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VILLAGES



About the Artisans

Salay Handmade Paper

Salay Handmade Paper was founded in the late 1980s by Loreta Rafisura, a nurse turned entrepreneur and her husband, who aimed to transform the lives of people in their community of Salay, on the island of Mindanao. Through experimentation, the group developed its trademark handmade paper using cogon grass, a weed that interferes with local farming. Through global marketing, Salay was introduced to the concept of Fair Trade and began providing development assistance to its artisans – 70 percent of whom are women. The business has grown to over 300 co-op workers and several hundred other artisans making cards in their homes. Besides monthly pay and pensions, workers with Salay share in the profits.

Christmas Tree Floral Card

Dried flowers create a decorated Christmas tree shape for this handmade paper card created by artisans in Salay, Philippines. Often, the dried flowers are grown in artisans' gardens.

Materials:

handmade paper, dried flowers



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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