

Tribal Painting “Gond “Expressing the Essence of Indian Heritage

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ABSTRACT

Painting is one of the most delicate forms of art giving expression to human thoughts and feelings, through the media of colors. Indian paintings imitate the various culture and heritage of the country. Gond is one of important tribal art of Madhya Pradesh. The style of using many colored dots and lines to construct up in a form of picture. Gond painting is related with Gond tribe, which has different unique, creative motifs, signature patterns, color combination. Traditionally Gond painting was done on walls of the home to decorate them. It is one of the treasures of our heritage which highlights the culture.

Key Words : Painting, Gond, Treasure, Color, Madhya Pradesh, Tradition, Culture

INTRODUCTION

“Gond is an Indian tribal art of painting practiced by “Pradhan’s and Gond “and the largest Adivasi community of Central India. The population of Gond tribe is more than 4million and these tribal people reside in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Orissa. They are Dravidian and their origins can be traced back to pre Aryan era; that is more than 1400 years ago. The word “Gond” comes from a Dravidian expression “Kond” meaning green mountains. Among Gond’s, prominently the Pardhan Gonds are renowned for their artistic skills, be it painting or music”. The Gond community has different forms of art practice ingrained in their everyday lifestyle. They are very sound in visual art, commonly categorized as Gond Art or Gond Paintings. Their paintings are not only intended for decorations, but also for spiritual and devoted beliefs as well. Paintings of tribal people are very basic and are sketched on walls to please their deities or to ward off evil and diseases. Painting of Bundelkhand, Malwa, Gondwana and Nimar of Madhya Pradesh have gained the fame.

Gond paintings are well-known for their simplicity of forms. Bright colors and Wonderful arrangements of dots and lines are used in painting to make amazing appeal. Gond painting has different ranges in styles of creativity related to particular painters and their practices. One of the recognizing element is the practice of ‘signature pattern’ that is used to ‘infill’ the bigger arrangements

on the canvas. These infill arrangements are distinguishing recognizable symbols used by the Gond artists and every Gond painter has established his or her own signature arrangement. Traditionally this art was done by hand on walls, which is time consuming and laborious. The first Gond artist to use canvas and paper for his artworks was Jangarh Singh Shyam. Creation with painting the traditional way, he switched to different creativity mediums. His life's mission was to train the Patangarh (a Madhya Pradesh village) residents in this art form. He rose to recognition which his exhibitions in Tokyo and Paris blot with great approval. "With the course of time Gond art has switched onto canvas and paper by talented artists. Style of Gond paintings show up in a collage of dashes and dots. The collage combines together into bright images of animals and plants, articulating folk-art the art is in black and white color as well as different color. This creativity in art are affluent in color, humor, detail and ambiguity. "Gond artworks have not only gone through theme-experimentation but have also made medium go through innovations" it is the name of style comes from the essence of folk and traditional art.

Style of Gond Paintings :

Gond paintings and images are combinations of plants, animals, birds, nature, folklore, along with in filling motifs of dash, dots, curves, etc. Colors are used in this art traditionally prepared by are naturally, around their surroundings, black from soil, yellow from the river banks and white from rock calcium. Charcoal and lime are worked as mediums, especially when the walls of house are paint. The art begins with the outline being made and black colors filling it up, once dried, patterns are created in the art. Legendary art themes rotate around the Tree of Life. Many times themes are showing the connection together between the tree of life and animals and other motifs. The themes are more frequently connected with a story, like famous story of the peacock with ugly feet. "The story tells us about how, though the peacock has beautiful feathers, it is only complete with its small disproportionate feet. By the tradition of Adivasi community Gond painting used to decorate walls of home.



Fig. 1 : Gond Painting

Gond Represents Folk Art, Tradition and Culture :

In the Gond Literature which illustrate, art passed from generation to generation on. It includes many stories about Gond legends and some myths such as the popular love story of Jhitku Mitki, Folk tales of Gondwana, Gondwani (stories of Gond Kings), Ramyani (Ram Katha) and Pandwani (Pandava Katha) etc. Gond Paintings are painted with freehand these paintings reflect the observation of life of Gond Tribes their faith and thinking, way to living. Gond Paintings are very popular in the Gondwana region and now gain name and fame internationally.

The Gonds also express through different forms of song and dance most of Karma which are performed during festivals. "Folk Songs and Dances such as Karma, Dadaria, Saila, Rina, Dadra, Birha, and Karma can be performed any time of the year. When a guest arrives, the family gathers do the Karma dance together. Usually these songs are accompanied with instruments like gudum, timki, nagada. Manjira etc. In some instances, such as with the Dandari dancers, dances retellevents from Gond mythology". It also includes pottery making, basket making, body tattooing and floor paintings which imitate a culture.

Painting Process :

Previously to painting the wall and floor, they are carefully cleaned first after that the wall and floor ready for the art. "Colors used for painting are made from different kinds of soils and other organic things which are available in the village, charred wood or wood coal is used for black color, chui soil or lime is used for white, red color comes from a red colored soil called geru, dark red comes from the sap of tinsak plant, yellow is from ramraj soil, dark green is obtained from sem leaves and for light green, Gonds use cow dung". A paste made up of straw, cow dung and soil is used on the walls or floors which are to be painted after that paste dries, a unique type of soil which known as pidor and it is made wet and applied on the whole painting surface. Pidor soil is white in color and provides a nice and smooth white colored background for painting. Pidor is naturally and widely available in the Gond regions. The paintings created on the outer walls of the house.

Soul of Indian Heritage :

In India there are many forms of traditional art which helps to enrich our heritage with various art forms. Folk art and tribal art have showing their historical and mythological narratives, beliefs, with different aspects of art forms. Gond paintings capture the essence of celebrations, rituals and man's relationship with nature. This is very pure and lovely which binds a relationship with culture through art, Now a day's folk art and tribal art using in our fashion world. It is a way to explore heritage art among the people. Many designers promoted this heritage art in costumes which reflects the beauty of art and craft. Tribal art is a valuable treasure in our nation legacy. It is one of the ancient art which beautifying present. To preserve Gond painting, Government of India is making efforts through various schemes under different cultural institutions. At present the Gond painting occupies an important position among the art lover people. Different institutions, centers were beautifying their wall by the Gond painting. Gond art products such as Gond paintings on wood, painted wooden trays and boxes have become extremely popular globally.

Tribal art Gond Painting :



Fig. 2 : Tribal art Gond Painting

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