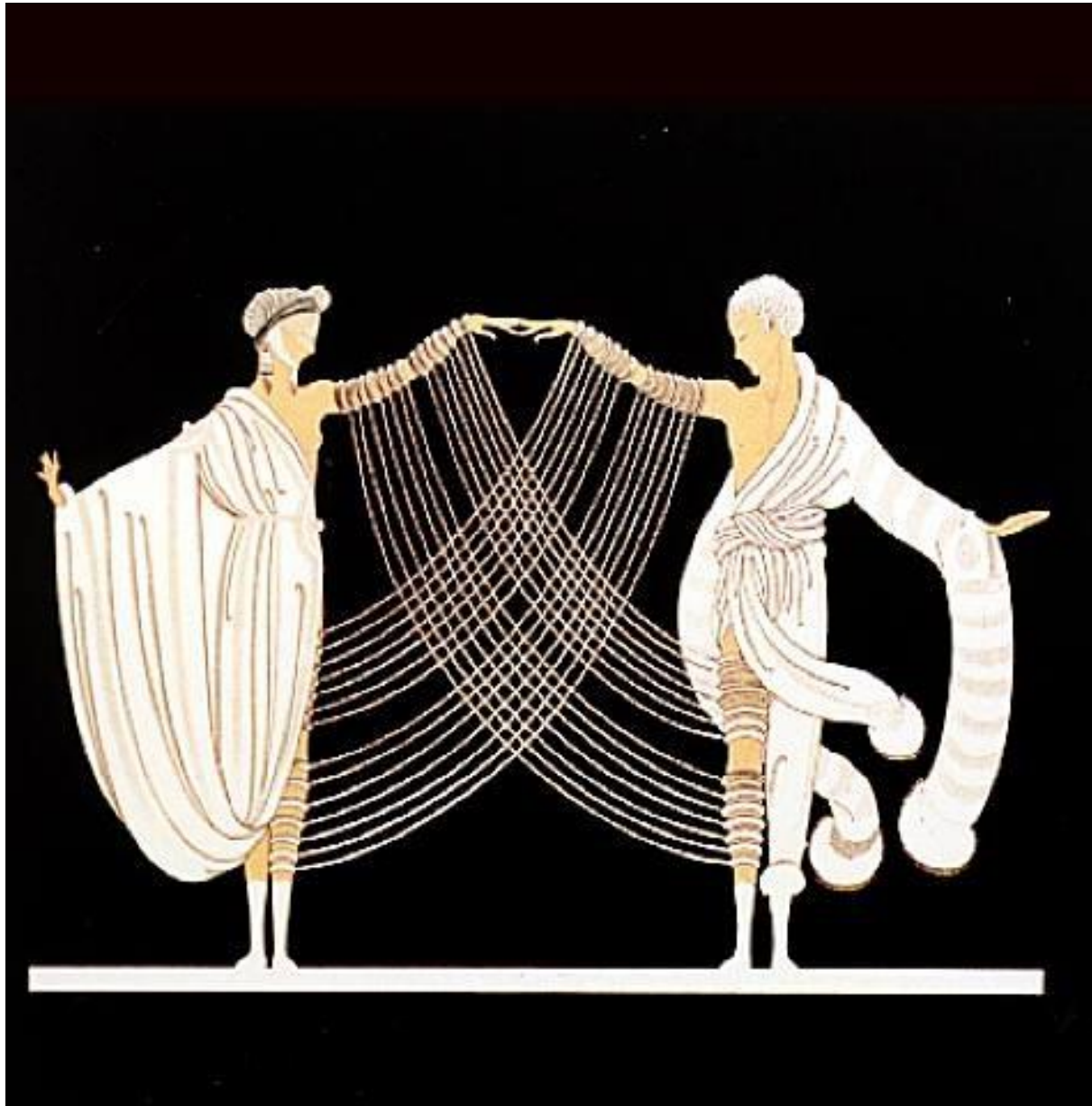


***CONTINUITY OF A TRADITION:  
REFERENCES OF RASA- DANCE OF  
GUJARAT AS FOUND IN THE  
APABHRAMSA AND OLD GUJARATI  
LITERATURE***

