



# ENCAPSULATION OF BHIL PAINTINGS

Satavisha Das, Dr. Amrita Rajput

Sanjeev Agrawal Global Educational University, Bhopal (M.P.) 462022

## Abstract

Bhil paintings depict stories and folklore. The paintings depict tribal gods and cultural icons, that are directly related to sacred and religious concepts. This is however rapidly diminishing and on the words of this is however rapidly diminishing and on the verge of extinction majorly due to callowness. An approach by the apparel industry may be envisioned with the intention of protecting and conserving Bhil paintings. The analytical approach was determined based on the body of available literature. A survey was carried out in order to understand the mental process and disposition preferences behind Bhil paintings.

**Key words:** Bhil, Paintings, Motifs, Tribal Market

## Introduction

Bhils are part of the pre-Aryan race. The name Bhil derives from the phrase villu, also known as billu in the Dravidian language. Bhil painting is ceremonial. Songs, rituals, tattoos, and folklore are all central to their craft. Each piece of art provides a story about the location by depicting people, animals, insects, gods, and festivals. Bhil paintings depict stories and folklore. Deaths and births are registered. The paintings depict tribal gods, animals, plants, and other cultural icons. These paintings depict some of the nation's most traditional and historic artistic traditions. They are recognized by their elaborate decorations and brilliant colors. Bhil paintings were originally created as a means of expression within the family. The Bhil community's traditional art form involves painting the walls of their homes, temples, and shrines. Creative paintings and doodles are formed on the mud walls with earthy hues. These colors are prepared using natural resources such as leaves and flowers. Traditional colors are made primarily from fields, surrounding rocks, or clay. Neem twigs are used to manufacture brushes and colors from ground-up natural materials like flowers and leaves. Also, when drawing various ethnic artworks, the middle or ring finger of the right hand is typically used to fill in the color. Traditional coloring methods for filling in the artwork include lime for white, blackberry for blue and purple, turmeric for yellow, and coal carbon for black. All of these materials are natural in origin. These basic ingredients are pounded to a powder and mixed with warm water to make a paste. Nowadays, for preparing traditional and modern paintings, acrylic or synthetic colours are also used by members of the younger generations of the Bhil tribe. The Bhils have retained a rich cultural past, which is represented in their distinct art style, by upholding their traditional practices and beliefs. Through

complex patterns and symbolic motifs, the Bhil tribe expressed their appreciation for the natural environment, animals, celestial bodies, and the cyclical cycle of life. Bhils' paintings featured themes such as leaves, flowers, plants, and banyan trees, as well as natural objects such as the sun, moon, and stars; animal motifs such as cattle, snakes, elephants, rats, tigers, and goats; and birds, particularly peacocks. Floral motifs are a significant part of their painting tradition. Swastikas, tridents, temples, shrines, and other sacred symbols appear throughout their art. The subjects, which range from celestial beings to ancestors, are presented in patterns that highlight the painters' individual skills. Bhil art is recognized by the motif's infill. Bhil painters only use well-organized, multi-coloured dots arranged in varied designs. These works of art are examples of pointillism. Because these patterns are totally at the discretion of the artists who use them, no two Bhil artists' creations are identical. Bhil art serves as a visual record of their history, enshrining societal norms and historical stories behind elaborate forms. This art form is more than just a medium for artistic expression; it is a living archive of the Bhil tribe's cultural heritage. Bhil Art is a timeless expression of the Bhil tribe's ingenuity and persistence. Its evolution from wall paintings to various mediums, as well as its preservation over time, demonstrates the tribe's dedication to their traditional heritage.

**Objective:** To protect and conserve Bhil paintings through a collaborative approach with apparel trading and understanding its disposition.

## Research Methodology

Research methodology is the process by which a researcher designs a study in order to produce genuine and trustworthy findings and research aims. As the thesis title implies, the primary purpose of the research is to perform a thorough analysis and summarize Bhil paintings. In the study of review of literatures, the authors have covered the marriage customs, youth dormitory systems, religious beliefs, ethnography, etc. A very brief discussion on how Bhil paintings performed at the Indian Tribal Market was also foreseen. But a nominal or next to no analysis has been done about their art and artistry, which is why this study covers salient semblance of the art culture of the Bhil tribe. The study covers fundamental methods and process of the Bhil art. It also reflects on the elements used in an artwork and also the inspiration and cogitation behind it.

The technique for acquiring information about the topic or attribute of interest is provided by the research instrument, which is one's tool for data collecting. Instruments that we may employ to gather, measure, and analyze data that is pertinent to your research topic are referred to as research instruments. A checklist, questionnaires, surveys, interviews, or simple tests can all serve as research tools.

The exploratory and analytical review approach employed for the research paper was based on the body of available literature. A questionnaire is created to help people understand the mental processes and disposition preferences behind Bhil paintings.

## Data Collection and Analysis

A questionnaire is a common method for gathering information on group processes. Questionnaires, like well-structured interviews, can investigate task and relationship-oriented processes. If the questions on a questionnaire are open-ended, the analytical process can resemble that of an interview. If the questionnaire is closed-ended, it must be rigorously tested for reliability before data analysis begins. Analysing data from closed-ended surveys includes interpreting a measurement in terms of a given theoretical concept, assuming sufficient proof of dependability. The types of scales used in a questionnaire influence which data analysis procedures are appropriate. The following questions have been chosen to help achieve the thesis's objectives.

Question: 1 Are you a resident of Madhya Pradesh?

- Yes
- No

Question: 2 Specify your current professional status

- Student
- Employee
- Unemployed

Question: 3 Do you know what "Bhil Paintings" are?

- Yes
- No

Question: 4 If the answer to the previous question is "Yes", then through what mass media did you know about "Bhil Paintings"?

- Magazine
- Internet
- Television
- Newspaper



Question: 5 Would you define yourself as an "Art Enthusiast"?

- Yes
- No

Question: 6 Since "Bhil Paintings" are classified as "endangered", would you like to entail in its perseverance?

- Yes
- No

Question: 7 Do you follow trends?

- Yes
- No

Question: 8 Are you willing to pay more for an item(garment) if it is of better quality and made sustainably?

- Yes
- No

Question: 9 What kinds of fabric do you prefer to wear in summer season?

- Cotton
- Rayon
- Linen
- Organza

Question: 10 What kinds of prints/patterns would you prefer in your garments?

- Original Art
- Abstract Art

## Discussion And Conclusion

The study covers salient semblance of the art culture of Bhil paintings. They are not merely a visual spectacle but also show profound expression of Bhil people's identity. Bhil paintings are a language in themselves, speaking through a myriad of symbols and patterns. Each motif in a Bhil painting holds a deeper meaning, often conveying the artist's connection to the cosmos, their reverence for nature, and the omnipresence of the divine in their lives. A very brief discussion on



how Bhil paintings performed at the Indian Tribal Market was also foreseen. The study covers fundamental methods and process of the Bhil paintings. It also reflects on the elements used in an artwork and also the inspiration and cogitation behind it. Bhil painting emerges as a vibrant thread, woven with stories of tradition, spirituality, and an innate connection to nature. The data collection was carried out through a survey. The data analysis was open ended. Consumers are willing to pay more for sustainable causes They favor original artwork above modern and abstract styles. It is our duty as guardians of cultural heritage to encourage and purchase traditional artistic endeavors. By doing so, we contribute to maintain a cultural legacy that has stood the test of time while also supporting the livelihoods of these talented artists. Each Bhil painting's complex elements and compelling stories must be seen on a global scale, acting as a reminder of the diversity and depth of India's artistic landscape.

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