

# Sacred Citadel

Tibet may have been one of the most isolated places on earth a century ago, but a thousand years ago, it was on the map. It was the centre of political and social interaction, trade, religious fervour and renewal, and artistic development. The Silk Route brought ideas and trade between the east and the west.

Design influences traveled along the Silk Route, many originating in Sogdiana in the Tarim Basin and traveled west to Egypt, Syria and Rome, and to the east through the Gansu corridor into China. Chinese, and later the Mongolians, Uygurs and Tanguts made political and religious alliances and bartered horses with Tibetans. The currency was silk. Quantities of silk ended up in Tibetan monasteries and ended up as appliquéd thangkas (paintings) and temple banners.

The silk furnishings became a means to illustrate designs popular in Tibet during the Silk Route era, and an overview of the richness and variety of patterns which once ornamented banners and clothing. Today these designs are available at Sacred Citadel.

Through careful research, the appliquéd techniques now used are the same as that used centuries ago, and continued on high quality fabrics. And it's all available here.

## Sacred Citadel

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