



## Mudiyettu Dance Drama of Kerala

**Mudiyettu** is a ritual **theater** and **dance drama of Kerala** that enacts the mythological tale of a battle between the [goddess Kali](#) and the [demon Darika](#).

- The ritual is a part of the **bhagavathi** or **bhadrakali cult** and is performed in [Bhagavati temples](#), usually between February and May, after the harvest.
- The performance is done by **members of the Marar and Kuruppu communities**, who paint their faces and wear elaborate costumes and headgears.
  - It involves various characters such as [Shiva](#), [Narada](#), [Darika](#), [Kali](#), [Daanavendra](#), [Koyichaadar](#) and [Kooli](#) .
- The ritual ends with a victorious Kali entering the stage holding the head of Darika, followed by a song of praise to Shiva.
- **Mudiyettu** is a [UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity](#) and the second art form from Kerala after [Kutiyattam](#).

