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PINNACLE

30 Days self preparation module

1st
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STATISTIC

GK

Theory + MCQ

Chapter wise

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Dances

Classical Dances of India

Sangeet Natak Akademi recognised 8 classical dances of India named as Bharatanatyam (Tamil Nadu), Kathak (Uttar Pradesh), Kathakali (Kerala), Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh), Manipuri (Manipur), Mohiniyattam (Kerala), Odissi (Odisha), Sattriya (Assam).

There are nine rasa in classical dances of India that are recognized by the Ministry of Culture. Shringar (Love), Hasya (Humorous), Karuna (Sorrow), Raudra (Anger), Veer (Heroism), Bhayanak (Fear), Bibhats (Disgust), Adbhoot (Wonder), Shanta (Peace).

Bharatnatyam

Bharatanatyam (Tamil Nadu) was formerly known as the Sadir Attam.

Bharatanatyam expresses South Indian religious themes and spiritual ideas of Shaivism.

Krishna Iyer first coined the term Bharatanatyam for the Sadir dance. It evolved from ekaharya, where one dancer takes on many roles in a single performance. It emerged in the temples of South India, performed by Devdassis thus also known as Dasiattam.

It encompasses Bhav, Rag, Ras and Taal. Its three important features are Nritta (pure dance, solo), Natya (dramatic dance, group) and Nritya (dance with emotions, solo).

It consists of six portions: Alarippu (Invocation), Jathiswaram (Nritta part), Shabdham (Short compositions with word), Varnam (a story, that includes both Nritta and Nritya), Padam (Religious prayer, Bhajan, Keerthanam) and Tillana (Origin in the Tarana of Hindustani Music).

A Bharatanatyam artist uses Abhinaya as a tool to convey ideas and evoke emotions among the audience members.

Abhinaya can be classified into four types:

Satvika Abhinaya - expressing by evoking the state of mind of the character.

Angika Abhinaya - expressing using body movements such as movement of hands, legs and limbs.

Vachika Abhinaya - expressing using medium of speech such as songs, music and dialogues.

Aharya Abhinaya - expressing using decorations such as costumes, jewelry and make up.

Different styles of Bharatanatyam, called Banis :-

Tanjavur Style : Kandappa Pillai one of the famous Nattuvanars (Guru /Teacher) of this style and a direct descendent of the Tanjore Quartette was trained by Kannuswami Pillai.

Pandanallur Style is attributed to the famous Minakshisundaram Pillai who was a direct descendant of the Tanjore Quartette.

Vazhavur style was created by Ramiah Pillai of Vazhuvoor town in Tamil Nadu.

Kalakshetra Style is credited to the disciple of Minakshisundaram Pillai and a renowned Bharatanatyam exponent Rukmini Devi Arundale. Rukmini Devi founded the Kalakshetra Institute in Chennai making it a platform to promote Bharatanatyam as an art form.

Mellatur Style is credited to Mangudi Doirairaja Iyer. It is known for its soft footwork and emphasis on the sringara rasa.

Famous Dancers : Kamala Narayan, Bala Saraswati, C. V. Chandrasekhar, Leela Samson, Mrinalini Sarabhai, Padma Subramanyam, Rukmini Devi, Sonal Mansingh, Yamini Krishnamurti, Lakshmana Swamy, Alarmel Valli, Smrithi Krishnamurthy, Hema Malini etc.

Kuchipudi

Kuchipudi (short form of 'Kuchelapuram' or 'Kuchilapuri') is India's classical dance originated in a village called Kuchelapuri in Andhra Pradesh. It has its origins in the ancient Hindu Sanskrit text Natya Shastra.

Tirtha Narayana Yeti, the saint of Advaita Vedanta, and his disciple, an orphan called Siddhendra Yogi, established and organized the modern version of

Kuchipudi in the 17th century. It originated as an adoration of the Hindu God Krishna.

It incorporates all three classical dance elements: Nritta (non-narrative and abstract dancing), Nritya, and Natya.

Daru is the main content of the music in Kuchipudi; it adapts Jaru style of singing in medium and quick tempos.

The ornaments are made of light wood called Boorugu. In this dance form Shingara rasa plays a predominant role.

A solo play or solo part of the performance is called a Shabdham. Popular Kuchipudi Shabdham are Dasavatharam Shabdham, Manduka Shabdham, Krishna Shabdham, Ramayana Shabdham, Mandodari Shabdham, etc.

Famous dancers : Guru Smt. Vijaya Prasad, Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam, Kalpalathika, Raja and Radha Reddy, Kaushalya Reddy, Yamini Reddy, Bhavana Reddy, Atisha Pratap Singh, Sreelakshmy Govardhanan, Smt. Vyjayanthi Kashi, Haleem Khan, Prateeksha Kashi, Yamini Krishnamurthy, Arunima Kumar, Achuta Manasa, Shobha Naidu, Uma Rama Rao, Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma, etc.

Mohiniyattam

Mohiniyattam (Kerala) classical dance is performed by women in honor of the Hindu God Vishnu in his incarnation as the enchantress Mohini Kalyanikutty Amma is known as the 'Mother of Mohiniyattam'.

It is lasya-style based on Natya Shastra. It consists of 'Nritta' and 'Nritya' mentioned in 'Natya Shastra'. It includes facial expressions and hand gestures.

It consists of seven portions:

Cholkettu (invocation, starts with offering reverence to a goddess Bhagavati and ends with a prayer to Shiva).

Jatisvaram or more precisely Swarajeti, (dance with no expressions that is performed on only notes and no lyrics).

Varnam (a play wherein she embeds a mimicry for distraction while communicating the underlying story or message).

Padam (song), **Tillana** (dancer's interpretation of melody the musician created).

Shlokam (a hymn in praise) and **Saptam** (the Expressions (or Abhinaya) are introduced for the first time in the repertoire).

The techniques of Mohiniyattam consist of Adavus (steps) and Mudras (hand gestures).

Adavus is classified into four: Thaganams, Jaganams, Dhaganams, and Samishrams. These adavus were codified by Kalamandalam Kalyanikutty Amma in 20th century CE.

Its earliest reference is available in 'Vyavaharamala' (written in 1709) on Indian jurisprudence authored by Mazhamangalam Narayanan Namboodiri.

Mudras are based on the book Hastalakshana deepika. There are a total of 24 mudras. Some are : Pataka, Katakam, Mushti, Karthari, etc.

Famous Dancers : Sunanda Nair, Smitha Rajan, Gopika Varma, Jayaprabha Menon, Pallavi Krishnan and Vinitha Nedungadi, etc.

Manipuri

Manipuri is known for its Hindu Vaishnavism themes, and Radha - Krishna's love-inspired dance drama Rasleela.

Two categories of Manipuri dance are Jagoi (reflects the Lasya item mentioned in Natya Shastra of Bharata) and Cholom (form of classical Tandava dance).

The ethnic majority of Meitei people call Manipuri dance as 'Jagoi'.

It is performed by the followers of Shaivism and the Shakti cult, this has also led to other ritualistic dances dedicated to Lord Shiva, Nongpink Ningthou, Parvati and Panthoibi.

Varieties of Manipuri forms of dance: Raas, Sankirtan, Dhola Cholam, Kartal Cholam, Pung Cholam (Dancers playing pung/drum while dancing), and Thang ta (martial art form).

Manipuri Sankirtana was also inscribed in the Representative List of the UNESCO

Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2013. It is practiced primarily by the Vaishnava community in Manipur (also in some parts of Tripura and Assam). It is performed to narrate the life and deeds of Lord Krishna. Instruments used are Cymbals and Drums.

'**Ras Leela**' refers to the 'Dance of Divine Love' that beautifully portrays the affection between Krishna - the eighth avatar of Lord Vishnu, and Radha - the consort of Lord Krishna. Its three types are Tal Rasak (followed by a clap), Danda Rasak (drums are pounded with two sticks while the dancers' position produces geometric shapes), Mandal Rasak (Lord Krishna in the centre surrounded by the Gopis).

Varieties of Manipuri forms of dance:

Pung Cholom (meaning "roar of the drums") is the soul of Manipuri Sankirtana music and classical Manipuri dance.

Dhol Cholom (Drum Dance or Dholak Cholom) is performed in the spring season known as 'Yaosang' meaning Spring festival of Holi.

Kartal Cholam is a Tandava dance of cymbals. It is performed by the male dancers only.

Thang ta Dance is a traditional martial art of Manipur. The name is derived from two words, Thang (meaning 'sword') and Ta (meaning 'spear').

Famous dancers : Hanjaba Guru Bipin Singha, Jhaveri Sisters (Nayana Jhaveri, Ranjana Jhaveri, Suverna Jhaveri, and Darshana Jhaveri), Nirmala Mehta, Savita Mehta, Yumlembam Gambhini Devi etc.

Odissi

Odissi (Odisha) roots can be traced back to Natya Shastra. Its south-eastern style is known as the Odhra Magadha.

It is performed by women and expresses religious stories and spiritual ideas, most notably Vaishnavism (Vishnu as Jagannath). It is the oldest surviving classical dance form in India, starting around 2nd Century BC based on archeological evidence found in udaygiri caves.

Traditional Odissi exists in two main

styles, the first by women, focused on the sacred and spiritual temple dance (maharis), the second by boys, dresses as girls varied to include athletic and acrobatic movements (gotipuas).

The performance repertoire includes invocation, nritta (pure dance), nritya (expressive dance), natya (dance drama) and moksha (dance climax connoting freedom of the soul and spiritual release).

Nritya and Abhinaya are the two most interesting attractions of Odissi.

Nritya: Dancers perform delicate physical movements to create ornamental movements.

Abhinaya: Dancers make facial expressions to explain a religious story or legend.

There are 24 mudras described in the Natyashastra and 28 in the Abhinaya Darpana.

Three primary dance positions in Odissi: Samabhangha, Abhyanga and Tribhanga. It incorporates two major postures - Tribhanga and Chowk.

The chowk is a position imitating a square - a very masculine stance with the weight of the body equally balanced. The Tribhanga is a very feminine stance where the body is deflected at the neck, torso and the knees.

A classical Odissi performance consists of five different types of items: "Mangalacharan", a praise to a particular Divinity, to the stage and to the audience; "Sthayee" or "Batu" that introduces the techniques of Odissi Dance; "Pallavi" that creates a particular sentiment through abstract forms; "Abhinaya" that enacts a traditional story about the deeds of a specific God/ Goddess; "Mokshya" that transcends all the participants to a higher spiritual level.

Famous dancers : Sonal Mansingh, Sanyukta Panigrahi, Jhelum Paranjape, Mayadhar Raut, Gangadhar Pradhan, Ileana Citaristi, Leena Mohanty, Chitra Krishnamurti, Bijayini Satpathy, Madhavi Mudgal, Sanchita Bhattacharyaa etc.

Sattriya dance

Sattriya dance (Assam) originated in

Sattria, a monastery, as a part of the neo-Vaishnavite movement started by Srimanta Sankardev in Assam, in the 15th Century.

The Sattriya dance can be classified into two styles, namely 'Paurashik Bhangi' i.e. Tandava or Masculine style and 'Stri Bhangi' i.e. Lashya or feminine style.

Pat Silk saree is the most popular kind of saree used in this dance, which represents the locality through its various colorful motifs and designs.

The songs are composed by Sankaradeva known as 'Borgeet'.

The basic dance unit and exercise of a Sattriya is called a Mati Akhara. There are 64 Mati Akharas and they may be further sub-divided into eight main types: Ora, Saata, Jhalak, Sitika, Pak, Jap, Lon and Khar.

Famous dancers :- Gunakanta Dutta Barbayan, Manik Barbayan, Jogen Dutta Bayan, Anita Sarma, Sarodi Saikia, Haricharan Bhuyan Borbayan, Ramkrishna Talukdar, Ranjumoni Saikia, etc.

Kathak

In Kathak dance (Uttar Pradesh) The term Kathak comes from the Sanskrit Vedic word Katha which means "story" and Kathakar which means "one who tells a story" or "related to stories". The story of Radha and Krishna is the major theme of Kathak.

It popularized under the rule of Mughals. The Golden age of this dance comes under the patronage of Wajid Ali Shah (last Nawab of Oudh).

Three main sections of a Kathak dance are invocation and 'Nritta' and 'Nritya' mentioned in 'Natyashastra'.

Nritta : Pure dance portrayed by the artist.

Nritya : Here the artist showcases a story or theme through gestures, expressions and slow body movements accompanied by vocal and instrumental music.

Facial expressions and sensuous gestures emote during Kathak performances are mentioned in the book 'The Wrongs of Indian Womanhood' by Marcus B. Fuller published in 1900.

Famous dancers : Pandit Birju Maharaj, Lachu Maharaj, Shambu Maharaj, Shovna Narayan, Kumari Kamala, Sunanya Hazarilal Agarwal, Pandit Durgalal, Prerana Shrimala, Rani Karna, Sitara Devi, Rupa Rani Das Bora etc.

Kathakali

In Kathakali (Kerala) the term Kathakali is derived from Katha (Sanskrit) meaning "story or conversation, or traditional story", and Kali (from art) meaning "performance and art".

The dance-drama art form called 'Krishnanattam' and Ramanattam based on Mahabharata and Ramayana are precursors of 'Kathakali'.

