Folk songs of Chhattisgarh

Many schedule tribes like Gond, Kamar, Kanver, Korva, Birhi, Baiga, Halba, Pando, Uranv, Binjhwar live in Chhattisgarh. While celebrating various festivals and marriages these tribes indulge in dance and music. Some of the festivals celebrated by the people of Chhattisgarhi like Navakhani, Hareli, Ganga Dushhara, Sarhul Chherka, Dipawali, Karma, Kartika and Dushara.

Some of the folk songs of Chhattisgarh are season specific and are sung during specific seasons like Baramasi (12 months), Sawnahi (in rainy seasons) and Fag (Basant Geet). There are some songs, which are sung only during the festivals like Sua songs (Dipawali), Dohe of Rout Nacha (Dipawali), Cher-Chera songs (to welcome new crops, child songs). Among the huge list of songs are Loriya, songs sung for the children and playing songs of child like Kau-Mau, Loriya, Fugdi, Chau-Mau, Dandi Pouha, Khuduwa (Kakdi). While in the category of entertainment folk songs Dewar songs, Karma songs and Danda occupy a prominent place. Some of the regional folk songs are Janvara songs, Dhankul songs, Goura songs, songs of Nagpanchami, Mata Seva songs, Bhojali songs etc.

Sohar song

Chhattisgarh is a state of rich cultural heritage reflected through its dance, music, art and handicraft. The folk songs of Chhattisgarh portray the social, cultural, and religious beliefs of the simple village people. A wide number of folk songs are popular in the region namely Fag, Karma songs, Danda songs, Sawnahi, Kau-Mau, Sua songs, Chau-Mau Dewar songs, Cher-Chera songs, Sohar song, Khuduwa, Dhankul songs, Bhojali songs, Dandi Pouha, Loriya, Goura songs, Fugdi etc. Sohar songs are sung after the birth of a child, specially the birth of a son. In the Indian society it is very common that the birth of a son is celebrated with a lot of pomp and grandeur. Sohar songs are sung by most of the Hindi speaking regions of India. In the Bhojpuri dialect, the meaning of the word Sohal is feeling good. In different parts of India the song is called by different names like Sogar, Sohilo Somar or Sohla. The songs are usually sung by women and are accompanied by dholak (a drum with two heads) and manji (hand-cymbals). The Sohar songs are of

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happy and celebrating note, congratulating the parents of the newly born child.

Bihav song

Bihav songs are marriage songs and are sung during marriage celebrations. Since marriages in Chhattisgarh like all other Indian states goes on for a number of days, these songs are sung on different days during the rituals. The themes of the songs are also mostly related to marriage. Bihav songs can be mainly divided into Maymouri, Chulmati, Telmati, Parghani, Bhadoni, Nahdouri etc. There are some other songs that are linked with Vidai, Bhanver, and Dowery. Marriages are associated with many traditions and rituals and there are different songs for each. These songs add to the enthusiasm of the marriage ceremony. The cultural, religious and social customs of the society are the major themes of the songs.

Sua songs

Sua Songs are very popular in the Bilaspur and Dantewada districts of the Indian state of Chhattisgarh. These songs accompany the sua dance performances. This is a folk genre and is still kept alive by the rural people of this state.The sua songs are an integral part of the festivals and celebrations in the rural parts of the state. The performances of this style of song and dance are the special attraction of the celebration of Diwali in the district of Dantewada.The sua song is one of the most popular Chhattisgarh folk songs. It preserves the traditional faith and philosophies of the life of some the communities living in this region. The colorful dresses of the sua artists make the performances appear more attractive. The sua songs are generally very rhythmic and are accompanied by various musical instruments typical to the rural areas of Chhattisgarh. This form of song celebrates the community way of life in the interiors of this state.

Goura songs

Representing the religious fervor of Chhattisgarh, Goura Songs are sung in praise of Gods and Goddesses of the region. One of the prominent folk songs of the state, Goura songs

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