



OUR STATES

5



CONTENTS

(states in alphabetical order)

Andhra Pradesh (AP)	3
Karnataka (KA)	4
Kerala (KL)	6
Madhya Pradesh (MP)	8
Maharashtra (MH)	9
North-Eastern Region (NE)	10
Tamil Nadu (TN)	11
Telangana (TS)	13
My Favourites	14
My State	15

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MAXPIXEL.NET: **Page 6** kalaripayattu

SHUTTERSTOCK.COM: **Page 9** lavani (Kiran Joshi); **Page 12** statue of Tiruvalluvar (Vikram SK)

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Page 4 Hampi (Ram Nagesh Thota); **Page 5** gaarudi gombe (Pavanaja), bidriware

(Viswanadh B K); **Page 7** theiyam (Shagil Kannur); **Page 8** Gond art (Jimparsons73);

Page 11 villu-paattu (Thamizhparithi Maari); **Page 13** Golconda Fort (G41m8), Oggu

Katha (Pranayraj1985); (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) **Page 4** yakshagana (Regional Resource Centre Udipi), Channapatna toys (Pratheep P S); **Page 5** bidriware

(Dr Murali Mohan Gurram, Randhiredy); **Page 6** Kerala mural (sasthrasarman ts);

Page 8 Bhimbetka cave drawing (Bernard Gagnon); **Page 10** Manipuri black pottery

(Mythcollector); **Page 11** pallaankuzhi (Theni M Subramani); **Page 12** Pancha Rathas,

Mamallapuram (Neil Satyam), sculpture at shore temple, Mamallapuram (Rajsmiley);

Page 13 Charminar (Gopikrishna Narla); (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>)

Page 6 mohiniyattam (icaportland); (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>) **Page 9**

Warli art (Jean-Pierre Dalbra) **Page 12** Mamallapuram shore temple (McKay Savage)

WITH PERMISSION OF INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED: **Page 3** kalamkari; **Page 7** Thrissur Pooram

(Machingal Unnikrishnan, President, Thrissur Pooram Ekopana Samithy); **Page 8** batto bai

dolls (dsourc.in); **Page 11** karagattam (Thangaraj Kumaravel, flickr.com); **Page 13** Cherial

scroll painting (Nitin B/The News Minute)

Burra-katha is an oral storytelling tradition. Jokes, songs, stories and poems are narrated by one main performer and two co-performers.



Kalamkari is a style of hand-painting or block-printing textiles using natural dyes. The themes are from mythology and nature.



Kuchipudi is a classical dance named after Kuchelapuri village. Dancing on the rim of a metal plate is a unique feature of this dance form. Sometimes dancers also balance a small pot on their head.

Yakshagana is a form of all-night theatre based on stories from the epics. The actors wear elaborate costumes and make-up.



Hampi was the capital of the Vijayanagara empire. Today, the ruins of the grand city – including temples, forts and other structures – are a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

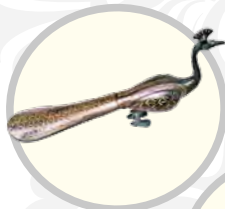
Channapatna toys and dolls belong to a 200-year-old tradition of woodcraft. These environment-friendly items are made from ivory wood using natural colours.





Gaarudi gombe are giant bamboo and papier mache dolls that are used for a folk dance of the same name. The dance is called *tattiraaya* in some parts of the state.

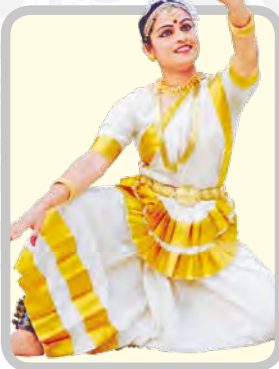
Bidriware is a style of metalcraft that originated in Bidar. It uses stylized designs of flowers, vines and geometric patterns. Many items such as vases, jewellery boxes, bowls and candle-holders are made using this technique.





