



Indian Art and Culture Notes for SSC, Railway & UPSC Exams



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ART AND CULTURE OF INDIA

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DANCE

- Two main divisions of dance forms are classical and folk
- Literary sources, inscriptions, excavations and other chronicles provide extensive evidence on this art form

CLASSICAL DANCES OF INDIA

- The principle of Indian classical dance derive from the Natyashastra by Bharatamuni
- The Sangeet Natak Akademi and the Ministry of Culture confers classical status to eight Indian classical dance forms

DANCES	STATE
Bharatanatyam	Tamil Nadu
Kathakali	Kerala
Mohiniyattam	Kerala
Odissi	Orissa
Kuchipudi	Andhra Pradesh
Manipuri	Manipur
Kathak	North India
Sattriya	Assam

BHARATANATYAM

- ✚ Bharatanatyam is a dance of Tamil Nadu in south India, which is earlier known as 'daasi attam'
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Mridangam, flute, violin, veena, natuvangam
- ✚ **Famous Bharatanatyam dancers:** Mallika Sarabhai, Yamini Krishnamurthy, Alarmel Valli, Padma Subrahmanyam, Rukmini Devi, Mrinalini sarabhai, Arun dale

KATHAKALI

- ✚ Kathakali is a dance of Kerala in south India.
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Chenda, madalam, chengila, idakka and shankhu
- ✚ **Famous Kathakali dancers:** Vazhenkada kunchu Nair, Kottakkal sivaraman, Kalamandalam Gopi, Kalamandalam nair, Kalamandalam Vasu Pisharody

MANIPURI

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- ✚ Manipuri is an important classical dance form that has originated from state of Manipur in the north eastern part of India
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Pung, cymbals
- ✚ **Famous Manipuri dancers:** Guru Bipin Singh, Rajkumar Singhajit Singh, Darshana Jhaveri, Sohini Ray

ODISSI

- ✚ Odissi dance is the classical dance form of Odisha that has its origin in temples
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Mardala, Harmonium, Flute, Sitar, Violin, Cymbals
- ✚ **Famous Odissi dancers:** Kelu Charan mahapatra, Padmashree Pankaj, Prasad Das, Priyambada Hejmadi, Sanjukta panigrahi, Minati Mishra, Kumkum Mohanty, Oopalie Oparajita, Sangeeta Das

KATHAK

- ✚ A classical dance indigenous to northern India, Kathak has developed under the influence of Hindu Muslim cultures
- ✚ The origin of this dance form is attributed to the travelling storytellers or kathakars of ancient India
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Tabla, sarangi or harmonium with manjira
- ✚ **Famous Kathak dancers:** Shambhu Maharaj, Sitara Devi, Birju Maharaj, Roshan Kumari, Saswati Sen, Rohini Bhate, Shovana Narayan

KUCHIPUDI

- ✚ Kuchipudi is the classical dance of Andhra Pradesh in south India.
- ✚ It originated in a village named Kuchipudi in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh
- ✚ The dance is accompanied by song which is usually Carnatic music
- ✚ Natya tarangini is a school for Kuchipudi
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Mridangam, violin, flute, tambura
- ✚ **Famous Kuchipudi dancers:** Vempati Chinna satyam, Uma Rama sarma, Shobha Naidu, Vyjayanthi kasha, Sreelakshmy Govardhanan

MOHINIYATTAM

- ✚ Mohiniyattam is a classical solo dance form of Kerala that gets its name from 'Mohini', the celestial enchantress of the Hindu mythology.
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Mridangam or Madhalam, Idakka, flute, veena, kuzhitalam
- ✚ **Famous Mohiniyattam dancers:** Kalamandalam kalyanikutty Amma, kalamandalam Hymavathy, Sunanda Nair, Gopika varma, Neena Prasad



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SATTRIYA

- ✚ Sattriya is an Indian classical dance that has its origins in the Vaishnava monasteries(sattras) of Assom
- ✚ In 2000 the Sangeet Natak Academy recognized Sattriya as a classical dance
- ✚ **Instruments used:** Khols, Talas, flute
- ✚ **Famous Sattriya dancers:** Ghanakanta Bora, Ananda mohan Bhagawati, Sharodi saikia, Bhabananda Baryan, Jatin Goswami.

FOLK DANCES OF INDIA

- Folk dances performed on various occasions in India like festivals, wedding, arrival of seasons etc.