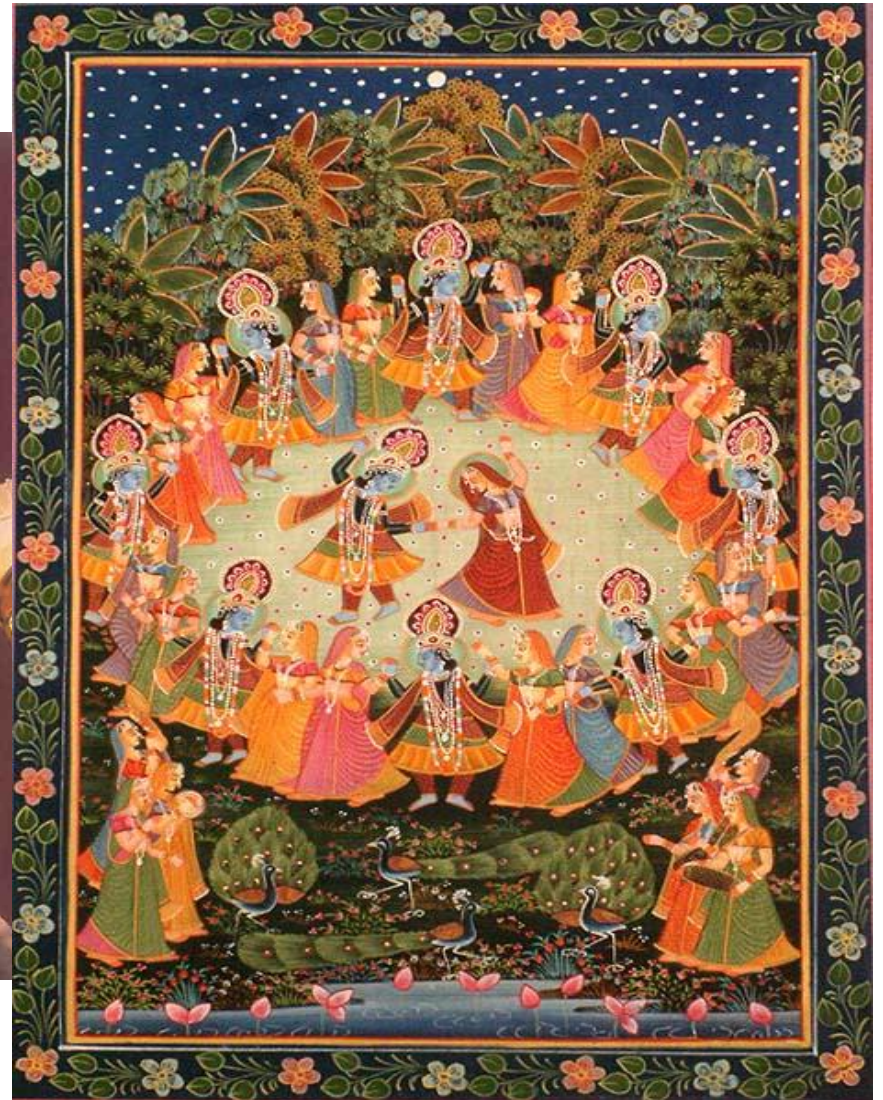
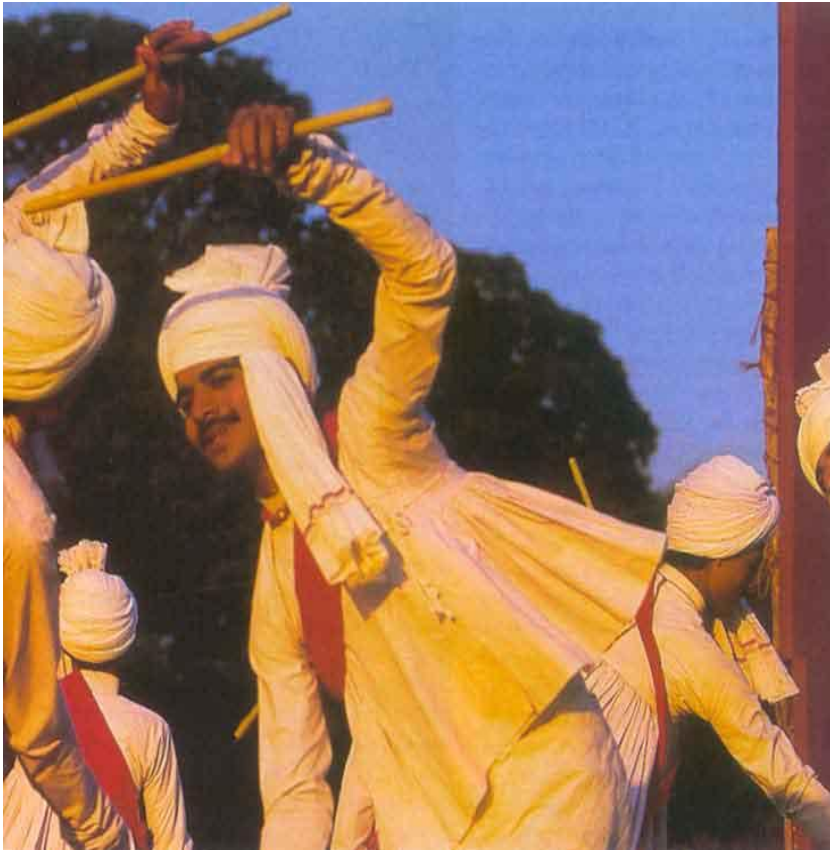
***-- Prof Dr Parul Shah  
Former DEAN and Head,  
Faculty of Performing Arts,  
M S University of Baroda  
MHRD-UGC Program Director,  
E Content PG Pathashala***