Kerala mural paintings are a unique kind of frescoes (wall paintings). They depict scenes from Hindu mythology and are mostly drawn on the walls of temples.

Kalaripayattu is a traditional martial art of ancient origin.



Mohiniyattam is a classical dance and is usually performed by a female dancer. It has a unique costume, slow movements, graceful footwork, specific postures and elaborate expressions.



The **Thrissur Pooram** is an annual, multi-temple festival held at the Vadakkunathan temple in Thrissur. The highlights include fireworks, caparisoned elephants and orchestral music.



Theyyam is an ancient form of ritual worship popular in north Kerala. The main feature of this is a dance in which men wear an elaborate costume and perform the role of gods.



Gond art is a style of painting practised by the Gond tribe. Traditionally drawn in bright, natural colours on walls of houses, they depict nature, folklore or mythology.

The world-famous **Batto Bai dolls** are named after the craftswoman who first popularized them. Made of bamboo, clay, cotton, fabric, paper and rags, some of these dolls are 4–5 feet tall!



The pre-historic paintings in the **Bhimbetka caves** are the oldest rock art in India. These 600 rock shelters from 8000 BCE contain images of animals, hunting, fighting and dance from over 10,000 years ago.



Warli art is a style of painting nature and everyday life practised by the Warli tribe. Traditionally, it is drawn using circles, triangles and squares in white on the brown walls of clay huts.



Lavani is a popular form of dance in which women in long saris dance to rhythmic music.

Kolhapuri chappals are handmade leather footwear. They are usually open-toed and have a T-shaped strap. They are very popular among men and women, and have now become fashionable too.



NORTH-EASTERN REGION



Longpi ham is a unique style of pottery from Longpi village in Manipur. Each item is shaped by hand without using the potter's wheel.



Chakhesang shawls are traditional shawls worn by the tribes in Nagaland. These shawls are typically made from red and black wool and have patterns of stripes, bands, squares and diamonds.

Cheraw, an old dance form of Mizoram, is always performed during the spring festival *chapchar kut*.





Villu-paattu (song of the bow) is a form of musical storytelling. The main instrument is a *villu* or bow that is balanced on an upturned pot. Small bells are tied to it. The lead storyteller sings folk songs or narrates mythological stories while striking the string with a pair of sticks.



Pallaankuzhi is a traditional two-player board game played on a board with 14 pits/cups using a large number of cowries, tamarind seeds or pebbles.



Karagattam (water pot dance) is a traditional folk dance in honour of the rain goddess. Dancers move while balancing a pot on their head.



Mammallapuram or Mahabalipuram is an ancient port town near Chennai. This UNESCO World Heritage Site includes various temples, rock structures and stone sculptures from 6–8 CE.



The **Tirukkural** (sacred verses) is one of the oldest pieces of Tamil literature and philosophy, comprising 1330 couplets. It is believed to have been written between 1 and 3 BCE.

a statue of Tiruvalluvar, who wrote the Tirukkural



Cherial scroll paintings depict legends, folk tales or epics on bright-red *khadi* cloth using blue, green, yellow, black and white.

The **Golconda Fort** in Hyderabad was built, rebuilt, occupied and strengthened by different dynasties between 10 and 17 CE.



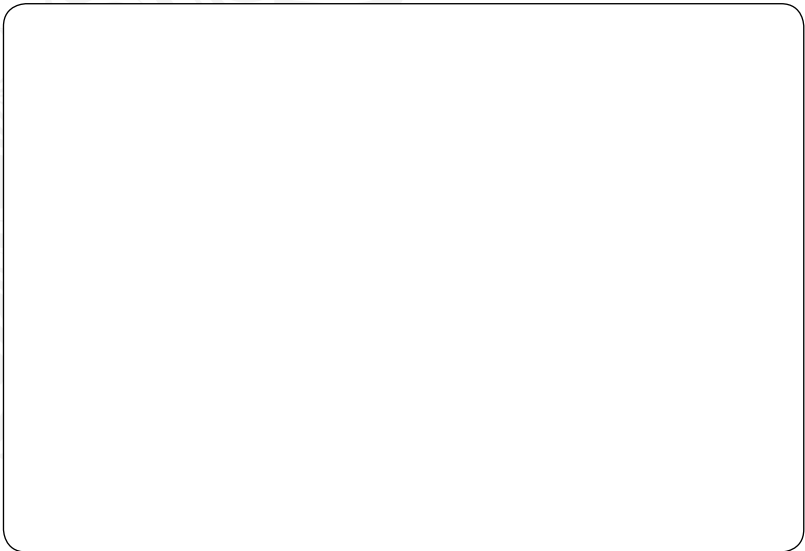
The **Charminar** (four pillars) is an iconic monument in Hyderabad, built in 16 CE.

