



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



War And Peace Bracelet

Paradoxical, yes, but this intriguing bracelet, crafted from a repurposed bombshell is a conversation starter. Rajana artisans symbolically resurrect life from the damage of war. This circle, embossed with the words, “share peace,” is made from one of the many bomb casings still found across Cambodia. These casings are collected by a demining agency and transformed by artisans with Rajana. “When we make jewellery [like this] then we know our country has peace,” said one young silversmith.



About the Artisans

Rajana Association

Following decades of war, Cambodia’s countryside is littered with spent bomb and artillery shell casings. But now Rajana Association of Cambodia is transforming old horrors into peace and beauty. Owned and operated by Khmer people, Rajana (meaning “design” in Khmer) provides skills training and income generation opportunities for young Cambodians, rural and urban poor, and other small producers. Artisans with Rajana create innovative crafts from unique materials—including their innovative line of Bombshell Jewellery.

The basic salary with Rajana is well above the area’s minimum wage for Cambodians working in the garment sector. While the artisans do work eight hours a day, six days a week, they also receive holidays and training in management, leadership, reading, writing, computer skills and even free English lessons. Artisans also receive interest-free loans and help with health services and education costs.

Special Details:

The gifted artisans of Rajana Association produce a range of handmade jewellery in their workshop in Phnom Penh. From beautiful, high quality 95% silver pieces to items incorporating leather, coconut shells and precious stones mined from Ratanakiri and Pailin, Rajana’s jewellery is rich in beauty, variety, and symbolism.

Decades of war in Cambodia have littered the landscape with unexploded ordnances and bomb casings, many of which are still being uncovered. Using bomb shells bought from local fishermen who catch them in their nets, Rajana artisans craft these brass casings into fashion statements for peace. This symbolic jewellery takes remnants of the country’s horrific history and transforms them into something beautiful and new. “When we make jewellery [like this] then we know our country has peace,” says one of the young silversmiths.

Materials:

recycled brass bomb casing, leather

Travel the world with each visit to Ten Thousand Villages.

Learn how Fair Trade really makes a difference. Our goal is to provide vital, fair income to artisans by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. Ten Thousand Villages sells product from more than 30 countries, providing work for nearly 60,000 people around the world.

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