

**BLUEPRINT FOR THE PROJECT ON:
PERFORMANCE OF THE ‘ANKIYA NAT’ TRADITION IN THE
SATTRA’S OF MAJULI (ASSAM) IN CHANGING CONTEXT: A
STUDY ON THE RECENT DIVERSIFIED PRACTICES**

1. Introduction of the Project: The proposed project i.e. “Performance of the Ankiya Nat Tradition in the Sattra’s of Majuli(Assam) in Changing Context: A Study on the Recent Diversified Practices” is supposed to carried out the changing patterns of the tradition of Ankiya Nat in the Vaishnava Sattra’s of Majuli. When an art form transfers from the original context of ritual performance than changes begin to crap into the tradition for various purposes. The Vaishnava theater tradition of Assam which is mostly practiced by the Vaishnava monks of Majuli as a part of their worship is also being changing when it comes out from the original context. My focus of this work will be to figure out clear distinction of changes that has been taking place in the form and make all this things aware to the young tradition bearer, which can be helpful to the young practitioners to have clear distinction between original and recent so called aesthetic elements in ritual performances.

2. Objective of the research:

- To last the original form of the tradition of Ankiya Nat in its own spiritual way for long time as it is written in the text.
- To discuss about ankiya Nat tradition as spiritual ritual performance in original context and same rituals on stage performance and its transforming elements.
- This will be an attempt to seek answers regarding, does it affect an intangible cultural form like Ankiya Nat of Assam when it transfers from original to the contemporary stage? What is the importance of authenticity? How the concept of hybridization comes to the theatrical performing arts, does it also influence in the Vaishnava performance of dramatic tradition?

3. Implementation of the project:

Discussion about being transferring the traditional theater art forms from original sacred space to contemporary stage and its effect, which may cause affect to the tradition. I will try to conduct sessions in four different Sattras, which are playing vital role in holding this theater tradition.

Most of the time original lengthy songs are eliminated even from the ritual performances of the traditional theater and for me this is the beginning of framing those songs.

Therefore, for this entire problem I will conduct four five days workshops in different Satras of Majuli to be able to make practioners aware about the traditional elements and recent so-called aesthetic elements in theater. I am expecting to include more than 20 young practitioners in each workshop. I will invite two experts who will be able to lead the workshop well.

4. Time frame of the project: August, September, October, November

5. Specific area of the respective state in which the art form is practiced geographical, typographical & other related aspects that the project may cover:

Majuli, Jorhat , Assam.

6. Photos (preliminary level) related to the project/ art form (for the intended website):

I will provide photos and other necessary documents as first step of my work in the month of August.

7. Conclusion of the project as you have envisioned:

I want to conclude the project with some effects of making people aware about the importance of ritual performances and keep it as strong as possible and to let it survive with original elements. I have a plan to propose all this lacking original elements in their ritual performances and during that time, the same experts who will be with them during the workshop will be in the audience.

Submitted by

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