Cultural Mapping

Collection Contents

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Cultural Mapping is a project initiated by the ICH Division INTACH, to do a complete mapping of all the major and minor tribes and communities of India so as to develop an understanding about their socio-cultural scenario. It is also important to document their traditional practices as a first step to safeguard these practices and ensure their survival. Cultural mapping as a tool for exploring and understanding cultural diversity helps to look at all the aspects of a community’s cultural life as “community assets” with an understanding of how these resources bring value to human and community life and are very often connected to livelihoods.

The below are the few outputs derived from the project.

**Community** (178 records)

- Traditional tattoos of the Baiga Tribe, Madhya Pradesh
- Baiga woman making Mahua
- A member of Panka Samaj from Sarwahi Village
- Mandar, the traditional drum of Baiga tribe, Madhya Pradesh
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- Baby Vasava & students dance on Dasondi song
- Splash of Colours
- Holi, the spring festival
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- Mahakali Maa
- Santoshi Maa
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Bhathiji - An Icon
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Pagoda like Temple
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Shitla Mata Temple
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A woman decked in traditional silver ornaments, Kinnaur
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A woman wearing the traditional ornaments of the Kannaura community
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Smt. Gyan Devi working on her loom in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
Laadi Pattu or a bride’s shawl
Thepang, a head-dress in Kannauri style
Mr. Tashi Cheri, a silversmith with his artwork, Kinnaur
Artisan working with silver in Kinnaur
Tools and moulds used for making jewellery in Kinnaur
Chandar Haar, a traditional necklace of the Kannaura
Tanoli, a silver ornament, worn by the people of Kinnaur
Pipla, a silver ornament for the hair worn by the women of Kinnaur
Dabmige/Shangling, a silver hair accessory worn by the women of Kinnaur
Beshtor/Zuti, a hair accessory of Kannaura women
Balu, a nose ring worn by Kannaura women
Kata, a form of earrings worn by Kannaura women
Chak, a hair accessory of the Kannaura women
Tramoli, the necklace worn by married women, Kinnaur
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The Kinner Kailash, Kinnaur
A traditional wood and stone house structure in Kinnaur
The view of a bridge
Black dome like structure covering the OM
A view of Akshara Brahma temple
A tutelary deity inside a cattle shed
The cooking area
Worship area inside a house
Wall decorated with idital
A Saura woman winnowing rice
Cattle for trade at the local market
Traditional Saura musical instruments
A view of Church in Saura land
A Saura woman displaying her traditional jewellery
Andodaka, the traditional anklets
A Saura woman displaying her traditional jewellery
Weaving pattern on gatunga
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Agriculture tools and implements used by the Saura people
Idranga made outside a house
Typical Saura house at Pekata vilage
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Alphabets of Saura script
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A view of Bhimashankar temple
Saura deity placed outside a house in Limorsing village
The process of lemon grass oil extraction
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An Arunthathiyar man playing kombu
A traditional mannadiar house
A Mannadiar man dressed in the traditional white head gear
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Carvings on thalaivasal
Sacred grove of Boothanacciama
Kadakai
Dolmen
Paasam
Karapaswamy, the god of protection
Muthu Mariamman Temple in Gundupatti
Colourful Vahanams
Manjivratu festival in Manavanur village
Livelihood of the Asaries
Kaliammman Temple in Poolathur village
Mannadiar Temple in Adukkam
Garlic drying in a house in Poondi village
Making of Thappa (drum)
Thalaivasal in Adukkam village
Traditional Paliyan House
Paliyan worship their ancestral spirits and forest gods
A group of Paliyans performing their traditional dance
A view of the Paliyan forest
Baiga people performing Dasra Naach
Baiga men during Dasra Naach
Baiga woman during Dasra Naach
Maharani, a tribal deity of Baiga people, at Kharidih village
Ganpat Lal playing traditional musical instrument called timki
Mandar, a traditional Baiga drum
Traditional jewellery worn by a Baiga man
Baiga women wearing a traditional chuda
A woman making biran-mala
The detailings of the Baiga woman dress
A Baiga woman in her traditional attire
Instruments used for Godna
Baiga woman with godna tattoo marks on her forehead
A typical Mungi saree woven on a traditional handloom
Painted clay pots drying in the sun
Traditional bamboo hut of Baiga
A view of the bazaar near Dagona
Baiga settlement at Kandawani village
Amar Singh in his traditional attire
Member of Panka Samaj weaving the khadi thread
A Baiga woman with traditional body tattoo (Godna)
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Apatani Shaman wearing Jilañ pulye
Apatani man weaving bamboo sitting stool
Apatani bamboo house
Water and agricultural system of the Apatanis
Water Inlet system
Shaman during Myoko Festival
Baboo Bha Boha Bodu (Acrobatic swing)
Community Baboo of Hong Village
Takuñ (plum tree) smeared with rice powder
Rice powder smeared on the pigs to sanctify
Tapër leaves are put over the Naago
Offering O to the Penũ
Beating Tallō (gong) during Muruñ
Mithun tied to La’pañg