It is a harmonious combination of **5 forms** of fine art - Literature (Sahityam), Music (Sangeetham), Painting (Chithram), Acting (Natyam) and Dance (Nritham). The dance form combines four aspects of abhinaya (Angika, Aharya, Vachika, Satvika) and the Nritta, Nritya and Natya.

The story Nalacharitham is written by "Unnai Varier". It is the romantic story of unlimited love between Nala and Damayanthi. There are 24 Basic Mudras (hand gestures) and a total of 470 different symbols used in this dance.

Characters in this dance are broadly divided into satvika (noble characters like Krishna and Rama), rajasika (evil characters) and tamasika (beard characters). It follows the traditional sopana sangeet of Kerala.

In Kathakali emphasis is given more on "Aharya Abhinaya", the use of costumes, ornaments and facial make-up.

A Kathakali performance begins with the "Kelikottu", calling the audience to attention followed by the "Thodayam". "Kelikottu" is the formal announcement of the Kathakali dance done in the evening when drums and cymbals are played for a while in the courtyard.

Then the musicians and drummers hold the stage with an exhibition of their skills in "Melappadam". The end of the performance is marked by a piece of pure dance called "Dhanasi". "Tiranokku" is the debut on the stage of all characters other than the "Pacha" or "Minukku".

Kalagam is a dance sequence in Kathakali.

Famous dancers : Kalamandalam Gopi, Haripriya Namboodiri, Kalamandalam Krishna Prasad, Kottakal Sivaraman, Kalamandalam Ramankutty Nair, Kalamandalam Vasu Pisharody, Kavungal Chathunni Panicker.

Chhau Dance

Chhau Dance is a folk dance of West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha with martial traditions. It is found in three styles: Purulia Chhau (performed during sun festival in West Bengal), Seraikella Chhau (Jharkhand), Mayurbhanj Chhau (Odisha). The Ministry of Culture recognised it as 9th classical dance of India.

Dancers enacted stories from the Hindu epics the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, the Puranas and other Indian literature. It is performed with religious themes found in Shaivism, Shaktism and Vaishnavism.

It was inscribed in the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

Famous Dancers :- Jagannath Choudhury, Mousumi Choudhury, Biren Kalindi, Binadhar Kumar, Kartik Singh Mura, Baghambar Singh Mura, Upendra Biswal, Banamali Das, Rajendra Pattanayak, Gopal Prasad Dubey etc.

Folk Dances of India

Arunachal Pradesh

Pasi Kongki is a folk dance of Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh that depicts the social work of Pasi. It is performed to the tune of a song sung by the locals, called Aabang.

Yak dance (Yak Chham or Tibetan Yak Dance) is performed in the Indian states Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Assam and in union territory Ladakh. It is performed to honor the Yak, during the Losar festival, the Tibetan New Year.

Aji Lhamo is a folk dance form practiced by the Monpa Tribe of Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh. This dance form is performed during the Losar Festival.

Ponung is the harvest dance performed by the Adi tribal community of Arunachal Pradesh.

Buiya is a folk dance of Arunachal Pradesh performed by the Digaru Mishmi tribe. This dance is performed in multiple festivals like Tazampu, Duiya, and Tanuya.

Wancho dance is performed by the Wancho tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. The Wancho tribe's most important festival is known as Oriah. The celebrations take place in the spring months of March and April.

Daminda dance belongs to the Apatani Tribes. It is performed during the Dree festival to celebrate the beginning of rice planting season when the people pray for a good harvest and protection from natural calamities.

Khampti dance is performed during the religious festivals of Potwah, Sankian or Khamsang. This dance is practiced by the Khampti community of Arunachal Pradesh.

Popir dance, performed by the Galo tribe of Arunachal Pradesh during Mopi festival.

Rikhampada is a dance of Nishi tribe of lower Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh.

Chalo dance is a significant part of the Chalo Loku festival, celebrated by the Nocte tribe in Arunachal Pradesh every year in October and November.

Bardo Chham means "Dance of the Zodiacs" in English. The residents of the Sherdukpens community hold the belief that there are twelve evils, one for each month of the year, just as there are twelve zodiac signs.

Idu Mishmi people of Arunachal Pradesh engage in both fertility and ritual dances.

Khampti dance is generally practiced by the Khampti community of the state. The Khamptis are famous for their 'cockfight dance'.

Lion and Peacock Dance (Monpa Tribe).

Tapu dance (war dance) performed by the Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. It takes place during the festival of Unying Aran.

Assam

Bagurumba is a folk dance of the Bodo community in Assam. It is also called "butterfly dance" because it personifies the movements of butterflies and birds.

Bhaona is a theatre form prevalent in Assam, India. The plays of bhaona are popularly known as Ankiya Nats and their staging is known as bhaona. It is a creation of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankardeva, written in the early sixteenth century.

Bihu (Rongali bihu, Bohang bihu) dance is an indigenous folk dance from the Indian state of Assam related to the Bihu festival and an important part of Assamese culture.

Jhumur is a traditional dance of the tea tribal communities of Assam and also in some parts of West Bengal. It is usually performed in the harvest season and festivals. It is mainly performed at festivals like Karam puja and Tushu puja.

Maruni is a group dance of Sikkim, Darjeeling and Assam, Performed during weddings. It is a Nepalese folk dance of the Magar community. Gurung, Kirat, and Khas communities are also associated with this dance. Originally danced as part of Dashain and Tihar festival.

Bhortal dance is the dance performed by the Barpeta tribe. It is performed to a very fast beat, known as 'Zhiya Nom'.

Deodhani is typically performed by one person or a group of three to four women to honor Manasa, the snake goddess. It's a Shaman folk dance.

Ali-Ali Ligang folk dance is famous with the people of the Mishing tribe. It's usually associated with agriculture because of the reflection of its meaning.

Andhra Pradesh

Veeranatyam (dance of bravery) is a folk dance of Andhra Pradesh, performed to honor Lord Shiva.

Burra Katha (Burrakatha), is an oral storytelling technique in the Jangam Katha tradition, performed in villages of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It is seen during Dussehra or Sankranti festival seasons to describe events in epics like Ramayana and Mahabharat.

Dappu Nrityam is one of the popular dance forms in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. This dance form earned its name from the sound produced by a simple percussion instrument, a tambourine-like drum which is called 'Dappu'.

Bhamakalpam is both a dance and a drama. Siddhendra Yogi created this devotional dance form in the 17th century.

Butta Bommalu is popular in the Tanuku region of West Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh.

Tappeta Gullu is a dance that has vigor, rhythm and tempo and is performed to invoke the Rain God.

Bonalu is a special dance wherein the female dancers step to the rhythmic beats and balance pots on their heads.

Dhimsa is a tribal dance performed primarily by Porja caste women in Andhra Pradesh.

Kolannalu (stick dance) is one of the popular folk dances practiced in Andhra Pradesh. The Kolannalu folk dance is also known as kolkolannalu and commonly known as Kolattam in Telugu (the official language of the state) amongst the people in Andhra Pradesh.

Vilasini Natyam is the dance form of Devadasis of Telugu hence it is also called Devadasi dance.

Lambadi dance is a folk dance of the Banjara community of Andhra Pradesh. It is done to impress gods for a good harvest.

Kalapam is a dance-drama with a moral for the audience. It is a mono-play in which there is a main person and another comparatively less significant person.

Gobbi dance is popular in coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh. It is performed during Sankranti festival when houses are cleaned and court yards decorated with 'rangavalli'.

Bathukamma dance is performed during Bathukamma festivities in Andhra Pradesh.

Dandaria dance is a stick dance which is performed by the Gond tribe in the Northern region of Hyderabad district.

Mathuri dance is a tribal dance performed by the Mathuri tribe. They perform this dance during the rainy month (Shravana) and men and women both participate in this dance.

Bihar

Chaiti dance is performed by men with their body smeared with 'ramras'.

Jhijhiya is a cultural folk dance of Mithila and Bhojpura regions of Bihar and Madhesh province of Nepal. It is usually performed by a group of young women dancers. Portrays offering of prayers to Lord Indra for a good monsoon and a rich harvest.

Bidesiya in Bhojpuri, meaning 'from the foreign land', is a folk theatrical performance of western Bihar. It is based on a drama named Bidesiya written by Bhikhari Thakur.

Jat-Jatin is a folk dance of Bihar, most famous in Mithila and Koshi regions. It is performed on moonlit nights during the monsoon season.

Jadur is the dance form of the oraons tribe of Bihar. It is mainly performed during the occasion of Sarhul festival. It is mainly symbolized for fertility, vitality and shows the tribute to the motherland with the devotion of sun god.

Biraha dance, a folk dance of Bihar depicts the anguish of women whose partners are gone from home. This dance is also performed in Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. Bidesiya is a derivative of Biraha dance.

Kajari dance welcomes the season of Monsoon and is usually performed in the months of Shravan and Bhandrapad.

Jhumar dance is performed by rural women where men usually provide the musical accompaniment.

Bhojpuri Jhumar dance is popular in Magadh region. It is performed to welcome the spring season.

Magahi Jhumar dance is usually presented in the form of a duet.

Jharni dance is a ritualistic dance performed by the Julaha community during Muharram.

Sohar Khelwana is a dance performed by

women to celebrate the birth of a child.

Kishan Nritya is an expression of pride of the farmers of Bihar.

Natua dance begins with an item called the Natua Kachal.

Karma Dance gets its name from the Karma tree which stands for fortune and good luck.

Rajgir Dance Mahotsav is an annual three-day event in Rajgir, Bihar, that was first held in 1986.

Domkach dance is performed in Mithila and Bhojpur regions while in Jharkhand, it is Nagpuri folk dance.

Chhattisgarh

Suwa dance (Parrot dance) is a tribal dance, mainly performed by the Gonds tribe of Chhattisgarh. It is performed exclusively by women on the occasion of Goura's marriage. Dancers keep a parrot in a pot made of bamboo and form a circular shape around it.

Thapati dance is a tribal dance performed by the Korku tribes of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra. It is performed in the month of Vaishakh. The main instruments of this dance are Dholak and flute.

Raut Nacha is a ceremonial dance performed mainly by the tribal community of Chhattisgarh. It is performed during the "dev udhni ekadashi", after the Diwali festival. It is a dance performed by Yadavas, a caste which are descendants of Krishna.

Panthi dance is a prominent ritual of the Satnami community of Chhattisgarh. It is mainly danced to depict the importance of Durg district to the people. Performed on Maghi Purnima (the birth anniversary of Guru Baba Ghasidas).

Gaur Maria dance is performed in the plateau of Bastar in Chhattisgarh. It is performed on the occasion of marriage.

Saila dance is performed only by boys after the harvest season in the Hindu month of Aghan (November- December).

Pandavani dance ballad portrays the account of Pandavas. Recital of tales of

Mahabharata is one of its prominent characteristics. The two main styles of the narrations are Vedamati and Kapalik.

Jhirliti dance is performed in a Halloween like ritual. It is played by the kids in the Bastar region of central India.

Gendi dance: Dancers are mounted on two long bamboo. This is a special dance of the Muria tribe of Bastar. It is completely a dance of balance.

Rahas is a modern folk dance of Chhattisgarh and is mainly performed in Dhamtari district. The theme focuses on the immortal love story of Lord Krishna and Radha.

Chaitra festival dance is a famous dance of the Gonds of Bastar district. It is performed after the harvest to thank goddess Annapurna for the harvested crop and to seek her blessings for the next crop.

Sarhul is a traditional dance of the Oraon tribe.

Goa

Fugdi dance is mainly the dance of Konkan women of Goa. It is performed during festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi, Dhalo festival and Vrata of Goddess Mahalakshmi.

Kunbi dance is a tribal folk dance of the Kunbi community of Goa. Women holding lamps on their heads perform the lamp dance during the Shigmo festival.

Morulem is another traditional folk dance presented by the backward community during Shigmo.

Ranmale is a ritualistic and folk theatre form based on mythological stories from the popular Indian epics, the Ramayana, and the Mahabharata. It is performed during the Holi festival which is celebrated as Shigmo (spring festival) in Goa and the Konkan region. It is also practiced in some parts of Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Zemmado is a folk dance of Goa, in which women folk belonging to the Dhangar community imitate the actions of goats.

Tarangamel is the folk dance performed during Dussehra and Holi in the state of

Goa.

Dhalo dance is associated with the fertility of the earth and is a women-only dance.

Goff is a celebration of a bountiful harvest. The songs accompanying the dance are dedicated to Hindu God Lord Krishna.

Romta Mel is a way for Goans to express their thanks to their Gods, accompanied with a serpentine procession of people marching their way to a temple.

Ghode (horse) Modni (dance-like movements) is a warrior dance commemorating the victory of the Ranes, the Maratha rulers of the Sattari taluka in Goa over the Portuguese.

Dashavatar is the most developed theatre form of the Konkani and Goa regions. The performers personify the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu—the god of preservation and creativity. The ten incarnations are Matsya (fish), Kurma (tortoise), Varaha (boar), Narsimha (lion-man), Vaman (dwarf), Parashuram, Rama, Krishna (or Balram), Buddha and Kalki.

Dekhni is a semi-classical dance form of Goa.

Corridinho is a form of Portuguese dance performed in Goa. It is always a couple dance.

