

Kathak

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Kathak (North India)

Derived from the word 'Kathika' (Story)

Origins

– Ras Leela of Brajbhoomi

- Combined **music, dance** and **the narrative**

- Temple or village performance

The **Radha-Krishna theme** is immensely popular in **Kathak**

- Classical Dance: North India (Primarily Uttar Pradesh).
- The classical style of Kathak was revived by Lady Leela Sokhey in the twentieth century.
- Only style of **classical dance** associated with **Hindustani** or **North Indian music.**

Performance

Recites verses from the epics, with gestures and music

The focus is more on footwork and movement of the legs.
It puts more importance on expression and grace

Usually solo performances

Elements of a Kathak recital

- Ananda
- Thaat
- Todas and Tukdas
- Jugalbandi
- Padhant
- Tarana
- Kramalaya
 - Gat bhaav

- Introductory item
- Soft and varied movements.
- Small pieces of fast rhythm.
- Competitive play between the dancer and the table player.
- Dancer recites complicated bols and demonstrates them.
- Pure rhythmic movements before the end.
- Concluding piece comprising of intricate
- Dance without any music or chanting.

Famous Proponents

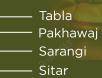
Birju Maharaj

Lacchu Maharai

Sitara Devi

Damayanti Joshi

Instruments









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