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1. BLOCK-PRINTED LENGTH OF CLOTH

PIPAR, RAJASTHAN, INDIA, 1980S

Coarse cotton tabby. Pattern: Haidro-like. The resist was block printed; indigo blue, alizarin red, and myrobalan yellow were applied in dye baths.

The block-printed pattern is composed of individual flowers on a stem with two sets of leaves. The petals on each flower comprise a semicircle that rises like a large open fan. The flowers are oriented horizontally across the fabric (along the warp). The entire central print terminates at each end of the fabric in a yellow stripe framed by two parallel red stripes, both on a green ground, like the floral ornament. A resist was used that preserved the cloth's white ground when it was dyed with indigo. Another resist with alum ensured that the alizarin red was fixed. In conclusion, the fabric was overdyed with myrobalan yellow. The overdyeing transformed the indigo blue to green and turned the alizarin-red flowers a deep tangerine, with dark-yellow stems and leaves.