**Apatani Tribe (Arunachal Pradesh) (30 records)**

The Ziro Valley in Arunachal Pradesh is inhabited by the Apatani tribe. With a population of about 30,000, spread over thirty-five villages, the Apatani were one of the first tribes to come in contact with the British in the mid-twentieth century. Though popularly known as the Apatani, they prefer to identify themselves as ‘Tanii’.

- Map of Ziro Valley
- Hong village, Ziro valley
- Hong Village during Muruñ Festival 2016
- Shaman leading the Penũ
- Clan members participating in Penũ
- Performers during Muruñ festival in Hong Village
- Tapër being brought to the Naago
- A Naago
- Pingya Hunii
- The Dree Festival altar
- Rituals pertaining to the Dree festival
- Apatani women swaying to the rhythm of Daminda
- Tattooing as Folk Tradition among the Apatani, Arunachal Pradesh
- Performance of folk dance during the Dree festival
- Bamboo ritual altars
- Apatani women in traditional attire
- Apatani Shaman wearing Jilañ pulye
- Apatani man weaving bamboo sitting stool
- Apatani bamboo house
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- Water Inlet system
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**Baiga Tribe (Madhya Pradesh) (22 records)**

Baiga, the ‘forest people’, are one of the few remaining tribes of India that are yet to completely amalgamate with mainstream society. Categorised as one of India’s primitive tribal groups, they have retained many aspects of their traditions and culture. Today, the largest settlement of the Baiga is in the Baiga Chak, a 100 sq km area carved out by the British in 1890. The 52 villages spread across the Bajag, Karanjya and Samnapur blocks of Dindori district constitute the Baiga Chak. However, deep within the confines of the forest, there are villages that remain cut off from even these dirty roads. Being so far removed from civilizaton, these villages have remained largely untouched by the world outside. Thus, a documentation project has been taken up by the ICH Division, INTACH, to record the cultures of the tribe.

- Baiga people performing Dasra Naach
- Baiga men during Dasra Naach
- Baiga woman during Dasra Naach
- Maharani, a tribal deity of Baiga people, at Kharidih village
- Ganpat Lal playing traditional musical instrument called timki
- Mandar, a traditional Baiga drum
- Traditional jewellery worn by a Baiga man
- Baiga women wearing a traditional chuda
A woman making biran-mala
The detailings of the Baiga woman dress
A Baiga woman in her traditional attire
Instruments used for Godna
Baiga woman with godna tattoo marks on her forehead
A typical Mungi saree woven on a traditional handloom
Painted clay pots drying in the sun
Traditional bamboo hut of Baiga
A view of the bazaar near Dagona
Baiga settlement at Kandawani village
Amar Singh in his traditional attire
Member of Panka Samaj weaving the khadi thread
A Baiga woman with traditional body tattoo (Godna)
People of the Baiga Chak in their traditional attire

Bhil Tribe (Gujarat) (26 records)

Documentation of India’s Intangible Cultural Heritage is a concept by ICH Division, Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage – INTACH, New Delhi. This documentation of Bhil tribe, Rajpipla, Gujarat, has been conducted and prepared by the Rajpipla Chapter, INTACH. Greed has overtaken our needs and this greed is being justified by the destruction of environment. In this process, the civilized man has brought the protectors of the forests, the tribal on the edge. In this present projection, there is a deliberate effort to reverse the greed to some extent to save our traditional efforts to protect environment and understand the simple life of the tribal, Bhils, who have been protecting the bountiful nature nestling on the foothills of the great magnificent Satpura ranges in Western India.

