BIOGRAPHY OF NATIONAL AWARDEE CUM SOCIAL REFORMIST MS. MADHUSREE HATIAL

Madhushree Hatial is a prominent figure in the preservation and promotion of indigenous tribal art, culture, and literature in India, particularly in the West Bengal and Jharkhand regions.

Early Life and Influences: Born on March 22, 1982, Madhushree Hatial's passion for traditional art forms was deeply influenced by her upbringing in Jhargram. Her father, Sri Suniti Kumar Hatial, a renowned teacher, dedicated himself to tribal arts and music. He instilled in her a love for tribal heritage and encouraged her to dream big, even in the absence of modern technology. Her childhood, spent amidst indigenous and folk populations, ingrained in her the originality and simplicity of tribal nature and traditions.

Career and Contributions: Madhushree Hatial is an Assistant Professor and a national award recipient in Jhumur (folk song). Her commitment to preserving and documenting "Tribal Arts & Culture" for future generations is evident in her extensive work. Her efforts extend to reviving the near-extinct tribal art form of Sohrai, teaching it to women and youth in bordering areas of Jharkhand and Bengal. She also educates primary school children about ancient folklores through storytelling and a "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library) initiative, which was specially recognized by Jagdeep Dhankhar, the former Governor of West Bengal and current Vice President of India.

Maromiya Trust: As the Founder and Director of Maromiya Trust, Madhushree Hatial has been relentlessly working for over a decade for the revival of ancient tribal art. The trust focuses on:

- Economic Empowerment: Engaging tribal women in producing Mahua flower achar and hand sanitizer, and increasing the production of Sal leaf plates and bowls, providing proper training and skills. They also teach women to prepare other items from Mahua flowers like pickles and sanitizers to generate livelihood without relying on intoxicated drinks.
- Cultural Preservation: Protecting and preserving ancient tribal arts and cultures through "Copy Right or Performance Copy Right Protection," designing "Cultural Mapping" for knowledge transmission from masters to disciples, and identifying appropriate GI (Geographical Indication) for local tribal arts.
- Education: Setting up "Gurukul" style schools where children learn under mother nature, blending modern technology with ancestral mastery of tribal arts and culture. During COVID-induced school closures, she taught ancient folklores to primary school children.

Achievements and Recognition:

- Recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 2018 for Jhumur song, making her the first in the country to receive this accolade for the genre. This award brought national recognition to the tribal song "Jhumur."
- Recipient of the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar.
- Her documentaries, "Jhumur" and "Monosa Mangal," have been preserved by the National Museum.
- Twenty of her wedding songs (Biha Geet) have been preserved by the Union Broadcast Ministry for research purposes.
- Awarded the Kashi Vaishwik Gourav Samman by the UP Government.
- She is also a proficient Chhau dancer and has conducted seminars and workshops on the revival of ancient art and culture.

Vision for the Future: Madhushree Hatial dreams of an economically independent, women-driven tribal society. Her vision includes establishing a cultural university in the "Rarh Bangla" region and empowering tribal women to represent "Rarh Bangla" on an international platform. She believes in "preserving and getting documented all the essence of 'Tribal Arts & Culture' for thousands of years ahead." Her motto, "Do what you love and success will follow," guides her as she continues her impactful work.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIVEMENTS

Madhushree Hatial has several significant achievements in the field of preserving and promoting indigenous tribal art and culture:

- Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2018): She received this prestigious national award for Jhumur song, making her the first person in India to be recognized for this tribal folk genre. This award brought national recognition to Jhumur.
- **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar:** She is also a recipient of this award, which is given to young artists.
- Documentation and Preservation of Works:
 - Two of her documentaries, "Jhumur" and "Monosa Mangal," have been preserved by the National Museum.
 - Twenty of her wedding songs ("Biha Geet") have been preserved by the Union Broadcast Ministry for research purposes.
- **Revival of Sohrai Art:** She has been actively involved in reviving the nearly extinct tribal art form of Sohrai, teaching it to women and youth in the border areas of Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (Mobile Library) Initiative: Her initiative to roll out a mobile library to promote traditional, particularly tribal, art and culture, was specially recognized by Jagdeep Dhankhar, the former Governor of West Bengal and current Vice President of India. This project aims to reconnect tribal youth with ancient knowledge through classical Indian texts.
- Kashi Vaishwik Gourav Samman: She was awarded this honor by the Uttar Pradesh Government.
- Chhau Dancer and Cultural Promoter: She is a proficient Chhau dancer and has conducted numerous seminars and workshops on the revival of ancient art and culture in various locations, including Ranchi and Jamshedpur.

