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19 December 2023

West Bengal News

Kolkata Christmas Festival



Context

The Chief Minister will inaugurate the 13th edition of the Kolkata Christmas Festival soon

Key points

- The **Kolkata Christmas Festival (KCF)** was **started in 2011** by the Tourism Department of the Government of West Bengal, in association with the Christian community.
- It is held every December in Park Street, Kolkata, and is **one of the largest dedicated Christmas carnivals in India.**
- The themed lighting starts from St Xavier's College and ends at Jawaharlal Nehru Road.
- A **two-hour Christmas Parade** is also organized on one of the days in which about 500 school children participate.

Gaudiya Nritya or Gauriya Nritya



- It is a **Bengali classical dance tradition.**
- It originates from **Gauda, also known as Gaur, in Bengal.**
- It has been reconstructed by **Mahua Mukherjee**
- It is not recognized as an Indian classical dance by the **Sangeet Natak Akademi**, but the study is eligible for scholarships from the **Ministry of Culture of India.**
- Scholarly reception of the reconstruction ranges from caution to skepticism.

Wooden art



- It is a very **old tradition of West Bengal.**
- Wooden protima or idol is seen in the Indian Museum.
- The art-making of wooden dolls has been an age-old practice in West Bengal and **Natungram** is one of them. Natungram, a village in West Bengal makes wooden dolls like Gouranga, Krishna, Bor-Bou, Gour-Nitai, owls, etc.
- **Gomira masks of North and South Dinajpur in West Bengal** are also made of wood.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Bishnupur Gharana

- Bishnupur Gharana is the sole **Classical (Drupad) gharana of Bengal**.
- It originated in **Bishnupur, Bankura** with the court musicians of the Malla Kings.
- The Bauls are a mystic group of singers and musicals, immensely popular in the countryside.
- **They perform using a khamak, ektara and dotara.**
- **Rabindra Sangeet, also known as Tagore songs**, are songs written and composed by Rabindranath Tagore.
- They have distinctive characteristics in the music of Bengal, popular in India and Bangladesh

Mirik Lake



- Mirik Lake is also called **Sumendu Lake**
- It is a lake in Mirik, **Darjeeling district, West Bengal, India.**
- It is 1.25 kilometres long
- There is an 80-foot long arch footbridge across the lake called the **Indreni Pull**

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