



International day of the  
**World's INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES**



**VIRTUAL EXHIBITION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THEIR CULTURE  
ORGANIZED BY GUJARAT UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ON THE OCCASION  
OF WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY**



# International Tribal Day



**Every year, August 9 is celebrated as the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples or World Tribal Day.**

**The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is observed on 9 August each year to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues such as environmental protection. It was first pronounced by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1994, marking the day of the first meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in 1982.**



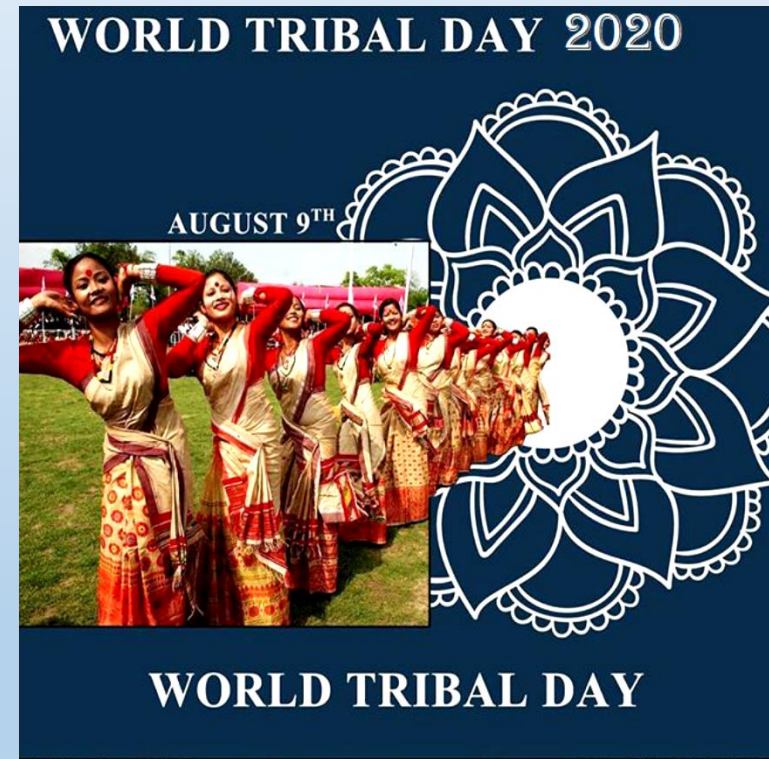


# Who are Indigenous People



Indigenous people are the natives to live in a particular place, that is, the tribal people who are the earliest known inhabitants of that area. They maintain traditions and other cultural aspects which are associated in the region. Except for Antarctica, indigenous people are inhabited along every continent of the world. Since indigenous people are often threatened and violated, the international community has taken some measures to protect their rights and culture.

According to UN data, indigenous peoples compose to be more than 5% of the world's population but account for 15% of the poorest. These people speak the majority of the world's predicted 7,000 languages and exhibit 5,000 different cultures. Due to various factors, these languages and cultures are on the verge of extinction.





# The Origin of “Tribal People”



**Adivasis is the collective name used for the many indigenous peoples of India. The term Adivasi derives from the Hindi word 'adi' which means of earliest times or from the beginning and 'vasi' meaning inhabitant or resident, and it was coined in the 1930s, largely a consequence of a political movement to forge a sense of identity among the various indigenous peoples of India. Officially Adivasis are termed scheduled tribes, but this is a legal and constitutional term, which differs from state to state and area to area, and therefore excludes some groups who might be considered indigenous. Adivasi is the collective term for the indigenous peoples of mainland South Asia. Adivasi make up 8.6% of India's population, or 104 million people, according to the 2011 census, and a large percentage of the Nepalese population. They comprise a substantial indigenous minority of the population of India and Nepal and a minority group of the Sri Lankan society called Vedda. The same term Adivasi is used for the ethnic minorities of Bangladesh and the native Tharu people of Nepal.**





# The Origin of "Tribal People"



Adivasi traditions and practices pervade all aspects of Indian culture and civilization, yet this awareness is often lacking in popular consciousness, and the extent and import of Adivasi contributions to Indian philosophy, language and custom have often gone unrecognized, or been underrated by historians and social scientists. Culture and traditions are often the products of the place of residence. India, with its wide geographical diversity, has given birth to many different cultures. The geographical and climatic conditions of Gondwana (the area of central India where Gond Tribes are found), Bhilanchal and northeastern states are so different that a difference in lifestyle and food is inevitable. This also reflects in their oral literature. It was because of favourable conditions that the development of Gond philosophy and empire was possible and Gondi language and literature could flourish.





