Heritage Information

Unique Id:

BGD-45.72.2023.00093

Section-1: Identification of the element

Heritage Location

Division

Mymensingh

District

Netrakona

Upazila

Durgapur

Details Address

Geolocation(Latitude)

23.5204

Geolocation(Longitude)

87.3119

Community Category

Small Ethnic Groups

Community

Hajong

Name of the Heritage, (as used by the community or group concerned)

Jhaka Khala Fishing of Hajongs

Short title of the Heritage, (preferably within 200 words)

Jhaka Khela Fishing

Concerned Community(ies)/Group(s), (who recognize the element as part of their cultural heritage)

Hajong

Physical location(s) of the element/how often it is practiced

Netrokona and Mymensingh Districts of Mymensingh Division

Short description of the Heritage, (preferably within 350 words)

Hajong is a small ethnic group in Bangladesh. Hajongs mainly live in Srivardi, Jhenaigati, Haluaghat, Dhobaura, Nalitabari, Susong Durgapur, Kalmakanda, and Birishiri areas. A few also live in Sherpur, Sylhet, and Netrakona regions. The main occupation of Hajongs is agriculture. The role of Hajong women in agriculture is more than that of men. Apart from tillage, sowing, and planting, harvesting, and threshing are done by girls. They are used to farming with cows. They usually grow rice, jute, tobacco, and various vegetables. Apart from agricultural work, girls weave clothes on hand-made looms and wear them. Various cottage industry products are made from rattan and bamboo. Men make household

appliances and furniture. Poor Hajong girls collect chalk from the hills and forests and sell it in the market. They also work as day laborers. Some run jobs and trade. During the time of the Maharajas, Hajongs used to catch elephants. For this, they were also rewarded for strength and intelligence. Hajong women are adept at fishing with 'Jakha', 'Henga', and 'Jal' in rivers and canals. Jakha and henga are a type of trap made of cane and bamboo. Even before catching fish, they happily sing 'Jakhamara Geet' from house to house during monsoon.

Domains of the Heritage (applicable fields)

- [ ] Oral Traditions and Expressions
- [ ] Performing Arts
- [ ] Social Customs and Traditions
- [x] Knowledge and Practices related to Nature and Universe
- [ ] Traditional Craftsmanship
- [ ] Food

Section-2: Characteristics of the element

Practitioners(s)/performer(s) directly involved in the representation or practice of the Heritage (including roles, name, age, gender, social status, and/or professional category etc.)

Community women involve in this traditional fishing as part of sports.

Other tradition bearers (individuals/groups and their roles))

Male of the Hajong society

Language(s), register(s), speech level(s) involved

Tibeto-Burman language

Associated tangible elements used (if any)

Jhaka is a traditional fishing trap

How are women and people of other genders associated with this Heritage?

Women play the fishing games

Division of labour during the practice of this Heritage

Elements to which other customary practices or practices may be connected or accessed in any respect of the heritage (if any)

Modes of transmission to others in the community

Community transmission

Organizations concerned (non-governmental organizations and others)

N/A

Section-3: State of the element (viability)

Threats to the enactment

Yes

Enactment Threats Description

No laws and policy

Threats to the transmission (if any)

Yes

Threat to associated tangible elements and resources (if any)

Jhakamara Song is about to perish

Viability of associated intangible elements (if any)

No

Have been taken any safeguarding measures to preserve this Heritage practices? (if any)

No

Section-4: Data gathering/documentation, Consent and preparation of inventory entries

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

Oral consent have been taken

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any)

N/A

Section-5: Resource Person

Data provider/Resource person (persons/groups, community representatives)

Date of data collection

Place(s) of data collection

Section-6: Safeguarding techniques

Existing safeguarding techniques adopted by the community for the safeguarding of the Heritage

They arrange Jhaka Khela

Suggestions for safeguarding of the Heritage from the community

The water bodies should be preserved and community fishing is becoming less frequent.

Section-7: References to literature, discography, audiovisual materials or archives

References to/in literature

Audiovisual materials or archives

Discography or archives

Section-8: Modalities for updating the information contained in the inventory entry

Data Compiler (persons/groups, including community representatives, who compiled the information)

Date of Community Consent

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

Present Condition of Heritage

Becoming less

Brief description of Present condition of the Heritage, (if any)

Now it is less practiced by the Hajong women since there is a loss of fish diversity and water bodies.

Section-9: Community suggestions

Brief description of suggestions for safeguarding of the element by community members/experts/holders, (if any)

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any).

Section-10: Upload Document

Heritage Details Document

PDF