Indian State	Folk Dances
Andhra Pradesh	Vilasini Natyam, Andhra Natyam, Bhamakalpam, Veerاناتyam, Dappu, Tappeta Gullu, Lambadi, Dhimsa, Kolattam, Butta Bommalu
Assam	Bihu, Bichhua, Natpuja, Maharas, Kaligopal, Bagurumba, Naga dance, Khel Gopal, Tabal Chongli, Canoe, Jhumura Hobjanai
Arunachal Pradesh	Aji Lamu, Chalo, Hiirii Khaniing, Popir, Ponung, Pasi Kongki, Rekham Pada, Roppi
Bihar	Jata-Jatin, Bakho-Bakhain, Panwariya, Sama Chakwa, Bidesia.
Chhattisgarh	Gaur Maria, Panthi, Raut Nacha, Pandwani, Vedamati, Kapalik, Bharthari Charit, Chandaini
Goa	Modni, Jhagor, Khol, Dakni, Shigmo, Ghode
Gujarat	Garba, Dandiya Ras, Tippani Juriun, Bhavai.
Haryana	Jhumar, Phag, Daph, Dhamal, Loor, Gugga, Khor, Gagor.
Himachal Pradesh	Jhora, Jhali, Chharhi, Dhaman, Chhapeli, Mahasu, Nati, Dangi
Jammu and Kashmir	Rauf, Hikar, Mandjas, Kud Dandi Nach, Damali, Dumhal
Jharkhand	Bidesia, Danga, Karma, Sarahul, Sohrai, Alkap, Paika, Barao, Jhitka.

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Karnataka	Yakshagana, Huttari, Suggi, Kunita, Karga, Lambi.
Kerala	Ottam Thulal, Kaikottikali. Tappattikkali
Maharashtra	Lavani, Nakata, Koli, Lezim, Gafa, Dahikala Dasavtar or Bohada.
Madhya Pradesh	Jawara, Matki, Aada, Khada Nach, Phulpati, Grida Dance, Selalarki, Selabhadoni, Maanch.
Manipur	Dol Cholam, Thang Ta, Lai Haraoba, Pung Cholom, Nat Rash, Rakhai, Raukhat
Meghalaya	Ka Shad Suk Mynsiem, Baala, Nongkrem, Laho.
Mizoram	Cheraw Dance, Khuallam, Chailam, Sawlakin, Chawnglaizawn, Zangtalam, Par Lam, Tlanglam, Cherokan, Khanatm
Nagaland	Chong, Khaiva, Lim Nuralim
Odisha	Savari, Ghumara, Painka, Munari, Chhau.
West Bengal	Kathi, Gambhira, Dhali, Jatra, Baul, Marasia, Mahal, Keertan
Punjab	Bhangra, Giddha, Daff, Dhaman, Bhand, Naqual, kikli, Jhoomar.
Rajasthan	Ghumar, Chakri, Ganagor, Jhulan Leela, Jhuma, Suisini, Ghapal, Kalbeliya.
Sikkim	Singhi Chham, Chu Faat, Gayley-Yang Dance, Ghantu, Kinchum – Chu – Bomsa, Maarooni Dance, Nyongri – Nyot, Shelo, Sherpa Dance, Tamang Selo, Yak Chham
Tamil Nadu	Kummi, Kolattam, Kavadi, Karagam
Tripura	Bizu Dance, Cheraw, Dailo Nritya, Gajan, Galamuchamo, Garia Dance, Hai Hak Dance, Hozagiri, Jhum Dance, Lebang Boomani, Sangrai – Mog Dance, Wya Dance
Uttar Pradesh	Nautanki, Raslila, Kajri, Jhora, Chappeli, Jaita.
Uttarakhand	Garhwali, Kumayuni, Kajari, Jhora, Raslila, Chappeli
Lakshadweep	Lava, Kolkali, Parichakali.

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Bihu

- ✚ The Bihu dance is a folk dance from the Indian State of Assam related to the festival of Bihu.
- ✚ There are three festivals in Bihu. Bhogali or Magh **Bihu** is celebrated in January, Rongali or **Bohag Bihu** in April and Kongali or Kati **Bihu** in October
- ✚ The most colorful and important one is the spring festival called **Bohag Bihu** which is celebrated in the month of April
- ✚ This Joyous dance is performed by both men and women
- ✚ Dancers wear traditionally colourful Assamese clothing.

Bhangra

- ✚ The **Bhangra** is a folk dance from the Indian State of Punjab
- ✚ **Bhangra** dance is conducted by Punjab farmers to celebrate the coming of the harvest season.

Ghoomar

- ✚ **Ghoomar** is a traditional women's folk dance from the Indian State of Rajasthan
- ✚ It is traditionally performed during auspicious occasions, Diwali, Holi and on a bride's arrival at her marital home

Garba

- ✚ Garba is the popular form of folk dance from the Indian State of Gujarat.
- ✚ It is performed for nine days during the festival of Navratri

Kummi

- ✚ Kummi is the popular form of folk dance from the Indian State of Tamil Nadu.
- ✚ Kummi is performed by women. The women stand in a circle and clapping their hands rhythmically

Dandiya Raas

- ✚ 'Dandiya Raas' is a folk dance performed during the time of Navratri, with its origins in Gujarat

Bamboo dance

- ✚ **Bamboo dance** is tribal dance of Nagaland. This dance is exclusively performed by girls

Kolattam



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- ✚ Kolattam is a folk dance originated in Tamil Nadu. This dance form is popular throughout India.
- ✚ Kolattam performed by young girls with little stick held in hand to celebrate the birthday of God **Rama**.

