



Manipuri



Manipuri (Manipur)

Background

- ▶ **Association:** Rituals and traditional festivals.
- ▶ **Mythological Origin:** Celestial dance of Shiva and Parvati.
- ▶ **Origin of dance:** Natya Shastra, with influences and the culture fusion between various local folk dance forms.
- ▶ Gained prominence with the advent of **Vaishnavism in 15th century.**

Features

- ▶ **Performed by:** Females.
 - ▶ Unique emphasis on **devotion.**
 - ▶ Incorporates both **Tandava and Lasya.**
 - ▶ **Naga Bandha mudra:** Body is connected through **curves** in the **shape of '8'.**
 - ▶ **Ras Leela** is a recurring theme of the Manipuri dance recital.
- Main characters:**
- ▶ **Radha, Krishna and the Gopis.**



Instruments

- ▶ Pung
- ▶ Drum
- ▶ Flute

Famous Proponents

- ▶ Nayana
- ▶ Suverna
- ▶ Ranjana
- ▶ Darshana
- ▶ Guru Bipin Singha

Costume

- ▶ Embroidered stiff skirt.
- ▶ Short fine **white muslin skirt.**
- ▶ **White veil** over a special hair-do, falls gracefully over the face.
- ▶ Krishna: **Yellow dhoti, a dark velvet jacket** and a **crown of peacock feathers.**

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