



PUNJAB



PUNJAB

**History, Geography
& Agriculture**

Dance & Music

**Communities
& Weapons**

**Architecture
& Heritage**

Arts, Craft & Textile

**Religion
& Cuisine**

**Literature
& Language**

Festivals & Rituals

**Jewellery
& Attire**

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY & AGRICULTURE



INDO-ARYAN (2000-1600 BCE)

- Language influence.



INDO-GREEK (326-321 BCE)

- Alexander's invasion.
- Menander (Indo-Greek King): silver coins.



MUGHAL EMPIRE (1526-1857 CE)

- Major Rulers: Babur, Akbar, Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb.



SIKH EMPIRE (1707-1849 CE)

- Maharaja Ranjit Singh (Sher-e-punjab) started a process to unify Punjab.



BRITISH RAJ (1849-1947)

- East india company took over the province.
- Agricultural revolution .
- Rapid industrial growth.
- Resettlement of over one million punjabis.



PARTITION OF INDIA (1947)

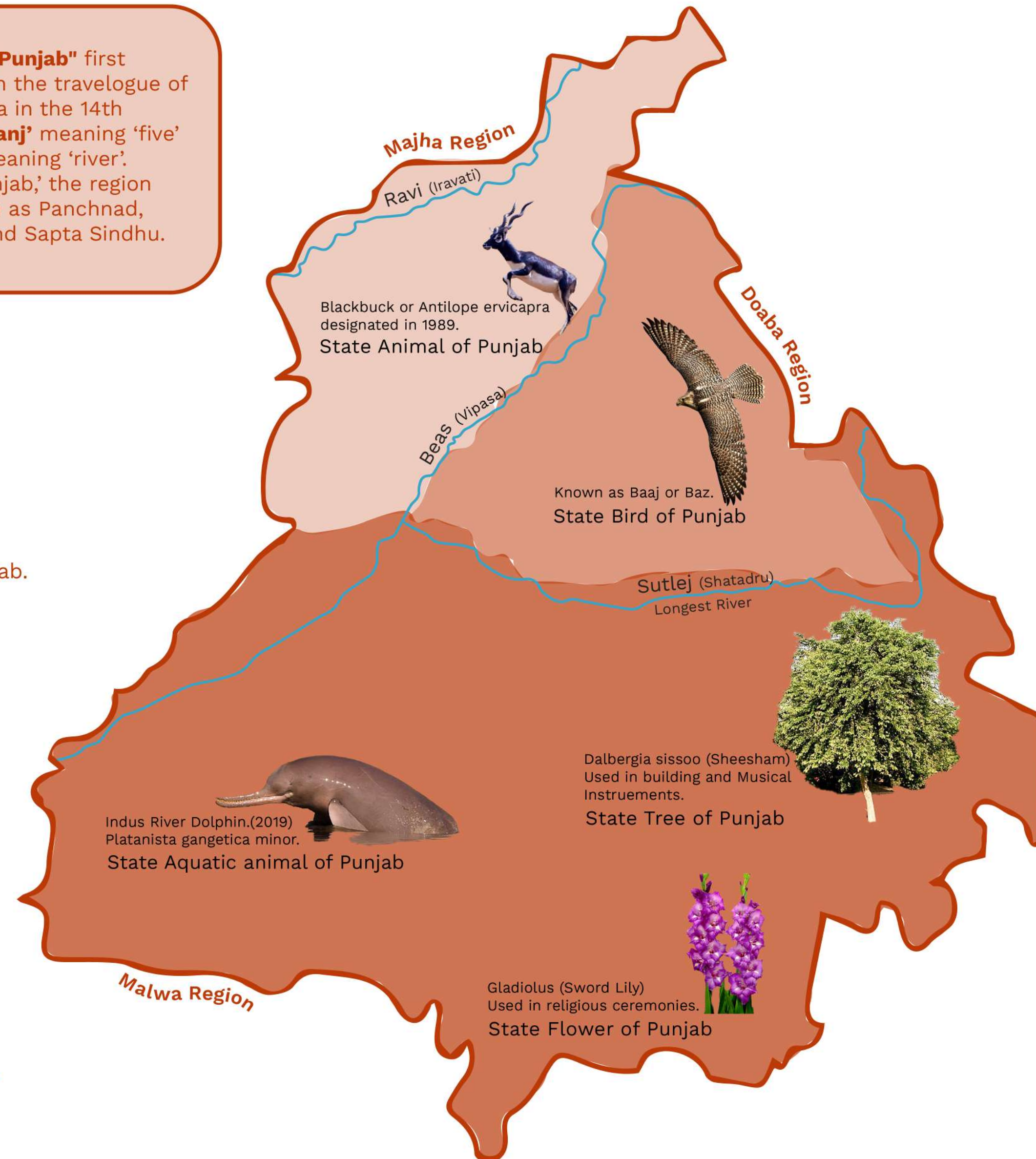
- Permanent division of Punjab into East Punjab (India) and West Punjab (Pakistan).



