

Chhau Dance: Through Indian Art, Education & Business

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Abstract

Chhau Dance is a traditional Indian dance form that blends martial arts, tribal culture, and folk traditions, often performed during festivals and religious celebrations. It originates from the eastern states of India: Odisha, Jharkhand, and West Bengal (Purulia). It is a semi classical dance form that includes martial art, acrobatics and story telling. The dance form has variety of styles with Shaivism, shaktism and vaishnavism religious elements. This art has lately attracted global attention because of it's heritage value. In spite of many limitations the art is growing slowly. In 2010 the UNESCO included chhau dance on the Representative list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Keywords

Chhau, Purulia, UNESCO, Heritage, Art.