Maharawal Girdhar Singh, Jaisalmer
Gheraiya in front of Heritage Hotel
Gheriya dancers
H.H. Vijay Singh - Chelia dance
Baby Vasava & students dance on Dasondi song
Splash of Colours
Holi, the spring festival
Pataleshwar Mahadev
Mahakali Maa
Santoshi Maa
Bhadarva Dev Fair
Bhathiji - An Icon
The Devine procession
Tribal Chief performs ritual, Gujarat
Panduri Mata
Devotees carry offerings
Pagoda like Temple
Rituals at the Holy Tree, Gujarat
Goddess Harsidhi Mata Temple at Rajpipla
Garba dance
Shitla Mata Fair
Shitla Mata Temple
An Interview with Rukmini Devi
Bamboo Craft of Bhil community, Gujarat
Advisasis Performing Pyramid Dance
Tribal (Gher) Dancers with Maharani Rukmani Devi and Yuvraj Manvendra Singh

Kannauras (Himachal Pradesh) (32 records)

Kannaura is one of the tribal communities of the state of Himachal Pradesh. The difficult hilly terrain of the region of Kinnaur left its people isolated and distanced from other parts of the country for hundreds of years. The Kannaura are known to have established deep roots in Indian mythology and literature. Some legends mention them as the descendants of the Pandavas. To explore their culture and world view a documentation project was taken up by the INTACH Intangible Cultural Heritage Division.

Mathi Devi Temple in Chitkul, Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
Village settlement in Rakcham, Kinnaur
Kamru Fort, Kinnaur
Intricate carvings on the outer wall of a house in Kinnaur
Traditional architecture of a temple in Batseri village, Kinnaur
Memorial stones at Roghi village, Kinnaur
A woman of Kamru village wearing traditional earrings, Kinnaur
A woman decked in traditional silver ornaments, Kinnaur
Kannaura women in their traditional silver ornaments and attire
A Kannaura man dressed for festivities
A woman wearing the traditional ornaments of the Kannaura community
Weaver from Sangla village, Kinnaur
Smt. Gyan Devi working on her loom in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
Laadi Pattu or a bride’s shawl
Thepang, a head-dress in Kannauri style
Mr. Tashi Cheri, a silversmith with his artwork, Kinnaur
Artisan working with silver in Kinnaur
Tools and moulds used for making jewellery in Kinnaur
Chandar Haar, a traditional necklace of the Kannaura
Tanoli, a silver ornament, worn by the people of Kinnaur
Pipla, a silver ornament for the hair worn by the women of Kinnaur
Dabmige/Shangling, a silver hair accessory worn by the women of Kinnaur
Beshtor/Zuti, a hair accessory of Kannaura women
Balu, a nose ring worn by Kannaura women
Kata, a form of earrings worn by Kannaura women
Chak, a hair accessory of the Kannaura women
Tramoli, the necklace worn by married women, Kinnaur
A Kannaura nose ring
An apple orchard in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
A woodcarver at work
The Kinner Kailash, Kinnaur
A traditional wood and stone house structure in Kinnaur

Tribes of Palani Hills (Tamil Nadu) (25 records)

Spread across approximately 1000 sq. km, the Palani Hills are a mountain range in Tamil Nadu. They constitute a part of the Western Ghats and are divided into lower Palani hills and upper Palani hills. There is a wide variety of natural vegetation from moist deciduous forests in the lower regions (between 250-1000m) to high altitude Shola forests in the upper hills (above 2000m). Communities that have lived here have adapted to these landscapes and have constantly evolved to respond to these changes. Their documentation contains the details of the origins and historical evolution of the people of this region, as separate and distinct communities with specific livelihood and sustenance strategies, their heritage, and traditional practices. The communities featured here include the indigenous Paliyan and Puliyan, and the Mannadiar, Arunthathiyar, Aasari, Telugu Chetti, and the Pirimalai Kallar.

A group of Paliyans performing their traditional dance
A view of the Paliyan forest
Karapawamy, the god of protection
Muthu Mariamman Temple in Gundupatti
Colourful Vahanams
Manjivrattu festival in Manavanur village
Livelihood of the Asaries
Kaliarman Temple in Poolathur village
Mannadiar Temple in Adukkam
Garlic drying in a house in Poondi village
Making of Thappa (drum)
Thalaivasal in Adukkam village
Traditional Paliyan House
Paliyan worship their ancestral spirits and forest gods
The process of lemon grass oil extraction
Valai Tadi
An Arunthathiyar man playing kombu
A traditional manndiari house
A Mannadiar man dressed in the traditional white head gear
Poombarai village Murugan temple festival
Carvings on thalaivasal
Sacred grove of Boothanacciamma
Kadakai
Dolmen
Paasam

**Saura Tribe (Odisha)** (38 records)

Saura is one of the ancient tribes of Odisha, along with a small number living in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Assam. It finds mention in the epics, *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata*. According to local legends, Savari-Rama's devotee in the *Ramayana* was from this community. Saura people are known by various names—Saora, Sora, Savara and Sabara. The documentation conducted by Intangible Cultural Heritage Division of INTACH provides an insight into the traditions and culture of this community.