Ootam Tullal

- ✚ Ootam Thullal is a folk dance of Kerala.
- ✚ Kunchan Nambiar introduced it in the 18th century.

FOLK THEATRE OF INDIA

Bhand Pather

- ✚ Bhand Pather is a traditional street theatre of Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir
- ✚ It takes up mythological stories as well as contemporary social issues as themes
- ✚ This social drama incorporates acting, dance and music

Yakshagana

- ✚ Yakshagana is the traditional folk theatre form of Indian state of Karnataka.
- ✚ It is based on mythological stories and Puranas

Krishnattam

- ✚ Krishnattam is a dance oriented folk theatre of Kerala
- ✚ Krishnattam is a cycle of eight plays performed for eight consecutive days, presenting the story of lord Krishna

Swang

- ✚ Swang is a folk dance drama of Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh
- ✚ The two important styles of Swang are from Rohtak and Haathras

Nautanki

- ✚ Nautanki is a mass entertaining folk theatre popular in Haryana, Bihar Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab etc.

Rasa Leela

- ✚ Rasleela is a theatre form of Uttar Pradesh.
- ✚ It is popular in Uttar Pradesh and some other parts of north India

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Jatra

- Jatra born and flourished in Bengal
- This Bengali folk theatre originated in west Bengal as a result of the Bhakthi movement

Bhaona

- Bhaona a traditional religious theatre originated and thrived in Assam

Tamasha

- Tamasha is a traditional folk theatre form of Maharashtra. It has evolved from the folk forms such as Gondhal, Jagran and Kirtan
- Life of Lord Krishna is the major theme in most performances

Dashavatar

- Dashavatar is a popular theatre form of the Southern Konkan region of Maharashtra and Northern Goa regions
- Dashavatar is open air performance. Performers wear masks is a feature of this theatrical form

Therukoothu

- Theukoothu is the most popular form of folk drama of Tamil Nadu.

Bhavai

- Bhavai is a traditional theatre form of Indian state Gujarat
- Bhavai is usually performed to revere and worship goddess Amba

INDIAN MUSIC

- Music has always been an integral part of our culture
- Bharat muni defined music as Nritya, gayan and vadan
- The origins of Indian classical music can be found from the oldest Vedas. The Samveda, one of the four vedas, describes music at length.
- The basic scale (grama) of indian music heptatonic and it has seven notes or svara- sadja,rishabha,gandhara,madhyama,panchama,dhaivata,nishada, which are abbreviated as sa,ri,ga,ma,pa,dha,ni
- The sruti is a theoretical interval of which the scale contains 22



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- ✚ Pillars of Indian music system are Swara, Raga, Taal
- ✚ Two main genres of Indian classical music are Hindustani and Carnatic

Carnatic Music

- ✚ Carnatic Music flourished under the patronage of Krishnadevaraya in Vijayanagar, the capital city of Vijayanagara Empire
- ✚ The golden period of South Indian classical music was during the time of Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri.
- ✚ **Famous Carnatic Musicians**
 1. Thyagaraja
 2. Syama Sastri
 3. Muthuswami Dikshitar
 4. Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavathar
 5. Semmangudi R. Srinivasa Iyer
 6. M. S. Subbulakshmi
 7. M. Balamurali Krishna
 8. DK Pattammal
 9. ML Vasanthakumari

Hindustani Music

- ✚ Hindustani is a classical music genre of Northern India
- ✚ Amir Khusrau, a prolific musician, is believed to be the father of the khayal, tarana and qawwali styles of music. He is often called the father of qawwali
- ✚ **Famous Hindustani Musicians**
 1. Zakir Hussain
 2. Shubha Mudgal
 3. Girija Devi
 4. Begum Akhtar
 5. Kishori Amonkar
 6. Bade Ghulam Ali Khan
 7. Mallikarjun Mansoor
 8. Ravi Shankar
 9. Pandit Jasraj
 10. Ustad Amir Khan
 11. Abdul Rashid Khan



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Regional Music in India

✚ Folk music is an inevitable part of Indian culture. some of the folk music's of India are

