



Aesthetic Indian Tribal Art

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Abstract:

India has continuously been recognized for its different art forms and architecture. The history of India in relation to art is very enormous. Nearly each state has its special art especially the tribal community art is the most vibrant. These art practices are intensely ingrained in the tribes' way of living, imitating their views, rituals, connection to nature, and stories travelled through generations. India has a gorgeous and vivacious tradition of tribal art practices, representing the varied cultures and ethnicities of various native communities crosswise the country. These art forms hold substantial cultural values. Traditions and verbal history is preserved by them. They replicate spirituality, offer source of revenue for artists, and contribute to the economy. But, today tribal art is fronting challenges related to conservation and publicity and influence of dislocation on tribal groups. Efforts should be made to support and indorse these arts which should include skill development programs and the use of digital platforms. So through this paper an effort is made to find out more about these tribal arts.

Keywords: Indian Tribal Art, Paintings of India, Folk Art of India.

Introduction:

Art is basically an expression of human imagination – an intermediate to connect emotions and feelings. In the form of paintings, sculpture, music, dance, literature etc we can find the art. Prehistoric human painted on cave walls, use to play wind instruments, carve the monuments on bones and use to dance around fire, carved figures and symbols on rock to express creativity and daily life.

Cultural heritage is the living traditions of any country that continuously grows, acclimates and reinvents itself. India has the prevalent number of art forms than other countries, primarily because of its rich, varied and vivacious cultural inheritance. In this paper, we have tried to explore tribal and

folk art of several parts of the country since from pre-historic times to at the present.

Tribal people are now limited to very accessible parts of the country, remote places, forest areas or along the great rivers. They are fused by rituals, celebrating birth ceremonies, marriage, and also the first haircut or the piercing of the earlobes and so on. These propitious events are earmarked by tribal and folk paintings. Tribal and folk paintings are not realistic but pictographic depictions of rituals, rituals and daily events.

In many other countries also tribal and folk art is being practised as a active tradition. The original pictorial art form generated by the native tribes of India on several shells such as walls, floors, cloth, wood and paper are called Indian tribal painting. Tribal art is restricted to

a single tribe fitting to a large section of society. It is a communal expression of rural India motivated by a craving of fulfilling their social and emotional needs.[1]

Each tribal art form is unique filled with symbolism and cultural implication. Such as Warli art is not just decorative but is also casted in ceremonies and rituals to summon blessings and protection against malicious spirits. Likewise, Madhubani paintings are frequently made on auspicious incidents like weddings and festivals, aiding as a form of cultural expression and community attachment.

Likewise, tribal art forms in India display notable diversity, of all regions boasting its own distinct elegance and methods. From the geometric shapes of Warli art to the complicated specification of Pattachitra paintings, these art forms display the rich cultural inheritance and artistic inventiveness of India's tribal societies. [2]

In this wide-ranging guide, we try go on board on a journey to untie the rich array of Tribal Art in India. From the green forests of Madhya Pradesh to the dusky sceneries of Odisha, India boasts a mixture of native. In the following study, we explore the fascinating world of Original Tribal Art, shedding light on its several forms, cultural importance, and the efforts assumed for its preservation.[3, 4, 5]

Tribal Art of India:

India has always been known for its art and architecture. The Indian art history is very enormous. Almost all states have special and vibrant tribal art form. These tribal arts were amusing in representational features as they had very explicit rituals and features. Let's find out more about these tribal arts.

1. Warli Art:

Warli paintings are characterized by basic geometric forms like circles, triangles, and squares. Circles signify natural features like the sun and moon. Triangles represent mountains and trees. Squares signify human inclusions or settlements.

Human and animal figures are portrayed using simple lines and two triangles joined at the tip, signifying the equilibrium of the universe. Conventionally, Warli paintings are made on a reddish-brown background (habitually a mixture of mud and cow dung) using a white colour made from rice paste and water.

Warli art themes are frequently comprised of hunting, fishing, farming, celebrations, and the ritualistic folk Tarpa Dance. Unlike many Indian art forms, Warli art does not classically portray mythological characters or deities, but relatively displays the tribe's deep linking to nature, observing it as a deity itself. [6, 7, 8]



2. Gond Art:

Gond art is an important traditional craft from India, mainly done by the Gonds, who are among the biggest native tribes in central India. The word "Gond" originates from the Dravidian term "Kond," signifying "Green Mountain. " This name alludes to the verdant mountain regions inhabited by the Gond tribes people. Gond art dates back to old times, showing similar designs seen in cave paintings from the Mesolithic period at Bhimbetka rock shelters in Madhya Pradesh.

