



Culture of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Pashtun culture) is based on Islam and Pashtunwali, which is an ancient way of life, as well as speaking of the Pashto language and wearing Pashtun dress. The culture of the Pashtun people is highlighted since at least the time of Herodotus (484-425 BC) or Alexander the Great, when he explored the Afghanistan and Pakistan region in 330 BC. The Pashtun culture has little outside influence and, over the ages, has retained a great degree of purity.

History

The history and the origins of Pashtun has been a controversial debate however not much of a consensus could be formed. There were theories ranging from Pashtun having an Aryan, Jewish, Arab or mixed

convincing conclusion. obsessed about their however it concern for people also be walid and Pashtuns origin. thought Hitler's that to the linkage to Pashtun of Peshawar.



origin. None was enough to form a Pashtun are extremely and curious to know origin of their race, might not be a major many other races. Some believe that they might related to Khalid bin as a result of which might also have an Arabic While another school of relate them to of Adolf has a link to the Afghans Aryans and ultimately a

Literature

Pashtun are very famous for their poetry, they are very passionate and patriotic which is obvious from their poetry. Some of the famous poets are include Amir Kror Suri, Khushal Khan Khattak, Rahman Baba and many others.



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Music

Pashtun music is commonly found in eastern Afghanistan, parts of Pakistan and among the Pashtun diaspora around the world. It is mainly enjoyed or listened to in the Pashtun regions of Afghanistan as well as in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), and Baluchistan in neighboring Pakistan. The major center of Pashto music in Pakistan is Peshawar.





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Dance

- ✚ Attan: In this dance, the dancers perform to the music. This dance is performed by both the genders involving 2-5 steps, ending with a clap given while facing the center, after which the process is repeated again. This dance is typically performed with the musician dictating the duration and speed.



- ✚ Khattak dance: The Khattak Dance is performed by the Khattak tribe.
- ✚ Mahsud dance: A unique dance routine using rifles performed by the Mahsud tribe of Pashtuns. Originally it was used to dance at the time of war, but later on became a cultural dance. The dancers dance empty handed and require only large drums. Nowadays though it is danced with the guns in the dancers' hand.
- ✚ Waziri dance: Two drummers and a flute player play a particular tune. Two persons leave the circle; go dancing towards the drummers, and come back dancing in the same manner. During performing both the persons turn around two times at a time once towards each other facing face to face and once keeping faces in opposite direction. After doing this separately they march while dancing to the assembled crowd.



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SPORTS

Some Pashtuns participate in buzkashi, which is a sport introduced in the region during the Mughal era.. The word “buz” means “goat” and “kashi” means “dragging” or “pulling”. Not a team sport, it is every man for himself and that becomes apparent as soon as the game starts. Although buzkashi is primarily an individual sport, alliances are built up between various players. Between the alliances, the strongest players finally take control. This is very similar to polo. Football is another sports very enjoyably played by Pashtuns of Khyber pahktoonwar.



FOOD

Pashtun cuisine vary from different districtx. Many Pashtuns are well know for they're large varieties of dried fruit and yogurt based dishes. Yougurt called maste is usually made by the Pashtuns themselves in their own home. Chai (tea) plays a big role in Pashtun gathering and is served with dried fruits and kulcha (biscuit). Deserts such as firni (custard) are also very popular.



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The following is a short and incomplete list of some food items that Pashtuns often eat.

- ✚ Seekh Kebab (beef/mutton/chicken)
- ✚ Shami kebab
- ✚ Chapli Kabab
- ✚ Shinwari Kabab, roasted lamb
- ✚ Bolani also called Piraki in Afghanistan





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- ✚ Ghatay Rujay, literally big rice, is a rice dish, resembling risotto, prepared only in Charsadda where the small grain rice needed to make it is grown.
- ✚ Naan or Doday. Naan or, Doday, as it is called in Pashto, is a flat bread usually made in vertical clay ovens called in Pashto (Tanoor) and Urdu (tandoor)
- ✚ Shomleh/Shlombekh (sometimes called "triwai" in Kabul), a drink made from mixing yogurt with water and shaking it extensively. Then adding dried mint leaves and small amount of salt.

CLOTHING

Pashtun men usually wear a Partüg-Kamees in Pashto [sometimes worn with a pakul or paṭkay]. In the Kandahar region young men usually wear different type of hat similar to a topi and in the Peshawar region they wear white kufis instead. Leaders or tribal chiefs sometimes wear a karakul hat, like Hamid Karzai and others. The Pashtun Lūngai (or Paṭkay) is the most worn headpiece in Afghanistan with different tribes having different styles and colours to indicate what tribe or region they come from.