Lamp dance is usually performed during the Shigmo Festival (Goa).

Shigmo is also one of the significant folk dances of Goa. The objective of performing the dance is to celebrate the new crops in the spring season.

Romat dance is a Goan folk dance and procession that is performed in the month of March (at the Singma festival).

Musal is a pounding stick and the dance is performed during harvest time by the people of Chandor, the ancient capital of Goa.

Gujarat

Garba (Sanskrit term) dance is performed by women around a centrally lit lamp or a picture or statue of the Goddess Shakti. It is performed during

the nine-day festival Navaratri. It is also performed at the Holi spring festival.

Dandiya Raas is the socio-religious featured dances of Navratri evenings in Gujarat. It is also performed in the Marwar region of Rajasthan. It is believed to be performed in memory of Goddess Durga's victory over Mahishasura.

Modhera dance festival of Gujarat is also known as Uttarardh Mahotsav or Modhera Utsavis. It takes place every year after Uttarayan, at the Modhera temple dedicated to the Sun God venerates the rotational cycle of the earth around the Sun.

Vinchhudo is a folk dance of Gujarat. This dance shows strong belief in superstition.

Gheria dance belongs to the state of Gujarat. The tribal people of Gujarat perform the 'Gheria' folk dance dressed in brightly colored clothes, garlands of marigold flowers and traditional ornaments. It is performed to worship 'Mataji' (Goddess Amba) during Diwali festival.

Tippani dance form came into existence in Chorwad region of Saurashtra in Gujarat. This dance form is performed in festivals and marriages.

Padhar dance is introduced by the people of the Padhar community. The people of the Padhar community are mainly fishermen who live along the banks of Nal Sarovar in the Bhal region.

Hoodo is a dance form of the Bharwad tribe, a shepherd community in Gujarat. It is performed especially at the Tarnetar Fair in Surendranagar. It is popular among the Panchal region of Gujarat.

Hallisaka, a group dance, in the Harivamsa Purana is very significant. It was pioneered by Lord Krishna.

Dangi Nritya is a tribal dance form native to the Dangs District of Gujarat.

Matukadi dance form is mostly performed by the Rabari and Bharvad communities.

Siddi Dhamal dance form is performed by the men of the Siddi communities in Jafrabad and Jambur and came with them from East Africa.

Rathwa ni gher dance is a tribal dance performed by the Rathwa tribe of Gujarat on the occasion of Holi festival also known as Kavant festival, named after the place where the Holi carnival takes place.

Haryana

Phag dance is performed in the Hindu month of Phalguna (February–March) to celebrate the colorful festival of Holi in the harvesting season.

Jhumar is a folk dance specially performed by young married women of Haryana. In some parts of the state, it is also known as the 'Hariyanvi Gidda'. Types of Jhumar: Satluj Jhumar, Beas Jhumar, Chenab Jhumar, Multani Jhumar, and Jhoomar Taari.

Ratvai dance is a folk dance of Mewati tribes of Mewat region. It is performed during the monsoons to the accompaniment of large drums.

Chhathi dance is performed on the birth of a male child. Women perform this dance on the sixth day of the birth of the child.

Khoria dance is a collective form of the variety of the Jhumar dance style & steps, exclusively performed by women.

Gugga dance is performed exclusively by men. It is performed in the procession taken out in the memory of saint Gugga.

Loor dance is performed around the Holi festival and is very popular in the Bangar and Bagar parts of the region during the month of 'Phalguna' (February/March). It marks the arrival of the pleasant spring season and with it the sowing of the Rabi crops in the farms.

Dhamal dance is famous in the Gurgaon area, which is inhabited by Ahirs. The origin of the dance dates back during the time of the Mahabharata.

Chaupaiyan, which is a devotional dance and is performed by men and women carrying 'manjiras'.

Deepak dance, men and women carrying earthen lamps, express their devotion through dance, which often lasts the whole night.

Been-bansuri dance goes on with the

accompaniment of 'been', which is a wind instrument and 'bansuri' also known as a flute.

Ghoora dance is organized on the occasion of Birth of a baby boy.

Himachal Pradesh

Cholamba dance is performed in Ropa Valley. This dance is performed while coiling a snake.

Dhure dance is also very popular in Lahaul, dances are performed on epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata.

Shan and Shabu are popular dances of Lahaul Valley. These dances are performed in the Gompa in the memory of Buddha.

Laaldi is a popular female folk dance of Himachal Pradesh.

Swaangtegi dance are performed by wearing lion and garden wooden masks on Diwali.

Namgen dance is performed in Himachal Pradesh in the month of September to celebrate the autumn.

Nati dance is traditionally performed in the states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Several varieties of Nati performed are Kullvi Nati, Mahasuvi Nati, Sirmauri Nati, Kinnauri Nati, Jaunpuri Nati, Seraji Nati, Karsogi Nati, Chuhari Nati, Barada Nati, Bangani Nati.

Chham dance is known for the elaborate mask, headgear and costume of the performers and is very popular in Tibetan settlement areas of Himachal Pradesh, such as Lahaul & Spiti, Ladakh and Kinnaur. It is a dance performed by the Buddhist monks, known as Lamas, in the courtyard of monasteries during religious and other festivals.

Dhaman is a folk dance of Himachal Pradesh.

Thoda is a Warrior dance performed by the Rajputs in Himachal Pradesh. It is performed during the Vishu Fair in the month of Chaitra and Vaisakh (April-May). It traces its origin from Mahabharata and it manifests subtle confluence of dance, sports and folk theatre.

Dangi dance performed by Dangis is called Dangi Nrutya. It is mainly associated with the Chamba area of Himachal Pradesh. It is performed during the harvest season.

The most popular dances of the state are Rakshasa (demon), Kayang, Bakayang, the Bnyangchu, the Jataru Kayang, Chohara, Lang - dar - ma, Nati, Jhanjhar, Jhoor, Gi, and Rasa.

Jharkhand

Santhal dance is a popular folk dance practiced by Santhal tribes in Jharkhand and West Bengal. It is performed in groups. It is very similar to the bamboo folk dance of Assam and Mizoram.

Borao dance is a celebration of the Oraon community thriving in the state of Jharkhand. It is one of the largest groups dwelling in the hilly region of Hazaribagh Goomla. The Oraon community is also known as Kurukh.

Mundari dance is a famous folk dance of the Munda community of Orissa and Jharkhand. It is a women centric dance.

Phagua is a dance form popular among the tribes residing in Jharkhand and the adjoining state Bihar. It is performed during Holi – the spring festival.

Birhor dance is a tribal folk dance from Jharkhand. The Birhors are a tribal /Adivasi forest people, traditionally nomadic living in states of Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal.

Hunta dance is the hunting dance of the Santhals who live in the hilly plateaus of the Chota Nagpur region of the Santhal Parganas of Jharkhand.

Jenana (Janani) Jhumur is a traditional dance of the women performed mainly during the period of cultivation in the rainy season.

Mardani Jhumur is performed by the men of the Nagpuri community and Southern cultures dance after the harvest.

Jhitka and Danga dances are performed by both men and women to celebrate different feudal traditions.

Lahasuya is a Nagpuri folk dance of the Chota Nagpur Plateau region of

Jharkhand.

Karma dance is derived from a sacred tree named Kadamba which is believed to bring prosperity and good luck to the people and depicts the celebration of the planting of the tree.

Ghoda Naach dance performed only by men. The wooden puppet is the main prop used.

Jhika-Dashain is a form of worship dance practiced by the Santhal tribe to train young men of the community in the art of acquiring spiritual powers to dispel the influence of the evil spirits.

Kadsa dance is a dance style performed carrying a 'Kalasha' (earthen pot). This is a female dominated dance.

Jamda folk dance is associated with Jharkhand.

Karnataka

Huttari dance (Kodagu dance) is one of the most spirited dances of Karnataka. Different forms of this dance are Bolak-aat, Ummatt-aat, and Komb - aat.

Bolak-aat is performed by Kodava men dressed in all black with an oil lamp in the open field.

'**Ummatt-aat**' is a folk dance form performed in Coorg. This dance is performed by the Kodava women.

Komb-aat, is a devotional dance which is carried out in a temple by the Kodava men.

Veeragase / Veerabhadrana kunitha is one of the dances demonstrated in the Dasara procession held in Mysore, during the hindu months of Shravana (July - August) and Karthika (October - November).

Bhootada Kola dance is highly stylized and held in honor of the local deities worshiped by the Tulu speaking population. It has influenced Yakshagana folk theatre.

Yakshagana is a traditional folk dance form popular in coastal Karnataka districts. It has originated as a product of the Vaishnava bhakti movement. Yakshagana means "song" of the yaksha (demi-gods/spirits). It is usually

performed in paddy fields after the winter crop has been harvested.

Bayalata is an open air theatre form. It features stories from Indian epic poetry and the Puranas rendered as dance and drama.

Goravara Kunitha is often a tradition of a dance of Kuruba Gowda's who are the worshippers of Lord Mailana Longa. Bhootha Aradhane represents the worship of the Devil.

Gaarudi Gombe signifies magical puppet in Karnataka. It is especially performed during festivals and processions to ward off evils.

Pata Kunitha is a group dance performed by 10 to 15 persons together.

Dollu Kunitha dance performed primarily by men of the shepherd community called the Kuruba.

Naga mandala dance is usually performed by male dancers, called Vaidyas. Within the dance, they dress up as Nagakannikas or as female snakes.

Kamsale is a group dance form performed by the menfolk in Karnataka. Kamsale (Beesu Kamsale) is a unique folk art performed by the devotees of God Mahadeshwara. Kamsale also refers to a brass made musical instrument.

Suggi is a dance performed at the time of harvesting by the Halakki Vokkaliga tribe.

Aati Kalanja is a ritualistic folk dance performed by the 'Nalke' Community.

The dances like 'Nandi Dhawaja', 'Lingada Berana', Gorava dance, Veeragase, Beesu Kamsale and Puravanthike are dedicated to the worship of Lord Shiva.

Bhagawanthike, Pata Kunitha and Bana Devara Kunitha are dances performed to worship Lord Vishnu.

Mariammana Kunitha, Urimarammana Kunitha, Puja, Karaga, Dollu, Soman Kunitha, Harige, Sedere, Bhoota Nrutya, Naga Nrutya, Vatte Kola, Kombat and Billat are being performed to worship all incarnations of 'Shakti', the deity of power.

Kerala

Mudi yettu, a dance drama is a village ritual performed by members of the Marar and Kuruppu communities in Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam and Idukki districts of Kerala. In 2010 it was inscribed in the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Thiruvathirakali (Kaikottikaliis) is a unique dance performed in Kerala on the auspicious day of Thiruvathira, the birthday of Lord Shiva. It falls in the Malayalam month of Dhanu (December - January).

Kolkali is a folk art performed in Malabar region of Kerala.

Oppana is a song and dance performance popular among the Muslims of Malabar.

Kummattikali, prevalent in the districts of Palakkad, Trichur and Wayanad, is a folk art form performed during the Malayalam months of Makaram and Kumbham.

Chavittu Natakam, is believed that the art form flourished at Kodungalloor in Kerala with the spread of Christianity.

Kakkarissi Natakam is a folk art form popular in Central Travancore.

Kanyarkali is a folk dance ritual performed in Bhagavati temples and Vettakoruman Temple of Palakkad district.

Arjuna Nritham (Mayilpeeli Thookam), is a ritual art of Kerala performed in the Bhagavati temples of south Kerala, mainly at Kollam, Alappuzha and Kottayam.

Ezhamathukali, a folk art form closely related with the ancient Sanghakali, is also known as Ezhamadukali, Ezhamuthipurappad etc.

Alamikali was a popular regional art form in Kasaragod, performed by 'Alamis', soldiers of Tipu's army.

Vedanpaattu is a traditional folk art form performed in the Malayalam month of Karkidakam (June/July) in remote parts of Kerala.

Elelakkari is a well-known dance form of the tribal group called Irulas of Attappady in Palakkad District.

Onathar is a traditional folk art form performed during Onam season in Kannur and adjoining areas.

Ivarkali (Aivarnatakam, Thattinmelkai, Kannilkuthikali, Pandavarkali) is played by Ikkudikkammalar people belonging to the Vishwakarma community.

Kathaprasangam or the art of storytelling performance is a popular art form which blends the tradition of music and speech together.

Koothambalams is a combination of ancient Sanskrit theatre with elements of Koothu, an ancient performing art from the Sangam era. It is officially recognised by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Kothamooriyattam is a traditional folk art form popular in Kannur and Kasaragod districts of Kerala.

Adichuthura is a function lasting for 4 days held as part of the wedding of Knanaya Catholic Community in Kerala and songs sung during Adichuthura function are known as Adichuthurapattu.

Mangalam Kali is a folk dance performed as entertainment mainly performed during marriage functions.

Seethankan Thullal is a dance and poetic performance form in Kerala, India. This one of the three major thullal forms prevailing in Kerala.

Koodiyattam (Kutiyattam) is a traditional performing art form in the state of Kerala. It is traditionally performed in temple theatres known as Koothambalam. It is India's oldest living theatrical tradition.

Margomkali is a ritual folk art dance of the Syrian Christians of Kottayam and Thrissur districts.