Music	States related to
Rasiya Geet	It is a popular folk music from Braj region of Uttar Pradesh
Pankhida	Pankhida originated in the villages of Rajasthan
Lotia	Rajasthan
Pandwani	Chhattisgarh
Mando	Goa
Hori	Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
Sohar	Uttar Pradesh
Chhakri	Jammu & Kashmir
Laman	Laman is an interesting style of Himachali folk music originated in the kullu valley region
Kajri	Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
Tappa	Punjab
Teej songs	Rajasthan
Bhakha	Jammu
Daskathia	Odhisia
Bihu geet	Assam
Burrakatha	Andhra Pradesh
Lavani	Maharashtra
Villu pattu	Tamil Nadu
Chai Hia	Mizoram
Ammanaivari	Tamil Nadu

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Musical Instruments and Persons Associated

Musical Instrument	Person
Santoor	Pt Shiv Kumar Sharma, Bhajan Sopori
Flute	Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Pannalal Ghosh, T.R. Mahalingam
Tabla	Zakir Hussain, Allah Rakha, Sabir Khan, Pt. Kishan Maharaj, Pt. Jnan Prakash Ghosh, Sandeep Das
Sarod	Allauddin Khan, Ali Akbar Khan, Amjad Ali Khan, Buddhadev Das Gupta, Sharan Rani, Zarin S Sharma
Shehnai	Bismillah Khan, Krishna Ram Chaudhary, Ali Ahmad Hussain
Sitar	Pt Ravi Shankar, Shahid Parvez Khan, Budhaditya Mukherjee, Anushka Shankar, Nikhil Banerjee, Vilayat Khan, Mustaq Ali Khan
Sarangi	Shakoor Khan, Pt Ram Narayan, Ramesh Mishra, Sultan Khan, Ustad Binda Khan
Violin	N.R. Muralidharan, M. Chandrasekharan, V.G. Jog, Lalgudi Jayaraman, R.P Shastri
Veena	Sundaram Balachandrer, Ayyagari Syamasundaram, Doraiswamy Iyengar
Rudra Veena	Bahauddin Dagar ,Asad Ali Khan ,Asit Kumar Banerjee

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Mridangam	Umalayapuram Sivaraman, Palghat Mani Iyer, Pudukkottai Dakshinamurthy Pillai
kanjira	Pudukkottai Dakshinamurthy Pillai
Mandolin	U Srinivas
Guitar	Braj Bhushan Kabra
Surbahar	Annapurna Devi, Sajjad Hussain
Flute	Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Pannalal Ghosh, TR Mahalingam.

INDIAN PAINTINGS

- Indian Paintings can be broadly classified as the Murals & Miniatures

Mural Paintings

- Indian Mural Paintings are paintings made on walls of caves and palaces
- Major Themes: Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism
- Some of the earliest murals in India are found in the caves of Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta also on the Bagh caves and Sittanvasal
- Wall paintings found in the temples of Kailashnath Temple of Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu ,Brihadesvara Temple of Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu and Buddhist viharas or monasteries and chaitya or prayer halls in Ajanta in Maharashtra.

Miniature paintings

- Miniature paintings are characterized with small and detailed paintings
- Miniature paintings are those executed on a very small scale on perishable material such as paper, cloth, etc., though this style had been perfected by artisans under the various rules, not many remain today. Prime examples are the Rajasthani & Mughal miniatures
- Religious texts on Buddhism executed under the Palas of the eastern India as well as the Jain texts executed in western India are the some of the earliest of miniature painting in the country

Folk paintings

- The folk and tribal arts of India are very ethnic and colorful and vibrant enough to speak volumes about the country's rich heritage.



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- ✚ Some of the most famous folk paintings of India are discussed below

Madhubani Painting

- ✚ It is practised in the Mithila region of **Bihar**.
- ✚ Traditionally done by women
- ✚ No space is left empty in Madhubani paintings. Gaps are filled in with paintings of flowers, animals, birds and geometric designs
- ✚ Tribal motifs and bright earthy colours are other aspects that make these paintings attractive
- ✚ The different style of Madhubani paintings are Bharni, Katchni, Tantrik, Godna and Kohbar
- ✚ **Mahasundari Devi** is the famous artist of the Madhubani painting.

Patachitra

- ✚ Patachitra is a disciplined ancient art genre from **odhisa**
- ✚ Paintings are based on the Balrama ,Subhadr, Lord Jagannath, Dashavatara and the scenes related to the life Lord Krishna.

Kalamkari

- ✚ The Indian style of Kalamkari painting flourished in kalahasti and Machilipatnam in **Andhra Pradesh**
- ✚ It is a type of hand-paints or block-printed cotton textile, produced kalamkari sarees from parts of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

Pithora Painting

- ✚ It is the folk painting of Rathvas and Bhilalas tribes of **Gujarati**

Kolam

- ✚ Kolam is a ritualistic design drawn at the threshold of households and temples
- ✚ It is drawn by women every day at dawn and dusk in South India
- ✚ Kolam is a free-hand drawing with symmetrical and neat geometrical patterns.

