

Apatani Tribes

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Apatani Tribe Latest News

The Apatani tribal women of Ziro Valley in Arunachal Pradesh are known for their facial tattoos and wooden nose plugs; banned in the 1970s, but still carried by only older women.

About Apatani Tribe

- The Apatani, or **Tanw**, also known by **Apa** and **Apa Tani**, are a tribal group of people living in the **Ziro valley** in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Language:** They speak a local **language called Tani** and worship the sun and the moon.

Customs and Lifestyle of Apatani Tribe

- **Festivals:** They have major festivals like **Dree, Myoko, Yapung and Murung**.
- Dree is celebrated with prayers for a bumper harvest and prosperity of all humankind and Myoka celebrates friendship similar to modern friendship day.

- **Tattooing and Nose plug:** Apatani women are known for their distinctive **facial tattoos and nose plugs** — a tradition that began as a means of **protection against abduction**.
- The **nose plugs**, called **Yaping Hullo**, are made **from wood** found in the forest.
- The **tattoos, known as Tippei**, are done by the elder women when an Apatani girl is about **10 years old**.
- They have been **practising integrated rice-fish farming** in their mountain terraces of Arunachal Pradesh since the 1960s.
- These tribal people principally use **three rice varieties: Emeo, Pyape and Mypia**.

Source: TH

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