- Iditals painted on a house wall, Odisha
- A Shaman playing Lau Tambir
- Traditional attire of Saura women during celebrations, Adamguda village
- Iditals and Tutelary deities of the Saura people
- A dance by Saura women, during festivals
- Saura men playing traditional musical instruments
- Thrudum, Odisha
- Goge, Odisha
- Lau Tambir, Odisha
- Jani Gomango
- A Saura couple in their traditional attire, Odisha
- Idital artwork
- Gaursum in Paketa village
- A Saura family
- The view of a bridge
- Black dome like structure covering the OM
- A view of Akshara Brahma temple
- A tutelary deity inside a cattle shed
- The cooking area
- Worship area inside a house
- Wall decorated with idital
- A Saura woman winnowing rice
- Cattle for trade at the local market
- Traditional Saura musical instruments
- A view of Church in Saura land
- A Saura woman displaying her traditional jewellery
- Andodaka, the traditional anklets
- A Saura woman displaying her traditional jewellery
- Weaving pattern on gatunga
- Women selling fish in the local market
- Agriculture tools and implements used by the Saura people
- Idranga made outside a house
- Typical Saura house at Pekata vilage
- The Tribal Sora Language & Script centre, Marchiguda village
- Alphabets of Saura script
- The Shiva-linga inside the Bhimashankar temple
- A view of Bhimashankar temple
- Saura deity placed outside a house in Limorsing village

