

Sattriya



The dance form was introduced in 15th century A.D. by Saint Shankaradeva to propagate Vaishnavism.

It derives its name from the Vaishnava monasteries known as Sattras, where it was nurtured and preserved for centuries.

Later, it evolved into two separate streams – the Gayan-bhayanar Nach and the Kharmanar Nach.

IMPORTANT FEATURES



The dance form was introduced by combining different elements from various treatises, local folk dances prevalent in Assam, specifically Ojapali and Devadasi.

The principles related to host mudras, footwork, music, etc are strictly followed.



It combines both Lasya and Tandava elements and also emphasises on rhythmic syllables and dance postures.

It is generally performed by male monks known as Bhokots as part of their daily rituals.



Khol (drums), taals (cymbals) and flute are the major musical instruments used in this dance form.

The costumes are usually made of pat silk produced in Assam. It is derived from the mulberry plant and woven with intricate local motifs.



The songs are the compositions of Shankaradeva known as Borgeets.

