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## THE BANJARA (TRIBAL) FOLK THEATRE OF TELANGANA STATE

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### Abstract

Knowing about folk theatre and analyzing diverse folk stage performances in Telangana State, currently identifying a folk artist from the villages, documenting various folk theatre forms, Protecting, promoting and popularity of folk theatre in Telangana State. Folk theatre forms and these folk forms in Telangana State (reaching the audience?). These folk theatre forms are not professional theatre groups, the folk theatre in Telangana state needs a very important recognition, the new generation of traditional banjara (Tribal) culture is largely forgotten, Folk theatre artist in Telangana state have a sense of recognition. There is a significant difference in the Telangana state folk theatre and other shows, there is a famous folk man in the Telangana state, the folk theatre in Telangana should be promoted, there are problems for a new generation about traditional culture, Indian traditional folk theatre has rich culture and heritage issue.

**Keywords:** Folk Theatre, Banjara (Tribal), Indian Traditional Culture, Significant.

### INTRODUCTION

In this nuclear era, the banjara tribes have been following their ancient customs traditional for generations. In our ancient mythology legends, they also mention. There are banjara (tribal) players all over India. In our Telugu country, there are tribal tribes such as koya and Sabara gond.

These tribes migrate from one region to another for the purpose of living. One of them was banjaras. The banjara tribes were separated from their careers, attire, language and customs for some reason due to the earlier Rajput clan. Considering the rituals of the banjara dynasty and the rituals, they are of the royal sons of Rajasthan.

Among the colonial historians who wrote the history of Indian, especially the book “**annuals and antiquities of Rajasthan**” shows the history of Rajput's, the Rajput's have clans such as Chauhan, Solanki Paramara, Prathihara clan and other gahadwas. Singers describe the story of banjara (tribal) tribes from these Rajput clans.

Rajasthan is the birthplace of Rajput heroes such as PrudhviRaj Chauhan and Rana Pratap Singh Rathod. Banjaras (tribal) also say that their ancestral birthplace is chittodgad in Rajasthan and others are Mewada. According to research, historical evidence suggests that the origin of banjara (tribal) can be determined by the Rajput and kshatriya clan. Their origin was influenced by the places of chittodgad Marwada and Mewada in the state of Rajasthan.

Banjara (tribal) traders migrated from Rajasthan to Hyderabad state in 14<sup>th</sup> Century and their main trade was salt business. They supplied salt to Hyderabad dynasty public and emperor. Mohamad Ibrahim Kuli Kutubshah, Sahansha of Golkonda dynasty has been given shelter to Banjara (tribal) traders. Meanwhile banjara (tribal) traders settled in Hyderabad state i.e., surrounding of the Hyderabad.

Banjara (tribal) traders mother tongue is Rajasthani (Marwadi) why because they migrated from marwad, Mundwa (Rajasthan) these traders are belonging to Rajputh cult their fore fathers were Purthivi Raj Chouhan and Amarsingh Rathod and Ranapratap singh. Banjara (tribal) having very good rich culture.

The Banjara (tribal) they are perform folk songs and folk dances in their festivals as follow:

Holi, Tweez, Dusara, Deepawali, Tuljabhavani, Durgabhavani, and Seva Bhayapuja there is a sub caste in banjara tribal community by name ‘Dhadi’.

Dhadi people migrated from Rajasthan they called by name ‘Charn Bhat’ now a days they prefix their surname as Bhattu before their name their name occupation is music, dance and drama. These people also migrated from Rajasthan along with banjara (tribal) trades to entertain the banjara (tribal) community. They perform their skills in the middle of the banjara (tribal) tanda (village) these dhadi people living in India.



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Their culture and festivals as well as banjara (tribal) community even their dress code also like banjara (tribal) community.

## FOLK SONGS OF BANJARA (TRIBAL) COMMUNITY

### We can divide banjara (tribal) folk songs in three parts

**1. Birth songs:** When child born in thanda or banjara (tribal) family the surroundings people of banjaras (tribal) specially banjara women folk gathered and sing many songs for the blessings of particular new born child. The songs are very popular in every Thanda and the family of the banjaras. Every banjara woman perfect to sing the above cited songs. These rituals are very famous in banjara (tribal) community.

**2. Marriage songs:** Marriage song are very popular in banjara (tribal) community. There is a system for banjara (tribal) marriage. It will take atleast 15 days then only marriage rituals will complete. Marriage songs are as follows:

1. Gol khano, 2. Sakyar rapeya, 3. Kothlir rapeya, 4. Thandipan, 5. Bhang songs, 6. Welcome dinner, 7. Hukka, 8. Pan supari, 9. Varayatra, 10. Sadi thanno, 11. Velthdur Sadir, 12. Heten Kadno, 13. Heler Ratya, 14. Ghopa, 15. Telo, 16. Thali, 17. Vandhno, 18. Halder, 19. Piko, 20. Sasur sath, 21. Sota, 22. Thoskya, 23. Fodno, 24. Khata, 25. Gokno, 26. Born, 27. Bandhano- chodno, 28. Vakoldi, 29. Dhkno, 30. Chorinhbarkadno, 31. Havoli, etc.

These are very popular in banjara (tribal) marriage rituals.

**3. Death songs (sarrow):** these songs are also very popular in banjara (tribal) community and another song are Devi Devatha and festival songs are very popular in their community.

Time to time banjara trades (tribal community people) perform Durga matha, Tulja Bhavani, Seva Bhaya dramas in their Thanda's these performances are purely based on folk style, this folk theatre is very popular in India.

I want to brought out the banjara (tribal) folks theatre in the light of theatre arts why because nobody has taken research topic for this folk form hence, I wish to enlighten for the culture and heritage of Indian traditional folk theatre.

In India, banjara caste is old and prestigious, the brave and undefeatable Rajput's belong to this tradition. They spread over to other states from Rajasthan from ancient forms.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To know the folk theatre in Telangana state.
2. To analyse different folk theatre performance in Telangana.
3. Tracing the folk artist from the remote villages.
4. Documenting various folk theatre forms.
5. To preserve, promote and popularize the folk theatre in Telangana districts.

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