

Sohrai Paintings

July 27, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Sohrai Paintings Latest News

The indigenous mural tradition of Sohrai Art from Jharkhand took centre stage at the second edition of Kala Utsav 2025 – Artists in Residence Programme, held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

About Sohrai Paintings

- It is an **indigenous mural art form**.
- The word 'Sohrai' comes from soro – translating to 'to drive with a stick'.
- This art form dates back to the **Meso-chalcolithic period** (9000-5000 BC).
- The Isko rock shelter excavated in Barkagaon, Hazaribagh area also has rock paintings that are exactly similar to the traditional Sohrai paintings.

Features of Sohrai Paintings

- Sohrai paintings are distinctive for their vibrant colours, intricate patterns, and symbolic motifs;
- There is a Sohrai festival held every year, marking the harvesting season and the arrival of winter.

- **Themes:** It is usually based on natural elements of the universe, this includes forests, rivers, animals amongst others.
- These ancient paintings are **made by tribal women** with the use of natural substances like charcoal, clay, or soil.
- It is practiced by indigenous communities, particularly in the States **of Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal.**
- It is the art of the women of the **Kurmi, Santal, Munda, Oraon, Agaria, Ghatwal tribes.**
- This art form from **Hazaribagh in Jharkhand** has received the **GI tag for this art form.**

Source: **PIB**

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/sohrai-paintings/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.