

WICKER WORK

Kashmir, the valley of paradise has its place in the world not only for its beauty but also for its crafts and artists.

Among all the crafts of Kashmir , Wicker work is a unique craft .

Wicker work is famous craft of making containers made of straw grass and leaves. This craft is practiced in various parts of Kashmir.

For making things out of these wicker twigs ,these wicker sticks are grown in muddy water ,it takes about two to three days for processing of the sticks to be used for making various products.

Once they are taken out of mud, they are sprayed with disinfectants.

These twigs are then boiled in water in a large iron container . The twigs are kept in the same container for about 12 hours. And the next day the workers starts to peel off the outer cover to make the twigs ready. This whole process makes the twigs soft and flexible so that they can be used to make all kind of things .

Many things can be made from these soft and light twigs of wicker tress that can be used by people of all classes.

This is popularly known aa **Kaani Kaem** in Kashmir.

In this way the final product comes to market. The biggest market of these wicker products in the Srinagar city is in Dargah Hazratbal.