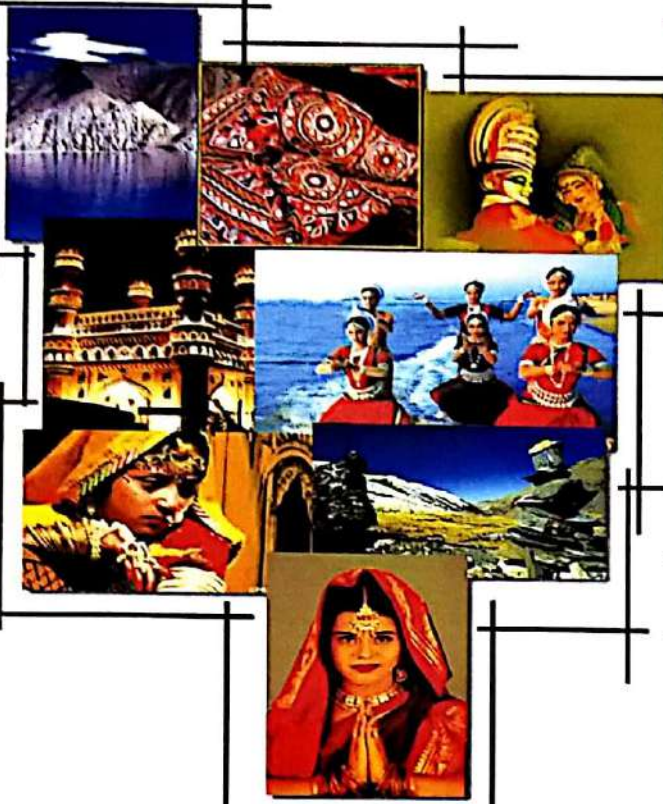


ART

**Culture
Heritage**

and

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GUPTAJIT PATHAK



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Means of Entertainment During the Nayak Period as Gleaned from their Art

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Since the beginning of human civilization, entertainment has been indispensable to man. In his fleeting moments of leisure, man has been amusing himself with different kinds of revelries either individually or with a companion or in a group. During the Vijayanagara-Nayak period, man used to entertain themselves by the activities such as acrobats, wrestling, hunting and music and dance. The Nayak art of sculpture and paintings reveal innumerable socio-cultural components i.e., dress, ornaments, hairstyle, war-weapons, household articles, customs, manners festivals, etc. The present paper attempts to bring out the various forms of entertainments as portrayed in the Nayak art with the corroborative evidences of Tamil and Telugu literature, foreigner's accounts and inscriptions.

Acrobats

The epigraphical records give much information about the community of acrobats. They were known as Dommaris. There was a tax known as Dommari-pannu paid to the acrobats. Often the acrobats gave the same tax