

Assam Chronicles

INTACH Heritage Newspaper

2024

ASSAM'S BIHU DANCE CREATES HISTORY, ENTERS GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS



The largest Bihu dance has 11,298 participants and was achieved by State of Assam (India) in Guwahati, Assam, India on 14 April 2023.

Bihu is an ancient harvesting festival celebrated in the state of Assam, India. It is celebrated with food, gatherings, dance, and music. People adorn traditional attires like Dhoti, Gamocha and Chadar, Mekhala. According to Assamese history, the first ever Bihu dance performance was done in 1694 when the Ahom king Rudra Singha (1696-1714) invited Bihu dancers on the special occasion of Rongali Bihu.

During Magh Bihu folks make an out-house, stay one night, have a grand feast and in the very next morning they burn it down.

Make a hut using waste paper, dry leaves and sticks.



TOP STORY

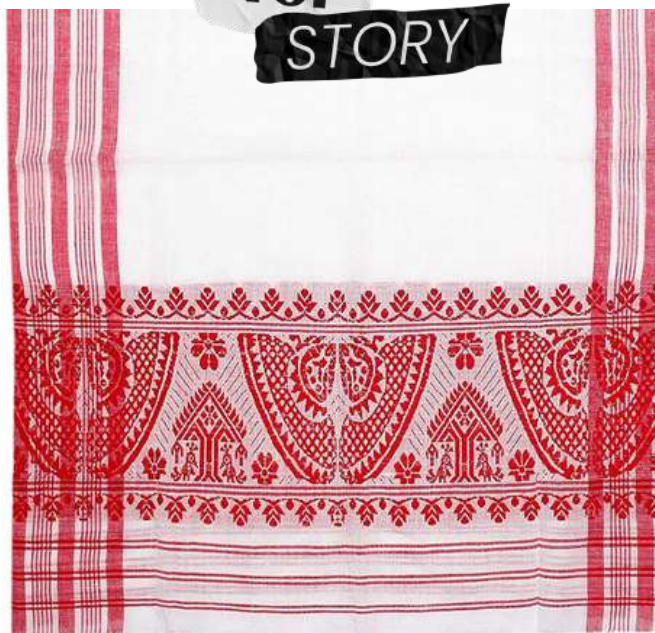
GOVT. ASKS CITIZENS TO PURCHASE HANDLOOM SILK MEKHELA CHADAR



ASSAM SILK

A RICH TRADITION OF HANDCRAFTED ELEGANCE

Mekhela Chadar woven with silk is indigenous to Brahmaputra Valley in Assam. Sericulture in Assam comprises of the mulberry (locally known as Pat) and non-mulberry silks. The latter include Eri and Muga, which are of indigenous origin.



'GAMOCHA' GETS GI TAG

'Gamocha', a symbol of the culture and identity of Assam, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The 'gamocha', a handwoven rectangular cotton piece of cloth with red borders and different designs and motifs, is traditionally offered to elders and guests as a mark of respect and honour by Assamese people.



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STORY OF ERI: THE PEACEFUL SILK

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GUESS THE NAME OF INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE



THE 8TH CLASSICAL DANCE OF INDIA IS LOOKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT...



Sattriya is a 600 year old dance form that originated from the Vaishnavite monasteries of Assam. In year 2000 Sattriya Nritya was recognized as the eight major Indian classical dance forms. For decades the dance was kept within the gates of monasteries as a sacrifice to Krishna and until recently, women had little access to it. The dance is now performed by all genders.

THE TRADITION OF CHEWING BETEL NUT AND PAAN

If one visits an Assamese home, the first thing to be offered, even before water, is a green leaf and a nut, served in a bell metal utensil. The green leaf is a betel leaf called paan and the nut is the areca nut called Tamul.

