

Chapter 4.

Cultural Heritage of


Pakistan

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Learning outcomes

**4.1.1 Define the term
'culture'**


**4.1.2 Discuss the
different components of
culture; (languages,
dresses, art, crafts,
music and festivals);**

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- **What is culture for you?**
 - **Respond in one/two words in chat box**

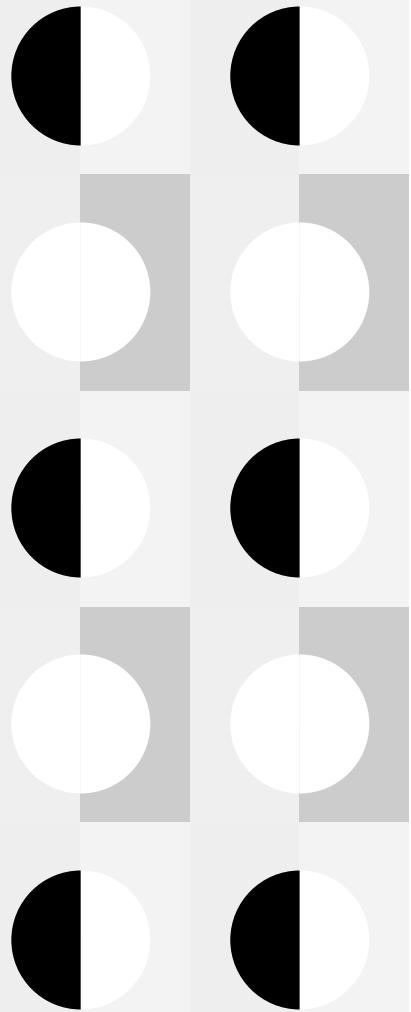
A narrow definition

**Narrowly culture
can be defined as
a way or style of
living of a people.**



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- **In a broader sense**, the term 'culture' refers **a set of to language, belief system, cuisine, social habits, music, art and architecture, traditions, customs, beliefs, diet, dress code etc.** which makes a unique lifestyle of a group of people.
 - **Culture helps differentiate a society or a nation from another.**

Components of Cultures



**What comes to you mind
we say **COMPONENTS OF
CULTURE!****

Share one **COMPONENT
on chat box**

Components of Culture

- **Languages**
- **Dresses**
- **Art**
- **Crafts**
- **Music**
- **Festivals**

Languages

- **Pakistan is is home to dozens of languages spoken as first languages.**
- **Five languages have more than 10 million speakers each in Pakistan – Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, Saraiki and Urdu.**
- **Pakistan's national language is Urdu.**

Regional languages

- **Gujrati, Punjabi, Saraiki, Pashto, Sindhi, Balochi, Gujari, Kashmiri, Hindko, Brahui, Shina, Balti, Khowar, Dhatki, Haryanvi, Marwari, Wakhi and Burushaski.**
- **Four of these are provincial languages – Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi.**

Dress Code

- **Pakistan's national dress code is Shalwar Kameez**
- **Variance within from region to region**
- **What about pant.shirts?**
- **They have also become part of our dress code esp. In urban set up.**

Art

- **Pakistan has a rich history in all the visual arts—painting, architecture, textiles and decorative arts, and sculptures.**
- **Traditionally, visual arts in Pakistan have been influenced by Islam’s preference for geometric shapes.**
- **Today, Pakistani artists produce a vast array of visual arts in both traditional and modern designs.**

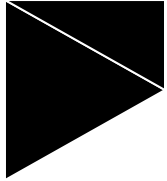
Crafts

Famous Pakistani crafts
include:

- Carpets
- Earthen Pots (Matkas)
- Glazed Tiles
- Cotton Garments
- Camel Lamps
- Khussa
- Peshawari Chappal
- Wood Carvings
- Ethnic Jewellery

Music


- **Pakistani music includes diverse elements of music from various parts of South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East and Modern day West.**
- **With multiple influences of modern day music, a distinctive Pakistani music has emerged.**
- **It has two main principles, 'sur' (musical note) and 'lai' (rhythm).**
- **The systematic organization of musical notes into a scale is known as a raag.**
- **The arrangement of rhythm (lai) in a cycle is known as taal.**



Popular families of Music

- Many families who inherited the music from their forefathers and are still performing i.e Utad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and Rahat Fateh Ali Khan.
- Others include Shafaqat Amanat Ali Khan, Ustad Ghulam Farid Nizami a prominent sitar player and a Sufi singer.

Musical instruments

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- **Pakistan has variety of classical musical instruments**
 - **Each instrument is different from rest with its own particular structural and tonal features and effects of pitch, i.e. tone Intensity, loudness, thickness.**
 - **Bansuri**
 - **Tabla**
 - **Dhol**
 - **Star**
 - **Harmonium**
 - **Rubab**
 - **Sarangai**
 - **Shahnai**

Festivals

- **Festival refers to an event or day being celebrated usually once in a year by a religious, agrarian community etc.**
- **As already mentioned in the beginning paragraph, there are two main types of festivals i.e. religious festivals and cultural festivals.**

Pakistani Festivals

Religious festivals of Pakistan include:

- Eidul Fitre
- Eidul azha
- Eid Melad
- Dewali
- Christmas

Cultural festival

- **Basant - Punjab Festival**
- **Hence - Sindhi Festival**
- **Nauroz**
- **Nawa Wraz, Sheshbeeyeh - Pashtun Festivals**
- **Sibi and Buzkashi - Baloch Festivals**

Basant

- **Spring festival: celebration of advent of Spring in Feb every year in Punjab.**
- **Kite flying on the roofs of building is the dominant characteristic**
- **Lahore as focal point for the celebration in Pakistan.**
- **Rest houses, hotels become fully packed with guests from all over the country**
- **Five star hotels also arrange this function on their roof top for foreigners and other high class gentry.**
- **They also arrange variety of dishes with musical concert. Sometimes**

Sindhi Cultural Festival

Hence, a Sindhi Cultural Festival is a compound of folk dances, music and cheap entertainment for local people.

Nauroze: (21-23 March)

- **Celebrated only in Gilgit, Hunza, Skardu and Chitral.**
- **Polo, foot-ball, volleyball and hockey matches, folk dances and music.**

Nawa Wraz and Sheshbeeyeh - Pashtun Festivals

The arrival of Sparlay or spring, known as Nawa-Wraz (New Day), is also celebrated by some Pashtuns.

Some Pashtuns celebrate Sheshbeeyeh, a prelude festival to Nawroz in Bannu and Waziristan.

It is an ancient annual Pashtun festival which celebrates both the beginning of spring and the New Year.

As part of celebration people attend mosques to make special prayers, have cookouts in parks, and go to fairs.

Sibi and Buzkashi - Baloch Festivals

1. Sibi festival

- characterized by folk music performance, cultural dances, handicrafts stalls, cattle shows and a number of other entertaining activities.

2. Buzkashi

- Festival of enhancing the bravery tactfulness.
- Celebrated on horse-back by two teams that use their skills to snatch a goat from the each other.

Thank You

