



TEN THOUSAND  
VILLAGES



## Turquoise Swirl Jute Pencil Case

Let the new school year begin. This zipped pencil case will keep pencils, markers and pens secure. Crafted from jute, a sustainable material from Saidpur Enterprises in northern Bangladesh.



### Materials:

jute

### About the Artisans

## Saidpur Enterprises

Saidpur Enterprises is comprised of two projects: Action Bag Handicrafts and Eastern Screen Printers. Both projects offer literacy classes and training sessions on nutrition, women's legal rights, educational awareness and financial advice. .

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) workers founded Action Bag Handicrafts in 1976 out of concern that the same malnourished children kept showing up at their feeding centre. This job creation program trains women to sew bags and wallets and currently employs about 60 people.

Eastern Screen Printers also began as an MCC job creation program. In 1986, five women received training in silkscreen printing. Today, this project employs 30 women to screen-print handmade paper from the Biborton, Bonoful and Shuktara Paper production centres. They also print the cotton and jute fabric which is used by Action Bag Handicrafts.

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**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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