



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

# Namda craft

**Published On: 18-07-2023**

**Why is in news?** PM shares article on revival of Kashmir's centuries-old 'Namda' craft

Namda is a type of **traditional Kashmiri felted carpet** that is created using sheep wool and has colourful hand embroidery.

The distinct feature of this Kashmiri craft is that **wool is felted and not woven**.

Namda Craft is extensively used in Kashmir households for floor covering and mattresses.

It is said to have **begun in the 16th century** when Mughal Emperor Akbar wanted to get a covering for his horses to protect them from the cold.

It was introduced by a Sufi saint named **Shah-e-Hamdan** to Kashmiris.

It is usually a sandwich of many layers of wool flattened over each other.

After a layer is spread, it is sprinkled homogeneously with water and pressed with a tool known as '**pinjra**' (**woven willow wicker**).

Unique themes and floral patterns provide the themes for these masterpieces and flowers and leaves, buds and fruits are the essence of the designs.

It is practised as a craft in several cultures, especially in the countries **throughout Asia, viz. Iran, Afghanistan and India**.

Due to the low availability of raw materials, lack of skilled manpower and marketing techniques, the export of Namda craft has declined almost 100% between 1998 and 2008.

**Kamaraj IAS Academy**

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477** / Whatsapp : **09710729833**