• Economic Empowerment through Maromiya Trust: As the Founder and Director of Maromiya Trust, she has enabled tribal women to generate income by producing Mahua flower achar and hand sanitizer, and by increasing the production of Sal leaf plates and bowls, thereby providing livelihood opportunities.

CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

Madhushree Hatial has made significant contributions to society, primarily through her dedication to the preservation and promotion of indigenous tribal art, culture, and literature, and the economic empowerment of tribal communities.

Her key contributions include:

• Cultural Preservation and Revival:

- She actively works to protect and preserve ancient tribal arts and cultures, including documenting them for future generations.
- She is instrumental in reviving the near-extinct tribal art form of Sohrai, teaching it to women and youth in the bordering areas of Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- Her documentaries ("Jhumur" and "Monosa Mangal") and wedding songs ("Biha Geet") have been preserved by national institutions, ensuring the longevity of these cultural expressions.
- She conducts seminars and workshops to promote the revival of ancient art and culture.

• Economic Empowerment of Tribal Women:

- As the Founder and Director of Maromiya Trust, she engages tribal women in producing Mahua flower achar and hand sanitizer. This initiative aims to curb the abuse of Mahua (often used for intoxicating drinks) and create ethical income sources.
- She also facilitates increased production of Sal leaf plates and bowls, providing proper training and skills to tribal women, thereby fostering economic independence.

• Education and Youth Engagement:

- She educates primary school children about ancient folklores through storytelling and her "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library) initiative, which reconnects tribal youth with their rich cultural history.
- She plans to establish "Gurukul" style schools that blend modern technology with ancestral mastery of tribal arts and culture, focusing on holistic education.
- During COVID-induced school closures, she taught ancient folklores to primary school children, ensuring continued cultural learning.
- She also incorporates music therapy into her work with tribal youngsters to address stress and mental health challenges.

National and International Recognition for Tribal Art:

- By receiving the Sangeet Natak Akademi award for Jhumur song, she brought national recognition to this traditional tribal art form.
- She envisions empowering tribal women to represent "Rarh Bangla" (a cultural region) on an international platform, further promoting tribal heritage globally.

Her work embodies a vision of an economically independent, women-driven tribal society that cherishes and upholds its ancestry.

ANALYSIS OF HER CONTRIBUTION

Madhushree Hatial's contributions are multifaceted, demonstrating a deep commitment to cultural preservation, economic empowerment, and educational outreach within tribal communities, particularly in West Bengal and Jharkhand. Her work can be analyzed across several key areas:

- 1. Cultural Preservation and Revival: Madhushree's most significant contribution lies in her relentless efforts to preserve and revive traditional tribal arts and culture.
 - Targeted Revival of Endangered Arts: Her focus on "Sohrai" painting, a nearly extinct tribal art form, exemplifies her proactive approach to cultural conservation. By teaching this art to women and youth, she ensures its intergenerational transmission and prevents its disappearance.
 - **Documentation and Archiving:** The preservation of her documentaries ("Jhumur" and "Monosa Mangal") by the National Museum and her wedding songs ("Biha Geet") by the Union Broadcast Ministry highlights her understanding of the importance of formal archiving to ensure the long-term survival and study of these cultural expressions.
 - National Recognition: Her Sangeet Natak Akademi award for Jhumur song not only acknowledges her personal mastery but also elevates the status of this tribal folk music on a national platform, bringing much-needed attention and respect to a previously underrepresented art form.
- **2. Economic Empowerment and Sustainable Livelihoods:** Through the Maromiya Trust, Madhushree addresses the economic well-being of tribal communities by creating sustainable livelihood opportunities.
 - Value Addition to Local Resources: Her initiatives to produce Mahua flower achar and hand sanitizer, and to increase the production of Sal leaf plates and bowls, demonstrate an innovative approach to utilize local resources for economic benefit. This not only provides income but also promotes selfsufficiency within the community.
 - Combating Social Issues: By developing alternative uses for Mahua flowers (like pickles and sanitizers instead of intoxicated drinks), she indirectly addresses social issues related to alcohol abuse, promoting healthier and more productive practices within tribal households.

