

Items from the Himalayan region

Story and photos by MAYANG ISMAIL

LOOKING up at the Sacred Citadel, on the first floor of a shop lot in Jalan Telawi 5, Bangsar Baru, one can only catch sight of a few white T-shirts hanging on a clothes rack.

So what's so "sacred" about the collection here, which owner Dr Premendra Verma claims are exquisite pieces handpicked from the Himalayan region?

The only way to verify the claim is to trudge up the staircase and through the glass door that, surprisingly, reveals a treasure trove beyond words.

Beautifully exhibited for sale are the most luxurious works of art, produced by Tibetan women especially.

Especially enthralling are the appliqué silk soft home furnishing items that comprise cushion covers and wall tapestries.

"Currently, there are only 25 Tibetan women who are skilled in this art, which dates back 1,200 years when the Silk Road was first opened," said Dr Prem.

Sacred Citadel specialises in exclusive fine arts and decorative home items from the Himalayan region



The Singing Bowl is the most popular item from Sacred Citadel.

namely Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan and India and most of the items at the outlet are made to order.

Delivery takes about five months minimum, while the Thangka paintings take even longer although quality and workmanship are guaranteed.

Rich works of art in silk, satin and gold-thread items beg to be caressed but the price tags warn customers from being overzealous.

Beautiful and luxurious wall hangings, bedspread made from raw silk and fine rugs are neatly arranged at strategic corners.

"I want to bring these works to anyone who appreciates all things fine and beautiful," said Dr Prem.

There is also an exquisite 24-carat gold painting and carpets handmade from New Zealand merino wool although workmanship is Nepalese.

The standard size for the rug is 3ft by 6ft although Dr Prem does take orders for other sizes. Pricing is according to size and design.

Besides the smaller items, there are also decorative furniture sets such as a drawer chest decorated with Tibet's mythical animals such as the Snow Lions and the Friendly Monster.

There are many lovely things at the Sacred Citadel and they also make excellent collectibles because of their exquisite finish, designs and value.

The shell secret conch engraved in silver bearing the 12 zodiac signs and the Singing Bowl will not fail to catch one's attention.

Sacred Citadel also stocks exclusive jewellery made from precious and semi-precious stones done in sterling silver. Some are made to order.



The silk cushion covers.



Sacred Citadel is spacious and simple.



Above: The shell conch engraved in silver bearing the 12 zodiac signs.



One of the most luxurious looking pieces of decorative furniture is this elaborately designed altar.



An exotic looking silk bedspread complemented with a silk wallhanging and two bedside chests in red wood.