



LAST MINUTE PRELIMS RECKONER 2025

ART AND CULTURE


INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE



UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage



LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:



- ✓ UNESCO established its lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage with the aim of ensuring the **better protection of important intangible cultural heritages worldwide** and to create awareness of their significance.
- ✓ The list has been published under the **2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage** adopted by the UNESCO.
- ✓ Intangible Cultural Heritage means the **practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills as well as instruments, objects, artefacts** associated therewith that communities, groups and in some cases individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage.
- ✓ The Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity maintained by UNESCO currently includes **15 Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) components from India.**

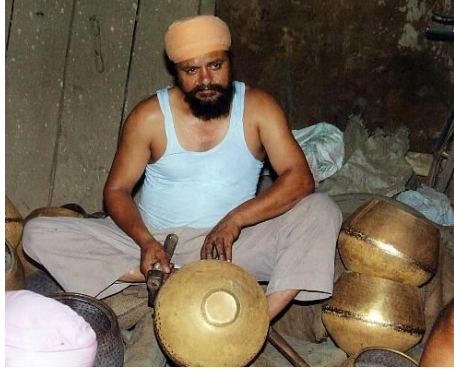

Indian cultural heritage components on UNESCO's list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage



Sl No.	Intangible Cultural Heritage	Year	Description
1	Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Kutiyattam is one of the oldest traditional theatre forms of Kerala and is based on Sanskrit theatre traditions. ✓ Kutiyattam is traditionally performed in theatres called Kuttampalams, which are located in Hindu temples, and the theme is based on Hindu mythology. 
2	Tradition of Vedic chanting	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The oral tradition of the Vedas consists of several pathas, "recitations" or ways of chanting Vedic mantras. ✓ Such traditions of Vedic chant are often considered as the oldest unbroken oral tradition in existence, the fixation of the Vedic texts as preserved dating roughly to the early Iron Age.


3	Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A popular folk theatre in the region of Uttar Pradesh, it is an enactment of Ramayana using songs, dances and dialogues, mainly during the period before Dussehra. ✓ Generally performed by males, the role of Sita is also done by male actors. ✓ The play is staged annually over 10 or more successive nights, during the auspicious period of "Sharad Navaratri". 
4	Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ramman is a religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal region in honour of the guardian god, Bhumiya Devta, a village deity whose temple is host to most of the festivities. ✓ The event takes place each year in late April, in the twin villages of Saloor-Dungra of the Painskhanda Valley in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. 

5	Mudiyettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A traditional ritual theatre, Mudiyettu, is a folk dance and drama performed in the State of Kerala. ✓ It depicts the mythological tale of a battle between Goddess Kali and demon Darika. ✓ The dance is performed in the village temples, called Bhagavati Kavus, after the harvesting season usually between February and May. 
6	Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Performed by the tribe of the same name in the State of Rajasthan, Kalbelia dance movements resembles that of a serpent. ✓ The songs are based on mythology and it involves composing lyrics spontaneously and improvising songs during performance. ✓ Musical instruments which accompany performance include - Poongi, Chang and Cymbals. 
7	Chhau dance	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is a tribal martial art dance performed mainly in the States of Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal. ✓ There are three subgenres of this dance based on the place of their origin and development: Purulia Chhau (West Bengal), Seraikella Chhau (Jharkhand) and Mayurbhanj Chhau (Odisha). ✓ The theme of the Chhau dance is based on Hindu mythology. ✓ Mask is worn by the dancers during performance except for Mayurbhanj Chhau.

				
8	Buddhist chanting of Ladakh	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It refers to the recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region. ✓ They mainly relate two sub-sects of Buddhism Mahayana and Vajrayana. ✓ Chanting is performed indoors or accompanied by duennas of monastary courtyards, etc. 	
9	Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is a ritual singing, drumming and dancing art form of Manipur which in 15th century AD. This art form is performed to mark religious occasions and various stages in the life of Manipuri Vaishnavites. ✓ Practised mainly at temples, the performers here narrate the life and deeds of Lord Krishna through songs and dances. 	
10	Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab, India	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ This is an oral tradition that is passed on to generations of the 'Thathera' community. ✓ The metals are heated and moulded into thin plates with curved shapes. ✓ The utensils have functional as well as ritualistic purpose. Metals used are brass, copper and Kansa (an alloy of zinc, tin and copper). 	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is recommended for medicinal purposes in several Ayurveda texts. ✓ It was patronised and encouraged by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in the 19th century 
11	Nowruz	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It indicates the beginning of the New Year for the Parsis and is also celebrated as the Spring festival by the Kashmiri Community. ✓ It denotes Zoroastrian respect for the environment.
12	Yoga	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yoga is the most instantly recognisable in the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of India. ✓ This ancient physical art is made up of a set of postures, meditation, controlled breathing, chanting and other practises that can aid the development of self-realisation, alleviate pain and attain liberation. 
13	Kumbh Mela	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Kumbh Mela – a mass Hindu pilgrimage to bathe in a sacred river. ✓ It is held at four places: Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik and Ujjain. ✓ At any of the above place, it is held after every 12 years. ✓ In Nashik and Ujjain it is called Simhastha. ✓ In Prayagraj and Haridwar, Kumbh mela held after every 6 years is called Ardha Kumbh.

			
14	Durga Puja in Kolkata	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Durga Puja is an annual festival celebrated in September or October, most notably in Kolkata, in West Bengal of India, but also in other parts of India and amongst the Bengali diaspora. ✓ A few months before the festival, images of Durga and her family are sculpted using un-fired clay from the River Ganges. On the first day of the festival 'Mahalaya', eyes are painted onto the sculptures to bring the goddess to life. The festival concludes with the cigurines being returned to the river. 
15	Garba of Gujarat	2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garba is a ritualistic and devotional dance that is performed on the occasion of the Hindu festival of Navaratri, which is dedicated to the worship of the feminine energy or 'Shakti'. ✓ The dance takes place around a perforated earthenware pot lit with an oil lamp, or an image of the mother goddess Amba. The dancers move around the centre in a counter-clockwise circle, using simple movements while singing and clapping their hands in unison.

			
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