**Region/City** (220 records)

- Priest performing the Ganga Aarti on the occasion of Dev Deepawali festival, Varanasi
- Aakashdeep Festival being Celebrated on the Banks of Holy Ganga in Varanasi
- Hand-made altar for Chhath Puja in Varanasi
- Preparation of Sesame oil diyas for Aakashdeep celebrations in Varanasi
- Jutiya thread being sold for Jivitya puja in Varanasi
- Pind daan at the Ghat in Varanasi
- Tulsi Vivah ceremony in Varanasi
- A priestess narrating the story of Tulsi Vivah, Varanasi
- Kanhaiyalal Mishra playing the Sarangi, a Traditional Musical Instrument, Varanasi
- Chandrakant Mishra, A Shehnai Artist from Varanasi
- Padma Vibhushan Pt. Chhannulal Mishra, renowned Hindustani classical singer from Varanasi
- Characters from Krishnallila at the Tulsi Ghat
- Bow used in Ramilia
- A young boy dressed as Sita for Ramlila celebrations at the Asi crossing, Varanasi
An Akhada in Varanasi
Pehelwans wrestling in the Tulsi Akhada, Varanasi
Choor-Matar Chaat of Varanasi
A tea stall in Varanasi
Flavoured Lassi
Bhang prepared in Varanasi
The Paan of Varanasi
Different kinds of Betel leaves
A shop during Ramadan in Varanasi
Shopkeeper selling sweets in Varanasi
Sweets Sold in Varanasi
Jaleba sold in Varanasi during Kajri festival
Thandai maker in Varanasi
An artisan creating an Ashtadhatu sculpture
Ashtadhatu Hanuman Face
Ashtadhatu Idols in a Gallery at Jnana-Pravaha
Metal repoussé work
Ashtadhatu sculptures of Gods in the gallery of Jnana Pravaha, Varanasi
Ashtadhatu designer pots in Jnana-Pravaha gallery
An intricately carved Ashtadhatu box
A weaver using a traditional handloom in Varanasi
Wall Painting in Varanasi
Wooden Toys made in Varanasi
Pt. Puran Maharaj, a renowned Tabla player with his students
Priests Performing Ganga Aarti at Asi Ghat, Varanasi
Priests playing Holi at Banke Bihari Temple, Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh
A sage during Holi Utsav at Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh
Puran Maharaj, a Tabla player with his Students
Marriage ritual at a Ghat, Varanasi
Religious ceremony taking place in a temple, Rakcham village, Kannaura, Himachal Pradesh
Mathi Devi Temple in Chitkul, Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
Village settlement in Rakcham, Kinnaur
Kamru Fort, Kinnaur
Intricate carvings on the outer wall of a house in Kinnaur
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A Kannaura nose ring
An apple orchard in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
A woodcarver at work
The Kinner Kailash, Kinnaur
A traditional wood and stone house structure in Kinnaur
Church of Our Lady of Piety, Silvassa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Sakdi (necklace), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Yeda, jewellery in Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Warli painting on a wall, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Jata, local millstones
Slingshot used for hunting birds
St. Francis Xavier Church, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Dongal Mauri
Daak (small drum), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Kansod (Cymbals), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Himai Dev, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Gaam Dev, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Wagh Dev
Teddy tapping
Himai Dev and Kansari Dev
Hanuman
Gaam Dev
Veer Dev
Daman Ganga river, on the route from Silvassa to Dudhni
Hirwa Devi
Swaminarayan Temple
Masks used for Bhawada dance, Tribal Museum, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Farming tools, Tribal Museum
Fishing gear, Tribal Museum
Boats anchored at the jetty, Diu
Unloading of fish at the jetty, Diu
A craftsman from the Sangharia community making bangles, Diu
Traditional Kharwa bangles, Diu
Shivlings at Gangeshwar Temple
Hoka palm trees
A Rukhada tree
Kakeshwari Mata Temple
Interior of O.L. Remedios Church
Interior of St.Paul's Church
Idol of Neminath
Rustam Pir Baba ki Dargah, Sidi Colony, Diu
Memorial Stones outside Gangeshwar Temple
Offerings made to the Shivlings at Gangeshwar Temple, Diu
Memorial stones on a hill near Nagoa village, Diu
Ramdevji Maharaj Temple
Idol of Badi Chamunda Mata
Chhoti Chamunda Mata Temple
Khodiyar Mata Temple
Chandrika Mata
Idol of Jalandhar
Zampa Gateway, Diu Fort
Kitchen on a boat
Zeme Naga objects
Zeme Naga men in their traditional attire
Zeme Naga girls and boys performing Kechinglem dance
Puondum, a traditional male shawl
Woman holding a bamboo container
Women using Kepa and Kemai
Kela, a liquor storage vessel
Jublee Lungohun, stones denoting the Jubilee celebration of the village
A Hrangkhol man playing the Saranda
Dar, musical instrument
Chempai, a basket
Chemkawl, a traditional sword
Chaupheng, a wrist band
Biakin, a church in the village
Harban, an armlet
Anphui, a medicinal leaf
A Hrankhol woman in traditional attire
A view of a Zeme Naga house
A Hrangkhol woman wearing Songkol
A gathering of Zeme Naga community
Korok and Hlangkhan (bamboo items)
A Hrangkhol woman in her traditional attire and jewellery
A woman weaves
Tumter (insect)
A weaving device
Tuburmong (pipe)
Pathiantho ritual, Assam
A Hrangkhol man
Muri (Musical Instrument)
Ornaments of the Dimasa people, Assam
Attire of Dimasa people
Ornaments of the Zeme people
Dekuijao, a form of rice beer
Traditional attire of Zeme Naga women
Traditional attire of Zeme Naga men
Meichibawm (matchbox)
Traditional pipe
Thival (necklace)
A Hmar elder in traditional attire
A Hmar woman in her traditional dress
Sielki (Mithun horn)
A large quantity of turmeric at a Konda Dora house
A Konda Dora woman watering a cement structure
A Konda Dora couple at work
A cattleshed
Agricultural implements of the Konda Dora
Design on the wall of a Konda Dora house
Broom
A Konda Dora woman in traditional attire
Decorations in front of a Konda Dora house
Decorations at the entrance gate of a Konda Dora house
A view of a Konda Dora village
A Bagata woman preparing rice for cooking
A Bagata woman wearing an indigenously made raincoat
Musical instruments of the Bagata tribe
Agricultural implements of the Bagata tribe
The entrance to a Bagata house
A Bagata man
A curd pot in a Bagata house
A Bagata woman picking up paddy
A view of a Bagata settlement
Vendors at Choparai
Choparai, a tourist place
The interiors of a Kodhu house
Wedding activities
Kodhu woman wearing a traditional nose-pin
A Kodhu woman in a trance
Kodhu people at a religious ceremony
Kodhu men at work
Kodhu women
Jonna Pottulu or corn, kept on the roof of a house
Jetta, a stone grinder
Blessings for the new couple
Interior view of the local church
Cattle shed in a Porja settlement
Dappu, a side drum
Butto, a tattoo
Barsi, a digging implement
An interior view of a Porja house
A Kodhu woman in traditional attire
A view of the tribal settlement from a distance
A church in a Kodhu village
Woman plastering the floor with cow dung mix
A Kodhu woman enjoying a Pika (cigar)
Porja women returning from the halfway point during a death ceremony in the village, Andhra Pradesh
A Porja woman in her traditional attire, Andhra Pradesh
Drummers perform during the wedding
Groom's relatives approaching the bride's house for the marriage function
Konda Dora women
Konda Dora men drinking Jeerigi
Konda Dora women
Mokkudu tree
A Bagata man with the Nangeli
Wall decoration
Natural landscape, Visakhapatnam district
Bagata women fetching water
Bagata Women in their traditional attire

**Andhra tribes** (57 records)

Scheduled Tribes constitute 8.6% of India’s population (2011 Census). In Andhra Pradesh, the tribal people worship their own pantheon of nature gods and goddesses and continue to celebrate their old mores and manners. Most of their languages do not have scripts and are essentially verbal. The customary laws are adhered to scrupulously and any breach is strictly censured. The local head commands immense respect and is deferred to in all aspects of tribal life. Featured here is the culture of four tribes—Bagata, Konda Dora, Kodhu and Porja of Paderu and Araku Valley of Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh.

