



Look for articles on the holiday season, included throughout this special issue.

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Holiday Special

Doing good, shopping for gifts this holiday season

Local stores offer range of fair trade handmade items

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While Holiday shoppers throng the malls and browse through catalogues to get the best deal for their loved ones, there are some folks on the other side of the globe who continue their

painstaking work, making holiday shopping possible. Their creations, be it hand made jewelry or a skillfully carved piece of art, each tell a story. An organization that acts, as a link between the consumers and the workers, ensuring that these artisans are given fair wages and good employment opportunities is The Fair Trade Federation.

Here is a list of a few companies, with stores in the New England area, who participate in fair trade with many South Asian countries and are gearing up for the 2006 shopping season.

Company: Hope For Women

Location: Burlington, Vt.

Products: Greeting cards and stationery made from pressed flowers.

Fair trade in South Asia: Cards are made by disadvantaged women in the Garhwal region of the Himalayas.

Popular products: Seasonal greeting cards, priced at \$3.95 per card.

Ordering information: Sold through 13 retail locations in New England. For more information, please visit www.hopeforwomen.com.



Photo courtesy of HOPE FOR WOMEN