

## Similarities in the Art and Culture of My State Madhya Pradesh with Nagaland and Manipur

It is rightly said that culture plays an important role in the development of any nation. It represents a set of shared attitudes, values, goals and practices. Art can be described as a vast subdivision of culture, composed of many creative endeavours and disciplines.

To start with similarities of these diversity of art and culture of my state Madhya Pradesh with that of Nagaland and Manipur, it is not wrong to quote that the traces of art and culture shows some common bonding among the states.

### Cultural Similarities

#### Traditional Costume (Dress)

Wearing cotton dhuti is prominent by men in Madhya Pradesh as well as in Manipur

known as Khamen Chatta made up of silk cloth,

along with kurta or jacket. Pagri in different forms are worn on special occasions. Men in

Nagaland and Bhil tribe of Madhya Pradesh have similar clothing wherein they wrap a cloth on their waist.

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The women of three states somewhat share similar dressing style of a skirt pattern of which Manipur women wear Patlooi (lehenga), and Angami tribe of Nagaland wear a skirt and Mechala which can be wrapped around the skirt which is similar to ghagra choli of Madhya Pradesh. Similarly, Phanek (Manipuri dress) is same as saree worn by Madhya Pradesh women.

### Festivals and Religious belief

The festivals of the three states are celebrated for similar reasons like on the onset of any season or agricultural practices, while some are related to mythology. They share the same religious belief of worshipping cow and snake.

### Similarities of Art

#### Dance

Both individual and group dancing are popular and similar in the three states. People use instruments like drum, trumpets, etc. in various dances. A person stands in the middle and plays the instrument and the group of people dance around that person. Props are prominently used in most of the dance forms. The

 dance depicts the daily life routine or work performed by its people. 

### Folk Songs and Music

 The folk songs of the three states are sung on special occasions or festivals that are related to the people or religious belief.

 The songs are sung in particular raga using traditional instruments like harmonium and shehnai. Solo and group singing are prevalent in the three states. 

### Painting, Drawing and Craft

 The drawings and paintings of the three states are similar as they are drawn with mud and natural colours made of charcoal, clay, etc.

 Famous among these are Mandala art (circle images), Wari art (drawings made up of symbols denote people and work), Gond art (sequenced dots paintings depicting natural habitat and animals). 

 Floor decoration (rangoli) shares similarity by names such as Naga Kolam in Nagaland, Pakhaba in Manipur and Mandana in Madhya Pradesh (tribal area) that is made on special occasions or festivals and relates to the same.

 Bamboo and cane craft, pottery and sculptures 

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are also prominent in all the three.  
Spinning and weaving of cloth also shares the similarity.

On the whole, we can say that the similarities depicted by the art and culture of my state Madhya Pradesh with that of Nagaland and Manipur makes them the integral part of incredible India such that the people of states are united by the means of their practices and art. Madhya Pradesh being the Heart of India is also the community junction of all religions (Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Christians) and their cultural practices.

This truly justifies the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" Mission.

