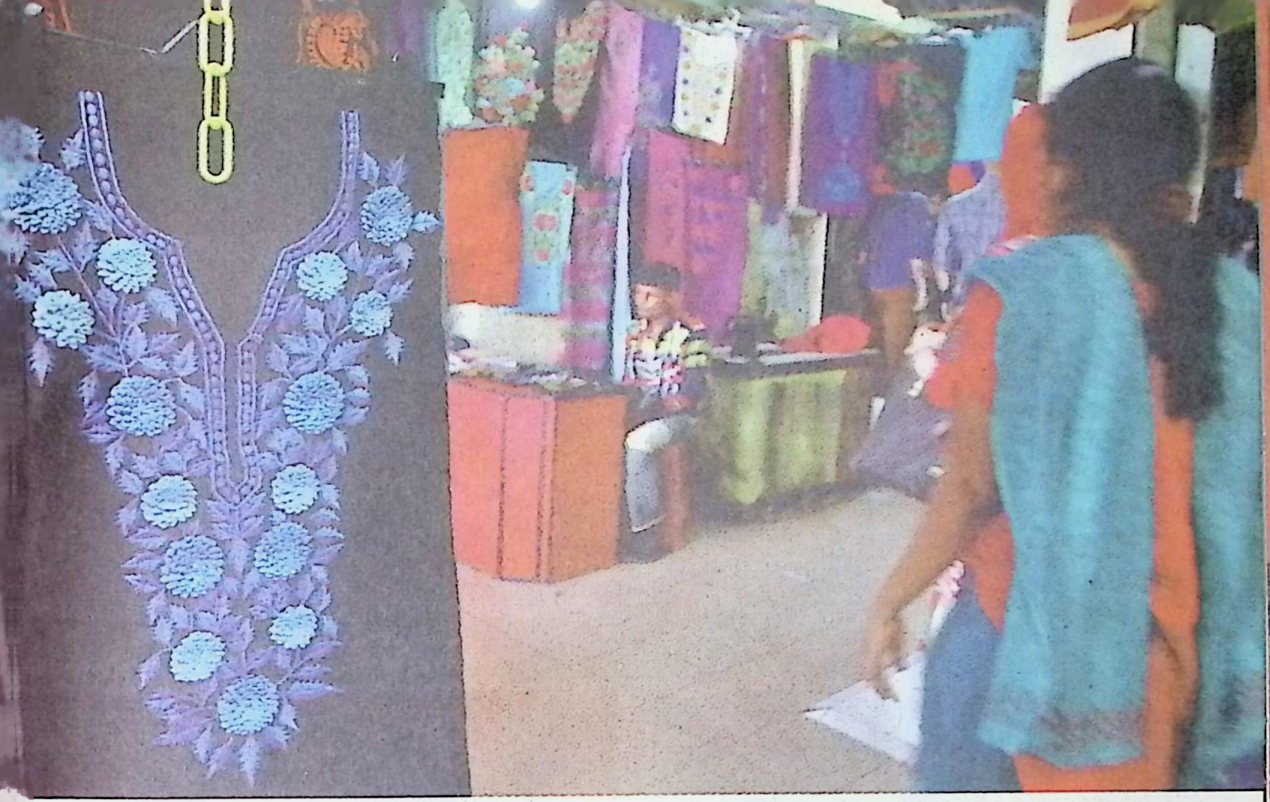


The handwork of the artisans end up in high-end stores.



On the other hand, Karchupi is still done in the traditional format. For that reason it takes at least two to fifteen days to weave a sari.

Karchupi requires a simple machine used for weaving in a wooden square shaft-loom. The fabrics are fixed in place in the shaft. The warp threads are tightened with a heddle, and the weaver creates the patterns on canvas of fabric. In the process of weaving the handloom, the weaver creates a perfect harmony of motion and rhythm. And all this with what is called a 'Bhuti pin,' the only tool they use to make the designs. The vast majority of Bangladeshi handlooms is engaged in weaving cotton and blended fabrics although handloom silks have earned a good reputation. So depending on the demands most of the weavers do the Karchupi designs on silk.

Saleh Ahmed, President of the Urdu Speaking People Youth Rehabilitation Movement says for generations, the weavers have promoted their product locally. At present nearly 1,000 manufacturing units in Mirpur are running their production of Karchupi.

Unfortunately, however, the demand for the traditional apparel craft has been decreasing among the city based