# Culture of Tribal People in india



India has traditionally been the home of different cultures and people. Unity in diversity is one of the most prominent features in the people of India. Among the diversified population a significant portion is comprised of the tribal people, the original inhabitants of the land. The tribal culture of India and their traditions and practices pervade almost all of the aspects of Indian culture and civilization. In India one can find almost a new dialect, culture, and different people after moving 50 kms in any direction. Like wise the tribal population is also very much varied and diversified. The tribes each one of them is a distinctive community either migrated from another place or the original inhabitants of the land. These different tribes still inhabits the different parts especially the seven states of the North Eastern part, and almost each and every corner of the land. The distinctiveness of the tribes lies their rituals, cultures, beliefs and above all the harmony in which they survive in unison with nature. Their living perfectly depicts a well balanced give and take procedure that in no way disrupts the ecological balance.

14% of the total population of the country, numbering 84.51 million (2001 Census) and cover about 15% of the country's area. The fact that tribal people need special attention can be observed from their low social, economic and participatory indicators. Whether it is maternal and child mortality, size of agricultural holdings or access to drinking water and electricity, tribal communities lag far behind the general population. 52% of Tribal population is Below Poverty Line and what is staggering is that 54% tribal's have no access to economic assets such as communication and transport.



# Culture of Tribal People in india



**These indicators underline the importance of the need of livelihood generating activities based on locally available resources so that gainful employment opportunities could be created at the doorstep of tribal people. Recognizing this need for initiating such livelihood generating activities in a sustained and focused manner, the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Tribal Affairs) established an organization to take up marketing development activities for Non Timber forest produce (NTFP) on which a tribal spends most of his time and derives a major portion of his/her income. In 1987, the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) was set up with an aim to serve the interest of the tribal community and work for their socio-economic development by conducting its affairs in a professional, democratic and autonomous manner for undertaking marketing of tribal products.**

**One has to love tribal culture in India to understand the uniqueness of their culture. Warm hospitality, simple ways of living and sincere judgment of the opinions are some of the traits that mark the tribal cultures of India. Their custom depicts their belief in simplicity. Most of the tribes in India have their own gods and goddesses that reflects the dependence of Tribal people on nature. Except for the few most of the tribes in India is sociable, hospitable, and fun loving along with strong community bonds. Some of the tribes shares patriarchal cultural ties and some of the tribal societies are women oriented. They have their own festivals and celebrations. The tribal people are clinging to their identity despite of the external influences that threatened the tribal culture especially after their post independence turbulent period.**



# Few interesting facts about the natives Tribal People



- 1. The artwork done by Rebang Dewan, a Chackma boy from Bangladesh, was chosen as the visual identifier of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The symbol features two ears of green leaves facing each other and cradling a globe resembling planet earth. Within the globe is a picture of a handshake in the middle and above the handshake is a landscape background.**
- 2. For World Tribal Day, the symbol is seen together with a pale blue version of the UN logo with the words "We the peoples" written in the middle.**
- 3. According to a UN blog, it is estimated that, every 2 weeks, an indigenous language disappears, placing at risk the respective indigenous cultures and knowledge systems.**
- 4. There are over 100 uncontacted tribes in the world. Some live less than 100km from Machu Picchu, Peru's biggest tourist attraction.**
- 5. While the Sentinelese tribe is thought to have lived on the Andaman Islands for about 55,000 years, the Moken 'sea gypsies' of the Andaman Sea are known for their unique ability to focus under water, in order to dive for food.**