- Food grains cultivated by tribal populations in the region
- A large quantity of turmeric at a Konda Dora house
- A Konda Dora woman watering a cement structure
- A Konda Dora couple at work
- A cattleshed
- Agricultural implements of the Konda Dora
- Design on the wall of a Konda Dora house
- Broom
- A Konda Dora woman in traditional attire
- Decorations in front of a Konda Dora house
- Decorations at the entrance gate of a Konda Dora house
- A view of a Konda Dora village
- A Bagata woman preparing rice for cooking
- A Bagata woman wearing an indigenously made raincoat
- Musical instruments of the Bagata tribe
- Agricultural implements of the Bagata tribe
- The entrance to a Bagata house
- A Bagata man
- A curd pot in a Bagata house
- A Bagata woman picking up paddy
- A view of a Bagata settlement
- Vendors at Choparai
- Choparai, a tourist place
- The interiors of a Kodhu house
- Wedding activities
- Kodhu woman wearing a traditional nose-pin
- A Kodhu woman in a trance
- Kodhu people at a religious ceremony
- Kodhu men at work
- Kodhu women
- Jonna Pottulu or corn, kept on the roof of a house
- Jetta, a stone grinder
- Blessings for the new couple
- Interior view of the local church
- Cattle shed in a Porja settlement
- Dappu, a side drum
- Butto, a tattoo
Barsi, a digging implement
An interior view of a Porja house
A Kodhu woman in traditional attire
A view of the tribal settlement from a distance
A church in a Kodhu village
Woman plastering the floor with cow dung mix
A Kodhu woman enjoying a Pika (cigar)
Porja women returning from the halfway point during a death ceremony in the village, Andhra Pradesh
A Porja woman in her traditional attire, Andhra Pradesh
Drummers perform during the wedding
Groom’s relatives approaching the bride’s house for the marriage function
Konda Dora women
Konda Dora men drinking Jeerigi
Konda Dora women
Mokkudu tree
A Bagata man with the Nangeli
Wall decoration
Natural landscape, Visakhapatnam district
Bagata women fetching water
Bagata Women in their traditional attire

Assam tribes (41 records)

Assam is the gateway to Northeast India and a large part of its cultural identity. Out of the total population of the state, Scheduled Tribes (STs) constitute 12.4 per cent (2011 Census). Assam is home to numerous tribes and sub-tribes. North Cachar Hills and Karbi Anglong are the two autonomous hill districts of Assam which predominantly house two important STs of Assam, the Dimasa and the Mikir (now recognized as Karbi). The study area, North Cachar Hills, was taken as the base area for documentation of four Tribes: the Hrangkhol, Zeme (Naga), Dimasa and Hmar. This area accommodates 68.3 % of the tribal population of Assam.

Sielki (Mithun horn)
A Hmar woman in her traditional dress
A Hmar elder in traditional attire
Thival (necklace)
Traditional pipe
Meichibawm (matchbox)
Traditional attire of Zeme Naga men
Traditional attire of Zeme Naga women
Dekuijao, a form of rice beer
Ornaments of the Zeme people
Attire of Dimasa people
Ornaments of the Dimasa people, Assam
Muri (Musical Instrument)
A Hrangkhol man
Pathiantho ritual, Assam
Tuburmon (pipe)
A weaving device
Tumter (insect)
A woman weaves
A Hrangkhol woman in her traditional attire and jewellery
Korok and Hlangkhan (bamboo items)
A gathering of Zeme Naga community
A Hrangkhol woman wearing Songkol
A view of a Zeme Naga house
A Hrangkhol woman in traditional attire
Anphui, a medicinal leaf
Harban, an armlet
Biakin, a church in the village
Chaupheng, a wrist band
Chemkawl, a traditional sword
Chempai, a basket
Dar, musical instrument
A Hrangkhol man playing the Saranda
Jubilee Lungohun, stones denoting the Jubilee celebration of the village
Kela, a liquor storage vessel
Women using Kepa and Kemai
Woman holding a bamboo container
Puondum, a traditional male shawl
Zeme Naga girls and boys performing Kechinglem dance
Zeme Naga men in their traditional attire
Zeme Naga objects

**Varanasi** (53 records)

Being one of the most ancient cities of the world, Varanasi, is a repository of cultural heritage resulting from the continuous historical events of invasions and inhabitations, secular and spiritual influences, each carrying with it a plethora of both tangible and intangible properties, social contract and related norms of knowledge, traditions and customs. An extensive documentation has been done by INTACH Intangible Cultural Heritage Division to explore these intangible cultural aspects of this region.