- Women-Centric Empowerment: Her strong emphasis on engaging tribal women in these ventures fosters financial independence and strengthens their role within the community, aligning with her vision of an "economically independent women-driven tribal society."
- **3. Educational Outreach and Bridging Generational Gaps:** Madhushree recognizes the critical role of education in cultural continuity and adapts her methods to modern challenges.
 - "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (Mobile Library): This initiative is particularly insightful as it takes knowledge directly to children in remote areas, bridging the gap created by limited access to traditional schooling, especially during times like the COVID-19 pandemic. By focusing on ancient folklores, she instills a sense of pride and connection to their heritage from a young age.
 - Integration of Traditional and Modern Learning: Her vision for "Gurukul" style schools that blend modern technology with ancestral mastery signifies a forward-thinking approach to education, aiming to equip tribal children with contemporary skills while deeply rooting them in their cultural traditions.
 - Holistic Development: The incorporation of music therapy for tribal youngsters for stress reduction showcases a holistic approach to community well-being, acknowledging the mental health benefits of traditional practices.
- **4.** Advocacy and Visionary Leadership: Madhushree Hatial is not just a practitioner but also a vocal advocate for tribal rights and cultural identity.
 - Strategic Initiatives: Her plans for "Copy Right or Performance Copy Right Protection" and "Cultural Mapping" demonstrate a strategic and institutional approach to safeguarding tribal intellectual property and knowledge transfer.
 - **Global Ambition:** Her dream of empowering tribal women to represent "Rarh Bangla" on an international platform reflects a bold vision to elevate tribal culture beyond regional boundaries and integrate it into the global cultural discourse.
 - Inspiration from Personal History: Her father's influence and her upbringing in Jhargram underscore a deep personal connection to her work, giving authenticity and passion to her contributions.

In essence, Madhushree Hatial's contribution extends beyond mere artistic performance; she acts as a cultural anchor, an economic catalyst, and an educational pioneer, ensuring the vibrancy and sustainability of tribal heritage in India for generations to come.

MODERN DAYS VALUES

Madhushree Hatial's work strongly resonates with several modern-day values, demonstrating how traditional practices can be preserved and promoted in a contemporary context:

- Sustainability and Responsible Resource Utilization: Her efforts to find alternative, ethical uses for Mahua flowers (e.g., for sanitizers and pickles instead of intoxicated drinks) and to increase the production of eco-friendly Sal leaf plates and bowls align with modern values of sustainability, responsible consumption, and environmental consciousness. This approach provides economic benefit while discouraging harmful practices.
- Economic Empowerment, particularly for Women: A core aspect of her vision is to create an "economically independent women-driven tribal society." By providing training and opportunities for tribal women to generate income through traditional crafts and innovative products, she champions gender equality, financial independence, and the empowerment of marginalized communities, which are critical modern societal goals.
- Cultural Diversity and Inclusivity: In an increasingly globalized world, Madhushree Hatial's dedication to preserving and promoting unique tribal arts and cultures, such as the nearly extinct Sohrai painting and Jhumur music, reinforces the importance of cultural diversity. Her work ensures that distinct cultural identities are celebrated and not lost, fostering a more inclusive societal landscape.
- Accessible and Relevant Education: Her "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library) initiative, which brings ancient folklores and knowledge to primary school children in remote areas, addresses the modern challenge of educational access. Her vision for "Gurukul" style schools that blend traditional wisdom with modern technology reflects an innovative approach to education that prepares children for the future while grounding them in their heritage.
- Holistic Well-being and Mental Health: Her incorporation of music therapy into her work with tribal youngsters to alleviate stress and mental health difficulties demonstrates an understanding of holistic well-being. This recognizes the importance of mental health as a crucial component of overall societal health, a growing focus in modern discourse.
- Innovation and Adaptation: While deeply rooted in tradition, Madhushree Hatial's methods are adaptive and forward-thinking. Her ability to blend ancestral mastery with modern technology and to find contemporary applications for traditional resources showcases an innovative spirit that allows ancient cultures to thrive in the modern world.
- Community Development and Social Responsibility: Through the Maromiya Trust, she actively works towards the overall upliftment of tribal communities. Her focus on creating livelihood opportunities, addressing social issues, and ensuring cultural continuity exemplifies a strong sense of social responsibility and a commitment to community-led development.

