

Title: Digitised Preservation and Archival of Endangered Angika and its Folk Art and Literature: Conserving Cultural Heritage of Bihar

Principal Investigator (PI)

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Overview of the project:

Recognising the urgency of preserving Angika's cultural heritage, this archival study endeavours to digitise and preserve various forms of Angika folk art and literature by creating a user-friendly digital archive platform that catalogues, organises, and provides access to Angika's cultural artefacts. Since the digitised preservation and archival of Angika folk art and literature represent a critical step towards safeguarding the region's cultural heritage in the face of modern challenges, the study also explores its socio-linguistic and socio-cultural significance within its history, traditions, and identity. By preserving and archiving these cultural artefacts in a digitised format, this research seeks to honour the contributions of Angika-speaking communities to the cultural tapestry of the region and reaffirm the intrinsic value of linguistic and cultural diversity in an increasingly homogenised world.

Research Methodology:

The research methodology includes the following stages:

- Preliminary Investigation: Conducting a Survey of the Angika-speaking community and interviewing the experts in various Angika art and literature forms.
- Socio-Cultural Analysis: Employing qualitative research methods, including interviews, focus groups, and ethnographic studies, to explore the cultural significance and contextual relevance of Angika folk art and literature.
- Tools Identification: Identifying appropriate tools to digitise and preserve Angika folk art and literature in various forms like songs, stories, poetry, visual art, and oral traditions.
- Digitisation Process: Collaborating with local experts, linguists, and cultural practitioners to digitise Angika folk art and literature using appropriate tools and technologies.
- Digital Archive Development: Creating a user-friendly digital archive platform incorporating accessibility, metadata tagging, and multimedia content support.

Deliverables:

- Creation of a comprehensive digital archive containing digitised Angika folk art and literature, accessible to researchers, scholars, educators, and the general public.
- Establishment of best practices and guidelines for digitised preservation and archival of folk art and literature in a book form.
- Organising a Workshop/Conference on 'Digitization and Preservation of Folk Art and Literature'
- Publications of Research Papers in reputed journals in the area of Digital Humanities.
- Enhanced understanding of the socio-cultural significance of Angika's cultural heritage and its role in shaping the identity of the region through digitation and archival.