

**MASTER'S OF ARTS  
M.A. IN FOLKLORE AND CULTURE  
STUDIES(MAFCS)**

**ASSIGNMENTS July 2023 & January 2024**

- MFC-001: FOLKLORE AND CULTURE:  
CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES**
- MFC-002: TRADITION, IDENTITY AND CULTURAL  
PRODUCTION**
- MFC-003: CULTURAL AND SOCIETAL  
TRANSFORMATION**
- MFC-004: TRIBES OF INDIA: IDENTITY, CULTURE  
AND LORE**
- MFC-006: FOLKLORE: CANON, MULTIMEDIALITY,  
INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND SOCIAL  
EPISTEMOLOGY**
- MFC-007: THEORIES AND PEDAGOGY OF FOLKLORE**
- MFC-008: FOLK REPRESENTATIONS**
- MFC-009: APPROACHES TO FOLKLORE**



**School of Inter-disciplinary  
and Transdisciplinary Studies  
Indira Gandhi National Open University  
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

**ASSIGNMENT  
FOR  
MA IN FOLKLORE AND CULTURE STUDIES  
MFC 001 TO MFC -009**

**Programme: MAFCS**  
**Course Code: MFC-001, MFC-002, MFC-003 & MFC-004, MFC-006,  
MFC-007, MFC-008 & MFC-009/2023-24**

Dear Learners,

You are required to do one assignment for each Course (MFC-001 TO MFC-009, MFC-005 being a project paper) of the PG Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies. Each assignment is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. Each assignment covers the entire course.

**Aims:** This TMA is concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course material. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course material but to apply the information you have acquired during the course of study. This assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read all the units of the course. Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask the Counsellors at your Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignment satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the Term-end exam with confidence.

**Instructions:** Before attempting the assignment, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment given in the Programme Guide.
2. Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address and Date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
3. Write the Course Title, Assignment Number and the Name of the Study Centre you are attached to, in the centre of the first page of your response sheet(s).

The top of the first page of your response sheet should look like this:

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**ENROLMENT NO.....**  
**NAME.....**  
**ADDRESS.....**  
**COURSE TITLE:.....**  
**ASSIGNMENT NO:.....**  
**STUDY CENTRE:.....DATE:**  
**.....**

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4. Use only A4 paper size for your assignment and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write the answer in your own handwriting.

7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you as per the dates given on the University website i.e. [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in) Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.
8. These assignment questions are valid for the 2023 and 2024

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions.

### **GUIDELINES FOR TMAs**

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

1. **Planning:** Read the questions carefully. Go through the points on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order. And please write the answers in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the units.
2. **Organisation:** Be a little more selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or books as this will add some depth to your analysis.

**Make sure that your answer:**

- (a) is logical and coherent;
  - (b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
  - (c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
  - (d) does not exceed the number of words indicated in the question.
3. **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize.

**Remember that you must submit your assignments before you can appear for the Term End Exams. Please remember to keep a copy of your completed assignment, just in case the one you submitted is lost in transit.  
Good luck with your work!**

## MFC-001 FOLKLORE AND CULTURE: CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES

### TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

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Course Code	: MFC-001
Course Title	: Folklore and Culture: Conceptual Perspectives
Assignment Code	: MFC-001/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	: All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20x5=100)**

1. Discuss three important relations that the discipline of folklore shares with other disciplines. 20
2. What is language death and what are the causes and remedies? 20
3. Discuss four major problems in ethical and legal dimensions in folklore preservation. 20
4. Distinguish the following:
  - a) Tribal, folk and classical cultures
  - b) Conventional and new approaches to the study of culture
  - c) Culture – ‘High’ and ‘Low’; Popular and Mass
  - d) Sanskritization and Palace Paradigm 4x5=20
5. Write short notes on the following:
  - a) Brief history of folklore studies with special reference to India
  - b) Folklore and allied disciplines
  - c) Meaning and types of culture
  - d) Folklore and culture studies in India: approaches 4x5=20

## MFC-002 TRADITION, IDENTITY AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION

### TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

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Course Code	: MFC-002
Course Title	: Tradition, Identity and Cultural Production
Assignment Code	: MFC-002/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	: All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20x5=100)**

1. What is tradition and what are the factors that lead to the changes in traditions in different societies? 20
2. Give your views on the educational system of our country towards the preservation of tradition and culture. 20
3. What are the impacts of globalization on folk culture? Discuss some ethical issues involved in the preservation of folk culture vis-à-vis globalization. 20
4. Distinguish the following:
  - a) Identity and territory.
  - b) Tradition versus dogma.
  - c) Tradition and modernization.
  - d) Tradition and creativity. (4x5=20)
5. Write short notes on the following:
  - a) Meanings and significance of identity.
  - b) Development of literary texts in folklore.
  - c) Performative art forms (music, dance, theatre and mourning)
  - d) The role of law on Intellectual Property Rights. (4X5=20)