# SOME Measure Facts of “World Indigenous People”



- There are more than 370 million indigenous people spread across 90 countries. Indigenous peoples form 5% of the world's population
- But account for 15% of the world's extreme poor.
- There are more than 5,000 indigenous communities and they speak around 4,000 different languages
- The Indigenous peoples encompass approximately 22% of the world's land surface and are estimated to hold 80% of the planet's biodiversity
- The United Nations stated that the indigenous peoples are facing greater violations of their rights than was the case 10 years ago.
- Indigenous people covers approximately 22% of the world's total surface of the land and they hold nearly 80% of the planet's biodiversity
- Indigenous people believed that the man belongs to the world while civilized people believed that the world belongs to the man.



# Few interesting facts about the native Tribal People



6. Tribal peoples have developed extraordinary survival skills over millennia. An Amazonian hunter may mimic a predator to frighten it or copy the call of a female animal to attract males.
7. Bushmen of Southern Africa might have lived there for 70,000 years or more. Recent studies also suggest that the Bushman tribes are genetically closer to the ancestors of all of us than anyone else.
8. The very last remaining speaker of the 55,000-year-old Bo language of the Andaman Islands died in 2010.
9. The Andaman tribes were not affected by the 2004 tsunami. When they saw the sea recede, they immediately retreated to higher ground.
10. The language of the Bolivian Kallawayá healers, still spoken today, is believed to be the secret language of the Inca Kings.



# Notable Tribal Persons Who Participated in Indian Independence Movement



- **Rani Gaidinliu – Political leader, freedom fighter**
- **Birsa Munda – Independence activist**
- **Laxman Nayak – Independence activist**
- **Komaram Bheem – Freedom fighter**
- **Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu – Independence activists**
- **Baba Tilka Majhi – Freedom fighter**



# Notable Tribal Persons Who Contributed in Art and Literature



- Ram Dayal Munda – Scholar, artist, Padma Sri awardee
- Teejan Bai – Indian Pandavani performer
- Anuj Lugun – Indian polymath
- Rupnath Brahma – Poet
- Jangarh Singh Shyam – Artist, founder of Jangarh Kalam
- Venkat Shyam – Artist
- Bhajju Shyam – Artist
- Temsula Ao – Poet, writer
- Mamang Dai – Journalist, author, former civil servant



# Notable Tribal Persons Who Contributed in Sports



The tribes of India are known for their natural stamina and strength, which is a product of their lifestyle. As a result, many prominent sports figures hail from tribes across India. Mary Kom, a five-time world amateur boxing champion, and Olympic Medal winner hails from the Kom tribe in Manipur, and Baichung Bhutia, the first Indian to play professional football in England, comes from a tribe from Tinkitam in Sikkim.

At one point in time, Dilip Tirkey, who belonged to the Oraon tribe of Odisha, was a force to be reckoned with on the hockey field and was referred to as one of the toughest defenders to beat in the entire world. These are just a few of the many people of tribal origin who have excelled in the field of sports, and have made India proud with their achievements in the domain!





# Tribal People Contribution in coveted handicrafts



**Tribal handicrafts are coveted around the world, for the precision, and effort with which each piece is created.**

**Their age-old traditions have cultivated a generation of artisans who have honed their craft to contribute not only to the domestic market but India's exports as well.**



**The Bhil and Bhilala tribes are known for their ragged dolls. While in the domestic market, a doll may fetch up to Rs 10,000, in foreign craft bazaars, their prices have been known to fetch a prize of Rs 50,000, depending on the size! The tribals of the Kalahandi district in Orissa craft good quality products out of wood, which have been exported to other countries, while the Dhokra Damar tribes of West Bengal and Odisha are the creators of Dhokra technique, which has been used to create metal artefacts. These artefacts are known for their simplicity, folk touch, and form. If one travels to the Mayurbhanj region of Odisha, the tribes there create ropes made out of Sabai grass, which have been noted for their durability. The Adivasis of India have created all kinds of art, including paintings, metalwork, jewellery, bamboo craft, and woodwork!**

**In 2013-2014 exported handicrafts in India earned a total of \$3304.9 million! Each year, handicrafts are exported to at least 100 countries around the world.**



# Contribution of Tribal People in The cultivation and export of Natural products.



Many tribes were originally hunter-gatherer societies. As such, their knowledge of ancient herbs, plants and other natural products is tantamount to that of an expert.

