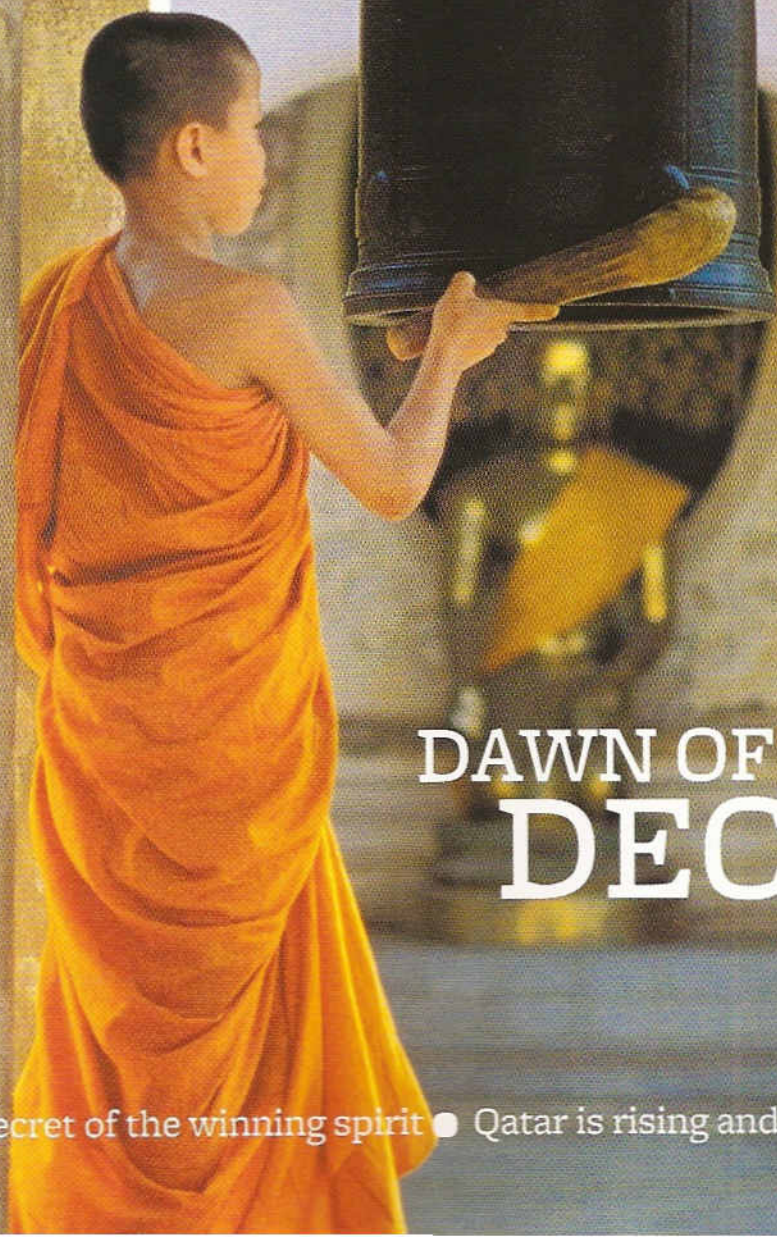


# wknd.

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## DAWN OF THE DECADE

The secret of the winning spirit ● Qatar is rising and shining in the region





## Preethi Janice D'Sa, Crochet Jewellery Artist

My first ever piece of jewellery was a beaded ring that I made for my dad on his birthday. I must have been six years old then. I wove it with small green seed beads and I was hopeful that my dad would wear it to his workplace and show it off to his boss. Needless to say he didn't. It's strange that I should be into jewellery making right now, because I have always considered myself an artist — like my mother. It came as no surprise however that I was gifted with many creative talents.

Still, in the midst of it all, I continued to play with bead weaving techniques. Side by side, I taught myself to crochet. It seemed so much easier to crochet than to knit. Probably, it was because one needle was easy to manoeuvre than two needles.

I can never forget the day I used the crochet needle to make my first piece of jewellery. Crochet is so versatile — one can create jewellery pieces that are personal and can be personalised. I went on to crochet a full set of bridal jewellery, for the bride to the bridesmaids and the bride's mother as well. It was such a fabulous feeling to see

the crystals glitter when the bride walked.

It was then that I took my jewellery making talent quite seriously. I work on my own and am never sure what exactly inspires me. I suppose for someone who is a writer and a researcher, an inquiring mind is one that also accumulates useful information — suddenly I have the design for a jewellery piece. I am not led by fashion trends though I do keep an eye on them. There are many customers who don't follow the trends, so they need someone like me to make jewellery that suits them.

**I can never forget the day I used the crochet needle to make my first piece of jewellery. Crochet jewellery is versatile and one can use it to create personal pieces**

I need natural light to expand on my creative energies. I've always hated working in offices with artificial light and I am glad I no longer work in such surroundings. With natural light, I can use my creative mindset easily. That's why I love houses with full length windows that allow the cascades of natural light, setting my mind aglow. I do not like to sit in direct sunlight, however.

I have named my jewellery line as Janys De whilst playing on variations of my second name and surname. I work mainly with silver and semi precious stones though now I've a limited edition of 22K gold jewellery.

Right now though the going is tough, I believe I am doing the right thing and am content with my life. I would still like to design a full jewellery line for a famous jewellery brand. That would be fun!

It is also my dream for Janys De jewellery to be sold at high end boutiques in Europe and the UK. And I must admit that this dream is slowly becoming a reality.

*(As told to Heena Aswani)*