

NEWSLETTER

# Kokrajhar Tourism

Dear Reader,

Kokrajhar invites you to experience the vibrant traditions of Bodo music, fine arts, and dance, which beautifully reflect the region's rich heritage. The rhythmic beats of Bodo instruments, intricate craftsmanship, and graceful dance forms bring alive the unique cultural identity of this land. Whether through mesmerizing Bagurumba performances or soulful Bodo folk music, Kokrajhar promises an unforgettable journey into the artistic essence of Bodoland.

**-Smt. Masanda M. Pertin, IAS, District Commissioner, Kokrajhar & Chairman -  
Destination Management Committee-Kokrajhar**

## BODO MUSIC AND FINE ARTS

Bodo music and fine arts are integral to the rich cultural heritage of the Bodo people, an indigenous community residing in the northeastern Indian states of Assam, Meghalaya, and West Bengal. Their cultural identity, shaped by history, traditions, and geography, is vividly reflected in their distinctive music and art forms. Traditional Bodo music is known for its unique melodies, rhythms, and instrumentation, utilizing instruments such as the "Sifung" (a flute), "Serja" (a stringed instrument), and "Khawmg" (a drum). These instruments accompany folk songs and "Bwisagu" songs, which narrate stories of love, nature, and daily life, playing a central role in festivals, celebrations, and social gatherings.



In addition to music, the Bodos possess a deep tradition in fine arts, including weaving, bamboo and cane crafts, sculpting, and woodcarving. Skilled artisans create intricate patterns on fabrics, often drawing inspiration from nature, mythology, and everyday life.

Their art forms reflect the community's close connection to nature and agricultural lifestyle, with many pieces depicting animals, plants, and natural landscapes. This cultural artistry, which has been passed down through generations, continues to hold great significance in maintaining Bodo traditions and identity.





Modern Bodo music and fine arts have evolved to incorporate contemporary styles, while still retaining their traditional roots. Bodo musicians and artists have gained recognition both nationally and internationally, contributing to the promotion of Bodo culture and identity. Efforts to document and preserve traditional music, songs, dances, and art have been undertaken, with organizations creating archives and databases to ensure that these cultural expressions are safeguarded for future generations. Despite the challenges of modernization and cultural assimilation, the Bodos remain dedicated to preserving their vibrant heritage, ensuring that their music and art continue to thrive.



## BODO TRADITIONAL DANCE

Dance has always been an integral part of Bodo culture, playing a vital role in their social, cultural, and religious practices. Through dance, the Bodo people express their emotions, celebrate their traditions, and showcase their rich cultural heritage.

The Bodo community has a diverse range of traditional dance styles, each with its own unique characteristics, movements and significance. These dance styles are performed during various festivals, celebrations and social gatherings, and are an essential part of Bodo identity and culture.

Some of the major traditional Bodo dance styles include:



### Bagurumba

Bagurumba is a lively traditional Bodo dance style that celebrates the arrival of spring. This dance style involves intricate footwork and rhythmic movements, performed to the accompaniment of traditional musical instruments like the Kham (drum) and Siphung (flute). The dance form involves a butterfly-like pattern, with the dancers moving in a fluid and graceful manner.



@visit\_kokrajhar



@visit\_kokrajhar



visitkokrajhar



sd2assam@gmail.com

### Dahal Thungri

Dahal Thungri is a high-energy traditional Bodo dance style that showcases the bravery and valor of the Bodo warriors. This dance style is characterized by the use of Dabal (a replica of a warrior's sword) and Thungri (a replica of a warrior's shield), which are used as props by the dancers. The dance form involves rapid movements and rhythmic beats, symbolizing the strength and courage of the Bodo people.



### Bardwishikha

Bardwishikha is a traditional Bodo dance style dedicated to the Goddesses of storm and water. This dance style is performed to showcase the Bodo community's respect and reverence for nature. The dancers perform intricate footwork and rhythmic movements, symbolizing the turbulence of the storm.

### Jekhai Kbobai

Jekhai Kbobai is a traditional Bodo dance style that involves the use of bamboo materials resembling fishing nets. This dance style is performed to the accompaniment of traditional musical instruments and showcases the community's rich cultural heritage. The dance form involves a slow and rhythmic pattern, mimicking the action of fishing.



### Mwsaglangnai

Mwsaglangnai is a lively traditional Bodo dance style performed by young girls to the beat of traditional instruments. This dance style showcases the enthusiasm and energy of the dancers, with intricate footwork and rhythmic movements.



@visit\_kokrajhar



@visit\_kokrajhar



visitkokrajhar



sd2assam@gmail.com