REORGANIZATION OF INDIAN PUNJAB

- Punjab is reorganized, creating Haryana and Himachal Pradesh (1966).
- Creation of a separate Sikh homeland known as **Khalistan** (1970).
- Khalistan movement led to the **Operation Blue Star** of June (1984).

The word "**Punjab**" first appeared in the travelogue of Ibne-Batuta in the 14th century. '**Panj**' meaning 'five' and '**ab**' meaning 'river'. Before 'Punjab,' the region was known as Panchnad, Panjnad, and Sapta Sindhu.



BREAD BASKET OF INDIA

- In Rabi Season 80% area is cultivated with Wheat.
- In Kharif Season 60% area is cultivated with Rice.
- Major crops in Punjab: wheat and paddy.
- Alluvial soil deposited by these rivers is ideal for wheat cultivation.
- Punjab leads in wheat production in India due to its suitable climate.
- Light winter showers from western disturbances support wheat cultivation.



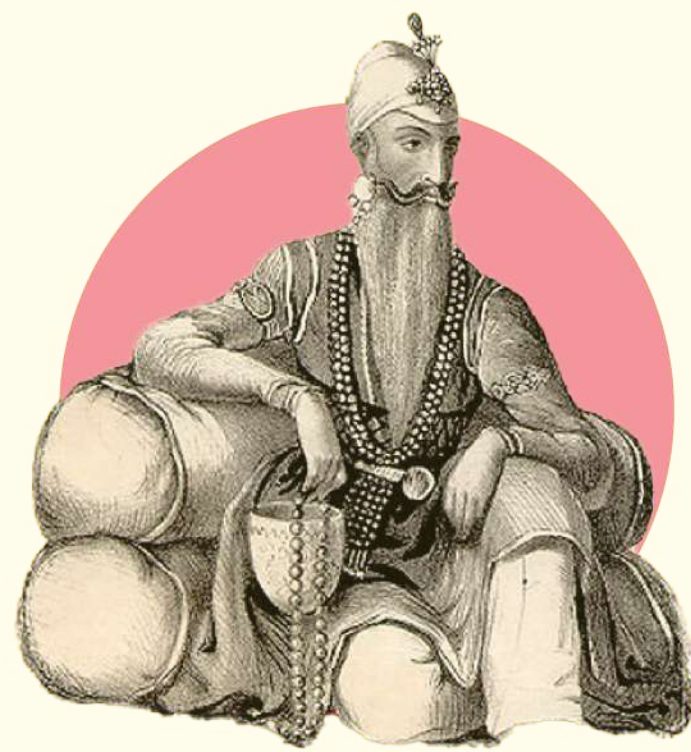
STATE EMBLEM OF PUNJAB

- Lion Capital of Ashoka with Wheat stem (above) and Crossed Swords (below).
- The Lion Capital, which formerly adorned the summit of the Ashok Stambh of Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath.