Nature, animals, myths, folktales, and everyday activities are typical topics. Animals frequently represent abstract ideas. Gond art uses bright, eye-catching hues. Colors were traditionally sourced naturally, yet contemporary artists now utilize acrylics and posters as well. The art features intricate designs made of dots, lines, and curves that produce texture and dimension. Artists create distinctive marks that define their style. [9]



3. Madhubani Painting:

Madhubani paintings have bright, distinct hues and detailed brushstrokes. The women historically made the colors by extracting them from plants, flowers, etc. These artworks frequently feature intricate geometric designs and place great importance on imagery that conveys profound significance, featuring diverse symbols that encapsulate complex ideas.

Madhubani art depicts various subjects such as Hindu tales, figures like Krishna and Rama, goddesses like Durga and Lakshmi, natural elements, everyday activities, religious rites, and festivals. Human figures are frequently portrayed from the side, showing their faces profiled, yet having front-facing eyes, an unusual feature that has been present for many centuries. The paintings lack empty space; they're completely covered with detailed floral, animal, bird, or geometric pattern designs. [10]



4. Pattachitra Art:

Pattachiti is an ancient Indian art form that originates from Odisha and West Bengal, which is known for complex, mythology painted on clothes or palm leaves in Sanskrit.

The plate is usually painted on a fabric (strap) or dried palm leaves (locking tint), the canvas is prepared by coating the fabric with a mixture of chalk and tamarind seed paste, resulting in a smooth, leather surface suitable for painting. The artists historically used and continued to use the natural dyes and pigments obtained from minerals, plants and organic matter. According to the Exotic India Art to the Pattach, its bold outline is characterized by careful details and the use of natural colors. Painting often feels long eyes and two-dimensional, which lacks depth or perspective. [11]



5. Phad Painting:

Phad painting is the Rajasthani traditional Indian folk art of India, especially in Bhilwara district and surrounding areas like Shahpura. It is the style of traditionally religious scroll painting on a long piece of fabric called "fad" or "fold" in a local dialect. They are famous for their vibrant colors and complex details using natural pigments

obtained from minerals, plants and vegetables. The strict color palette is adhered to, each of which has special importance, e.g. Orange for the skin, yellow for ornament and red for important figures.

Paintings are classically done on bulky cotton or silk scrolls, processed with a paste of wheat flour and gum to make a resilient, smooth surface for painting. Figures are habitually formalized, flat, and expressive, facing each other rather than the viewer, reflecting the traditional storytelling purpose of Phad paintings. [12]



6. Mandana Painting:

Mandana is an ancient popular art form deeply rooted in Rajasthan's traditions, India. It is practiced mainly by women from the Meena community. Mandana art is different for the use of natural materials easily available. Mandana paintings are particularly drawn on the walls or floors of houses made of manure and cow clay. The colors used are mainly white, made of chalk, lime or white clay, and red, obtained from red clay (geru or hirmich). The designs are often drawn by hand with fingers, a fabric or even a broom, which shows the ability and precision of the artists.



The art of mandana presents intricate and symmetrical patterns and motifs, often inspired by elements of nature such as flowers, leaves, birds and animals. Geometric shapes such as triangles, squares and circles, which contain significant symbolic meanings, are also common. Common reasons and their associated symbolism include: Paglya: Footprints of the goddess Lakshmi, Royal turkeys: they represent prosperity, lotus flowers: symbolize lighting. Tigres: Represent strength, swastika: it is believed that it brings general well-being. [13]

7. Tanjore Painting:

Tanjore's painting, also known as the painting of Thanjavur, means a traditional Indian art form that starts from Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu. Tanjore's paintings are famous for their rich and vivid color palettes, often using natural pigments derived from minerals and vegetables. The use of the gold sheet is a distinctive seal of this style, accurately applied to adorned figures, architectural details and ornaments, creating an impressive and luxurious effect. Gask's work is used in a unique way, limestone or powder stone and a binding agent is used to create a high three-dimensional effect, particularly in jewels and other decorative elements.