Choora-Matar Chaat of Varanasi
A tea stall in Varanasi
Flavoured Lassi
Bhang prepared in Varanasi
The Pan of Varanasi
Different kinds of Betel leaves
A shop during Ramadan in Varanasi
Shopkeeper selling sweets in Varanasi
Sweets Sold in Varanasi
Jaleba sold in Varanasi during Kajri festival
Thandai maker in Varanasi
An artisan creating an Ashtadhatu sculpture
Ashtadhatu Hanuman Face
Ashtadhatu Idols in a Gallery at Jnana-Pravaha
Metal repoussé work
Ashtadhatu sculptures of Gods in the gallery of Jnana Pravah, Varanasi
Ashtadhatu designer pots in Jnana-Pravaha gallery
An intricately carved Ashtadhatu box
A weaver using a traditional handloom in Varanasi
Wall Painting in Varanasi
Wooden Toys made in Varanasi
Tulsi Vivah ceremony in Varanasi
A priestess narrating the story of Tulsi Vivah, Varanasi
Ladies gathered to perform Chatth Puja at the ghats
Priests performing the Ganga Aarti on the occasion of Dev Deepawali festival, Varanasi
Aakashdeep Festival being Celebrated on the Banks of Holy Ganga in Varanasi
Hand-made altar for Chhath Puja in Varanasi
Preparation of Sesame oil diyas for Aakashdeep celebrations in Varanasi
Jiutiya thread being sold for Jivitya puja in Varanasi
Kanhaiyalal Mishra playing the Sarangi, a Traditional Musical Instrument, Varanasi
Chandrakant Mishra, A Shehnai Artist from Varanasi
Padma Vibhushan Pt. Chhannulal Mishra, renowned Hindustani classical singer from Varanasi
Characters from Krishnalila at the Tulsi Ghat
Bow used in Ramilila
A young boy dressed as Sita for Ramilila celebrations at the Asi crossing, Varanasi
An Akhada in Varanasi
Pehelwans wrestling in the Tulsi Akhada, Varanasi
Pt. Puran Maharaj, a renowned Tabla player with his students
Subah e Banaras at Asi Ghat, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
Ganga Aarti at the Dashashwamedh Ghat
Wooden Sinduras, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
Indian version of the nesting dolls of various gods, animals and other indigenous subjects
Varieties of wooden toys on display at a shop at Godowliya Chowk, Varanasi
Elaborately painted entrances found in Varanasi
Wall Paintings of Varanasi
Sculptures of various gods and goddesses
An artist polishing the Shiva ling sculpture
An artist painting and adding silver finishing to a sculpture
Gulabi Meenakari Painting Process, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
Gulabi Meenakari work (pink enameling)
Varanasi Handloom and Zari threads
An example of Shikargah textile designs of the traditional Banaras Brocades
Banaras Brocade

**Braj** (57 records)

A culturally abundant region, Braj—also known as Brajbhoomi—falls on both sides of the Yamuna river in Uttar Pradesh, and includes some areas of Haryana and Rajasthan as well. Considered the birthplace of Lord Krishna, the entire landscape is dotted with, and socialized by, the Krishna mythology. It is an important Hindu pilgrimage centre. The most popular cultural expression of this region is seen in the events around the ‘Braj Ki Holi’ festivities, for which devotees arrive in large numbers to join the local revellers. This collection provides glimpses into this annual celebration.

