

Paper- LIMPGC203

Folklore and Limbu Folk-Literature

Unite-iii

Sub-topic: 3.4

-Suju Hangma Limboo
Limbu Department, KSU, Sikkim

Relevance and Significance of Folklore Study:

- 1. Preserves Culture and Traditions:** Studying folklore helps keep old stories, songs, customs, and beliefs alive. It shows us how our ancestors lived, thought, and celebrated.
- 2. Builds Identity:** Folklore gives people a sense of who they are. It connects communities to their roots and strengthens cultural identity.
- 3. Teaches Moral Lessons:** Many folktales carry important life lessons and values like honesty, bravery, kindness, and respect.
- 4. Passes Knowledge:** Folklore is a way of sharing practical wisdom—like farming tips, healing practices, or survival skills—especially before books and schools were common.
- 5. Encourages Creativity:** Folk stories and art inspire imagination and creativity in both children and adults.
- 6. Promotes Unity:** Folklore brings people together through shared stories and traditions, helping create a sense of belonging.
- 7. Helps Understand History:** Folklore gives clues about how people lived in the past, what they feared, loved, or believed in—even if no written records exist.
- 8. Supports Language Preservation:** Many folk stories are told in local languages or dialects, helping keep those languages alive.

- 9. Promotes Respect for Diversity:** By studying different folk traditions, we learn to appreciate and respect other cultures and their ways of life.
- 10. Strengthens Family Bonds:** Folklore is often shared between generations, helping grandparents, parents, and children connect through storytelling.
- 11. Provides Entertainment:** Folk songs, dances, and stories are also a source of fun and enjoyment, especially in festivals or gatherings.
- 12. Guides Behaviour and Beliefs:** Folklore often shapes people's values, behaviour, and even religious beliefs through repeated storytelling and practice.
- 13. Inspires Modern Art and Literature:** Many movies, books, and artworks are based on folklore, showing its lasting influence on creative industries.
- 14. Highlights Local Wisdom:** Every region has its own folklore that reflects its people's knowledge about nature, life, and survival.
- 15. Acts as a Tool for Education:** Teachers and elders often use folk tales and songs to teach lessons in a way that's easy to understand and remember.