ARCHITECTURE

SACRED HEART OF SIKHISM

The Golden Temple is a symbol of Sikh beliefs.



MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH

The Gurudwara has been rebuilt by Sikhs multiple times throughout history. It was during the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh that the sanctum was overlaid with golden leaf, giving it the name we know today: the Golden Temple.

FEATURES OF SIKH ARCHITECTURE

1. Inlay work
2. Fresco art
3. Onion dome
4. Multifoil arch



Mohrakashi, a technique of painting onto wet walls



Marble carvings are done in Kota stone. The marble used is of different hues



Gold work: holy text, and sadhus are embossed on copper panel and gold

"THE CITY BEAUTIFUL"

Chandigarh is nicknamed "The City Beautiful". It is known for its geometric and brutalist architecture, a modern marvel planned and built by the famous architect Le Corbusier.



Jaratkari, placing inlaid and cut stones into marble



Tukri, inlaying mirror pieces into Gatch work



MOORISH MOSQUE

British Raj

The Moorish mosque, Punjab, built by Maharaja Jagatjit Singh, stands out from Mughal influences. The horseshoe arches and square minaret evoke Moorish influences.

HIGH COURT

Post-Independence

The High Court in Punjab, designed by Le Corbusier, exemplifies modernist architecture with its double roof bold façade panels, and spacious interiors.



LITERATURE AND LANGUAGES

Punjabi is one of the only 10 languages in the world which is a Digraphia a multi script language.

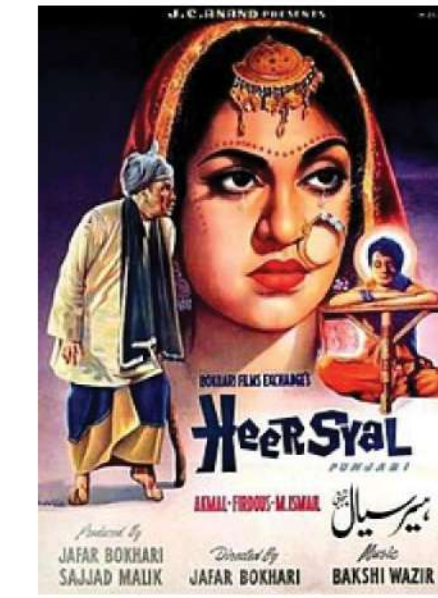
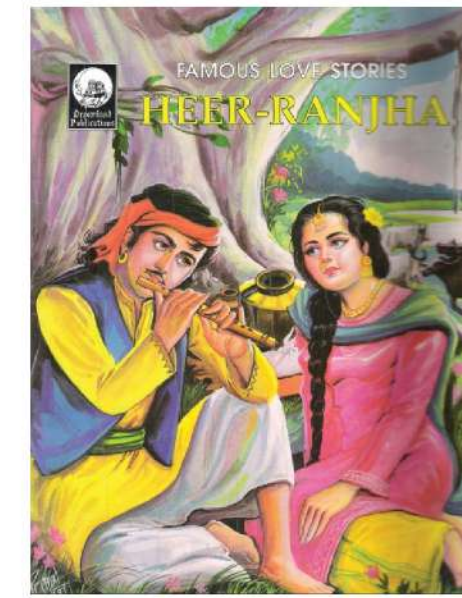


Major Scripts

Gurmukhi
Shahmukhi
Devnagari

A shabad by Kabeer Ji writing in both scripts inscribed in a Pakistani Gurdwara building.

Punjabi Qisse
Folklore



Stories of Love, Spirituality, Resilience, Courage & Longing come from these folk tales. Bulleh Shah wrote most of them.

Mughal Era (1526–1857)

Love &
Philosophy

Sikh Period (1799-1849)

Valor &
Spirituality

British Raj Era (1858-1947)

Mutiny &
Patriotism

Post Independence (1947-now)

Modernism &
Social values

Philosophers & Poets

Shah Hussain was a 16th century Punjabi Sufi poet who is often regarded as a pioneer of the Kafi poetry.