Ottamthullal is an art form performed only in Kerala. The meaning of Ottamthullal is 'poor man's Kathakali'.

Madhya Pradesh

Lehangi is a popular folk dance of the Banjara and Kanjar tribe of the Bhopal

commissary of Madhya Pradesh and is performed during the blossoming monsoon period.

Ahiri dance is a trademark of the cattle herders of Gwalior.

Baredi is an important folk dance of the Gwalior district. Starting from Diwali, the dance is performed till the day of 'Karthik Purnima'. The Diwari in Baderi dance is the poetry before the performance.

Bilma dance is performed by the Gond and Baiga tribes during the festival of Dussehra.

Chatkora dance is done by the Korku tribe. It is in the chinndwara and Betul districts.

Kangra dance is performed by the Dhobi caste in Bundelkhand.

Gocho dance is performed by the Gond tribals.

Reena dance is performed by the Baiga and Gond tribal women during the festival of Diwali.

Atari dance is the dance of the Bhumiya and Baiga tribes of Baghelkhand region.

Muria dance is performed near the Ghotul.

Bhadam (Bhangam dance) is mainly performed by the Bharia tribe of Madhya Pradesh on the occasion of marriage.

Sahariya dance is a famous dance performed by the Saharia community of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It is performed during the month of Holi to the beats of the dhol, nagari and matki.

Ahirai is a popular dance form of the Bharia tribe of Madhya Pradesh.

Bhagoriya is a well known dance of the Bhils, a large tribe of the Jhabua district in Madhya Pradesh. It is associated with a festival known as Bhagoria and a fair called Bhagoriya Haat.

Maach is a form of folk theatre from the Malwa region of the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. It is performed around the Indian festival of Holi.

Grida dance is performed to celebrate the "harvesting of crops".

Matki dance is mostly performed in the Malwa region by nomadic tribes.

Phulpati dance is performed in Malwa region of India (western Madhya Pradesh and south eastern Rajasthan) by unmarried girls.

Jawara dance is a popular folk dance of Madhya Pradesh. It is mainly famous in the Bundelkhand region among the peasant community.

Kaksar dance is a festival dance of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. It is a festival dance which is performed by the Abhujmaria tribe residing in Bastar. Before the onset of the monsoon, the Maria cultivators worship the god for reaping a good harvest.

Naurata is the dance performed by unmarried girls in the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh.

Maharashtra

Lezim is a folk dance of Maharashtra where the dancers carry a small musical instrument with jingling cymbals called the 'Lezim'. The first Lezim performance to an international audience was presented at the 9th Asian Games in the year 1982 at Delhi.

Lavani dance is generally performed by Dhangars or shepherds living in the Solapur district of Maharashtra.

Dhangari Gaja dance (Dhangar dance) is performed by the shepherd community known as Dhangars during the Navratri festival.

Waghya Murali dance is a dance of Maharashtra, associated with Lord Khandoba.

Tamasha dance form has been believed to be derived from the ancient form of Sanskrit drama - the 'Prahana' and the 'Bhana'. Kolhati and Mahar groups are associated with the performance of Tamasha.

'**Povadas**' folk dance is presented in the Marathi ballad form. This dance form describes the events in the life of the founder of the Maratha Empire, Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Dindi dance is performed on Ekadashi in Kartik month of the Hindu calendar.

Koli dance is a popular folk dance of the Maharashtra and Goa states of India. It was created by the Kolis tribe of Mumbai.

Nakata dance is performed by the fisher community of Maharashtra.

Gafa dance is performed by a group of boys.

Kala dance is a form of folk dance that describes the mood of Lord Krishna. It is a symbol of fertility.

Manipur

Nupa dance is a variation of Pung Cholom. It is also known as Cymbal dance or Kartal Cholom. It is performed by only male dancers.

Thabal chongba is a Manipuri folk dance traditionally performed during the festival of Yaoshang in India.

Luivat Pheizak is one of the most popular dances of the Tangkhul Naga community of Manipur.

Lai Haraoba dance enacts the 'Creation of the Universe', which was initially a part of the Lai Haraoba festival.

Shim Lam dance (Fly dance) of Manipur is the traditional folk dance of the Rongmei community.

Rakhal Nritta is a part of Raas Leela. Manipuri boys are performing a dance at Under the Kadam tree.

Katabenlu Laam (Bangle Dance) is known for its intricate footwork and rhythmic movements.

Mao Naga dance is performed by the Mao Naga community during the annual harvesting and seed-sowing festivals (Chikhuni).

Pao-Sa Jagoi dance is part of the traditional Kanglei Haraoba.

Kabui dance is performed by the Kabui community during the Gang - Ngai festival.

Raas is a highly developed dance drama depicting Lord Krishna's union with his female followers, the gopis, and especially his consort-devotee Radha.

Thang-Ta art symbolises an old and outstanding Manipur culture. It demonstrates the remarkable combat style of the Thang (sword) and the Ta (spear).

Lhou Sha is a battle dance that is performed at every clash between two villages.

Meghalaya

Laho dance is performed by the Jaintia tribe of Meghalaya. It is performed during the Behdienkhlam festival. It is also known as the Chipiah Dance. When the Harp tribe of Meghalaya performs this dance, it is known as Wangla dance.

Nongkrem dance festival is celebrated during Autumn at Smit, the cultural centre of the Khasi Hills. A five day long religious festival of the Khasis, Ka Pomblang Nongkrem dance is popularly known as Nongkrem dance.

Chad Sukra, a popular traditional dance festival of Meghalaya, is celebrated as a Sowing festival. It is celebrated every year by the Pnar people of Jaintia Hills.

Shad Suk Mynsiem is an annual spring dance that celebrates the harvest and planting season.

Dorsegata dance festival is also a dance in which the women try to take the turbans off their male partners during the dance.

Behdienkhlam is the main dance of the "Jaintias" festival held every July in Jowai, Jaintia Hills.

Wangala dance is essentially a part of the Wangala festival. It is a major festival of the Garos held in the fall, after the harvest season.

Mizoram

Cheraw is a Mizoram folk dance performed with bamboo sticks. On the occasion of 'Buza Aih,' or bumper harvest, an individual family performs Cheraw dance.

Chailam dance is mainly practiced during the festival of Chapchar kut and is regarded as one of the most significant festivals of Mizo people.

Zangtalam dance is mainly performed by the 'Paihte' tribe.

Solakia dance is prevalent in Mizoram. 'So' means the severed head of an enemy, 'La' means dance and 'Kia' refers to that which has been done with better understanding and knowledge.

Khuallam dance is usually performed during the ceremony of 'Khuangchawi'. Literally, the terms 'Khual' and 'lam' mean guest and dance respectively.

Chawnglaizawn is a popular folk dance of one of the Mizo communities known as Pawi.

Tianglam is performed throughout the state using music of Puma Zai. Zangtalam is a popular Paihte dance performed by men and women.

Nagaland

Changai Dance is performed by the Chang tribe during the Naknyulum festival, which lasts for three days.

Changsang dance is a traditional folk dance performed by the Chang Naga Tribe during Naknyulum festival in the month of July.

Monyu Aшо dance is performed by the Phom Nagas during the Phom Monyu festival which is the biggest festival of the Phom Naga tribe. It is celebrated in the month of April.

Khupielilie dance is a traditional folk dance performed by womenfolk of the Pochury Naga Tribe of Nagaland.

Kukui Pheto dance is a traditional folk dance performed by Chakesang Nagas.

Kulu-Tsen is the name of a traditional Naga folk dance of the Yimkiung tribe.

Nokinteker Tsungsang dance is a Naga traditional dance form of the Ao Naga tribe.

Butterfly dance is associated with the Zeliangrong tribe.

Melo Phita dance is performed by the Angami Nagas during the Sekrenyi festival in the month of February. Angushu Kighilhe dance is a traditional war dance performed by the menfolk of the Sumi tribe.

Chang Lo dance (Sua la) is performed by the Chang tribe of Nagaland. It is

performed in a three day festival known to be 'Poanglem', marking the beginning of the harvest season in the state.

Rukhyo Sharu dance is performed by the Lotha Naga tribe.

Langnyu-Khiamtsangshe dance is a traditional folk dance performed by the Khiamniungan Naga tribe of Nagaland during two of their most important festivals i.e. Miu and Tsokum, which are co-related to each other.

Akok-Khi is a dance form performed by the Sangtam tribe during the Mongmong festival.

Zeliang dance is performed by the Zeliangrong Naga tribe found in the hilly terrain of Mount Barail in Nagaland.

Aaluyattu is a folk dance form from the state of Nagaland. It is performed by the Konyak tribe.

Udoho dance is a traditional war dance of the Angami Naga tribe.

Rangma is a folk dance of Nagaland performed by the Naga people. It is usually a part of the Ngada festival. It depicts war culture and men dressed up like warriors.

Sadal Kekai is a folk dance of Nagaland performed by the Kuki tribe.

Leshalaptu is a folk dance performed by the women of Nagaland.

Shankai and Moyashai are the victory dances performed by the Lotha tribe of Nagaland.

Odisha

Ranapa is performed on the stilt and accompanies by drum music, along with songs related to Lord Krishna childhood stories.

Dhanu Jatra (Dhanu Yatra) is an annual drama-based open-air theatrical performance celebrated in Bargarh, Odisha.

Daskathia of Odisha is the tribal dance performed by two males depicting the historic and Puranic events.

Gotipua (Bandha Nritya) is the precursor of Odissi classical dance. In this dance young boys dress as women to praise

lord Jagannath and Krishna.

Dalkhai is a popular folk dance of the Adivasis of Odisha. It originates in the Sambalpur district in Odisha.

Danda Nata (Danda Jatra) is one of the most important traditional dance festivals organized in different parts of South Odisha and particularly in the Ganjam District (ancient Kalinga Empire). The Danda Naata festival is held in the month of Chaitra (March/April) every year.

Dhensa is a traditional folk dance of tribal people of central India-Southern Odisha and adjacent areas of Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh.

Rangabati dance is popular in Odisha and most parts of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.

Sakhi Kandhei is a string puppetry show popular in the Indian state of Odisha, especially in the Kendrapara district of Odisha.

Baagha Naacha or Tiger Dance is performed in Binka, Sonepur of Subarnapur district and Brahmapur and in some parts of Ganjam district in Odisha.

Chaiti Ghoda dance is mainly performed by Kaibarta Caste during the festivities related to the fishing communities of Odisha.

Medha Nacha is a type of mask dance performed mainly in the coastal districts of Odisha.

Changu dance is performed by almost all the regional tribes of Odisha.

Sambalpuri folk dance is another form of Dalkhai Dance. It is the most popular dance form in the Western part of Orissa. The theme of this dance form is the eternal love story of Radha and Lord Krishna.

Kela Keluni: The Kelas are a wandering group of people who make their living by catching snakes. It is a very interesting folk dance which is full of humour.

Ghumra is a folk dance of the Kalahandi district of Odisha.

Paika dance is mainly performed by a Munda tribal community of Jharkhand. It is also the folk dance of Odisha which is practiced by the Paikas of Oriya army.

Punjab

Bagga is the martial dance form of Punjab. It is also known as Bhangra. It is performed during the "harvest festival" i.e. Vaishakhi.

Gatka (Dankara dance) is a form of martial art associated primarily with the Sikhs of the Punjab and other related ethnic groups, such as Hindkowans.

Viyahula Giddha is a popular folk dance performed during marriages in the Indian state of Punjab and also in Pakistan.

Kikli is a sport cum dance form which is usually performed by young girls.

Malwai Giddha is the folk dance of males of Malwa region of Punjab.

Giddha is a folk dance of Punjab, known for being high-spirited. It is a celebration of the reaping and harvest period in the spring season.

Julli dance is done by Muslim holy men Juli, called pirs.

Jaago is a beautiful Punjabi cultural celebration by the maternal families of both the Bride and the Groom.

Luddi dance, movement of the body is sinuous and like a snake.

Rajasthan

Terah Taali is a folk dance. It is performed by the Kamada tribes who are traditional snake charmers.

Chari dance is a female group dance. It is prominent in the Gujjar and Saini community of Kishangarh and Ajmer. In the chari dance, women hold chari or pots on their heads, and a lighted lamp is then placed in the pot.

Bhavai is a folk dance of Rajasthan. Women dancers balance up to seven to nine brass pots on their heads.

Kachchhi Ghodi dance is an Indian folk dance that originated in the Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. It is performed by men on dummy horses.

Gair Dance is one of the popular folk dances practiced by the Bhil community in the Rajasthan state of India.

Chakri is a folk dance of the Kanjar tribe. It is performed exclusively by womenfolk in marriages and festivals. Kanjar tribe inhabited some parts of the Kota and Baran districts of Rajasthan.

Kathputli is a string puppet theatre, native to Rajasthan and is the most popular form of Indian puppetry.

Khayal dance is performed by the Bhawai tribe of Rajasthan. It is full of mockery, humour and irony.

Kalbelia dance is a folk dance of Rajasthan. It is well known by other names like 'Sapera Dance' or 'Snake Charmer Dance'. It was added to UNESCO's representative list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

Jhulan is a folk dance form of Rajasthan. It is performed by both men and women.

Chakri dance form was first introduced by the Kanjar tribe who reside in the Kota and Baran areas of Rajasthan.