These skills that were once a part of their tradition have now become a means for not only their livelihood but an active contribution to furthering India's economic growth.



Members of Kattunayakan, an ancient tribe in Kerala, have been collecting and selling wild honey for years. Tribals in the Koraput region of Orissa have also adopted beekeeping to earn a livelihood. They cultivate natural honey, and this is widely sought after in both the domestic and global market. According to a report by Agriculture Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) 38, 177.08 metric tonnes of honey, worth 705.87 crores was exported in 2015-2016.

Tribes that live near forest-fringed villages usually tend to cultivate organic food grains, and gather bamboo, ivory, timber, and fruits, which they sometimes make into natural products, for example, soaps!



# Famous Articles on “World Indigenous people”



- **Indigenous Youth in the Brazilian Amazonia - Changing Lived Worlds by Pirjo Virtanen**
- **Indigenous Peoples' food systems: the many dimensions of culture, diversity and environment for nutrition and health by Harriet Kuhnlein, Bill Erasmus and Dina Spigelski**
- **International handbook of research on indigenous entrepreneurship by Léo-Paul Dana and Robert B. Anderson**
- **Indigenous cultures in an interconnected world by Clair Smith and Graeme K. Ward**
- **Land rights of Indigenous Peoples in Africa by Albert Kwokwo Barume**
- **The traditional knowledge advantage: Indigenous Peoples' knowledge in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies - IFAD.**





# How do we Celebrate International Tribal Day



The occasion usually starts off with traditional dances from natives around the world. Then followed by singing, storytelling, and many more. A small conference will be held in order to know more about the indigenous people. Enjoy the traditional food and have a chance to see the old artifacts which are displayed in the celebration for a few hours. The day can also be celebrated as follows:

- Spend some time in admiring the artworks and handicrafts done by the tribal people. People staying at home can celebrate this day by watching the live telecast, learning some words in indigenous languages, and supporting the indigenous people through social media.
- Attend a local Indigenous Peoples Day event across the country
- Share the resources to educate non-Natives and support #IndigenousPeoplesDay
- Take Action by Getting Involved in Movements that support Indigenous Peoples
- Make an PPT on World Tribal People And give Information about world Indiginious People To the world.
- Make a gift today to support Indigenous rights.
- Spread the awareness about Indigenous Peoples worldwide.

