

their families a better life.

earn income to give

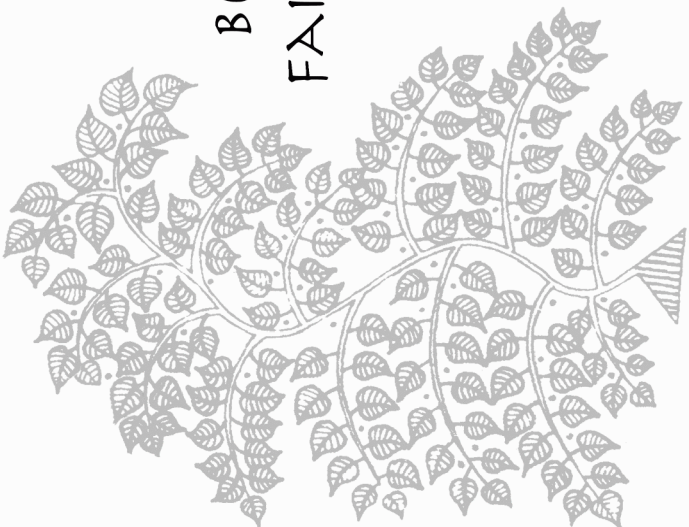
in developing countries

HELP ARTISANS

FAIR TRADE GIFT

BEAUTIFUL

YOUR



Learn more about us.

long-term, fair trading relationships.

and stories to our markets through

to earn income by bringing their products

in developing countries

We create opportunities for artisans

## OUR MISSION

TEN THOUSAND  
VILLAGES®



## ABOUT THE ARTISANS

Smolart is a self-help organization in the Western Kenyan community of Kisii, near Lake Victoria. As a unique source of Kisii soapstone, this area is home to many artisans who make their living through carving. Smolart seeks to improve the lives of member carvers through marketing and logistical supports. Smolart works with 200 producer members, each of whom is a stakeholder. Each member works with several home-based artisans, for a total of some 1,000 carvers, thus creating job opportunities while also allowing artisans to be closer to their families.



## ABOUT YOUR HANDCRAFTED TREASURE

### Inspiring Paperweights

4122020

These lovely paperweights are hand-carved from Kisii soapstone by artisans in Western Kenya. Each paperweight is inscribed with an inspiring word—in English on one side, Swahili on the other. Kisii stone, found only in Kenya, is a soft material that is easy to carve into many forms. Its satiny finish is achieved through multiple stages of sanding, followed by waxing. A Ten Thousand Villages exclusive design.



To learn more about this product visit

[www.tenthousandvillages.com/inspiring-paperweights](http://www.tenthousandvillages.com/inspiring-paperweights)

The group's mission goes beyond providing a fair wage to artisans; they seek to eradicate poverty among their members, promote fair trade, oppose discrimination, to support community efforts and to manage resources sustainably. Ten Thousand Villages has purchased products from Smolart since 2008.