

Chautal

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Chautal Latest News

Recently, the Prime Minister of India's welcoming ceremony in Trinidad and Tobago included a performance of the traditional Bhojpuri Chautal.

About Chautal

- Chautaal, also called Chartaal or Chowtaal, is a rhythmic **framework composed of 12 beats**.
- It is traditionally used to **accompany Dhrupad and Dhamar styles** of singing and instrumental performances.
- It is a rhythmic cycle used in **North Indian classical music**, particularly in Hindustani classical music.
- The name "Chautal" means "**four claps**," referring to its **vibhag or division structure**.
- One school of thought contends that it consists of four vibhags of 4, 4, 2, and 2 matras respectively.
- There is another school which suggests that the structure of Chautal is the same as Ektal. Therefore, it would be viewed as six vibhags of two matras each.
- It is strongly linked to the **pakhawaj tradition**; this has profound practical and theoretical implications.

- It is **performed in a very heavy, powerful manner** which is in sharp contrast to the more delicate style of the tabla.

Source: ITV

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