Drenched in colour
A blast of colour
Men performing Samaj-Gayan in Rangeeli Gali, Barsana, Vrindavan
View of crowd during Holi celebrations
Men during Lath-Maar Holi
An enactment of Ras-Leela, Yamuna Ghat, Vrindavan
Playing drum during Holi
Idol preparation for the Holika bonfire
A Gwala of Braj
Children dressed as gwalas
Turbans during Holi
Immersed in colours
Idols of Radha and Krishna
A priest recites verses on Krishna
Tying of a turban
Rudraksha beads
A view of a festive shop
Holi for a child
A sweet shop during Holi
Costumes of the gwala
Pichkari (water-gun)
Everyone celebrates
A devotee getting the name of Radha etched on his forehead
Dance of devotion
Devotees dance at Krishna Temple
Devotees in a circumambulation of Kamadhenu
Rangeeli Gali
Famous Bhajiya of Braj
Laddus of Braj
Motichur Laddus
Rangeeli Gali of Braj
Painting Krishna on the wall
Priya Kund
Palanquin
A Vaishnav sadhu
Holi in Shri Ji Temple, Barsana
International tourists enjoying Holi at Braj
Building architecture of Braj
Radha Rani Temple, Barsana
A couple sings Bhajan on the Braj Mandala
Glimpse of Lath-Maar Holi
Music during Holi celebrations
Sandalwood during Holi
Lassi
Children playing Holi
Preparing natural colours
Women gather to play Lath-Maar Holi
Mithai (sweets) of Braj
Holi at the Banke Bihari Temple, Vrindavan
A widow drenched in colour
Widows exchanging greetings during Holi
Paan of Braj
Holika Dehan pyre being set up
Holika Dehan
Bhajan Sandhya
Praying to the Lord
Bhajan during Lathmar Holi - Phaag Khelan Aaye Hain Natwar Nand Kishore

**Dadra and Nagar Haveli (33 records)**

Dadra & Nagar Haveli comprises a total of 72 villages with a population of 343,709 as per the 2011 census. Tribal communities constitute the majority of the population. These tribal societies still follow their old customs to a large extent and pursue their traditional occupation of agriculture. The major tribes of the region include the Warli, the Kokna, and the Dhodia. The Tribal Museum of Silvassa provides a glimpse into the life and the local culture of these communities.

Church of Our Lady of Piety, Silvassa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Sakdi (necklace), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Yeda, jewellery in Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Warli painting on a wall, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Jata, local millstones
Slingshot used for hunting birds
St. Francis Xavier Church, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Dongal Mauri
Daaak (small drum), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Kansod (Cymbals), Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Himai Dev, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Gaam Dev, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Wagh Dev
Toddy tapping
Himai Dev and Kansari Dev
Hanuman
Gaam Dev
Veer Dev
Daman Ganga river, on the route from Silvassa to Dudhni
Wall decorated with the traditional Warli painting, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Hinwa Dev
Swaminarayan Temple
Masks used for Bhawada dance, Tribal Museum, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Farming tools, Tribal Museum
Fishing gear, Tribal Museum
Sh. Vinu K. Banwar making Warli art
Traditional huts at Bedpa Village
Sh. Sitaram Chaudhary playing Tarpa
Smt. Matthi with her Yeda armlets
Mahua being brewed locally
Smt. Jayesh wearing the traditional jewellery
Smt. Harkhu Lakhma with traditional Gote bangles
Sh. Dhanji Devu Patara applying mud plaster to the wall of his hut

**Daman and Diu (40 records)**

This study encompasses two regions, Daman and Diu. Daman, spread over 102 sq. km, lies on the Gujarat coast just south of Valsad, while Diu is situated off the southern tip of Saurashtra peninsula of Gujarat. Both places reflect a distinct Indo-Portuguese cultural fusion that is still observed by small groups in the region. The original inhabitants, the Tandels and the Patels, continue to have a sizeable population in the area. In addition, a number of other communities like the Christians, Parsis and Halpatis have settled here. In Diu, communities such as the Sangharia, Vanja, and Sidi, with their distinct religious traditions, are represented. The culture of these communities is increasingly at risk; this study seeks to document their intangible cultural heritage.

Fishing boats along the Daman Ganga shoreline
Nani Daman Fort
Interior of St. Remedios Church
India is an acknowledged abode of countless sacred spaces, and in this context Gaya maintains a special status. Shradha (death rituals) performed here are considered the most meritorious for the departed soul. The practice of Pind Daan or the last offering to one’s ancestors is also performed here by people coming from different corners of India. It is different from the rites which are performed immediately after death (death-ceremony). Pind Daan/Gaya Shradha is a ritual by which a person, who performs it, is supposed to be blessed by his ancestors and achieve moksha or liberation from the cycle of life and death. Gaya is a city that encompasses deeply held religious belief systems and spiritual knowledge. Some of these intangible elements of the region have been documented by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Division of INTACH.
Devotees trying to extract water from the dry Phalgu river for ritual purposes
Akshay Vat, the sacred tree
Devotees tying sacred threads and ribbons on the Akshay Vat
Devotee following the priest's directions
Gopal Lal Katriyar (wrestler), Sangat Akhada, Gaya
Lai, a popular sweet of Gaya
Pandit Rajan Sijwar's music instruments