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batik

Batik is a dyeing technique that developed primarily in the Indonesian archipelago. The process involves applying wax to certain parts of the fabric to prevent the dye from penetrating during the dyeing process. A single piece of fabric can thus be treated with several successive layers of wax and pigments. The result is often visually striking. Batik patterns reflect multiple influences: local beliefs, Asian trade, Islamic traditions, and colonial legacies. Batik is a remarkable example of technical specialization. It requires patience, precision, and in-depth knowledge of materials. In some regions, the designs were once reserved for specific social groups. The textile thus became a visible marker of hierarchy and social status. Even today, batik remains an important symbol of Indonesia’s cultural heritage and its historical openness to the world.