Shah Hussain



Sultan Bahu



Bulleh Shah



Faridudin GajShakar one of the major poets of Punjabi literature.

Patriotism,
Love &
Philosophy

Development of the language for literary purposes.



Guru Granth Sahib

First Sikh Guru,
Guru Nanak (1469–1539)

The vision in the Guru Granth Sahib is of a society based on divine freedom, mercy, love, belief in one god and justice without oppression of any kind.



Ik Onkar is also the opening phrase of the Mul Mantar.

Dance & Music

Punjabi dance and music vividly reflect the region's life and culture. The energetic dances celebrate the harvest and warrior spirit, while social dances address themes like marriage, love, and money, highlighting social and cultural issues. These dances symbolize community bonding and togetherness.

Gatka

- Sikhs of Punjab. It originated as a style of stick-fighting, with wooden sticks intended to simulate swords.
- The theory and techniques of Gatka were taught by the Sikh gurus and employed in the Sikh wars.



Sammi



Kilki

- Popular among young girls



Bhangra



Malwai

- Giddha dance with influences from martial arts.
- Elements of teasing poetry and humor.

Jaggo(waking up)

- Marriage is in the home, girls dance through the streets of the village, holding a pot (gaggar) decorated with lightened candles.
- Earthen pots with lamps represent prosperity, fertility and the welcoming of the bride into the family.

Jhummar (swaying)

- Slower and more rhythmic form of bhangra.
- Common sight to see three generations - father, son and grandson - dancing all together.



Dhamal

Giddha

- Women oriented dance form depicting femininity through graceful movements and traditional attire.



Rabab



Baghuchu

Dhadi genre

- Emphasizes stories of heroism and love stories
- Three main poetic forms namely baint, sadd, and kali discourse, poetry, singing and music

Punjab Gharana

- Style and technique of tabla playing
- Repertoire of the Punjab Gharana is heavily influenced by the Pakhawaj

- Shabads which are hymns written by their SatGuru in raag 'Jaijivanti' that was created by the 9th SatGuru Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib

- Shabad : is derived from the Sanskrit word Shabda which means sound or word
- Gurmukhi script is used for the Shabad

Dhrupad

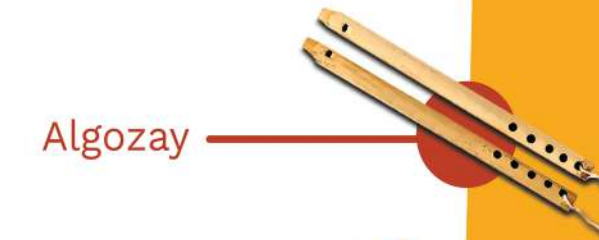
- Immovable and permanent
- 3 pillars
- Aalap , jor ,jhala
- The composition of Dhrupad is purely spiritual and divine.

Sham Chaurasi Gharana

- Singing of vocal duets
- Cradle of drupad

Patiala Gharana

- Shringar rass



Algozay



Sapp



Tambi



Kato



Chimmta



Tanti Saaj

ARTS, CRAFTS & TEXTILE

From the State of Punjab



Sikh Miniature Paintings

Characterized by their small size and intricate details.
-Several religious manuscripts were painted in this style.



Mohrakashi (Mural)

-Sikh wall paintings
-Found in- Gurudwara, Temples, Cenotaphs, Havelis,
-Geometry was considered important.
-Thick brush strokes were used.



Illustrated Manuscripts

-Influenced by the early 17th century Islamic art traditions resulted in intricate geometric designs.
-By the later 17th century, the geometric designs were replaced with floral motifs.



Jaratkari

-Designs by inlaying different kinds and colours of stones in marble.
-The main components of inlaid stone include:
flowers, leaves, human figures, fruits and animals.



Gatch and Tukri

-Gatch is a kind of stone (lime stone or gypsum) which is heated in fire, powdered and sieved.
-Art form consisting of inlaying mirror pieces into Gatch work is known as 'Tukri'.