Fire dance mostly performed by the Banjara tribe who belong to the Churu and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan.

Drum dance has its origin from the Jhalore regions. Gavari is a tribal dance drama performed by the Bhil tribe.

Walar dance is performed by the Garasia Rajasthani tribe.

Ghoomar is a dance performed by girls of border areas of Haryana and Rajasthan at various festivals like Holi, Gangaur Puja and Teej. It was basically developed by the **Bhil** tribe and was adopted by other Rajasthani communities.

Saang, also known as Swang (meaning "initiation") or Svang, is a popular folk dance-theatre form in Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh. Swang incorporates suitable theatrics and mimicry (or naqal) accompanied by song and dialogue.

Sikkim

Chu Faat dance is a beautiful folk dance of Sikkim. The Lepcha tribe performs this dance during the Pang Lhabso festival. It is performed on the fifteenth day of the seventh month in the Buddhist Calendar. It is a folk dance of Sikkim performed in honour of Mount Khangchendzonga.

Tendong Lho Rum Faat is celebrated by the Lepcha people in Sikkim. This group dance is performed to save people from the onslaught of mighty, mountainous rivers.

Denong-Neh-Nah is performed by the Bhutia community. This group dance is performed to pay homage to the past saints such as Guru Rimpoche.

Kayged dance is held every year in various Sikkimese Monastery. It is a time of celebration for the Bhutias as they welcome the New Year.

Naumati is a group dance of Damai community.

Ta-Shi-Yang-Ku is performed by the Bhutia community during the consecration of a new house and to bless a newly married couple.

Zo-Mal-Lok is the most popular folk dance of the Lepcha community.

The Lama dances or Chham is a masked dance performed by Buddhist lamas (monks) during special occasions like the Pang Lhabso festival.

Tamil Nadu

Karagattam is a traditional dance of Tamil Nadu which involves balancing pots made of metal or a lump of clay on the dancer's head. This dance is performed to worship Goddess Amman.

Karagam is performed by balancing a brass pot on the head. This dance is performed on the song called temmanguppau.

Therukoothu is a Tamil street theatre form practiced in Tamil Nadu state of India and Tamil-speaking regions of Sri Lanka.

Mamallapuram Dance Festival is organized by the Department of Tourism,

Tamil Nadu, and is a 30-day festival held annually between December and January.

Kummi is a folk dance, popular in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in India, danced mostly by Tamil women in a circle. It is also danced by Tamils of Sri Lanka.

Bamber Dance is performed inside a temple to worship Lord Krishna. It is mainly performed around a lamp during Ram Navami and Gokulashtami.

Devaraattam dance was presented to the Tamil kings and their army after their victorious return from the battle.

Puliyattam (Puli Aattam or Tiger Dance) the bodies of the dancers are painted by yellow and black paint to create a replica of Tiger.

Shattam Dance is devoted to Lord Vishnu, performed in groups with the instrument named "Urumi".

Kavadi Aattam is a dance form performed by men. This dance involves carrying Kavadi (burdens) through the pilgrimage. This dance form is performed in worship of Lord Murugan.

Kolattam or Kazhi Aattam is performed in a group during festivals and weddings.

Kazhai Kothu is similar to a modern-day circus, which includes gymnastics steps.

Mayil Aattam or Peacock Dance is usually performed by women. It is performed in the Hindu temples and offered to Lord Murugan.

Ottan Koothu dance form is presented by tribal people to depict ancient stories during festivals.

Paampu Attam or Snake dance form is done by young girls wearing tight-fitted costumes resembling a snake.

Poikkal Kuthirai Aattam or Artificial Horse Dance is a dance form in which dancers wear a dummy horse which is hollow in between so that a person can fit in it.

Koothu is a street party in which music and dance are performed by people during festivals and weddings.

Telangana

Mathuri dances are special tribal dances by the Mathuri tribes of the Adilabad district of Telangana, performed during the rainy month of Shravana.

Lambadi is performed by the semi-nomadic tribes called 'Lambadis' or 'Banjaras' or 'Sengalis'.

Perini Sivatanavam (Perini Thandavam) is a typical war dance which owes its origins to the 11th century rulers of Kakatiya dynasty. It is dedicated to Lord Shiva (Lord Rudra).

Gusadi is a folk dance performed by 'Raj Gonds' or the Gondulu tribes in the Adilabad district of Telangana.

Mayuri is performed in the tribal areas of Khammam district.

Dappu Nrityam or Dappu Dance is a dance form in Telangana. Dappu is known by different names in various parts of the state such as Tapetta and Palaka.

Tripura

Hoza Giri dance is celebrated to pray for the blessings of Mainuma (Goddess of wealth) by the Bru Reang community of Tripura.

Hai Hak dance is another dance connected with Jhum cultivation and performed by the Halam community.

Garia dance is performed during Goria puja, the festival to celebrate the sowing of new crops and prayer for a good harvest during the month of Baisakh.

Mamita dance is popular among the Kaloi community. It is performed at the Mamita Festival, the harvest festival of the Tripuri people.

Jhum dance displays the lifestyle, mode of cultivation, culture and tradition of the people.

Bizu dance is performed by the Chakma community. Bizu marks the end of the Bengali calendar.

Welcome dance is performed by Lusai girls performed whenever any visitor pays visits to their house.

Sangrai dance is performed by the Mog community people on the occasion of Sangrai festival falling in the month of Chaitra of Bengali calendar year.

Galamuchamo dance is celebrated at the end of the harvesting season. It is performed to express their gratitude to the gods for a good harvest.

Lebang Boomani dance is a harvest dance performed by the Tripuri people of Tripura.

Uttarakhand

Bhotiya dance is a ritual of Uttarakhand conducted by the Bhotiya or the Bhot ethnic group.

Chholiya (Hudkeli) is a folk dance form that originated in the Kumaon division in the state of Uttarakhand (India) and in some parts of Sudur Paschim province of Nepal.

Jhumelo folk dance is very famous in both Garhwal and Kumaon regions of Uttarakhand.

Pandav Nritya/Pandava Lila dance is dedicated to the Pandavas which is based on the events of Mahabharata.

Langvir Nritya is an acrobatic dance and is performed by the men folk only. It is mainly performed in the Tehri Garhwal region.

Chanchari is the dance style of Danpur region in Kumaon.

Chhapeli, also known as 'Chhabili' is a dance of Kumaon which is considered as the dance of two lovers.

Tandi is a popular dance of Uttarakhand. In this dance, all the people dance in a series holding each other's hands.

Chaunfula is the dance of joy and gaiety. It holds a special place in the minds of all the people of Uttarakhand.

Jhoda dance by its name is popular for couples.

Mukhota dance is usually performed to worship God Bhumitayal in Uttarakhand.

Thadiya: The word "Thad" means "courtyard", that is, the music and dance festival held in the courtyard of the house

is called Thadiya.

Hurka Baul dance is a famous dance of Uttarakhand. It is performed during the cultivation of paddy and maize in the Kumaon region.

Uttar Pradesh

Mayur dance is performed by girls dressed as peacocks in the Braj region of Uttar Pradesh. It is carried out as a kind of adoration for Lord Krishna. Peacock dance in other states: Arunachal Pradesh (Monpa tribe), Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (known as Mayilattam dance).

Rasalila is a popular form of folk theater in the regions of Mathura, Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh, Nathdwara in Rajasthan (amongst various followers of pushtimarg or the vallabh sect). It is also seen in gaudiya vaishnavism in Nadia (West Bengal) which is also known for Raas Utsava.

Nautanki is a famous folk theatre of Uttar Pradesh.

Charkula dance is typically performed on the third day of the famous Hindu festival of Holi.

West Bengal

Gaudiya Nritya is a classical dance form of Bengal as well as of other Eastern parts of the country like Assam, Odisha and Manipur. It has its origins in the Natyashastra. It was widely performed in the Vaishnav communities.

Gomira dance is a rural dance form mainly practiced in the Dinajpur district of West Bengal.

Alkap is a Bengali folk dance popular in the districts of Murshidabad, Malda and Birbhum in West Bengal and Chapai Nawabganj, Randajshahi in Bangladesh. It is also popular in Jharkhand.

Gambhira dance is performed in West Bengal during the festival of Chaitra Sankranti. The masks are made out of neem and fig trees by the local Sutradhar community.

Dhali dances portray the shieldmen in the troops. This dance form is widely popular in the aboriginal community of Bengal.

Jatra is a form of folk drama combining acting, songs, music, dance, characterised by stylised delivery and exaggerated gestures and orations.

Brita dance (Vrita Dance) is especially performed by people after their recovery from certain diseases.

Tusu dance is performed during the month of Pausa, found in the month of December and January.

Lathi dance is performed during the primary ten days of Muharram. It's the dance to show off the powers of the body.

Baul dance forms part of the religious rites of bauls.

Marisia dance is a tribal dance of West Bengal performed by a group of men.

Dhanuchi naach is a devotional dance and tradition in West Bengal, performed during Durga puja.

Brita Dance is a form of group dance performed by men and women during Durga Puja.

Ladakh

Shondol dance is also known as the 'Royal Dance of Ladakh'. It is performed by Takshoma or women dancers to praise the King of Ladakh on special occasions.

Cha-rtse (Pigeon dance) is a dance form of Ladakh.

Jabro dance is performed by the nomadic people of the Tibetan region living in the hillsides of the Chang Thang and Rong areas of Ladakh.

Koshan dance of Ladakh is presented during horse riding and the person who is riding the horse is known as Landak.

Spawo dance is an integral part of the Ladakhi culture and is highly appreciated as a folk dance form.

Shone dance is of the Mons and people perform this dance only in Ladakh's rural parts.

Drugpa-Rches dance form is presented by the Dards, people who belong from the Aryan origin. Dards are situated in the

Gorkhan and Drass areas of the Ladakh region.

Jabro dance is the nomadic community dance form, which has its origin in Tibet, they live in the Changthang area's high hills, and it is located in Ladakh.

The Bagstanarches dance is performed for several weeks in Ladakhi wedding ceremonies.

Koshan dance form is very famous in Kashmir's Leh area.

Yak dance's theme is very interesting and unique, in this dance two people wear the skin of the animal Yak and they dance by using elegant and nice movements.

Tukhstanmo is a seasonal dance form, which is performed in the Bakhamul and Zanskar area.

Surahi dance is also called as Chang Rches. In Surahi dance, performers carry the Chang's pot over their head and with that pot, they do the performance.

Jammu and Kashmir

Dumhal is a folk dance performed by the Watal tribe in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhand Jashan is a very soothing dance with very light music and performed in traditional style by ten to fifteen dancers.

Bacha Nagma is performed by Young boys, particularly during the harvest season.

Wuegi-Nachun is performed after the marriage ceremony, when the bride has left for her new home.

Rouf Dance :- The English name for the Rouf Dance in Kashmir is Danza de Fila. It is celebrated in festivals like Ramzan and Eid in particular.

Bhaand Pather is a popular theatre in Kashmir.

Kud is one of the art forms which is performed in order to highlight the aficionados of the princely states.

Hikat dance of Kashmir is one of the most popular folk dances of the state of Kashmir and is usually performed by the young girls of the Kashmir valley.

Hafiza Dance is widely performed by Kashmiris at home weddings or when the wedding processions would be taken out on boats on the Jhelum River.

Ladishah dance form of Kashmir is very popular and Ladishah has a very essential position in the tradition of Kashmir music. Ladishah dance is a malicious form of singing.

Some More Dances of India

Sarhul is a traditional dance which is performed by the Oraon tribe in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and west bengal.

Tarpa dance is a tribal dance performed by the Warli, Kokna and Koli tribes of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Verdigao dance is the traditional dance form of Daman and Diu. Other famous folk dances of Daman and Diu are Mando Dance and Vira Dance, which are performed on special occasions.

Lava is a popular folk dance of **Minicoy** Island of Lakshadweep. The word 'Lava' means beautiful dance or rhythmic movement. It is usually performed on festive occasions or religious ceremonies. The look of dancers is locally known as 'Bolufeyle'.

Parichakali is a traditional folk dance form of Lakshadweep. The term Parichakali is derived from the word 'Paricha'. It means 'shield' in the local native language, therefore this dance is also known as Shield dance.

Nicobari dance is the traditional dance of Andaman and Nicobar. It can be seen during the Ossuary Feast, commonly known as the Pig Festival. It is performed by the local tribesmen of the Car Island.

Martial dances of India are Kharaiti, Ujagjama and Thoda (Himachal Pradesh), Kalaripayattu (Kerala), Silambam, Kuttu Varisai (Tamil Nadu), Thang-ta (Manipur), Gatka (Punjab), Lathi (Punjab and Bengal), Inbuan Wrestling (Mizoram), Musti Yuddha (Varanasi), and Pari-Khanda (Bihar).

Types of Puppets Used in India

Glove Puppets {PavaKoothu (Kerala), Sakhi Kundhei Nata (Orissa), and Beni Putul (Bengal)}.

Rod Puppets {Putul Nach (West Bengal), Kathi Kandhe (Orissa), and Yampuri (Bihar)}.

Shadow Puppets {Tholu Bommalata (Andhra Pradesh), Togalu Gombeyata (Karnataka), Tholpavakoothu (Kerala), Chamadyache Bahulya (Maharashtra), Ravana Chhaya (Orissa), and Thol Bommalattam (Tamil Nadu)}.

