended for lovers of Banarasi Sari as well as fashion designers working on revitalization of indigenous handloom traditions.

This book highlights the tumultuous history of ups and downs of one of the most predominant and best known traditions of weaving in India that has steadfastly refused to be obliterated.