Warli Paintings

- ✚ This folk paintings style belongs to the warli tribe of **Maharashtra**
- ✚ warli is one of the oldest art forms of India



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Kalighat paintings

- ✚ It originated in the vicinity of kalighat Kali Temple (**Kolkata**)
- ✚ The themes for these paintings extend from mythological events to contemporary social issues

Thangka Paintings

- ✚ It is a **Tibetan** folk painting
- ✚ In this art form, images of Buddha paintings are made on the cotton or silk cloths

Patna Kalam

- ✚ Patna School of Painting (also Patna Qalaam, Patna Kalam, or Company painting) is a style of Indian painting which existed in Bihar, India in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- ✚ Patna Kalam is an off-shoot of Mughal painting.

FAMOUS INDIAN ARTISTS AND THEIR PAINTINGS

Painter/Artist	Famous Work
Raja Ravi Varma	Hamsa Damayanti, Shakuntala, Arjuna and Subhadra
Nihal Chand	Bani Thani, Dipavalika
Binod Behari Mukherjee	Villagers
Syed Haider Raza	Saurashtra
Tyeb Mehta	Mahishasura
Jamini Roy	Mother and Child, Krishna and Balarama, Warrior King
Arpita Singh	Wish Dream
Rabindranath Tagore	Landscape, Dancing Woman, Woman's Face, Head Study (Geometric)
Abanindranath Tagore	Bharat Mata, Ganesh Janani ,Asoka's Queen

INDIAN MARTIAL ARTS

Martial Arts	Originated from
Kalaripayattu	Kerala
Silambam	Tamil Nadu
Thoda	Himachal Pradesh



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Thang-ta and Sarit Sarak	Manipur
Cheibi Gadga	Manipur
Gatka	Punjab
Lathi	Punjab & Bengal
Musti Yuddha	Varanasi
Pari-Khanda	Bihar
Kathi Samu	Andhra Pradesh
Karra Samu	Andhra Pradesh
Mukna	Manipur
Inbuan Wrestling	Mizoram
Mardani Khel	Kolhapur, Maharashtra

CALENDARS IN INDIA

- ✚ In India, four types of calendars are followed
 1. Vikram Samvat
 2. Saka Samvat
 3. Hijri calendar
 4. Gregorian calendar

Vikram Samvat (Hindu lunar calendar)

- ✚ The Vikram Samvat is a historical calendar for the Hindus in India
- ✚ Vikram Samvat is an official calendar of Nepal and is named after the king Vikramaditya of Ujjain.
- ✚ This is a calendar based on the movement of the moon and has 365 days in a year.
- ✚ The Vikram Samvat has 12 months with each month divided into two phases:
 - ✚ Shukla paksha (15 days) – begins with new moon day and ends with full moon day
 - ✚ Krishna paksha (15 days) – begins with full moon day and ends with new moon day

Saka Era

- ✚ The Saka Era was founded by Kanishka, the emperor of Kushana Empire from the year 78 A.D.
- ✚ The Gazette of India uses this calendar along with the Gregorian Calendar
- ✚ The Saka calendar used as the official calendar in the country is the National Calendar of India
- ✚ The Saka calendar consists of 365 days and 12 months which is similar to the structure of the Gregorian calendar.
- ✚ The first month of the Saka Satvam is Chaitra which begins on March 22 which begins with March 21 during the leap year



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Hijra calendar

- ✚ The Hijri calendar is an Islamic lunar calendar which consists of 12 lunar months and 355 days
- ✚ The first Islamic year began in 622 AD and is believed to mark the emigration of Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina
- ✚ The first day of the year in Hijra calendar is observed on the first day of Muharram, which is the first month in the Islamic calendar.
- ✚ Muslims use this calendar to decide the days on which to observe Ramadan, to attend Hajj, and to celebrate other Islamic festivals

Gregorian calendar

- ✚ Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII and is the most used calendar in the world
- ✚ Gregorian calendar spaces leap years to make the average year 365.2425 days long, approximating the 365.2422-day tropical year that is determined by the Earth's revolution around the Sun.
- ✚ The Gregorian calendar was developed as a correction to the Julian Calendar

INDIAN FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

State	Festivals
Andhra Pradesh	Rottela panduga, Brahmotsavam, Ugadi or the Telugu New Year, Dasara, Sri Rama Navami
Arunachal Pradesh	Solung festival, Losar Festival, Murung, Mopin festival, Reh festival, Choekhor Festival, Torgya Festival, Talmadu Festival,
Assam	Ambubasi festival, Bohag Bihu, Baishagu festival, Majuli festival, Pragjyoti dance festival, Jonbeel Mela.
Bihar	Bihula, Chhath Puja, Madhushravani, Rajgir Dance festival, Sama Chakeva, Jivitputrika
Gujarat	Kite Festival, Holi, Modhera Dance Festival, Saptak Music Festival, Kutch Mahotsava
Goa	Ghumot fest, Chikalkalo, Fontainhas Festival

