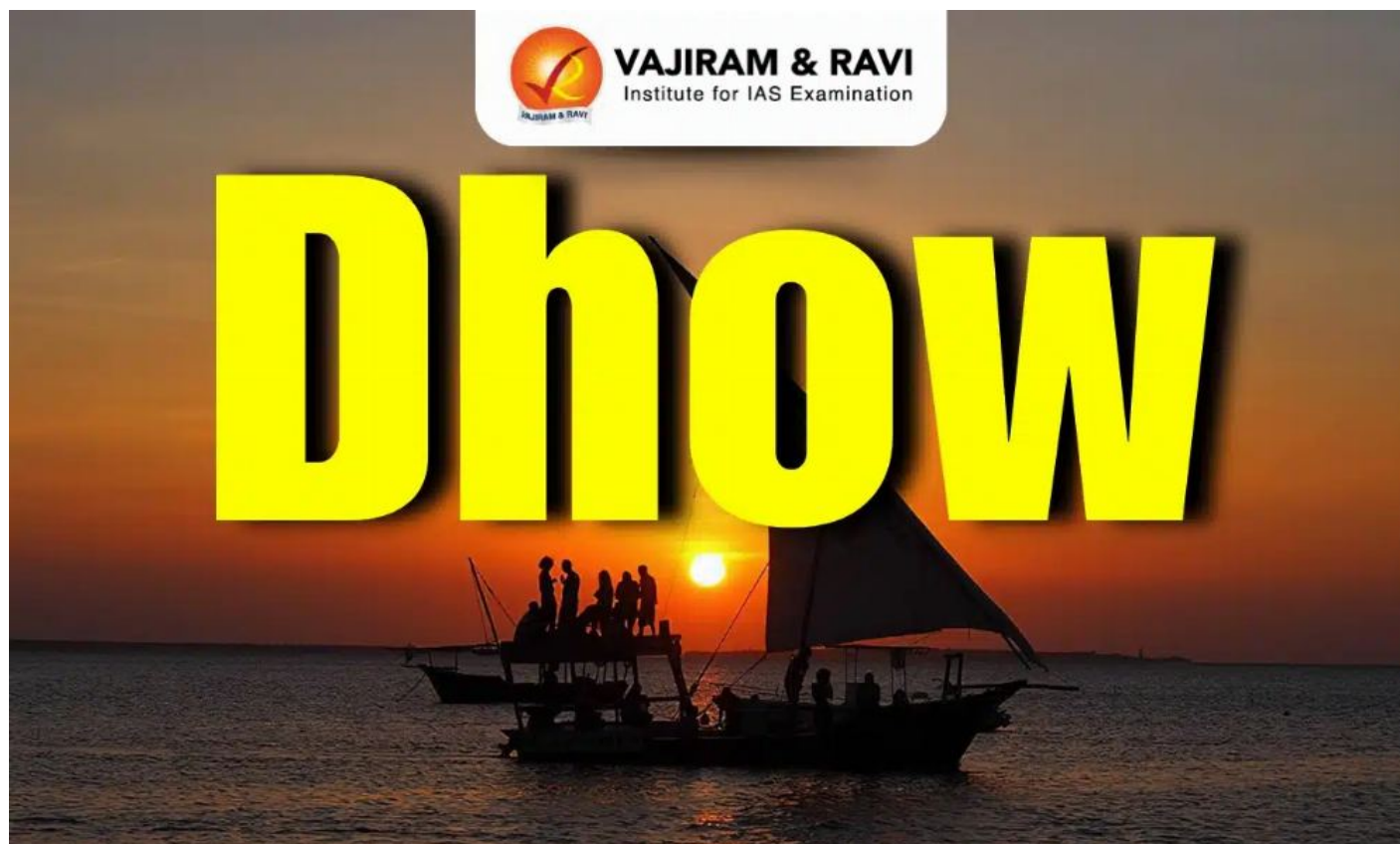


Dhow

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Dhow Latest News

An Indian sailor was killed and several others injured after their wooden dhow caught fire near the Strait of Hormuz recently.

About Dhow

- A dhow is a **traditional wooden sailing vessel** used mainly in the **Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea**, and along the **coasts of East Africa** and the **Middle East**.
- A dhow has a **long, narrow hull** and is **propelled only by its sail**.
- Historians aren't sure who **invented** the dhow — **Indians or Arabs** — but they do know the **first ones appeared before 600 C.E.**
- The dhow has been a **central part of maritime trade, fishing**, and culture for countries like **Oman, Yemen, India**, and **coastal regions of East Africa**.
- Today the term generally refers to all sailing ships in that region with **one or two masts** and **triangular or quadrilateral-shaped sails**.

- **Bows are sharp**, with a forward and upward thrust, and the **sterns** of the larger dhows **may be windowed** and decorated.

Key Facts about Beypore Uru

- It is a **wooden dhow** handcrafted by skilled artisans and carpenters in **Beypore town**, Kozhikode district, **Kerala**.
- Beypore urus are **purely made of wood, without using any modern techniques**, and traditional methods are used to launch these ships into the water.
- The carpenters manually **join each piece of wood to build the large boat**.
- Uru making in Beypore is a **centuries-old tradition** that was **established since India began its maritime trade with Mesopotamia**.
- **Arab traders** were among the **first major patrons** of these vessels.
- Usually an Uru is built by a **team of fifty men** over a **period of at least four years**.
- **No blueprints** are made and the entire aspect of shipbuilding is embedded in the minds of the highly skilled shipwrights.
- **Khalasis** are a group of **people traditionally involved in the construction** of Urus.

Source: **TH**

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