



Madhubani Painting

Why in News?

[The Prime Minister of India](#) gifted a wooden railway toy set and a jigsaw puzzle based on **Indian folk art** to **US Vice President J D Vance's Kids** in France during his two-day visit to the European country.

Key Points

- **About the Gifts:**
 - **Wooden Railway Toy:**
 - Crafted from **natural wood** and painted with **eco-friendly** vegetable dyes, this toy ensures child safety and environmental awareness.
 - This wooden railway toy was **described as "a timeless classic"** that combines nostalgia with sustainability.
- **Jigsaw Puzzle:**
 - It depicts the rich art heritage of India by incorporating various folk painting styles like [Kalighat art of West Bengal](#), [Santhal paintings of Santhal tribe](#) and [Madhubani paintings of Bihar](#).
- **Wooden Alphabet Set:**
 - It is a durable, safe, and engaging learning tool, which enhances skills and cognitive abilities.

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Madhubani Art



▪ **Origin:**

- Madhubani painting originated **in the Mithila region of Bihar** .
- This painting is **one of the oldest and most famous Indian art forms**, which is also practiced in Nepal.
- Traces of Madhubani art can also be seen in [the Indian epic Ramayana](#).
- It **is also known as Mithila or Madhubani art**.

▪ **Features:**

- These paintings **are popular due to their tribal motifs and use of bright earthy colours**.
- Traditionally **village women** used to draw these paintings on the walls of their homes as a display of their feelings, hopes and thoughts.

▪ **Style:**

- It **includes geometric patterns, floral, animal and bird motifs**.

▪ **Colours:**

- The colours used in the paintings **are made from natural extracts obtained from plants and other natural sources**.
- **For example:** black colour is made by mixing soot with cow dung; blue colour is made from indigo; white colour is made from rice powder; orange colour is made from palash flowers, etc.