String Puppets {Putal Nach (Assam), Togalu Gombeyatta (Karnataka), Kalasutri Bahulya (Maharashtra), Gopalila Kundhei (Orissa), Kathputli (Rajasthan), and Bommalattam (Tamil Nadu)}.

Practice Questions:-

Q.1. Daskathia of _____ is the tribal dance performed by two males depicting the historic and Puranic events.

SSC CGL 14/07/2023 (2nd shift)

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Gujarat
(c) Goa (d) Odisha

Q.2. Which of the following dances is performed by the Santhal tribe of Jharkhand ?

SSC CGL 14/07/2023 (4th shift)

- (a) Jhika Dasain (b) Kolkali
(c) Ghumar (d) Koli

Q.3. Changai dance is associated with which Indian state ?

SSC CGL 17/07/2023 (2nd shift)

- (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Maharashtra
(c) Nagaland (d) Jharkhand

Q.4. The Raigarh Gharana is associated with which of the following dance forms ?

SSC CGL 19/07/2023 (3rd shift)

- (a) Odissi (b) Kathakali
(c) Kathak (d) Manipuri

Q.5. Jamda folk dance is associated with which Indian state ?

SSC CGL 19/07/2023 (4th shift)

- (a) Assam (b) Maharashtra
(c) Manipur (d) Jharkhand

Q.6. 'Vazhuvoor' is one of the styles in which Indian classical dance forms ?

SSC CGL 24/07/2023 (4th shift)

- (a) Kathak (b) Bharatanatyam
(c) Kathakali (d) Mohiniyattam

Q.7. Bhortal dance is famous in_____.

SSC CGL 26/07/2023 (2nd shift)

- (a) Odisha (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Punjab (d) Assam

Q.8. The 'Joempa Legso' is a welcome dance of_____.

SSC CGL 26/07/2023 (4th shift)

- (a) Afghanistan (b) Bhutan
(c) Sri Lanka (d) Bangladesh

Q.9. Which of the following ritual dances is performed by the Kamar tribe of Madhya Pradesh ?

Selection Post 28/06/2023 (Shift - 3)

- (a) Ghapal (b) Munari
(c) Painka (d) Terah tali

Q.10. Which of the following traditional dances is mainly performed during Navratri ?

Selection Post 28/06/2023 (Shift - 2)

- (a) Ras leela (b) Nati (c) Dumhal (d) Garba

Q.11. Zangtalam is the folk dance of which Indian state ?

Selection Post 30/06/2023 (Shift - 3)

- (a) Nagaland (b) Assam
(c) Mizoram (d) West Bengal

Q.12. Suggi is a famous folk dance form of _____ state of India

SSC MTS 03/05/2023 (Morning)

- (a) Karnataka (b) Chhattisgarh
(c) Punjab (d) Sikkim

Q.13. Which folk dance of Rajasthan is also known as 'Sapera dance' ?

SSC MTS 04/05/2023 (Afternoon)

- (a) Gair (b) Kalbelia (c) Chari (d) Ghoomar

Q.14. Jagoi and cholom are the two main divisions in _____ dance.

SSC MTS 10/05/2023 (Evening)

- (a) Kathakali (b) Manipuri
(c) Bharatanatyam (d) Kathak

Q.15. Jhijhiya is a famous folk dance of which of the following states ?

SSC MTS 11/05/2023 (Morning)

- (a) Haryana (b) Bihar
(c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh

Q.16. Panthi dance form is associated with _____ state of India.

SSC MTS 13/06/2023 (Morning)

- (a) Kerala (b) Maharashtra
(c) Punjab (d) Chhattisgarh

Q.17. Brita Dance is the traditional folk dance of which state ?

SSC MTS 15/06/2023 (Afternoon)

- (a) West Bengal (b) Odisha
(c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh

Q.18. Hai - Hak Dance is associated with which state ?

SSC MTS 20/06/2023 (Morning)

- (a) Sikkim (b) Andhra Pradesh
(c) Tripura (d) Rajasthan

Q.19. The Zo - Mal - Lok folk dance is associated with which community ?

SSC MTS 20/06/2023 (Evening)

- (a) Chaimal community
(b) Jamatia community
(c) Lushai community
(d) Lepcha community

Q.20. Which among the following classical dance forms was introduced in the 16th century by Vaishnava saint Mahapurusha Sankaradeva ?

SSC GD 11/01/2023 (1st Shift)

- (a) Odissi (b) Kuchipudi
(c) Manipuri (d) Sattriya

Q.21. Which of the following folk dances is associated with Jammu and Kashmir ?

SSC GD 13/01/2023 (1st Shift)

- (a) Kud (b) Hojagiri (c) Bhavai (d) Jawara

Q.22. Which of the following dance types is NOT associated with Jharkhand ?

SSC GD 16/01/2023 (4th Shift)

- (a) Agni (b) Mardana Jhumar
(c) Lavani (d) Phagua

Q.23. The folk dance 'Lambadi' is associated with which Indian state ?

SSC GD 17/01/2023 (4th Shift)

- (a) Assam (b) Andhra Pradesh
(c) Bihar (d) Karnataka

Q.24. Raut Nacha, Panthi and Soowa are famous dance styles of which of the following states ?

SSC GD 25/01/2023 (2nd Shift)

- (a) Rajasthan (b) Gujarat
(c) Chhattisgarh (d) Jharkhand

Q.25. Which of the following dance forms is associated with the musical instrument Edakka ?

SSC GD 02/02/2023 (3rd Shift)

- (a) Manipuri (b) Mohiniyattam
(c) Kathak (d) Odissi

Q.26. The folk dance 'Cheraw' is primarily associated with which Indian state ?

SSC GD 07/02/2023 (1st Shift)

- (a) Odisha (b) Bihar (c) Goa (d) Mizoram

Q.27. What is the name of the famous folk dance of Punjabi women ?

SSC GD 08/02/2023 (4th Shift)

- (a) Fugdi (b) Gidda (c) Dadra (d) Jawara

Q.28. Which of the following states is NOT associated with the classical dance form of Chhau ?

SSC GD 09/02/2023 (3rd Shift)

- (a) Tamil Nadu (b) Jharkhand
(c) West Bengal (d) Odisha

Q.29. Which among the following folk dances is popularly known as the 'stick dance' ?

SSC GD 13/02/2023 (1st Shift)

- (a) Ghodmodni (b) Koli
(c) Kolannalu (d) Theyyam

Q.30. With which of the following states is the folk dance Tarangamel associated ?

SSC CGL 01/12/2022 (3rd Shift)

- (a) Goa (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Tamil Nadu (d) Kerala

Q.31. Which of the following is a famous folk dance of Odisha ?

SSC CGL 05/12/2022 (4th Shift)

- (a) Birha (b) Ghoomar
(c) Kalbelia (d) Rangabati

Q.32. Mohiniyattam is associated with which Hindu God ?

SSC CPO 09/11/2022 (Morning)

- (a) Ganapati (b) Brahma
(c) Vishnu (d) Shiva

Q.33. Which folk dance represents a mock fight between Goddess Durga and Mahishasura ?

SSC CPO 10/11/2022 (Afternoon)

- (a) Bhangra (b) Raslila
(c) Kalbelia (d) Dandiya Raas

Q.34. Which of the following options best describes the meaning of Nritya in the Kuchipudi dance form ?

Delhi Police S.I. 10/11/2022 (Morning)

- (a) Abstract Narrative Dancing
(b) Non-Narrative and Abstract Dancing
(c) Interpretative Dancing
(d) Narrative Dancing

Q.35. Which folk dance represents a mock fight between Goddess Durga and Mahishasura ?

Delhi Police S.I. 10/11/2022 (Afternoon)

- (a) Bhangra (b) Raslila
(c) Kalbelia (d) Dandiya Raas

Q.36. The Tapu dance is primarily performed in the Indian state of _____.

DP H.C.M. 13/10/2022 (Morning)

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Gujarat
(c) Arunachal Pradesh (d) Andhra Pradesh

Q.37. Which is a popular dance form of the Bharia tribe ?

DP H.C.M. 14/10/2022 (Afternoon)

- (a) Bhadam (b) Sahariya
(c) Thapti (d) Atari

Q.38. 'Ahirai' is a folk dance of the Bharia tribe of _____

DP H.C.M. 18/10/2022 (Afternoon)

- (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Karnataka
(c) Uttarakhand (d) Nagaland

Q.39. Which of the following is a traditional masked dance of West Bengal ?

SSC MTS 18/07/2022 (Afternoon)

- (a) Kavadi (b) Gidda
(c) Gambhira (d) Jawara

Q.40. _____ is a mask dance popular in South Malabar.

SSC CGL 20/04/2022 (Evening)

- (a) Dhangar (b) Kummattikali
(c) Parichakali (d) Zemmado

Q.41. Which ceremonial folk dance of Puducherry is related to the Hindu epic Ramayana, performed at the Villianur temple in Puducherry ?

RRB NTPC CBT - II (09/05/2022) Shift 1

- (a) Garadi (b) Hulivesha
(c) Dalkhai (d) Tippani

Q.42. Which of the following is a popular harvest dance in the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh ?

RRB NTPC CBT - II (12/06/2022) Shift 2

- (a) Maruni (b) Charba
(c) Jawara (d) Dhala

Q.43. Rengma is primarily a folk dance of _____.

RRB NTPC CBT - II (15/06/2022) Shift 1

- (a) Bihar (b) West Bengal
(c) Nagaland (d) Rajasthan

Q.44. _____ is an exclusive martial dance form of Manipur that includes a unique display of skill, creativity and agility in which the performers enact a mock fight sequence.

RRB NTPC CBT - II (15/06/2022) Shift 2

- (a) Singhi Chamm (b) Chakyar Koothu
(c) Rangama (d) Thang Ta

Q.45. The Khajuraho dance festival was instituted by the Government of India in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad in the year_____.

RRB NTPC CBT - II (16/06/2022) Shift 2

- (a) 2015 (b) 2005 (c) 1975 (d) 1995

Q.46. The 'Veeragase' dance, performed during the Dussehra festival holds a special place in the folk dances of the state of _____

SSC MTS 06/10/2021 (Evening) .

- (a) Karnataka (b) Assam
(c) Odisha (d) Sikkim

Q.47. Which of the following communities of Sikkim is traditionally associated with the folk dance known as 'Chu-Faat' ?

SSC MTS 20/10/2021 (Afternoon)

- (a) Nepalese (b) Tamang
(c) Lepcha (d) Bhutia

Q.48. 'Rikhampada' is a traditional dance of _____.

SSC MTS 27/10/2021 (Evening)

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
(b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Himachal Pradesh
(d) Madhya Pradesh

Q.49. 'Bolak-aat' is a _____ from the state of Karnataka.

SSC CGL 16/08/2021 (Morning)

- (a) music form (b) painting form
(c) dance form (d) sculpting form

Q.50. The Lebang Boomani Dance is part of the folk dance repertoire of which of these Indian states ?

SSC GD 22/11/2021 (evening)

- (a) Tripura (b) Odisha
(c) Maharashtra (d) Kerala

Q.51. Which form of dance involves balancing pots on the head of the dancer ?

SSC GD 10/12/2021 (Evening)

- (a) Cheraw (b) Bhavai
(c) Marasia (d) Deodhani

Q.52. Name the Indian classical dance form which is believed to be revealed by Lord Brahma to Bharata, a famous sage, who then codified this sacred dance in a Sanskrit text called 'Natya Shastra'.

RRB NTPC CBT - I (19/01/2021) Evening

- (a) Kathak (b) Odissi
(c) Bharatanatyam (d) Kathakali

Q.53. Hurkiya Baul is a folk dance form associated with which Indian state ?

RRB NTPC CBT - I (21/01/2021) Evening

- (a) Uttarakhand (b) Goa
(c) Haryana (d) Maharashtra

Q.54. In which of the following states is the Gambhira, a popular dance, performed using various wooden masks ?

RRB NTPC CBT - I (31/01/2021) Evening

- (a) West Bengal (b) Rajasthan
(c) Telangana (d) Gujarat

Q.55. Wanawan is folk music from _____ which is sung during wedding ceremonies.

RRB NTPC CBT - I (16/02/2021) Morning

- (a) Haryana (b) Maharashtra
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Kashmir

Q.56. In which of the following states is the Mathuri folk dance practised ?

RRB NTPC CBT - I (03/03/2021) Evening

- (a) Goa (b) Telangana
(c) Mizoram (d) Jharkhand

Q.57. With which season is the Kajri folk dance related to ?

RRB NTPC CBT - I (08/04/2021) Morning

- (a) Monsoon (b) Autumn
(c) Spring (d) Winter

Q.58. Which of the following dance form is associated with Haryana ?

D.P. (Executive) 27/11/2020 (Afternoon)

- (a) Vrindavani (b) Chaiti
(c) Velakali (d) Fag

Q.59. To which state does the Gotipua folk dance belong ?

D.P. (Executive) 01/12/2020 (Afternoon)

- (a) Bihar (b) Odisha
(c) Chhattisgarh (d) West Bengal

Q.60. _____ is a group dance of the Nepali community in Sikkim.

