



Purulia Chhau

Purulia Chhau, a folk dance, was recently performed in Kozhikode, Kerala.

- The **Chhau** is a semi-classical dance form from Eastern India which has tribal and folk origins. The performances range from **acrobatic to martial** and also include dances which are structured around religious themes.
- The name Purulia Chau comes from the district of **Purulia in Bengal** which is a Chhau stronghold. It represents one of the **three distinct styles of Chhau dance**, the other two being **Seraikella Chhau from Jharkhand** and **Mayurbhanj Chhau from Odisha**.
 - The costumes vary between the styles, with **Purulia and Serakeilla using masks** to identify the characters.
- It was inscribed in the [Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of UNESCO](#) in 2010.



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