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	of Art, sunburn festival, Ladainha, Mando Festival
Madhya Pradesh	Khajuraho festival, Malwa Utsav, Tansen music festival
Haryana	Baisakhi festival, Surajkund Craft Mela
Jammu & Kashmir	Dosmuchey festival, Matho Narang, Gemis Festival, Galdan Namchot, Tulip Festival
Jharkhand	Sarhul, Dansi, Karma, Hal Punhya, Rohin, Bandna
Karnataka	Pattadakal Dance festival, Gudi Padwa.
Kerala	Onam, Nishagandhi festival, vaikathashtami festival, Thrissur Pooram.
Odisha	Konark festival, International sand art festival, Nabakalebara festival.
Maharashtra	Kalidas festival, Chikoo Utsav, Gudhi Padwa.
Manipur	Yaoshang, Chavang Kut, Porag
Sikkim	Saga Dawa, Losoong, Drupka Teschi, Bumchu.
Meghalaya	Ahaia festival ,Nongkrem Dance Festival, Wangala Festival, Bob Dylan festival,
Mizoram	ChapcharKut Festival
Nagaland	Hornbill Festival, Moatsu festival.
Telangana	Ugadi, Bathukamma, Kothakonda Jatara, Bonalu.
Tamil Nadu	Pongal, Thaipooam, Jallikattu,Panguni Uthiram, Puthandu.
Uttar Pradesh	Kumbh Mela, Ram Leela, kans ka mela



Indian Art and Culture Notes for SSC, Railway & UPSC Exams

West Bengal	Durga Puja, Poush mela, Naba barsha
Punjab	Baisakhi, Lohri
Rajasthan	Kolayat Fair, Bundi Utsav, Desert festival, Gangaur Festival, Matsya festival, Braj festival, Shekhawati festival.

New Year's Day in Different Regions of India

Ugadi	Telugu New Year
Baisakhi	Punjabi New Year
Puthandu	Tamil New Year.
Bohag Bihu	Assamese New Year.
Pohela Boishakh	Bengali New Year.
Bestu Varas	Gujarati New Year.
Vishu	Malayalam New Year.
Losoong	Sikkimese New Year.
Pana Sankranti	Odisha New Year
Bestu Varas	Gujarati New Year
Navreh	Kashmiri New Year
Losar	Arunachal Pradesh New Year
Gudi Padwa	Gudi Padwa is the first day of Chaitra month and marked as the New year in Maharashtra.
Jude Sheetal	Maithili New Year It is celebrated by the Maithili's in Bihar, Jharkhand and even Nepal. Maithili New Year is usually celebrated on the 14th of April according to the Gregorian



Indian Art and Culture Notes for SSC, Railway & UPSC Exams

calendar.

ARTS AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA

Institutions	Headquarters / Location
Anthropological Survey of India, 1945	Kolkata
Archaeological Survey of India, 1861	New Delhi
Asiatic Society, 1784	Kolkata
Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, 1985	New Delhi
Lalit Kala Academy 1954	New Delhi
National Archives of India, 1981	New Delhi
National School of Drama, 1959	New Delhi
Sahitya Academy, 1954	New Delhi
Sangeet Natak Academy, 1953	New Delhi
Science city	Kolkata
Victoria Memorial Hall	Kolkata
Indian council for cultural relations	New Delhi
Indian institute of Islamic studies	New Delhi
National book trust, 1957	New Delhi
National gallery of modern art	New Delhi
National handicrafts and handlooms Museum	New Delhi
National Library of India	Kolkata
Central Institute of Buddhist Studies	Leh
Birla Industrial and Tech Museum	Kolkata
Centre for Cultural Resources and Training	New Delhi
Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, 1984	New Delhi
National Museum of India	New Delhi
The Mehrangarh Museum Trust	Jodhpur
The Government Museum and Art Gallery	Chandigarh

TEMPLES IN INDIA

Indian temples can be classified into two broad orders as



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1. Nagara (in North India)
 2. Dravida (in South India)
- + Mandapa is the entrance to the temple.
 - + Shikhara is found in North Indian temples and Vimana is found in South Indian temples.
 - + Kalasha is the topmost point of the temple and commonly seen in North Indian temples
 - + Mandapa is the entrance to the temple. Dances and such other entertainments are practiced here.