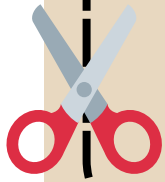


200 YEARS SINCE THE DISCOVERY OF TEA IN ASSAM BY BRUCE

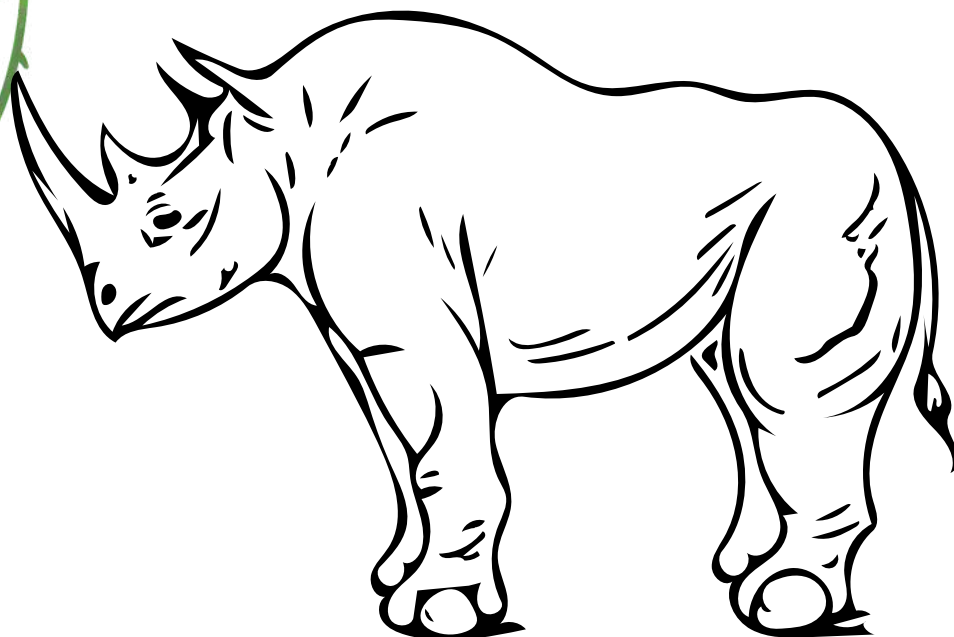
In 1823, Robert Bruce discovered wild tea plants growing wild in the upper Brahmaputra Valley. Subsequently, a tea garden was started by the government in 1833 in the erstwhile Lakhimpur district. Assam contributes over 50% of total tea produced by India.

Wahh Taj!! Taza Note!

COME UP WITH A CREATIVE TAGLINE FOR A TEA BRAND WIN EXCITING GIFTS!!

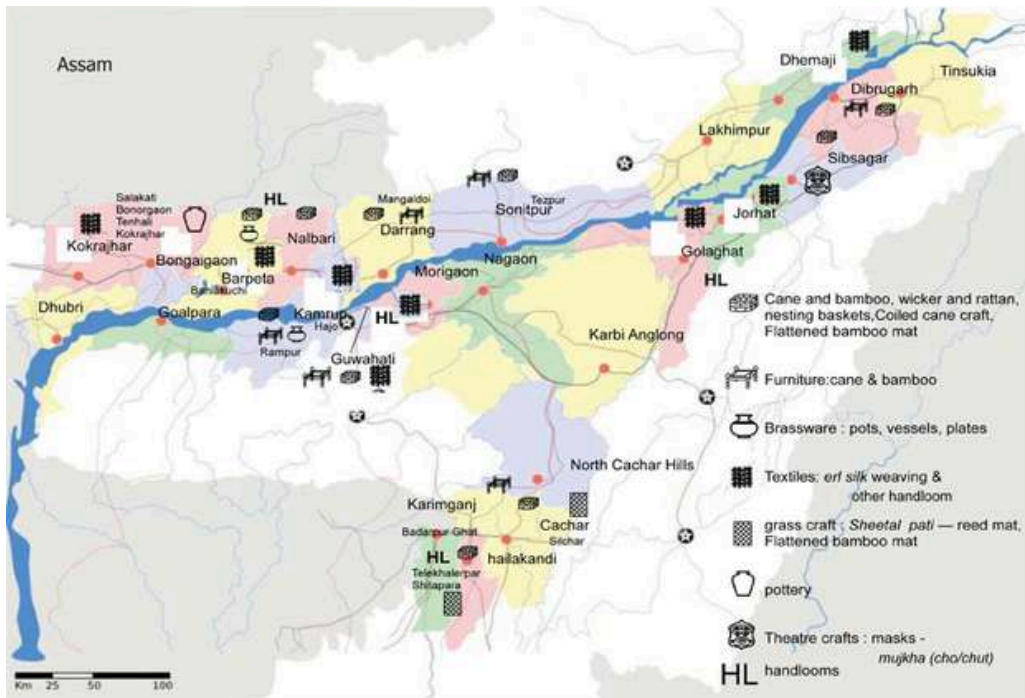


THE GREAT INDIAN ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROS IS FOUND IN KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK



Take out your colours and paint this Rhino!

