

Chapter 26

TYPES OF TRADITIONAL MEDIA

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There are many types in traditional media. Let us list them .

Types in traditional media

- Drama
- Street theatre
- Puppetry
- Dance
- Story telling
- Song
- Music
- Painting
- Motifs and symbols

DRAMA

traditional media. This form is divided into three parts. Let us know about some of these forms of drama performed in different states.

(a) Tamasha (b) Nautanki (c) Khayal

Let elaborate these:

Tamasha: Tamasha performed in Maharashtra, they tell about the heroism of kings, folk tales etc.

(b) **Nautanki:** The Nautanki form found in northern India entertain their Audiences with often vulgar and disrespectful stories. Rooted in the peasant society of pre-modern India, this theater vibrates with lively dancing, pulsating drumbeats & full-throated singing.

(c) **Khayal:** Khayal is mainly performed in Rajasthan. It is a combination of song, dance and drama.

STREET THEATRE

- This is a performance medium drawing its techniques from traditional drama forms in India.
- Street plays are performed in any Nukkad (street corner), market place etc.
- Street play also lead to the establishment of a rapport between the performers and the audience.
- Majority of street plays in India are based on socio-political issues.
- Street plays disseminate the information on various subjects in the society.
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PUPPETRY

There are four basic kinds of puppets:

1. Glove puppets	2. Rod puppets
3. String puppets	4. Shadow puppets

Glove puppets: Glove puppets are mostly found in Orissa, Kerala and Tamil nadu. Puppeteers wear them on the hand and manipulate their heads and arms with their fingers.

String puppets: The string puppet (or marionetter) is a figure with multiple joints and suspended by a string which is controlled.

Examples:

Katputali show Rajasthan

Putla Nach of Assam

Malasutri Bhaulya of Maharashtra

Gombeyatta of Karnataka

Sakhi Kundhei of Orissa

Rod puppets:

Rod puppet is an extension of glove puppets but often much larger. The traditional rod puppet from of West Bengal is known as Putual Nauch.

Here are few other examples:

- Yampuri of Bihar
- Kathi Kundheri of Orissa

Shadow puppets:

Shadows of puppets are used in black and white or in color. The flat figures, usually made of leather, are lightly pressed on a transparent screen with a strong source of light behind.

Shadow puppets are mostly found in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil nadu, Maharashtra and Orissa.

Examples include:

- Togulu gombeyatta from Karnataka
- Tholu Bommalata from Andhra Pradesh

MUSIC AND DANCE

-Music and dance are among the oldest forms of classical arts.

- Both the traditional arts are fundamentally similar .

- Dance puts the rhythm and movement in the play and continuously captures audience attention.

- Traditional music are associated with every event of life.
- Folk music originated within small regions, it has reached out to touch the hearts of masses across India.
- Marathi Bhajans, Mand from Rajasthan, Gazals and Qawwali are some examples of Folk music and traditional ragas.

TRADITIONAL MOTIFS AND SYMBOLS

Traditional symbols are nothing but they are a part of everyday life in rural India. These are beautiful patterns which are made on the threshold of the house and is believed to uplift the spirit, ward off evil energies and give protection.

- Indians believe in symbols which are entirely different from the rest of the world, though traces of similarities can be seen.
- Symbols in India are the outcomes of mythology, religious beliefs, traditions and philosophy.
- It is interesting to know that several figures that we see today seem to be based on man's primary activities.

PAINTINGS

Primitive man was unaware of words, but he was able to draw pictures.

- In different periods of history, we find tradition of painting on various objects, particularly on intimate objects of everyday use, floors and walls.

- Traditional paintings of Madhya Pradesh, specially the wall paintings of Chhattisgarh, Gondwana, Nimar and Malwa are some example of paintings.

STORY TELLING

- "Tell me a fact and I'll learn. Tell me a truth and I'll believe. But tell me a story and it will live in my heart forever" says an Indian proverb.

- A story can connect us with our humanness and links the past, present, and future.
- Story "Telling" is an art. It involves direct contact between the teller and the listener.
- Stories like Ramayan, Mahabharat, and Panchatantra have always traveled from one generation to another by word of mouth.

DO YOU KNOW

In Punjab, Gursharan Singh through street theatre is spreading a message of understanding, patience and tolerance.

Safdar Hashmi, a world renowned street theatre performer used this art form to project political protest.

Some of the theater groups working in India are NSD (National Drama School), Janam, Nishant, Chitra, Shatabi, Amritsar School of Drama, etc.

EXTEND YOUR HORIZON

- <https://nsd.gov.in/delhi/>
- <https://www.ftii.ac.in/>
- <http://www.hindisamay.com/writer>

EVALUATE YOURSELF

1. Discuss how different forms of traditional media serve the purpose of communication?
2. Look at any puppetry show; share your experiences with your friends and families.