Famous Temple	Location	About temples
Amarnath Temple	Jammu & Kashmir	Lord shiva is primary deity
Vaishno Devi Temple	Jammu & Kashmir	
Golden temple	Amritsar, Punjab	Founded by fourth Sikh guru Guru Ram Das with the fifth Guru Arjan
Akshardham Temple	New Delhi	
Konark Sun Temple	Konark, Odisha	It also known as the Black Pagoda Temple was built by King Narasimhadeva I and dedicated to Sun God Surya
Jagannath Temple	Puri, Odisha	Dedicated to Lord Jagannath , a form of lord Maha Vishnu
Brihadeeswara Temple	Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	Temple was built by Chola king Raja Raja Chola I Lord shiva is primary deity
Siddhivinayak Temple	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Dedicated to Lord Ganesha
Somnath Temple	Saurashtra, Gujarat	Lord shiva is primary deity
Lingaraj Temple	Bhubaneshwar, Odisha	Dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is an example of the Kalinga Style of Architecture. This style broadly

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		comes under the Nagara style.
Kamakhya Temple	Guwahati, Assam	
Shirdi Sai Baba Temple	Shirdi, Maharashtra	
Dilwara Temples	Mount Abu, Rajasthan	Jain temples
Khajuraho Temples	Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh	UNESCO World Heritage Site. The temples were patronized by Chandela kings.
Tirupati Balaji Temple	Tirupati Balaji Temple	Dedicated to Lord Vishnu
Virupaksha Temple	Hampi, Karnataka	The temple is dedicated to Lord Virupaksha, a form of Shiva
Meenakshi Temple	Madurai, Tamil Nadu	Temple is dedicated to Meenakshi, a form of Parvati, and her consort, Sundareshwar, a form of Shiva
Ramanathaswamy Temple	Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu	Dedicated to Lord Shiva
Padmanabhaswamy Temple	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	Dedicated to Lord Vishnu
Dakshineswar Kali Temple	Kolkata, West Bengal	
Gomateshwara Bahubali Temple	Shravanbela Gola, Karnataka	
Nataraja Temple	Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu	Temple is dedicated to Natarajar (Shiva)
Sabarimala Temple	Pathanamthitta, Kerala	
Mahakaleshwar Temple	Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	Dedicated to Lord Shiva
Kashi Vishwanath	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	Dedicated to Lord Shiva

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Temple		
Badrinath Temple	Badrinath, Uttarakhand	Dedicated to Lord Vishnu
Kedarnath Temple	Kedarnath, Uttarakhand	Dedicated to Lord Shiva
Kailasnath Temple	Ellora, Maharashtra	Build by Rashtrakuta King Krishna I
Shore temple	Mahabalipuram	The Shore Temple of Mamallapuram was built by Narasimhavarman II

INDIAN LANGUAGES

- ✚ The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution consists of 22 languages; originally, there were 14 languages in the 8th schedule.
- ✚ The further languages were added as later:
 1. Sindhi by 21st amendment, 1967
 2. Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali languages by 71st amendment, 1992
 3. Bodo, Dogri, Santhali and Maithali by 92nd Amendment, 2004.
- ✚ The 22 official languages and related states are
 1. ASSAMESE – Assam
 2. BENGALI – West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Tripura, West Bengal
 3. BODO – Assam
 4. DOGRI – Jammu and Kashmir
 5. GUJARATI – Daman and Diu, Gujarat ,Dadra and Nagar Haveli
 6. HINDI – ,Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand ,Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, the national capital territory of Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh.
 7. KANNADA – Karnataka
 8. KASHMIRI – Jammu and Kashmir
 9. KONKANI – Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra
 10. MAITHILI – Bihar
 11. MALAYALAM – Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Kerala
 12. MANIPURI – Manipur
 13. MARATHI – Dadra & Nagar Haveli , Daman and Diu, Goa, Maharashtra
 14. NEPALI – Sikkim, West Bengal

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15. ODIYA – Odisha
16. PUNJABI – Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab
17. SANSKRIT – Only in scriptures. Not in usage.
18. SANTHALI – Santhal tribal of the Chota Nagpur Plateau (comprising the states of Orissa ,Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand)
19. SINDHI – Sindhi community
20. TAMIL – Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu.
21. TELUGU – Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana
22. URDU – Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana

Classical Languages

✚ To determine the eligibility of language to be considered as a classical language the Government of India follows the following criteria

1. High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years
2. A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers
3. The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community
4. The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

✚ Tamil was the first Classical Language of India

✚ Current classical Languages are

1. Tamil (since 2004)
2. Sanskrit (since 2005)
3. Telugu (since 2008)
4. Kannada (Since 2008)
5. Malayalam (since 2013)
6. Odiya (since 2014)

Some important points about languages

- Tamil language was used in the literature of Sangam period
- Dravidian languages are Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam
- Konkani language recently included in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution, which is widely spoken in goa
- Tamil is the oldest Dravidian language
- Sahitya Academy promotes and develops literature in all the 22 languages of India
- The languages spoken in Sikkim are Nepali, Hindi, Lepcha, Bhutani





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- The language spoken in Lakshadweep islands is Malayalam
- The oldest Indian Language is Tamil
- Official language of Nagaland is English
- The Indian language known as the 'Italian of the East' is Telugu
- The official language of the Supreme Court and High Court as prescribed by the Constitution of India is English

