



INTACH

FOLK DANCES OF INDIA: HUTTARI



Huttari or Hattari dance is one of the most famous folk dances of Karnataka. It is primarily performed during the harvest season by Kodvas people living in Coorg region of Mysore. There is also a festival of the same name when this dance is performed. This dance is mainly done by the males who dress themselves in exquisite attires. The Huttari festival is the annual rice harvest festival is perhaps the grandest of the three festivals and celebrated by most of the communities living in Coorg (Kodagu). It is usually celebrated in November – December every year.

Origin

Huttari dance form originated in Karnataka by the Kodva people living in Coorg region. This folk dance originated many years ago and the tradition has since continued.

About the Dance

Hattari is a folk-dance form started by the inhabitants of Coorg. Men, in exquisite and colourful attire do this dance. Females do not take part in this dance form. The males can be seen dancing to the sound of drum beats and pipes. Traditionally, the dancers have been seen using shields clutched in their hands which has been replaced by canes in the modern times.



The dance has many movements and steps which are coordinated by forming a large ring or a circle. This dance form involves few steps which are inspired from the *tandav* style. They use footwork by raising the left foot and then balancing the right foot and jumping vigorously.

Costume



The Huttari dance is performed in open fields where men wear traditional black tunics. They also wear turbans, white trousers and black traditional tunics. Dance costumes and dance forms differ depending on the different forms of the Huttari dance. The Kodava outfits precisely differ as per the dance form performed.

DID YOU KNOW...

The Huttari dance is known as the Kodagu dance. It is a very spirited folk dance and has many local versions.

ACTIVITY

1. Name a few other traditional dances of Karnataka. Find out if they are similar to the Huttari dance.
2. Research about the Huttari festival and the significance of the Huttari dance.
3. Find out about other dances of the Kodagu people. Are they a similar variant of the Huttari dance?

References

<https://www.auchitya.com/huttari-folk-dance-of-karnataka/>

<http://www.schoolchalao.com/basic-education/show-results/indian-folk-dance/huttari-dance-karnataka>

https://www.indianetzone.com/70/huttari_festival.htm