"ASSAM'S ARTISTRY: WHERE TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION IN EVERY STITCH AND STROKE"



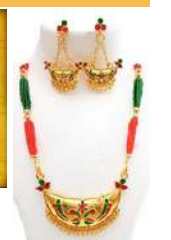
Cane and Bamboo

Cane and bamboo are deeply entrenched in the fabric of Assamese life. Consequently, a plethora of household articles in Assamese homes are crafted from these versatile materials. The Jappi, a traditional sunshade, stands out as the most esteemed bamboo creation in the state.



Metal

In Assam two types of metal crafts are available - bell metal and brass metal. Traditional utensils and ornate articles crafted from these metals adorn every Assamese household. For centuries, the Xorai and bota have been cherished, serving as vessels to present betel-nut and paan to esteemed guests upon their arrival.



Other interesting crafts include masks made of wood, terracotta, or metal, as well as jewelry, wood craft and traditional paintings.



Pottery

From traditional cooking pots to intricately designed earthenware, pottery in Assam showcases the craftsmanship and artistic expression of its creators. This ancient craft not only serves practical purposes but also preserves the rich cultural identity of the Assamese people.

ASSAM TEMPLES REFLECT THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REGION, WITH SOME DATING BACK TO MEDIEVAL TIMES. THEY PRESERVE ANCESTRAL HISTORY THROUGH ROCK SCULPTURES, INSCRIPTIONS, AND MYTHOLOGICAL ROOTS, PARTICULARLY IN SHAKTI WORSHIP.

Can you identify the temples ?



Assam's festival

NEWS UPDATE

Magh Bihu 2024: Exploring Assam's harvest festival through its unique culinary delights

By Chayanika Das

Jan 14, 2024 04:38 PM IST

Magh Bihu, a harvest festival observed in Assam, is characterized by abundant feasting and the lighting of bonfires known as Mejl.



Raas Mahotsav begins in Assam's Majuli, the world's largest inhabited river island

ANI | Posted by Akanksha Agritroti, Majuli

Nov 28, 2023 11:59 AM IST

Majuli, the core of Assamese Neo-Vaishnavism, celebrates the grand Raas festival amidst its Vaishnavite monasteries, known as Satras.



Assam: Third Folk Tea festival in Biswanath

The Folk Tea Festival was started in 2021 in Biswanath with an emphasis on the promotion of rural tourism and folk culture and adventurism. This time from November 24 to 26, the festival will be organised at Pawai near Biswanath Chariali in the middle of tea gardens.



All you need to know about Assam's Chandubi Festival

Lifestyle Published on Jan 03, 2024 06:27 PM IST

For those seeking an authentic taste of Assamese culture in a picturesque setting, the Chandubi Festival is an event not to be missed.



Published on Jan 03, 2024 06:27 PM IST

The Chandubi Festival is a vibrant event that takes place near the picturesque Chandubi Lake in Assam's Kamrup district. The festival commenced on January 1 and will continue until January 5. (Pinterest)

President Droupadi Murmu marks 30 years of Project Elephant at Kaziranga

By Ujjal Pasricha

Apr 07, 2023 02:16 PM IST

The event marked 30 years of Project Elephant and President Droupadi Murmu said all stakeholders must work together in a coordinated manner to ensure more success to the project



Kati Bihu 2023: Date, Rituals and Know how this festival is celebrated in Assam?

TOI Religion / Oct 17, 2023, 12:14 (IST)

Kati Bihu is an Assamese festival celebrated with joy and happiness. It marks the relocation of rice saplings and is known as Kongali Bihu. It is one of the three Bihu festivals celebrated in Assam, all connected to...