AWARDS - INDIA

Civilian Awards

Bharat Ratna

- It is the highest civilian award of India. Instituted in 1954
- The first recipients of the Bharat Ratna was C. Rajagopalachari, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, and C. V. Raman
- The number of Bharat Ratna is restricted to a maximum of three nominees being awarded per year

Padma Vibhushan

- The Padma Vibhushan is the second-highest civilian award of India, second only to the Bharat Ratna. Instituted in 1954

Padma Bhushan

- The Padma Bhushan is the third-highest civilian award of India, preceded by the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Vibhushan and followed by the Padma Shri. Instituted in 1954

Padma Shri

- Padma Shri is the fourth highest civilian award in the Republic of India

National Sports Awards

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (Previously known as Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna)

- The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna is the highest honour bestowed to a sportsperson for his/her achievements in India
- The first recipient of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award is Viswanathan Anand

Dhyan Chand Award

- The award that is given to the veteran sportspersons of India for their lifetime achievement in their respective field of sport is named as the Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievement in Sports and Games

Dronacharya Award



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- This award is given to coaches and sports teachers for producing great skilled teams and individual players in various sports
- Dronacharya awards were initiated in 1985

Arjuna Award

- The Arjuna Awards are given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India to recognize outstanding achievement in sports. Instituted in 1961

Literature Awards

1. Jyanpith award
2. Saraswati Samman
3. Moorti Devi Award
4. Bihari Puraskar
5. Sahitya Academy Award

Gallantry awards

1. Param vir chakra.
2. Maha vir chakra.
3. Vir chakra.
4. Ashoka chakra.
5. Kirti chakra.
6. Shaurya chakra.

ONE LINER

- The Sangai Festival is celebrated in Manipur
- Elephant festival is celebrated annually in Jaipur
- 'Me-Dam-Me-Phi' is a communal festival. It is observed by the Ahom or Tai-Ahom, ethnic community that is spread across the states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
- Iron craft is the traditional work of the Agaria tribe
- Karnataka confers the Basavashree award
- A Fire temple is a place of worship for Zoroastrians
- The Barabar Hill Caves are the oldest surviving rock-cut caves in India
- Matrimandir is located in Pondicherry
- The Chapchar Kut is a festival of Mizoram. It is celebrated in March

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- The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site of the Palaeolithic period. It is located in Madhya Pradesh
- Kambala Sport is held in Karnataka
- Castle Naggar heritage site is located in Himachal Pradesh
- Gudi Padwa is celebrated on the first day of the month of Chaitra(March-April). The day is celebrated as New Year's Day for the people of Maharashtra
- World's largest religion is Christian
- Chakan Gaan-Ngai, a post-harvest festival is celebrated in Manipur
- Hornbill Festival is celebrated in Nagaland
- Akshardham temple is situated in Delhi, is revered for Hindu deity Swami Narayan
- Rajgir Mahotsav is celebrated in Bihar
- The birth place of Guru Nanak is Nankana Sahib
- The famous painter Vincent van Gogh belonged to Netherlands
- Pablo Picasso belonged to Spain
- Nand Lal Bose, Manjit Bawa, Tyeb Mehta are Painters
- Warli painting is a style of tribal art. This tribal art was originated in Maharashtra
- Raja Harishchandra, an early Indian film was produced by Dada Saheb Phalke
- Homi Vyarawalla is acclaimed as India's first Lady Photojournalist
- Ikebana is Japanese art of flower arrangement
- The technique of mural painting executed upon freshly laid lime plaster is known as Fresco
- Ramkinker Baij was a well-known sculptor
- Chamba is famous for embroidered handkerchief
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations was founded by Abul Kalam Azad
- Irula tribe well-known for snake-catching are native to Tamil Nadu
- Kondapalli the place famous for toys is located in Andhra Pradesh
- The city famous for its Chikankari work of embroidery is Lucknow
- Film and Television Institute of India located in Pune
- Japanese art of paper folding is known as Origami
- Chatkora dance is the folk dance of Korku tribe of Madhya Pradesh
- Devanagari script is used to write Haryanvi language
- Lathmar Holi is celebrated in Barsana
- Bihu is post-harvest folk dance in Assam
- Aadiperukku commonly known as the Aadi Monson Festival is celebrated during months of July/ August in the Indian State of Tamil Nadu





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- Kajri is a song sung during rainy season
- Maha Kumbh Mela is generally organized every 12 years
- Piliya will be sung during occasion of birth
- Jon Beel Mela is the only fair in India where barter system is still used. Jonbeel Mela is a three-day annual indigenous Tiwa Community fair held the weekend of Magh Bihu at a historic place known as Dayang Belguri at Joonbeel (Assam).

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