In essence, Madhushree Hatial's work bridges the gap between tradition and modernity, proving that cultural heritage can be a dynamic force for positive social and economic change in contemporary society.

Eminent newspapers and online platforms have recognized Madhushree Hatial's significant contributions to the preservation of tribal art and culture. Her work and achievements have been highlighted in various reports:

- The Avenue Mail: An article titled "Bengal folk music artist revives dying art form in Jharkhand" highlighted Madhushree Hatial's efforts in reviving the near-extinct tribal art form of Sohrai. The report details how, through her trust Maromiya, she has successfully instilled interest in Sohrai paintings among youths in areas bordering West Bengal and Jharkhand. The article also mentions her receipt of the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar in 2018 for Jhumur folk music.
- Corporate Impact (Bizz Buzz News): An exclusive interview published under the title "Empowering tribes via tradition: Madhushree Hatiyal's mission to keep ancestral arts alive" provided a direct narration from Madhushree Hatial herself. She elaborated on her journey, the objectives of Maromiya Trust, and her ambitious plans to protect, preserve, and promote tribal art, culture, and literature. The article also notes the special recognition her "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library) initiative received from Jagdeep Dhankhar, the current Vice President of India.
- Ei Samay (Bengali Newspaper): A report titled "ঝাড়গ্রামের কন্যা মধুশ্রী হাতিয়ালের হাতে 'বিসম" (Jhargram's daughter Madhushree Hatial's hands 'Bisam') in the Bengali newspaper Ei Samay highlighted her recognition, particularly from her home region of Jhargram, for her contributions.
- Other Recognitions: Her Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2018) for Jhumur song, a significant national honor, has been widely acknowledged across various current affairs and general knowledge platforms like Wikipedia, Adda247, and GKToday, indicating broad media coverage and recognition of her artistic excellence.

While direct social media narratives are not explicitly linked, the widespread newspaper and online media coverage of her awards, initiatives, and impact strongly suggest a notable presence and discussion about her work across various public platforms.

Eminent newspapers and online platforms have presented compelling narratives about Madhushree Hatial's work, largely focusing on her dedication to cultural preservation, economic empowerment, and her unique blend of tradition with modern initiatives.

Here's a summary of the narratives by these publications:

• The Avenue Mail

- Focus: The revival of the near-extinct tribal art form of Sohrai in the Jharkhand districts bordering Bengal.
- Narrative: The newspaper highlights Madhushree Hatial as a "Bengal folk music artist" and a "young national award recipient" who is making significant strides in cultural preservation. It emphasizes her role, through her trust Maromiya, in generating interest and teaching Sohrai painting to youth in areas like Chakulia and Baharagora. The narrative underscores her inspiration from her father to preserve tribal art and culture, and her structured approach through her trust. It also prominently mentions her Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for Jhumur folk music.

Corporate Impact (Bizz Buzz News / DigiCorporate70)

- Focus: Madhushree Hatial's mission to empower tribes through tradition and keep ancestral arts alive, emphasizing her vision and the work of Maromiya Trust.
- Narrative: These publications provide an in-depth, often first-person narrative directly from Madhushree Hatial. They portray her as a visionary leader aiming for an "economically independent womendriven tribal society." The narrative details how Maromiya Trust engages tribal women in producing ethical income-generating products from local resources like Mahua flowers (achar, hand sanitizer) and Sal leaf plates. It also covers her educational initiatives like the "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library), which received special recognition from the current Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar, for reconnecting tribal youngsters with ancient knowledge. The narrative also touches on her academic role as an Assistant Professor and her strategic plans for cultural mapping, copyright protection for tribal arts, and establishing Gurukul-style schools.

