

# PUNJAB GK 2020

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## CULTURE OF PUNJAB

### Punjab : The Fairs & Festivals

Maghi meal

Muktsar

Kila riapur sports	Kila riapur Ludhiana
Roshni fair	Jagraon Ludhiana
Jarag mela	Payal Ludhiana
Chhapar mela	Ludhiana
Baba sodal mela	Jalandhar
Harballabh classical music feat	Jalandhar
Hola mahalla	Anandpur sahib
Rauza sharif	Sirhind
Shahidi Jor mela	Sirhind

## **Patiala Heritage festival**

Started in 2003, the festival takes place in Patiala in the Qila Mubarak Complex, which lasts for ten days. The festival includes the Crafts Mela, Indian classical music (vocal and instrumental) and dance concerts.

## **Kapurthala Heritage Festival**

The Baba Jassa Singh Ahluwalia Heritage Festival is held by the Kapurthala Heritage Trust, in collaboration with the Indian National Trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage and supported by the Government of Punjab. The festival takes place at Jagatjit Palace and centres on classical music, dance and theatre.

## **Amritsar Heritage Festival**

The festival showcases bhangra, giddha, gatka troupes, horses and elephants. The cultural programmes include shabad kirtan, theatre, music and dance.

# FOLK DANCES OF PUNJAB

The style of Punjabi dances ranges from very high energy to slow and reserved and there are specific styles for men and women. Some of the dances are secular while others are presented in religious contexts.

The dances are typically performed at times of celebration, such as Harvest (Baisakhi), Weddings, Melas, like Lohri, Maghi etc., at which everyone is encouraged to dance.

## **Bhangra**

Originally, Punjabi's performed Bhangra to celebrate the success of the harvest. Now people perform Bhangra in wedding parties, receptions, birthdays, competitions and other happy occasions. In the villages, people circle with large drums called dhols. Persons of all types of social classes perform Bhangra together. Even the elders occasionally join the young to celebrate and dance Bhangra.

## **Giddha**

Giddha is Punjabi's most famous folk dance for women. In Giddha, the women enact verses called bolis, folk poetry and dance. The subject matter of these bolis include everything from arguments with the father-in-law to political affairs. The dance rhythm is set by the dhols and the distinctive hand claps of the dancers.

## **Jhumar**



This dance, originally from Pakistan, is very much a part of Punjabi's folk heritage. It is a graceful dance based on a Jhumar rhythm. Dancers circle around the drummer and sing graceful lyrics as they dance.

## **Luddi**



This is a victory dance where people do special movements of their hands. The costume is a simple loose shirt. The dancers put one hand on their backs and the other hand in front of their faces. The body movement is sinuous, snake-like. There is also a drummer in the center of the dance.

## **Dankara**

This is a dance of celebration. Two men each holding colorful staves, in rhythm with the drums dance round each

other and tap their sticks (Daang) together. This dance is often part of marriage celebrations.

### **Julli**

Muslim holymen, called Pirs, perform this dance. Generally they dance in their hermitages (Khangahs). People perform the dance while sitting. Normally the dancer wears black.

### **Sammi**

Traditionally women of the Sandhalbar region, now in Pakistan, perform Sammi. The dancers dress in bright coloured kurtas and full flowing skirts called lehngas. A particular silver hair ornaments is associated with this dance.

### **Dhamal**

Similar to Bhangra, men dance in circle.

### **Jaago**

Literally Jaago means wake up! When there is a marriage in the house, girls dance through the village streets carrying a pot (gaggar) decorated with lightened candles and sing Jaago songs. The themes of the songs are social and usually a bit of teasing, often aimed at elders, goes with the song.

## **Kikli**



Women perform this dance in pairs. They cross their arms, hold each other's hands

## **Gatka**





Gatka is a Sikh martial art in which people use swords, sticks and daggers. People believe that Guru Hargobind Sahib started the art of Gatka after the martyrdom of fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev. Wherever there is a large Khalsa Sikh population, there will be Gatka participants, which can consist of small children and adults. These participants usually perform Gatka on special holidays such as Baisakhi and Gurburb.