

Traditional Marriage Attire: Exploring the Cultural Splendor of Assam's'. The ' Bodo, Dimasa and Tiwa Tribe

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Abstract

Assam is a culturally diverse state in north-eastern India, known for its vibrant traditions and rich heritage. The indigenous tribes of Assam have their unique customs and rituals, including the elaborate costumes worn during marriage ceremonies. These costumes not only reflect the distinct cultural identities of the tribes but also showcase the exquisite craftsmanship and artistic sensibilities of the region. The Bodo tribe, one of the largest ethnic groups in Assam, celebrates marriages with great pomp and grandeur. The Bodo brides adorn themselves with a traditional attire called "Dokhna," which is an intricately woven cloth draped around the body. The Dokhna is usually made of silk and adorned with exquisite designs and patterns. The bride also wears a striking headgear known as "Arayachal," made of bamboo, cane, and feathers, which adds a regal touch to her ensemble. Similarly, the Karbi bride wears a vibrant garment called "Chong-ek", which is a colorful wraparound skirt made of and woven fabric. The skirt is paired with a beautifully embroidered blouse known as "Chen-si" and adorned with silver or brass ornaments. The bride also wears traditional jewelry, including necklaces, earrings, and bangles, enhancing the overall elegance of her attire. The Mishing bride wears a striking ensemble called "Gale Buse," which comprises a handwoven skirt known as "Gale" and a blouse called "Buse." Same with the Dimasa and Tiwa people who are essentially intricate in showcasing their unique tribal attire. This paper aims to explore the traditional wedding attire of these five tribes of Assam, India.

Keywords: fabrics, motifs, traditional cosmetic practices, traditional patterns, weaving