ARTS



Khunda

-Is iron tipped bamboo stick
-Used as weapon of self defence and as a walking stick.



Galeecha

Fine hand-knotted woollen carpets. The Bokhara and mouri-geometrical patterns in black and cream woven on a deep red, ivory or green ground-are the main. Gul, octagon is commonly found in these galeechas.



Panja Dhurrie

Punjabi concept of dowry that includes items of bedding. The motifs used derive from the folk vocabulary of birds, beasts, plants and the embroidered phulkari textiles.



Wood Inlay of Hoshiarpur

Dark sheesham furniture with detailed dense foliage patterns that are both engraved and inlaid with acrylic, camel bone and shell.



Tilla Jutti

The ethnic footwear of Punjab, the jutti, are hand-stitched, with tilla (silver and golden wire), embroidered uppers and insoles.

CRAFTS



PHULKARI

Base cloth: Handwoven Khaddar or Khadi.
Thread colors: Yellow, Orange, Pink, Black, Brown, Green, Blue.
Design elements: Animals, Geometric forms.
Floral imagery: Marigolds, Jasmines, Lotuses, Tree of Life motifs.
Modern motifs: Trains, Trucks, Cars



SUBER PHULKARI

Five eight-petalled lotus motifs. Embroidery: yellow thread on red base cloth, symbolizing fertility



GHUNGHAT BAGH

Pattern: usually geometric, varies from piece to piece.



BAGH EMBROIDERY

Water motifs, Moon motifs, Parrot motifs, Rolling pin motifs, Vegetable motifs, Flower motifs



CHOPE PHULKARI

Geometric forms (triangles, lattice), occasional peacock or cow motif.



DARSHAN DWAR PHULKARI

Resembles a pathway, populated with human and animal figures. Borders filled with geometric shapes.



THIRMA PHULKARI

Embroidered with floral or geometric motifs.



SAINCHI PHULKARI

Motifs: cattle, birds, crops, household items
Human figures: adorned with gold thread jewelry, silver avoided, lotus motif

TEXTILE

Festivals & Rituals



Baisakhi

- The Harvest Festival
- Punjab's New Year
- Celebrates the birth of Sikhism



Lohri

- A folk festival
- Celebrates the winter harvest
- Symbolizes fertility and honors the god of fire



Gurupurab

- Vibrant sikh festival
- Birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev



Hola Mohalla

- Sikh Festival of Armoury, bravery, brotherhood
- Amilitary Procession
- Celebrates the martial origins of Sikhs



Wedding



Choorra



Ghara Gharoli



Sehera Bandi

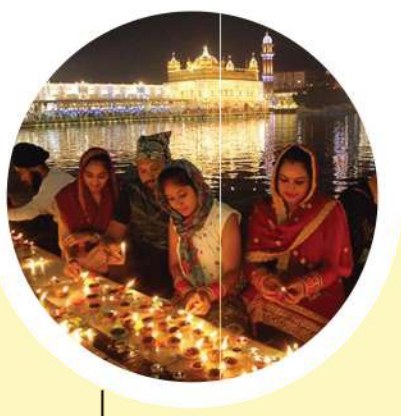
Karvachauth

- Hindu festival of marital bond
- Women fast from sunrise to moonrise
- Pray for husband's long life.



