



Shigmotsav

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- 'Shigmo' or 'Shigmotsav' is a festival celebrated **by the tribal communities of Goa** for the 'rich and golden harvest of paddy'. Various **agricultural communities including Kunbis, Gawdas and Velips** celebrate the festival. The festival also marks the onset of spring.
- According to Hindu Panchang Shigmotsav **celebrations lasts over a fortnight in the month of Phalgun-Chaitra**, which is March-April each year in the Gregorian calendar. The festival begins with 'Naman' that is the invocation of the local folk deities.
- The celebration is replete with traditional, colourful costumes, mythological installations, painted faces and costumes of various hues. It is a vibrant festival of colors, songs and dances which is associated with the culture and traditions of Goa.
- During the festival, the participants **perform folk dances like Ghodemodini (dance of equestrian warriors), Gopha and Phugadi**. Along this, musical instruments like Ghumat, Dhol, Madle and Tashe are also used.

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