Ei Samay (Bengali Newspaper)

- o Focus: Local recognition and pride in her achievements.
- Narrative: This Bengali newspaper highlights Madhushree Hatial as "Jhargram's daughter," emphasizing the local pride associated with her national and international recognitions, particularly her Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar. The narrative reinforces her identity as a significant cultural figure originating from the region.

These narratives collectively paint a comprehensive picture of Madhushree Hatial as a dedicated artist, cultural revivalist, social entrepreneur, and educator who is making a tangible difference in preserving India's rich tribal heritage and empowering its communities.

HOW DOES IT IMPACT ON NATIONAL PRPGRESS

Show thinking

Madhushree Hatial's multifaceted contributions have a significant impact on national progress across several key dimensions:

- Enriching National Cultural Heritage and Soft Power: By meticulously preserving and promoting indigenous tribal art, culture, and literature, she plays a crucial role in safeguarding India's rich and diverse cultural heritage. This not only strengthens the nation's cultural identity but also enhances its "soft power" on the global stage, showcasing India's unique artistic traditions. Her success in bringing national recognition to tribal art forms like Jhumur, as evidenced by her Sangeet Natak Akademi award, elevates these traditions beyond regional boundaries.
- Fostering Inclusive Socio-Economic Development: Her work through Maromiya Trust directly contributes to the economic upliftment of marginalized tribal communities. By creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for tribal women (e.g., through Mahua flower products and Sal leaf crafts), she promotes financial independence and self-reliance. This aligns with national goals of inclusive growth, poverty alleviation, and empowering vulnerable sections of society, contributing to a more equitable economic landscape.
- Advancing Human Capital Development: Madhushree's educational initiatives, such as the "Bhramyaman Pathagar" (mobile library) and her vision for "Gurukul" style schools, aim to provide accessible and culturally relevant education to tribal children. By blending traditional knowledge with modern learning, she helps develop a well-rounded younger generation rooted in their heritage but equipped for contemporary challenges. Her focus on holistic well-being, including music therapy for mental health, also contributes to the overall human capital development of these communities.
- Promoting Sustainable Practices and Community Well-being: Her innovative approach to utilizing local resources sustainably, such as transforming Mahua flowers into non-intoxicating products, contributes to national efforts in sustainable development. By providing ethical alternatives and discouraging harmful practices, she indirectly contributes to public health and community well-being, fostering a healthier and more productive populace.
- Strengthening National Unity and Identity: By celebrating and integrating diverse tribal cultures into the mainstream narrative, Madhushree Hatial's work helps foster a stronger sense of national unity and shared identity. It educates wider society about the richness of tribal traditions, promoting mutual respect and understanding across different cultural groups within the nation. Her efforts ensure that these unique cultural threads remain vibrant components of the national fabric.

In essence, Madhushree Hatial's work is not merely about preserving art forms; it's about building a more culturally vibrant, economically inclusive, and socially responsible India, directly contributing to the nation's holistic progress.

Madhushree Hatial's future perspective is driven by a profound commitment to the enduring legacy of tribal arts and the holistic empowerment of tribal communities. Her vision and plans for the future include:

- Long-term Preservation and Documentation: Her ultimate dream is to "preserve and get documented all the essence of 'Tribal Arts & Culture' for thousands of years ahead." This underscores a commitment to creating a lasting legacy that transcends her own lifetime.
- Economically Independent, Women-Driven Tribal Society: A central tenet of her future vision is the establishment of an economically independent and women-driven tribal society. This involves:
 - Continuing and expanding initiatives to generate funds through tribal women's mastery in different tribal arts, likely through more Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in individual tribal villages.
 - Empowering average tribal women to represent the "Rarh Bangla" region on an international platform, showcasing their talent and heritage globally.
- **Protection of Tribal Arts and Knowledge:** She plans to implement formal protective measures for tribal arts and knowledge:
 - Immediately protecting almost lost tribal arts and culture through "Copy Right or Performance Copy Right Protection."
 - Designing "Cultural Mapping" to ensure the systematic transmission of ancient knowledge from masters to disciples within tribal communities.
 - Identifying and securing appropriate GI (Geographical Indication) tags for local tribal arts based on their intrinsic value, which can provide legal protection and economic benefits.
- Innovative Educational Infrastructure: Madhushree envisions creating dedicated educational institutions that blend tradition with modernity:
 - Setting up schools from a very basic level in the form of "Gurukul," where children and students would learn under nature, combining ancestral mastery of tribal arts and culture with modern technology.
- Cultural University Establishment: A significant long-term goal is the establishment of a cultural university in the "Rarh Bangla" region. This indicates a desire to create a formal academic framework for the study, promotion, and development of regional and tribal arts and culture.

Madhushree Hatial's future endeavors are guided by her motto, "Do what you love and success will follow," reflecting her belief that passion combined with focused effort will lead to the fulfillment of her ambitious goals for tribal communities and their invaluable heritage.

SCOPE OF IMPROVEMENT

While Madhushree Hatial's contributions are significant and impactful, like any large-scale endeavor, there are always areas where the "scope of improvement" can be considered to further enhance and expand the reach and effectiveness of

her work. Based on the information provided regarding her efforts and future visions, potential areas for growth and refinement could include:

Scaling and Replicability:

- Geographic Expansion: While her work has made a notable impact in West Bengal and Jharkhand, exploring strategies to scale her initiatives (like the mobile library, Sohrai art revival, and SHG formation) to other tribal regions of India could amplify her impact on a national level. This would involve developing replicable models and training programs.
- Increased Beneficiary Reach: Expanding the number of tribal communities and individuals directly benefiting from Maromiya Trust's programs, particularly those in more remote or underserved areas.

• Enhanced Digital Integration and Global Outreach:

- Advanced Online Platforms: Beyond documentation, leveraging more robust digital platforms for showcasing and selling tribal art directly, ensuring fair trade practices and broader market access for tribal artisans. This could include e-commerce initiatives and virtual exhibitions.
- Global Collaborations: Actively seeking international partnerships and collaborations to provide global exposure for tribal artists and art forms, potentially leading to cultural exchanges, workshops, and market opportunities beyond India.

Formalization and Accreditation of Educational Initiatives:

- Curriculum Development for Gurukul: As she envisions "Gurukul" style schools, developing a formalized, perhaps accredited, curriculum that seamlessly integrates traditional tribal knowledge with modern academic subjects. This could involve partnerships with educational institutions for pedagogical expertise.
- Teacher Training: Establishing comprehensive training programs for educators who would teach in these Gurukuls, ensuring they are proficient in both traditional and contemporary teaching methodologies.

Robust Impact Measurement and Research:

- Quantifiable Metrics: Implementing a more formalized system for measuring the socio-economic impact of her programs (e.g., precise data on income generation, literacy rates, health improvements). This data can strengthen advocacy and attract more funding.
- Academic Research: Collaborating with universities and research institutions to conduct deeper studies on the cultural significance of the arts she preserves, the effectiveness of her intervention models, and the challenges faced by tribal communities.

Diversification of Funding and Partnerships:

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Actively engaging more corporate partners through CSR initiatives to ensure diversified and sustainable funding for her ambitious projects, including the proposed cultural university.
- o **Government Schemes:** Exploring further avenues for collaboration with various government schemes and departments that focus on

tribal welfare, art, culture, and rural development, to leverage existing resources and policies.

- Youth Engagement in Modern Contexts:
 - Career Pathways: While engaging children is crucial, developing clear career pathways for older tribal youth within traditional arts, potentially integrating entrepreneurial skills, digital media, and contemporary art forms to make traditional arts more appealing and economically viable in the long term.

By strategically addressing these areas, Madhushree Hatial can further solidify her impact, expand her reach, and ensure the long-term sustainability and vibrancy of the tribal heritage she so passionately champions.