Name of the Element: 'Nobanno'- New Harvest Celebration

Name of Inventory: Test Inventory (T1)

Serial No: D3-00004

Brief Description

The festival is celebrated with mela which are called Nabanna Mela. It is one of the numerous festivals that gave the name "baro mase tero parban" (thirteen festivals in twelve months) to the land of Bengal. Although the nabanna parban is somewhat different from other ones since it is not connected to a religion such as Ratha Yatra. The villagers and locals from both the major religious groups join the festival with equal participation. There are also several fertility rituals which make the festival truly a harvest ritual. The festival gets a lot of support from the creative army of Bengali culture. Several poets, musicians, <u>baul</u> and painters flock to such mass gatherings.

Tribal communities in Bangladesh also celebrate the harvest. The Santals observe the Soharay festival in the months of Paus-Magh after the winter crop is harvested. The celebration marked by drinking, singing and dancing lasts for 7 days and 7 nights. The Usui tribes observe the Mailukma festival to welcome Laksmi, the goddess of crops. The Mru tribes observe the Chamoinat festival during which they sacrifice hens and entertain guests with new rice. The Garo tribes observe the Wangalla festival during which they feast, drink, sing and dance.

The courtyard of the house used to be painted with rice paste. Every family of the village used to observe this happy occasion by offering rice cakes to guests and visiting the houses of relatives. The whole village used to come alive with the sound of the pounding of rice and the blowing of conch shells. Everywhere there were groups singing Kirtan, Pala gan or Jari gan.

Region: celebrated across Bangladesh, within all farming communities.

Photographs: Video: Consent:

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