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VILLAGES



Etched Tuareg Drop Earrings

Highly skilled silver jewellers of the Saharan north and west Africa create each work of wearable art, an important tradition of the Tuareg nomads for centuries. The production techniques have changed little over the years. Using a lost-wax method to cast the silver, makers first create a wax mold, form clay around the mold and pour molten silver into the hardened clay. Using hand tools, they etch traditional designs and add ebony inlay or jewels to create the finished piece.



About the Artisans

Union of Peasants for Self-Development (UPAP) - Niger

UPAP is an organization of 160 skilled Tuareg silver jewellers and leatherworks seeking new ways to make a living and support their families. Tuareg artisans use income from craft production to supplement their subsistence farming and other livelihoods. This income has enabled villages to build and equip schools, pay for medicine, ensure safer births and build wells.

Materials:
etched silver

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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