The characteristic of Hindu deities are central subjects, represented in rich and bright colors and intricate jewels. [14]



8. Kerala Murals:

Kerala's murals are recognized for their vibrant colors, meticulous details and

powerful blows. The primary colors used, known as "Panchavarna" (five sacred colors), are derived from natural pigments. The colors are symbolic, which reflects the moral and emotional qualities of the characters represented, according to the ancient Hindu philosophy.

The murals are usually painted on walls specially prepared with a base of lime and sand plaster. The dominant themes are derived from Hindu mythology, particularly from Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagavata Purana. The murals in the temples represent Hindu deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, Ganesha and their various incarnations. Beyond mythology, some murals represent battle scenes. The reasons for nature, such as elephants and real turkeys, also appear frequently, symbolizing several virtues. [15]

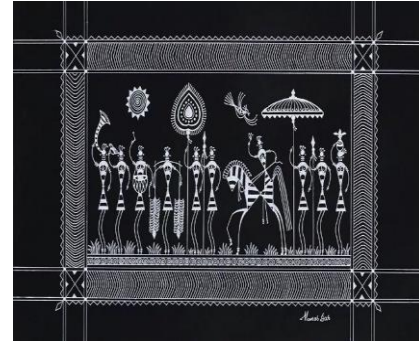


9. Saura Painting:

The paintings of Saura, also known as paintings by Lanjia Saura, are a traditional form of tribal art that originates in the Saura tribe (Sora or Sabara) in Odisha, India. These paintings, deeply rooted in the culture and spirituality of the tribe, are characterized by geometric patterns, detailed motifs and narrative narrative. They are traditionally created on the walls, especially during religious ceremonies and festivals, and are known as "Ikons" or "Ekons".

Each element within a painting in Saura is imbued with a symbolic meaning, which represents aspects of tribal life, spiritual beliefs and its connection with nature. Unlike Warli's paintings, Saura's paintings use a "fish

network" technique, where the edge is drawn first, and then the space is full of patterns inward. The traditional palette is typically minimalist, dominated by black and white with occasional terrible tones such as red and yellow, derived from natural pigments and dyes. [16]



10. Bhil Art:

Bhil Art is a vibrant and culturally rich form of tribal art practiced by the Bhil community, one of the largest indigenous groups in India. It is characterized by its bright colors, geometric patterns and representations of daily life, religious beliefs and cultural customs of the Bhil people. Bhil art is not only aesthetically pleasant, but also has a significant cultural and historical importance, offering ideas about the traditions and beliefs of the Bhil community.

Common motifs include animals, trees, humans and elements of nature. Bhil Art is known by his popular art style, characterized by simple geometric patterns and striking colors. While traditionally they are performed on clay walls and use natural dyes, Bhil artists use more and more canvas and acrylic paints. Bhil's art is deeply connected to the religious beliefs and rituals of the Bhil community, particularly the worship of deities like Pithora. [17]



11. Kalamezhuthu Art:

Kalamezhuthu is a ritualistic art form of Kerala, India, where intricate deities designs are drawn on the floor using natural color powders. It is a unique combination of art, music and acting, deeply connected to temple rituals and traditional practices. The art form is known for its vibrant colors, detailed representations and the ephemeral nature of the drawings, which are erased after the ritual.

Kalamezhuthu is an integral part of the ceremonies and rituals of the temple, particularly those dedicated to deities such as Kali, Ayyappan and Snake gods (Naga). The art shape uses five primary colors: black, white, yellow, green and red. [18]



12. Khovar Art:

Khovar's art is a traditional form of mural painting that originates in the Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand, India. It is a unique art form practiced by indigenous communities, particularly during the wedding season, to decorate nuptial cameras and other spaces with symbolic motifs. Art is known for its geometric patterns, fertility symbols and use of natural earth colors.

The art form is transmitted from mothers to daughters, highlighting a strong

matriarchal influence. Khovar Art is traditionally created during the wedding season. The paintings are created using a smgraphite technique where a layer of black earth is applied to the wall and then a layer of white clay is added at the top. The colors used in Khovar art are mainly natural. [19]



Conclusion:

Tracking the origins of tribal art reveals a notable journey through time and culture. From the sacred caves of Ajanta to the bustling scene of contemporary art, Indian tribal paintings have resisted changes, influences and revolutions, while maintaining their unique essence. The artistic legacy of traditional Indian art is a testimony of unlimited creativity, spiritual vision and cultural diversity that continues to inspire and captivate the world.

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