Teeyan Or Teej

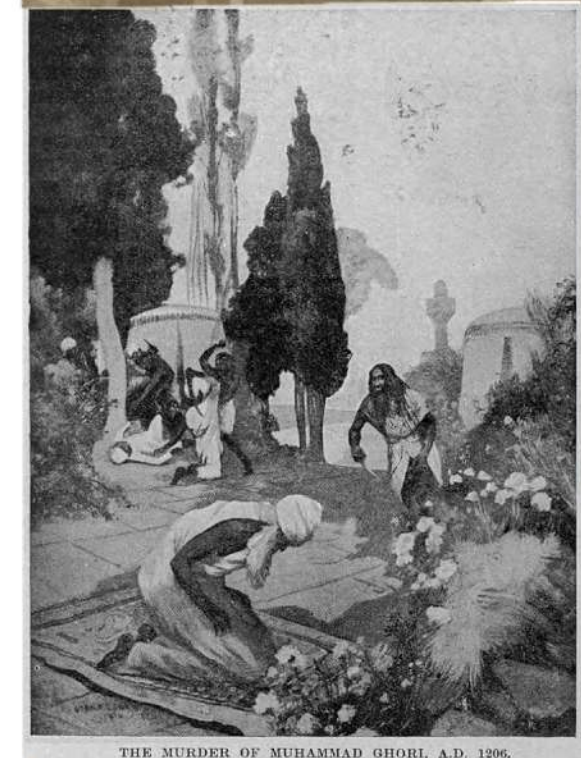
- Hindu Festival
- Celebrates Womanhood
- Marks the onset of monsoon



Bandi Chhor Diwas

- Sikh Festival
- Commemorates the release of Guru Hargobind Ji, from the Gwalior Fort

Communities & Weapons



Khokhar Tribe

- Influential in 13th-14th centuries.
- Key role in military and political history
- Spoke Punjabi, Haryanvi, Hindi.

The Khatri

- Engaged in trade and commerce.
- Claim descent from the Kshatriyas



Kamboja Tribe

- Warrior clan - expertise in horse breeding and cavalry warfare
- Most follow both Hinduism & Islam
- Shaved heads/short hair

The Gakhars *

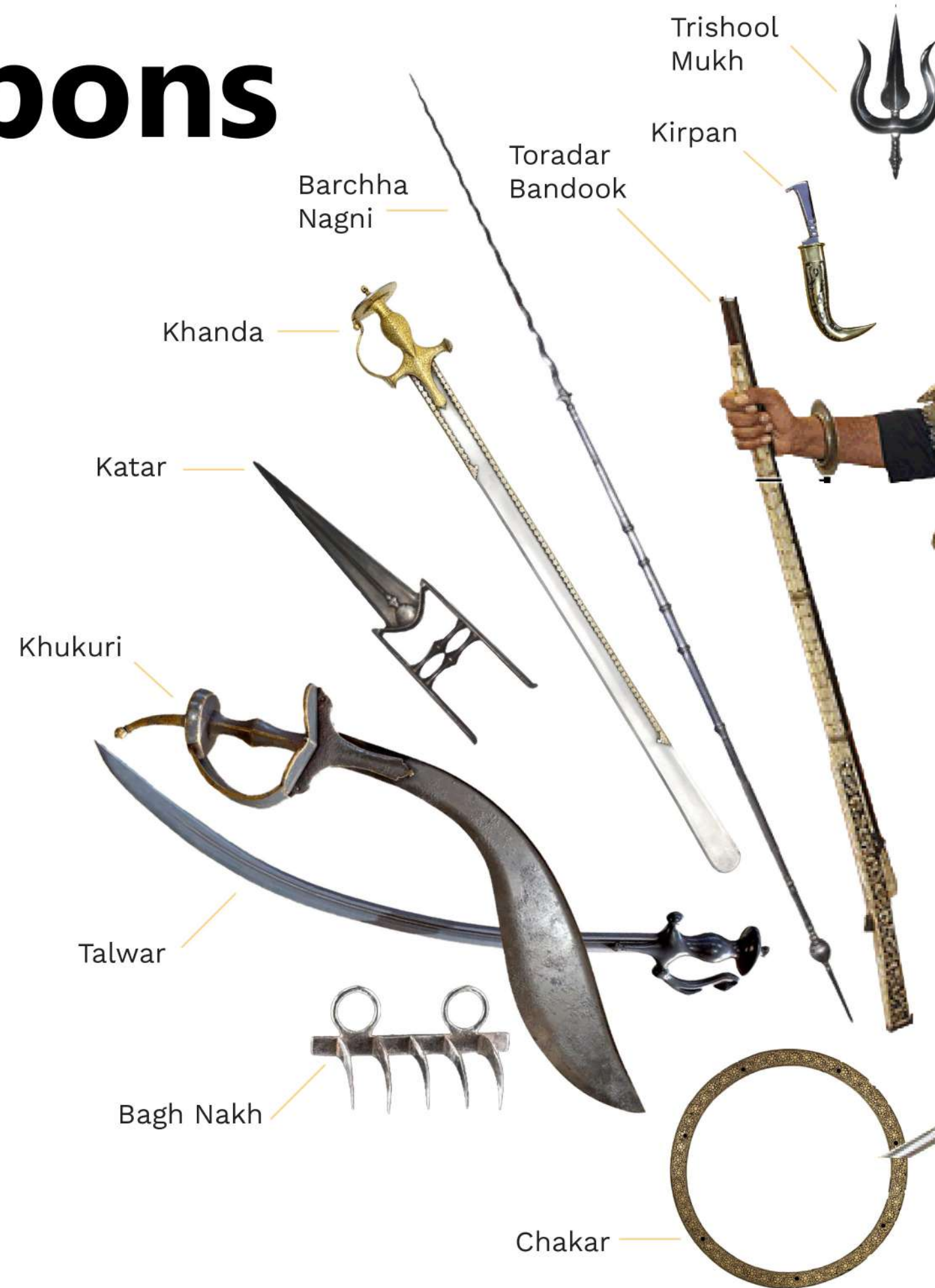
- Punjabi Muslim Tribe
- Ancient warlike clan
- Known for their martial prowess, fortress-building