ASSAM IS RICH IN SCENIC BEAUTY AND WILDLIFE, WITH DIVERSE LANDSCAPES AND RARE SPECIES. THE STATE'S WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES OFFER A MIX OF PLANTS, BIRDS, AND ANIMALS DUE TO FAVORABLE CLIMATE AND VAST FOREST RESERVES. ASSAM IS KNOWN FOR THE ONE-HORNED RHINO AND GIBBONS.



Kaziranga National Park is the oldest National Park of Assam and home to the One horned Rhinoceros. UNESCO declared it as a World Heritage Site. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006. The Park houses the highest number of tigers among the protected areas in the world. The Park is also a bird's paradise and houses around 546 species of flora. It has been recognized as an important Bird Area by Birdlife International.

Which is the other National Park in Assam that has been recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?



BREAKING NEWS

World Heritage list: Charaideo Maidams meet UNESCO requirements, says Assam CM

ET Bureau - Last Updated: Mar 04, 2023, 01:14:00 AM IST

Synopsis

Sarma tweeted, "With great pride, happy to share a landmark achievement in our endeavour to get World Heritage Site status for Charaideo Maidams. The maidams have met all technical requirements of the UNESCO Secretariat. My gratitude once again to Hon PM Shri @narendramodi ji for the nomination"



Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that Charaideo Moidams (pyramids) has met all technical requirements of the **UNESCO** Secretariat.

Moidam is India's nomination for UNESCO's **world heritage site** status in the cultural category for 2023.



Join us on a river cruise!!!



Bookings are now open for "Tranquil Serenity"

Tour Packages-

Rs. 1500 (per person)

Rs. 2500 (two persons)

Group bookings are also available.

For further details contact:

9987660000/022-224455/224466



RELISH THE FINEST DELICACIES OF ASSAM



Assamese cuisine mirrors the rich tapestry of its culture and traditions, showcasing a unique style and character. Rooted in tradition, Assamese food blends a myriad of exotic spices, herbs, and condiments, offering a diverse array of flavors and influences.

Jolpaan



In Assamese, "Jolpaan" means breakfast, a light snack eaten between meals. It includes rice varieties like bora saul, chira, kumol saul, pithaguri, xaandoh, muri served with cream, curd, or jaggery.

Masor Tenga



Masor Tenga is a sour and tangy fish curry using ingredients like lemon, mangosteen, or tomato for flavor.

Baanhgajor Lagor Kukura

An authentic food of Assam, this dish uses chicken, bamboo shoots and lentils in its preparation, using minimal spices.

Aloo Pitika



Aloo pitika is the Assamese version of mashed potatoes, flavored with raw onions, mustard oil, and green chilies. It is a popular dish in the northeastern state, often enhanced with cilantro, pumpkins, boiled eggs, and dried fish for added taste.



Khar



Khar is a key element in Assamese cuisine, made from burnt banana stem or peel ashes. It is used in various dishes with ingredients like raw banana and lentils. Known for its stomach-cleansing properties, it is integral to Assamese culture, with locals often referred to as 'Khar Khuwa Asomiya'.

ASSAM

“In Assam, every cup of tea is a sip of history, a taste of tradition, an essence of tranquility”.



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? SHARE THE RECIPE BELOW AND DRAW A PICTURE OF THE FOOD.



Assam Declares 'Kaji Nemu' Lemon As 'State Fruit', Boosting Local Agriculture

Assam's Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma, took to social media to announce the designation of 'Kaji Nemu' lemon as the state fruit, heralding a new era for local agriculture.

Food News | Jijeeva Kalivaran (with inputs from FTO) | Updated: February 14, 2024 2:13 pm IST

This unique lemon variety of Assam, Kaji Nemu is known for its aroma, flavour and health benefits has already got the GI Tag

References-

<https://directortourism.assam.gov.in/information-services/assam-history> <http://www.incredible-northeastindia.com/assam/art-handicrafts.html> <https://kaziranganationalparkassam.in/handicrafts-handlooms-of-assam/> <https://nehhd.com/assam>