D.P. (Executive) 9/12/2020 (Morning)

- (a) Jhyamta (b) Turhi
(c) Damaha (d) Maruni

Answer Key :-

1.(d)	2.(a)	3.(c)	4.(c)
5.(d)	6.(b)	7.(d)	8.(b)
9.(d)	10.(d)	11.(c)	12.(a)
13.(b)	14.(b)	15.(b)	16.(d)
17.(a)	18.(c)	19.(d)	20.(d)
21.(a)	22.(c)	23.(b)	24.(c)
25.(b)	26.(d)	27.(b)	28.(a)
29.(c)	30.(a)	31.(d)	32.(c)
33.(d)	34.(b)	35.(d)	36.(c)
37.(a)	38.(a)	39.(c)	40.(b)
41.(a)	42.(c)	43.(c)	44.(d)
45.(c)	46.(a)	47.(c)	48.(a)
49.(c)	50.(a)	51.(b)	52.(c)
53.(a)	54.(a)	55.(d)	56.(b)
57.(a)	58.(d)	59.(b)	60.(d)

Arts Personalities

Dr. Bhupendra Kumar Hazarika: He was an Assamese singer who is also known as 'Sudha Kantha'. Dhola -Sadiya Bridge (which connects Assam and Arunachal Pradesh) was named after him. He was also known as the 'Bard of Brahmaputra'.

Awards : Bharat Ratna (2019 - Posthumous), Padma Vibhushan (2012 - posthumously), Padma Bhushan (2001), Padma Shri (1977), Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1992), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1987), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (2008), Asom Ratna (2008), Friends of Liberation War Honour given by Bangladesh (2012).

Pandit Bhimsen Gururaj Joshi: He was a renowned vocalist and belongs to Kirana Gharana known for the khyal form of singing. He made his debut in the live music scene at the young age of 19 in 1941 and, the following year in 1942, released his debut album (featuring a selection of devotional songs in Marathi and Hindi) through HMV. Sawai Gandharva was his Guru.

Awards : Bharat Ratna (2009), Padma Shri (1972), Padma Bhushan (1985), Padma Vibhushan (1999), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1976), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1998), Maharashtra Bhushan (2002), Karnataka Ratna (2005).

Lata Mangeshkar: She was also known as 'The Queen of Melody', 'Nightingale of Bollywood', 'also known as Nightingale of India', and 'Swar Kokila'. She recorded her first song at age of 13 for a Marathi film (Kiti Hasaal). In her honor the Madhya Pradesh government started Lata Mangeshkar Awards (for music) in 1984. Her teacher was Aman Ali Khan (Bhendibazar gharana).

Awards : Bharat Ratna (2001), Padma Bhushan (1969), Padma Vibhushan (1999), Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1989), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1989), National Order of the Legion of Honour - Highest civilian Award of France (2009), Maharashtra Bhushan (1997).

Ustad Bismillah Khan (Qamaruddin Khan): He was a famous Shehnai player and is known for playing Shehnai at the first Independence day (1947) celebration. In his honor, Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (started in 2006) is given by the Sangeet Natak Akademi for artists under 40. A theater is named after him in Teheran (Iran).

Awards : Bharat Ratna (2001), Padma Vibhushan (1980), Padma Bhushan (1968), Padma Shri (1961), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1956), Tahar Mausique from the Republic of Iran (1992).

Pandit Ravi Shankar: He was an Indian sitar player who belonged to Maihar Gharana. His guru was Allauddin Khan. His birth name was Ravindra Shankar Chowdhury. He was also the first Indian composer to win the Grammy Awards. "My Life, My Music" is his autobiography.

Awards : Bharat Ratna (1999), Padma Vibhushan (1981), Padma Bhushan (1967), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1962), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1975), Kalidas Samman (1987-88) and 5 Grammy {1967: Best Chamber Music Performance for West Meets East, 1973: Album of the Year for The Concert for Bangladesh, 2002: Best World Music Album for Full Circle Carnegie Hall 2000, 2013: Best World Music Album for The Living Room Sessions Part 1 and Lifetime Achievement.

M.S. Subbulakshmi: She was an Indian Carnatic singer born in Madurai (Tamil Nadu). She was honored in August 2016, by the United Nations Organization for her contribution to music. She was the first Indian singer to perform before the UN General Assembly (1966).

Awards : Ramon Magsaysay Award (1974), Bharat Ratna (1998), Padma Bhushan (1954) and Padma Vibhushan (1975), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1956), Sangeetha Kalanidhi (1968), Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration (1990).

Satyajit Ray: He was a film director, writer, and composer of music in India. He is known for the direction of several films such as "Pather Panchali" (1955), "Aparajito" (1956), "Apar Sansar" (1959), "Devi" (1960), "Two" (1964), "Kapurush" (1965), "Nayak" (1966).

Awards : Bharat Ratna (1992), Padma Shri (1958), Padma Vibhushan (1976), Padma Bhushan (1965), Sangeet Natak Akademi Puraskar (1959), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1967), Soviet Land Nehru Award (1985), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1986), Commander of the Legion of Honour By the French government (1987), Lifetime Achievement award by Oscars (1992), Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1984).

Zakir Hussain: He is a famous tabla player and the son of famous Tabla player Ustad Allah Rakkha. He was a part of the Band named 'Planet Drum'. He belongs to Punjab Gharana of Tabla.

Awards : Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1990), Padma Bhushan (2002), Padma Shri (1988), Padma Vibhushan (2023), Grammy Award for Best Contemporary World Music Album (2009), Grammy (2009), Sangeet Natak Fellowship (2018), Kalidas Samman (2006). In 1999, he was awarded the United States National Endowment for the Arts' National Heritage Fellowship, the highest award given to traditional artists and musicians.

Girija Devi: She is a Thumri Singer who belongs to Banaras Gharana. She is also known as 'Queen of Thumri'.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2016), Padma Shri (1972), Padma Bhushan (1989), Sangeet Natak Akademi (1977), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (2010).

Dr. Yamini Krishnamurti: She is known for both Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam. She was given the title of Asthana Nartaki ("Resident Dancer") by the Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam temple, India.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2016), Padma Shri (1968), Padma Bhushan (2001), Sangeet Natak Akademi (1977).

Sonal Mansingh: She is a prominent Indian classical dancer who specializes in Bharatanatyam and Odissi.

Awards : She was the youngest recipient of Padma Bhushan in 1992. Padma Vibhushan (2003), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1987).

Gangubai Hangal: She was an Indian vocalist of Hindustani classical tradition who belonged to the Kirana Gharana.

Awards: Karnataka Sangeet Nritya Academy Award (1962), Padma Bhushan (1971), Padma Vibhushan (2002), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1973), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1996).

Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma: He was an Indian classical musician and santoor player. He collaborated with Indian flutist Hariprasad Chaurasia under the collaborative name Shiv-Hari and composed music for such hit Indian films as Faasle (1985), Chandni (1989), and Lamhe (1991).

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2001), Padma Shri (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1986).

Amjad Ali Khan: He is an Indian classical sarod player. He performed 'Raga For Peace' in the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize Concert.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2001), Padma Shri (1975), Padma Bhushan (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1989). In his honor, the US state of Massachusetts proclaimed 20 April as Amjad Ali Khan Day in 1984.

Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra: He is a renowned Odissi dancer. He along with his wife, Laxmipriya Mohapatra (Odissi Dancer), and their son Ratikant Mohapatra built Srjan in 1993.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2000), Padma Bhushan (1988), Padma Shri (1974), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Dance - Odissi (1966).

Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia: He is an Indian flutist, associated with Senia Gharana.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2000), Padma Bhushan (1992), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Hindustani Music - Instrumental (Flute) (1983).

Pandit Jasraj Motiram: He was an Indian classical vocalist, belonging to the Mewati Gharana. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named minor planet 2006 VP32 (number -300128) between Mars and Jupiter after Pandit Jasraj Motiram in 2019.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2000), Padma Shri (1975), Padma Bhushan (1990), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1987), Swathi Sangeetha Puraskaram (2008), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (2010).

Birju Maharaj: He was an Indian dancer, composer, singer, and exponent of the Lucknow "Kalka-Bindadin" Gharana of Kathak dance. His birth name was Brijmohan Nath Mishra. He is the direct descendant of Ishwari Prasad (the first known Kathak teacher). He was a descendant of the Maharaj family of Kathak dancers (which includes his two uncles, Shambhu Maharaj and Lachhu Maharaj and his father Acchan Maharaj). He established an institution named 'Kalashram' for imparting training in dance and associated disciplines.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1986),

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1964), Kalidas Samman (1987), Lata Mangeshkar Puraskar (2002).

Tanjore Balasaraswati: She was an Indian Bharatanatyam dancer.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan - The First female dancer to receive the honor (1977), Padma Bhushan (1957), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1955). Bengali film director Satyajit Ray made a documentary film on Balasaraswati named Bala (1976).

Uday Shankar: He was the first to bring the concept of modern dance to India with his novel approach and works. He came up with his own style of dance called 'Hi-dance', which he later rechristened it and called it 'Creative dance'.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi award (1960), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1962), Padma Vibhushan (1971).

Ustad Allauddin Khan: He was an Indian sarod player. He was a founder of the Maihar gharana. He was the guru of Pandit Ravi Shankar. He used to play Shehnai, sarod, sitar, and bansuri.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1971), Padma Bhushan (1958), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1954).

Mrinalini Sarabhai: She is known for Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi classical dance forms. She was the co-founder of Darpana Academy of Performing Arts. She was born in Kerala.

Awards: Padma Bhushan (1992), Padma Shri (1965), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1994).

Guru Bipin Singh was a director, choreographer and teacher of Manipuri dance.

Awards : Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1966), Kalidas Samman (1989), The title of Natyacharya and Hanjaba conferred by the Maharaja of Manipur.

Rukmani Arundale (Rukmani Neelakanta Sastri): She was a famous Bharatanatyam Dancer. She was the first woman in Indian history to be nominated (1952) as a member of the Rajya Sabha. Founded Kalakshetra Dance School.

Awards: Padma Bhushan (1956), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1957),

Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1967).

Deepika Reddy: She is a renowned Kuchipudi dancer born at Hyderabad in Telangana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2017), Kala Ratna Award (Government of Andhra Pradesh, 2007), Nritya Choodamani (Krishna Gana Sabha, 2014), Telangana State Government Award (2016) and the Keerthi Puraskar by the Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University (2016).

Alarmel Valli (Pandanallur style in the Indian classical dance form, Bharatanatyam): She founded the Dipasikha Dance Foundation in Chennai in 1984.

Awards: Padma Shri Award (1991), Grande Medaille de la Ville de Paris Award (1997), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2001), Padma Bhushan (2004).

Narthaki Nataraj: She is an Indian transwoman Bharatanatyam dancer.

Awards: Padma Shri (2019, the first transgender woman to be awarded), Kalaimamani Award of Tamil Nadu Government (2007), Nritya Choodamani Award from Krishna Gana Sabha (2009), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2011, Vetri Award from University of Madras in 2013, Honorary Doctorate from Periyar Maniammai University 2016, ICCR Empanelled Dance Artist in Outstanding Category 2017.

Padma Subrahmanyam: She is an Indian classical Bharatanatyam dancer and well known as the developer and founder of the dance form Bharata Nrithyam.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1983), Padma Bhushan (2003), Padma Shri (1981), Nehru Award (1983), Kerala Nishagandhi Puraskaram (2015).

Mallika Sarabhai (Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam dancer): She was honoured by the French government with Chevalier des Palmes Academiques 2005.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2000), Padma Bhushan (2010), French Palme D'or (1977, The highest Civilian award in France).

Siddhendra Yogi (Adi Guru, Kuchipudi dance): He was an exceptional scholar and artist of the 14th century AD. He covers the principles of dance of Natya

Shastra, the Bible of all Indian classical dance styles. When he came to realize that true salvation is to devote oneself to God he envisioned Bhamakalpam dance drama form.

Sanjukta Panigrahi: She was the foremost exponent of Indian classical dance Odissi.

Awards: Padma Shri (1975), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1976).

Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma (Kuchipudi).

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1961), Sangeet Natak Akademi Ratna (1967), Padma Shri (1970), Kalidas Samman (1988).

Vempati Chinna Satyam: He was a Kuchipudi dancer.

Awards: Padma Bhushan (1998), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1981), Kalidas Samman (1992). He was conferred with the title 'Sangeet Peeth of Bombay' and awarded T.T.K. Memorial Award, "Raja-Lakshmi Award of Madras", "Asthana Natyacharya of Pittsburgh"

Dr. Prabha Atre: She is an Indian classical vocalist from the Kirana Gharana. She has composed many bandishes in various song-forms such as Khyal, Tarana, Thumri, Dadra, Bhajan, Geet, Ghazal and also Tappa.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2022), Padma Shri (1990), Padma Bhushan (2002), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1991).

Sripathi P. Balasubrahmanyam: He was a vocalist in Carnatic Music.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2021 - posthumously), Padma Shri (2001), Padma Bhushan (2011).

Sudarshan Sahoo: He is a famous sculptor from Odisha.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2021), Padma Shri (1988), Shilp Guru award (2003).