The Jats

- Agricultural landowners
- Mostly Sikhs & Muslims
- Family names based on soil type
- Long hair and beard

The Aroras

- Engaged in trade and commerce.
- Consider themselves of Khatri origin



Punjabi Tribal Officers of the British 15th Punjab Infantry regiment



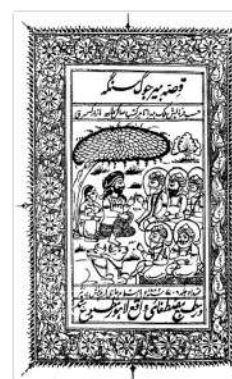
Zamzama in 1903



Nihang Sikh

An order of Sikh warriors. They are distinguished by their blue robes, decorated turbans and are often seen carrying weapons like swords and spears.

Folklores & Folk Deities



Heer Ranjha



Raja Rasalu



Sakhi Sarwar

Jathera



A shrine constructed to commemorate the founding common ancestor.

Brought in Punjab by Jats.

* - Silver Rupee coin from 1131 AH [1719CE]
 - Ruler: Nawab Sultan Muqarrab Khan Gakhar
 - Script: similar to Naskh

- Obverse: Between Indus and Jehlum only Muqarrab is King
 - Reverse: La Ilaha Ila Allah Muhammad Rasul Allah.

RELIGION AND CUISINE



10 Gurus of Sikhism

Guru Nanak	Guru Hargobind
Guru Angad	Guru Har Rai
Guru Amar Das	Guru Hari Krishen
Guru Ram Das	Guru Tegh Bahadur
Guru Arjan	Guru Gobind Singh

According to Sikh tradition, Sikhism was established by Guru Nanak (1469–1539)

Before Guru Gobind Singh died (10th Guru), he declared that there would be no more human Gurus and that

the Guru Granth Sahib would be the Eternal Guru.



They are required to wear the Five Ks and to avoid four particular sins: cutting one's hair, eating halal meat, having sexual intercourse with anyone other than one's spouse, and using tobacco.

KHANDA

This double-edged sword is a metaphor of Divine knowledge, its sharp edges cleaving Truth from Falsehood

KIRPAN OF MIRI

sword symbolises the conceit of Miri



KIRPAN OF PIRI

sword symbolises the conceit of Piri

CHAKAR

Being a circle without a beginning or an end symbolises the perfection of God who is eternal.

