

NEWSLETTER

# Kokrajhar Tourism

Dear Reader,

The Bodos are the largest tribal community in Assam. Within the Bodo community there is a diversity of cultural symbolisms and character. One of the prominent depictions of their vibrant cultural identity is through their traditional costumes and ornaments. In this month's newsletter, we feature the 'Bodo Costumes' in addition to the Weaving village

at Daokibari near Kokrajhar. We hope you will find it interesting, and will decide to come to Kokrajhar and experience the uniqueness of Bodo culture.

**-Pradeep Kumar Dwivedi, IAS, District Commissioner, Kokrajhar & Chairman - Destination Management Committee-Kokrajhar**



## Bodo Costumes

Bodo dresses are mainly woven - a significant tradition of the Bodo culture. From ancient times, Bodo women are known to use dresses handwoven by themselves. They are a showcase of high quality of skill, creativity, artisanship and expertise. Some of the main traditional dresses worn by the Bodo tribes are:

**Gamusa** - The Gamusa or Gamosa is considered the very symbol of Assamese culture. It is a white hand-woven piece of cloth of cotton or silk of around 2 feet in width and 5 feet in length, with red woven patterns or motifs on two sides and red stripes on the long border.

**Aronai** - Aronai is a traditional Bodo cloth used to felicitate people with honour. It is worn on the neck as a scarf in winter and also used during cultural occasions.

**Gamsa** - Gamsa is the traditional dress of Bodo males, used to cover the portion from the waist to the knee by tying it at the waist. It is woven in different colours like green, light red and a mixture of other colour combinations like - white & green, white & blue and more colours.

**Dokhona** -Dokhona is the traditional dress wore by Bodo women.

**Fashra** - It is a handwoven traditional Bodo dress usually worn by women. They also wear it as a scarf around the neck in winter.



# Daokibari Weaving Village

Located near Diplai Beel, Daokibari is a quaint village 14 KM from Kokrajhar town. Surrounded by beautiful rural landscapes, ponds and wetlands, the village is more known for its traditional weaving centre run by the local co-operative society. This has enabled women in the region to earn additional incomes from their knowledge in weaving.

People from different communities take part in weaving traditional fabric like Dakhona, Fasra, Aronai and Gamusa. These colourful weaves are woven using *eri* reared from silk worm and have buyers from across the country and outside. The finished products are traditional Bodo tribe attires and costumes that are colourful with dominant hues of green, yellow, red and blue - typical Bodo colours.

Travelers can see the process of weaving and can even try a hand at weaving as well, by conversing with members of the communities who are happy to share stories about the traditions followed - an immersive experience.

The village's sports ground is often active with boys engaging in friendly local football matches, it adds to the overall experience of the region. The proposed Kokrajhar Wetlands Park experience as part of the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Diplai Beel-Dheer Beel trail includes a visit to the Daokibari Village. The village lies almost in the centre between Diplai and Dheer Beels.





# Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Updates

## Swacch Theerth Campaign

Kokrajhar's District Administration successfully part took in the 'Swacch Theerth Campaign' on 19th January 2024. The drive was conducted at Gournagar Mahashakthi club Kali Mandir, Sarbajanin Durga Mandir, and Subashpally Durga Mandir, Don Bosco Durga Mandir, Tengapara Brahma Mandir, Sri Krishna Mandir Bazar, Bathou Thansali Bagansali, Hadanpara Brahma Mandir and Thana Kali Bari Mandir.



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