Oggu katha narrates stories of the gods Mallana, Beerappa and Yellamma as songs.

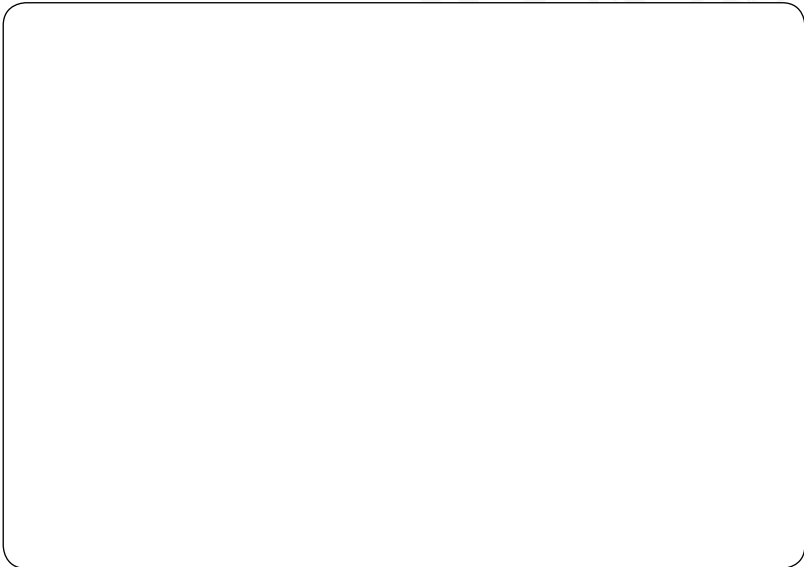
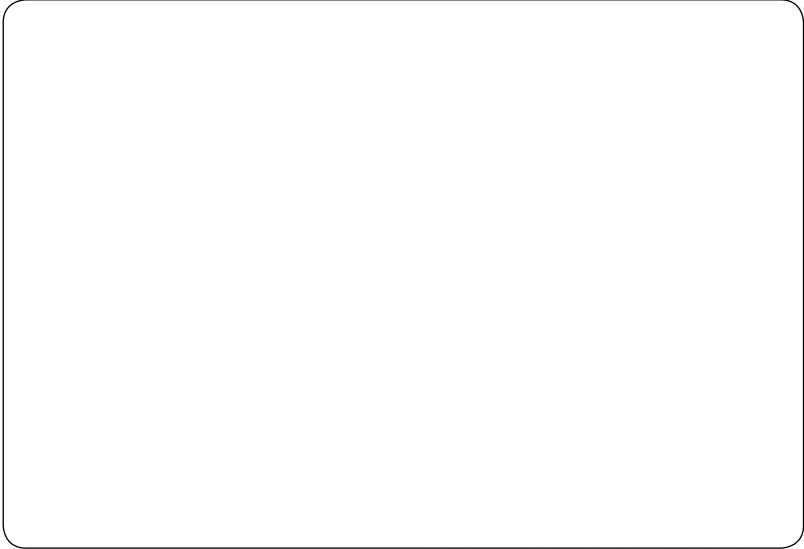


My Favourites

Paste pictures of any two of your favourite examples of art and culture.



Paste pictures of any two examples of art and culture in your state*.



*If you live in a Union Territory, paste suitable pictures.



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