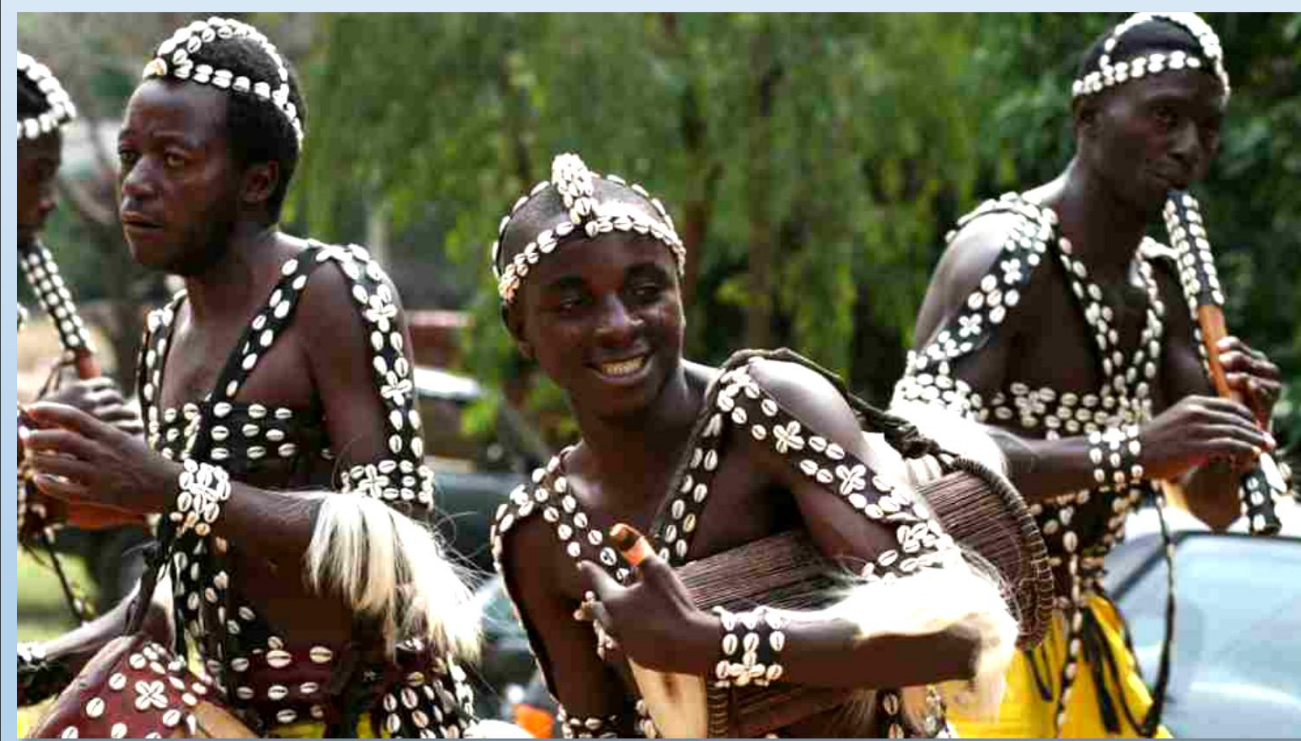


# International Celebrations on World Tribal day





# Some Glimpse of World Tribal Peoples





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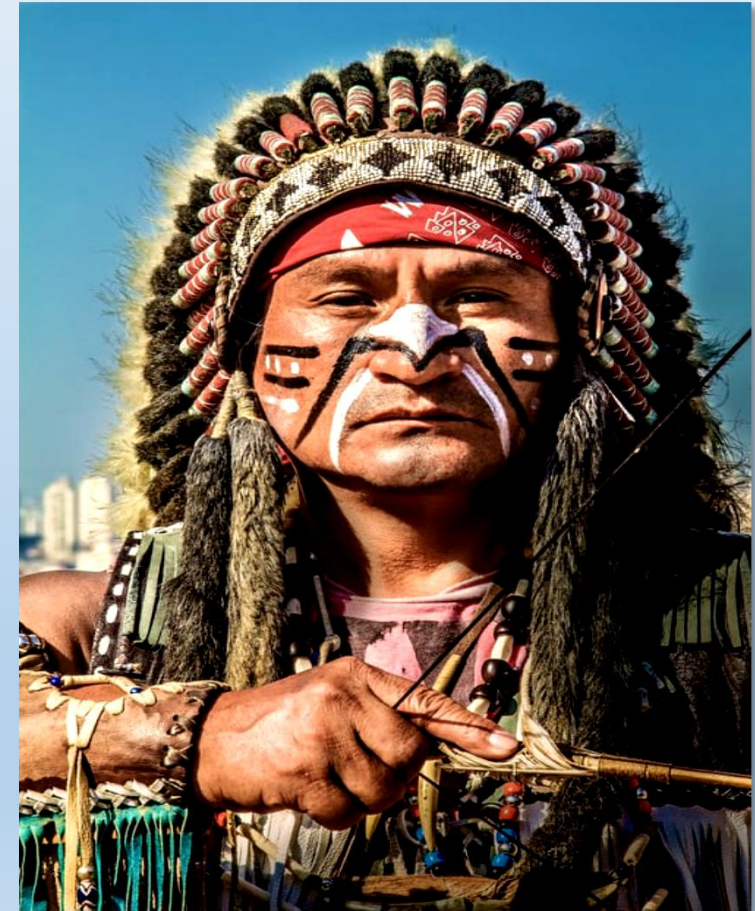


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# Activity Done By Gujarat University Library on Occasion of International Tribal Day



## Mask, Sanitizer, Fruit and food Packets Distributed On International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