Western Punjab

Influenced by Persian and Afghan traditions with popular barbecued meats.



Eastern Punjab

Known for robust flavors and generous use of spices. Tandoori cooking is prevalent.



Langar, or community kitchens in Sikhism, serve free vegetarian meals like dal, sabzi, roti, and kheer to all, emphasizing simplicity and nutrition.



Techniques such as tempering spices in hot oil or ghee are common in Punjabi cooking.

Dishes like Dal makhani, chana masala, aloo matar, fruit chaat, and fruit lassi reflect Hindu culinary traditions.



Guru Nanak - the founder of the Sikh faith, was the son of a Khatri (the Kshatriya or warrior caste in Hinduism).

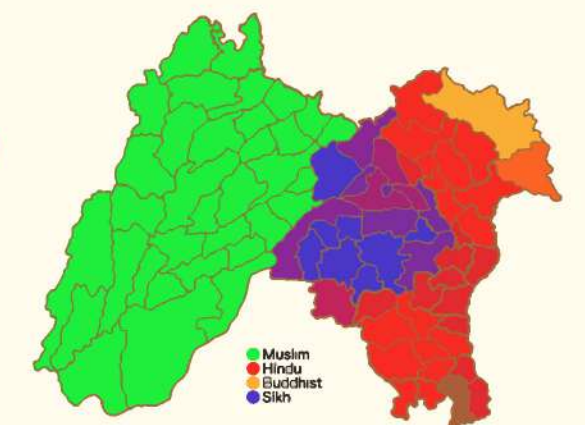
An important group amongst Hindus in the Punjab are the Sanatan Dharmis. Sanatanists also worship the five elements: the sun, fire, water, sky and the wind.



Islamic culinary practices brought kebabs like chicken tikka and seekh kebabs to Punjabi cuisine.

Dishes like Tandoori chicken, biryani, pulao, kebabs, nihari, and haleem are examples of Islamic-influenced dishes.

Punjabi Muslims are found almost exclusively in Pakistan with **98%** of Punjabis who live in Pakistan following Islam, in contrast to Punjabi Sikhs and Punjabi Hindus who predominantly live in India.



Punjabi Muslim society is centered around the concept of **biraderi** (برادری), social brotherhood within the tribe and clan.

JEWELLRY & ATTIRE

1. Head Jewelry



Tikka
A chain with a pendant worn on the center of the forehead.



Pasa/Jhoomar
A headpiece worn on the side of the forehead.



Mathapatti
A decorative band worn across the forehead



Saggi Phul
A central gold head stud that supports the phulkari dupatta.

2. Nose Jewelry



Nath
A traditional nose ring, often large and elaborate with a chain extending to the hair or ear.



Koka
Round in shape and is usually studded with a stone and is worn on left side of the nose.

3. Ear Jewelry



Jhumka
Bell-shaped earrings with intricate designs.

4. Neck Jewelry



Rani Haar
A long, multi-layered necklace with intricate designs.



Pipal Pattian
Pipal Pattian is a heart-shaped drop jewellery highly artistic, lightweight and delicate.

5. Hand and Arm Jewelry



Kada
A thick bracelet or bangle, worn by both men and women.



Kangan
Heavy bangles worn in pairs.



Haathphool
A hand ornament that includes a bracelet attached to rings by chains.



Kaleerin
Ornamental bangles made from silver and embellished with elaborate danglers and charms.

6. Leg Jewelry



Payal/ Pajeb
Anklets worn around the ankles, often with small bells.

KURTA PAJAMA



ACHKAN



SHERWANI



PATHANI SUIT



JODHPURI SUIT



DHOTI KURTA



Dhoti is also known as 'Tehmat'.

PHULKARI JACKET



JUTTI



JAMA



TURBAN



GIDDA COSTUME



PUNJABI SALWAR KAMEEZ



PUNJABI GHAGRA



LEHENGA CHOLI



SHARARA SUIT



ANARKALI SUIT



PARANDA



GIDDA COSTUME