## MFC-003 CULTURAL AND SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION

### TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

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Course Code	: MFC-003
Course Title	: Cultural and Societal Transformation
Assignment Code	: MFC-003/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	: All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. What are the representation and the problems of translation in relation to the folk narratives? 20
2. Describe the concept of folklorism and its contribution to the development of TV and radio programmes, documentaries, advertisements and films. 20
3. Give a detail overview of the representation of 'Folk' in world literature and Indian literature. 20
4. Distinguish the following:
  - a) Folk forms: Verbal / Oral and Non-verbal.
  - b) Sanskritization and great- little- traditions.
  - c) 'Minor' and 'Major' Indian languages.
  - e) 'Folk' in pre-modern and modern Indian literature. 4x5=20
5. Write short notes on the following:
  - a) Genre transformation.
  - b) Gender and folklore: concept and characterization.
  - c) Dynamics of tribal identity transformation.
  - d) Folk representation by / of Dalits and Tribal. 4x5=20

## MFC-004 TRIBES OF INDIA: IDENTITY, CULTURE AND LORE

### TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

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Course Code	: MFC-004
Course Title	: Tribes of India : Identity, Culture and Lore
Assignment Code	: MFC-004/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	: All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. Discuss the definitions and characteristics of a tribe. How do we distribute the tribes of India? 20
  
2. What do you mean by culture clash? What are the main reasons for culture clash? 20
  
3. Who are the migrant tribes of India? Give an observation about their tradition and culture. 20
  
4. Distinguish the following:  
  
a) Hunting and Gathering tribes and Nomadic tribes.  
b) Etiological tales and written traditions.  
c) Groups and sub-groups of Indian tribes.  
d) Migrant labourers and tribal labourers. (4x5)
  
5. Write short notes on the following:  
a) Tribes and the forest  
b) Major tribes of Orissa.  
c) Seasonal migration as a strategy of survival.  
d) Identity, culture and politics of the tribes of India. 4x5=20

**MFC-006 : FOLKLORE: CANON, MULTIMEDIAIITY,  
INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND SOCIAL  
EPISTEMOLOGY**

**TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT**

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Course Code	:	MFC-006
Course Title	:	Folklore: Canon, Multimediality, Interdisciplinarity and Social Epistemology
Assignment Code	:	MFC-006/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	:	All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. Explain 'Çultural Miliiau' in the context of emergent contemporary trends of Folklorism. 20
2. What are the broad genres in folklore? 20
3. Write a critical note on the relationship between folklore and gender. 20
4. How did the rise of romanticism and nationalism influence the development of folklore as a humanistic discipline? Explain with examples. 20
5. What do you understand by textual and non-textual orality in Indian folk tradition? 20
6. Write short notes on the following: (10x2=20)
  - a) Indian tribal poetry
  - b) Scripto-centric Phono-centric and Body-centric approaches to folklore



**MFC-007 : THEORIES AND PEDAGOGY OF FOLKLORE**

**TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT**

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Course Code	:	MFC-007
Course Title	:	Theories and Pedagogy of Folklore
Assignment Code	:	MFC-007/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	:	All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. Highlight the salient features of different schools in folklore studies. 20
2. What are the impacts of Devolutionary ideas upon folklore? 20
3. How do dreams play a significant role in the formation of myths in a society? 20
4. How are the concept of national and nationalism interrelated? Do you think that national identity is a dictionary of regional identities? 20
5. Attempt a critical note on Marga-Deshi theories of folklore studies. 20
6. Discuss the prominent themes and motifs issued by the artists of Mithila paintings? 20

## MFC-008 : FOLK REPRESENTATIONS

### TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

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Course Code	:	MFC-008
Course Title	:	Folk Representations
Assignment Code	:	MFC-008/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	:	All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. Critically interpret the text, “The Awakened Wind: the Oral Poetry of the Indian Tribes” by Sitakant Mahapatra 20
2. What is the cultural significance of the folk Ramayana Songs? 20
3. Discuss ‘*Mahabharata: Ginge to Kurukshetra*’ by Alf Hilterbetel as a seminal literary text. 20
4. How important is Verrier Elwin’s contribution to the documentation of oral traditions? 20
5. What makes *Nautanki* an embodiment of fusion of folklore and theatre practices. 20
6. What are the shared and radical forces that alarmed the poets of the earlier generations that still get hold of the new poets in Native American poetry scenario? 20

**MFC-009 : APPROACHES TO FOLKLORE**

**TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT**

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Course Code	:	MFC-009
Course Title	:	Approaches to Folklore
Assignment Code	:	MFC-009/TMA-01/2023-24
Coverage	:	All Blocks

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Maximum Marks 100

**Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)**

1. Briefly talk about Levi-Strauss's interpretation of the Myth of Oedipus. 20
2. Discuss the idea of Roland Barthes from the text '*Death of the Author*' 20
3. The study of folk culture cannot be done properly without the help of comparative literature as a methodology – discuss. 20
4. Attempt a critical essay on folk music of India and its applicability in mass media of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. 20
5. Discuss the significance of symbols in psychoanalytical study of folk forms with example. 20
6. What are your ideas about the material culture of any given society? 20