Pandit Chhannulal Mishra: He is a Hindustani Classical singer belonging to Kirana Gharana. He was a specialist in Khyal and thumri style of singing.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2020), Padma Bhushan (2010), Sangeet Natak Akademi awards (2010).

Teejan Bai : She is a folk singer (Pandavani of Chhattisgarh).

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2019), Padma Shri (1988), Padma Bhushan (2003), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1995), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (2022).

Ilaiyaraaja (Isaignani): He is also known as R. Gnanathesikan. He is a film composer, singer and lyricist who works in the Indian film industry, predominantly in Tamil.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2018), Padma Bhushan (2010).

Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan: He was an Indian classical musician in the Hindustani classical music tradition, belonging to the Rampur-Sahaswan Gharana.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2018), Padma Shri (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2003), Padma Bhushan (2006).

Shri K J Yesudas: He is an Indian classical musician and playback singer from Kerala.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2017), Padma Bhushan (2002), Padma Shri (1975), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1992).

Raghnath Mohapatra: He is a famous sculptor.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2013), Padma Bhushan (2001), Padma Shri (1976), National Award for Sculpture (1964).

Sayed Haider Raza: He was an Indian painter who lived and worked in France from 1950 until his death.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2013), Padma Bhushan (2007), Padma Shri (1981), Fellow of Lalit Kala Academy (1984), Legion of Honour of France (2015).

Prof. Kalpathi Ganapathi Subramanyan: He was a Tamil painter.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2012), Padma Bhushan (2006), Padma Shri (1975).

Mario de Miranda: He was a cartoonist from Goa.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2012), Padma Bhushan (2002), Padma Shri (1988).

Kapila Vatsyayan: She was a leading scholar of Indian classical dance, art,

architecture and art history.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2011), Padma Shri (1990).

Dr. Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman: He was a prominent Mridangam Player.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2010), Padma Bhushan (2003), Padma Shri (1988), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1992).

Ebrahim Alkazi: He is one of the most influential Indian theater directors and drama teachers.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2010), Padma Shri (1966), Padma Bhushan (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1962), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1967).

Asha Bhosle: She belonged to Bhendibazar Gharana of Mumbai where Navrang Nagpurkar was her teacher. She was officially acknowledged as the most recorded artist in music history by the Guinness Book of World Records in 2011.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2008), Dada Saheb Phalke (2000).

Pandit Ram Narayan: He is a renowned Sarangi player.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2005), Padma Shri (1976), Padma Bhushan (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1975).

Rasipuram Krishnaswamy Laxman: He was an Indian cartoonist, illustrator and humorist. He is known for his creation 'The Common Man' and for his daily cartoon strip 'You Said It' in The Times of India.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2005), Padma Bhushan (1971), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1984).

Pandit Kishan Maharaj: He was an Indian tabla player who belonged to the Benaras Gharana of Hindustani classical music.

Awards : Padma Vibhushan (2002), Padma Shri (1973).

Kishori Ravindra Amonkar: She was an Indian classical vocalist, belonging to the Jaipur Gharana. She was a performer of the classical genre khayal and the classical genres thumri and bhajan.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2002), Padma Bhushan (1987), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1985), Sangeet Natak

Akademi Fellowship (2009).

Zubin Mehta: He is an Indian conductor of Western classical music.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2001), Padma Bhushan (1966).

Satish Gujral: He is a painter, sculptor, Muralist, an architect and a writer. At the age of eight, he got diagnosed with terminally impaired hearing. "A Brush with Life" is his autobiography.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1999).

Damal Krishnaswamy Pattammal: She was an Indian Carnatic musician and a playback singer for film songs in Tamil.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1999), Padma Bhushan (1971), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1962), Sangeetha Kalasikhamani (1978).

Dr. Mallikarjun Bheemaryappa Mansoor: He was the exponent of Khayal, a type of Hindustani classical music. He belonged to the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1992), Padma Shri (1970), Padma Bhushan (1976), Sangeet Natak Akademi (1971), Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (1982).

Dr. Shantaram Rajaram Vankudre (V. Shantaram): He was known for his work in Hindi and Marathi films.

Awards: Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1985), Padma Vibhushan (1992).

Kaloji Narayana Rao: He was an Indian poet, freedom fighter, anti-fascist and political activist of Telangana. Telangana government celebrates his birthday as Telangana Language Day (9th September).

Awards - Padma Vibhushan (1992).

Dr. Mangalampalli Balamurali Krishna: He was an Indian Carnatic vocalist.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1991), Padma Shri (1971), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Carnatic Music - Vocal (1975), Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the Government of France (2005).

Maqbool Fida Hussain: Famous Indian Painter. He used horses to depict a lively and free spirit in his paintings. He is also known as "The Picasso of India". He directed two National Award-winning movies, 'Through the Eyes of a Painter' and 'Meenakshi: A tale of three cities'.

'Gaj Gamini' was also directed by him.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1991), Padma Shri (1966), Padma Bhushan (1973).

Dr. Semmangudi Radhakrishnier Srinivasier: He was an Indian Carnatic vocalist.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1990), Padma Bhushan (1969), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1953).

Shivputra Sidhram Komkali (Kumar Gandharv): He was a Hindustani vocalist who was born in Belgaum, Karnataka. In his honor, the Gandharva award was founded in the year 1992- 93 by the Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1990), Padma Bhushan (1977), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Hindustani Music (1974).

Ustad Ali Akbar Khan: He was an Indian Hindustani classical musician of the Maihar Gharana. He is known for his virtuosity in playing the sarod.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1989), Padma Bhushan (1967).

Keshav Shankar Pillai: Famous Cartoonist.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1976).

Binode Behari Mukherjee: He was an Indian Painter and a key figure in Contextual Modernism. A documentary film on him named 'The Inner Eye' was made by Satyajit Ray.

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1974).

Nandalal Bose: He was a famous painter and a disciple of Abanindranath Tagore. He became the principal of Kala Bhavan, Shanti Niketan in 1922. He also drew the emblems for the highest awards given by the Government of India such as Bharat Ratna and Padma Shri.

Award: Padma Vibhushan (1954).

Ustad Abdul Karim Khan and Wahid Khan: They were Indian classical singers who founded Kirana Gharana. Due to frequent visits to Mysore Palace, Karim was conferred the title Sangeet Ratna. Karim founded the Arya Sangeet Vidyalaya in Poona in 1913. Karim was guru of Pandit Balkrishnabuwa Kapileshwari, Ganapat Rao Gurav, Roshan Ara Begum, Sureshbabu Mane, Vishwanathbuwa Jadhav and Sawai Gandharva. Wahid Khan was an Indian

surbahar and sitar player.

Ustad Shakoor Khan: He was a Sarangi player associated with Kirana gharana. Padma Shri (1973).

Ustad Moinuddin Khan: He was a renowned Sarangi Player who belonged to Jaipur Gharana. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2014.

Pandit Pran Nath: He was an Indian classical singer and master of the Kirana gharana singing style. He began performing in the United States in the 1970s, and established the Kirana Center for Indian Classical Music (New York) in 1972.

Shrinivas Joshi: He is an Indian classical vocalist, belonging to Kirana Gharana. He was born to legendary Hindustani vocalist, Bhimsen Joshi and Vatsalabai Joshi.

Uma Dogra: She is an Indian exponent of Kathak, an Indian Classical Dance form. She is the senior most disciple of Pt. Durga Lal, the Kathak Maestro from Jaipur Gharana. She was awarded Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2014.

Prerana Shrimali: She is a senior dancer of Jaipur Gharana of Kathak.

Awards: Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1993), the Rashtriya Ekta Award (2001), Raza Puraskaar Raza Foundation (Delhi, 2004), Keshav Smriti Award Kaladharmi (2008), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2009), etc.

Pandit Sunder Prasad: He belongs to Jaipur Gharana of Kathak. He received his training from his father Pandit Chunnilal of Jaipur Gharana. He also trained under Bindadin Maharaj of Lucknow Gharana. He was honored with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1959.

Shobha Koser: She is an Indian Kathak dancer, writer and teacher. She belongs to the Jaipur Gharana.

Award: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2019).

Roshan Kumari Fakir Mohammad (Kathak dancer): She follows the Jaipur Gharana and is the founder of Nritya Kala Kendra (Mumbai), an academy promoting Kathak.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1975), Padma Shri (1984).

Pandit Durga Lal: He was a renowned Kathak dancer of the Jaipur Gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Academy Award (1984).

Vidyagauri Adkar: She is a Kathak dance exponent in India representing the Jaipur Gharana.

Nandini Singh: She is considered to be one of the exponents of Jaipur Gharana of Kathak. In the year 1996, she has founded a charitable organization namely, "Vaasuki Natyashala".

Mohanrao Kallianpurkar: He was a Kathak dancer and teacher from Karnataka. He belonged to the Jaipur gharana of Kathak.

Award: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1962).

Ustad Alladiya Khan: He was an Indian Hindustani classical singer who founded the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana (Jaipur Gharana). He is recognized for producing disciples like Bhaskarbuwa Bakhale, Kesarbai Kerkar, and Mogubai Kurdikar.

Mogubai Kurdikar (Gaan Tapasvini): She was a renowned Indian classical vocalist of the Jaipur-Atrauli gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1968), and Padma Bhushan (1974).

Kesarbai Kerkar: She was an Indian classical vocalist of the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana. The Maharashtra Government awarded her the title Maharashtra Rajya Gayika.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1953), Padma Bhushan (1969).

Shambhu Maharaj (Shambhunath Mishra): He was a Guru of the Lucknow Gharana of the Indian classical dance form, Kathak.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi award (1955), Padma Shri (1958).

Lachhu Maharaj (Pandit Bajinath Prasad): He was a Kathak dancer. He was awarded the 1957 Sangeet Natak Akademi Award. He was the paternal uncle of Pandit Birju Maharaj. He also learnt the Pakhawaj, the Tabla and Hindustani Classical vocal music.

Pandit Ishwari Prasad: He was the founder of the Lucknow Gharana of Kathak dance.

Kalika Prasad: He belonged to the Lucknow Gharana. He died in Lucknow around 1910 AD. Kalka Prasad ji had three sons – Achhan Maharaj, Baijnath Prasad (Luchhu Maharaj), and Shambhu Maharaj, who have also been famous dancers of the dance world. He promoted Kathak-style dance and Thumri singing.

Manjari Chaturvedi: She is an Indian Kathak dancer. She belongs to the Lucknow Gharana.

Pandit Devabrata Chaudhari (Debu Chaudhuri): He was an Indian sitarist and teacher. He belongs to Senia Gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1996) and Padma Bhushan (1992).

Sahana Banerjee: She is one of the most accomplished female sitar players of India belonging to the Rampur Senia Gharana.

Ustad Sabri Khan (Sarangi player): He belonged to the Senia Gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1986), Padma Shri (1992), Padma Bhushan (2006), Sangeet Natak Akademi Tagore Ratna Award (2012).

Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande: He was a sitarist and prominent musician who wrote the first modern treatise on Hindustani classical music. He belonged to the Mewati Gharana. He started the famous Madhav Music School in Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) in 1918. He set up Marris College of Music in Lucknow in 1926, which is now known as Bhatkhande Music Institute. He published books Swar Malika and Shri Mallakshaya Sangeetam (pen name Chatur Pandit).

Pandit Nikhil Ranjan Banerjee: He was an Indian classical sitarist of the Maihar Gharana.

Nityanand Haldipur: He is a performer and teacher of the Indian bamboo flute (bansuri). He belongs to Maihar Gharana and learned from Maa Annapurna Devi.

Award: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2010).

Pandit Gopal Mishra: He was a sarangi player in the twentieth century. He was the founder of the Banaras Gharana of the style of khayal singing.

Rajendra Prasanna: He is an Indian

classical flutist and shehnai player from Benares Gharana. He was born in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

Awards: Grammy Award certificate for his participation in "Concert for George" (2004), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2017).

Sunayana Hazarilal Agarwal: She is an Indian Kathak dancer, reportedly the only surviving practitioner of the Janaki Prasad Gharana (Banaras Gharana) of Kathak, also known as Benares Gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2003) and Padma Shri (2011).

Rajendra Chaturvedi: He is a Kathak Dancer in the Banaras Gharana.

Anokhelal Mishra: He was an Indian Tabla player who belonged to the Banaras Gharana of Hindustani classical music.

Janaki Prasad: He was a Kathak exponent from Bikaner in West Rajasthan. Janaki Prasad Gharana also known as Banaras Gharana named after him.

Kamalini Asthana and Nalini Asthana: They are a sister duo from Agra in Uttar Pradesh known for their great performances of the Benaras Gharana style of Kathak.

Award: Padma Shri (2022).

Rasoolan Hussain: She was a leading Indian Hindustani classical music vocal musician. She belonged to the Benaras gharana. She specialized in the romantic Purab Ang of the Thumri musical genre and tappa.

Award: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1957).

Ananda Gopal Bandopadhyay: He was an Indian tabla player. He was trained in the style of the Benaras Gharana by his teacher Mahadev Prasad Mishra.

Krishna Ram Chaudhary: He was a shehnai player belonging to Benaras Gharana.

Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2008), Padma Shri (2017).

Gopi Krishna (Kathak dancer): He also learnt Bharatnatyam. He was born in Calcutta. He was an exponent of the Benares Gharana style of Kathak. He set a world record for the longest continuous