

Ghumot

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Ghumot Latest News

In 2019, Goa state cabinet declared ghumot as the state's heritage instrument without monitor lizard skin which has sparked an aesthetics debate on folk music.

About Ghumot

- Ghumot (or Ghumat) is a **traditional membranophone percussion instrument** that features in several religious and cultural practices of Goa.

How is it designed?

- It is **made with an earthen clay pot** with one side left open and the mouth covered with animal hide, usually that of the Indian monitor lizard (now largely replaced by goat hide).
- The rim is designed to secure the membrane, and the instrument is often warmed near a bonfire to tighten the skin for enhanced sound.

- The ghumot player strikes on this tightly tied membrane to create sharp beats.

Where is it Used?

- The instrument is also played in a **pre-wedding 'roce' ceremony of Goan Christians**, where the ghumata vazop comes alive.
- It assumes significance during Hindu religious rituals such as the Ganapati Stotra, Ganapati Arati and Ganapati Visarjana observed during Ganesh Chaturthi.
- It is also intrinsic to the **zagor or harvest season**, usually organised by the mandd (village committee) and Shigmo or Holi.
- It has **significance among the Hindus and Christians** in the western state and was originally made and played only by the local tribal community.

Source: DTE

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

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