# NATYASHASTRA

.....Parvati on the other hand instructed Usha, the daughter of Banaa, in Lasya. She later taught the art to the milk maids of Dwaraka and they taught it to the women of Saurashtra who in their turn taught it to women of other countries. In this manner this art was traditionally handed down and has come to stay in this world.”

# Rasa-dance tradition in Gujarat



# Gurjari Apabhramsa Literature

- prevalent from around 7th A.D. to 15th cen. A.D.
- was never a spoken language
- was the language of poetry-- *Abhirokti*, the language of Bhillas with a fair contribution from Adivasi speech led the evolution of Western Rajasthani or the Gurjari Apabhramsa.
- was generally cultivated by the Jaina Sadhus.

**Three Pingalakaras**

**Jansraya – Chhandovicit,**

**Virhanka - Vrttajatisamucchaya**

**and**

**Swayambhu - Swayambmuchh**

**wrote during 6th to 9th cen. A.D.**

**described Rasa as a poetic form**

**i.e., Rasa prabandha.**



**Hansaurti of Agait,  
Sadvatsacarita of Bhima Jaina,  
Ranmallachanda of Sridhar Vyasa,  
Manhad-no-Prabandha etc. are  
some of the outstanding and  
beautiful poems composed by the  
non-Jainas.**





## ***RASA OR RASAKA OR HALLISAKA.***

In Uparupaka form, **Rasaka** is sung and danced. In medieval Gujarat, a lyrical form came to be called **Rasa**. Hemcandra denotes **Rasa** a **Raga Kavya** or **Nrtya-Rupak** in his **Kavyanusasan**. He gives two forms of **Kavya**.

(1) **Sravya**- which could be heard

(2) **Preksya** - which could be seen, which is further divided into two divisions

(A) **Pathya** - which could be recited

(B) **Geya** - which could be sung and danced.







# Geya-rupaka

- (A) Chanda -complete with a fixed number of letters or matras, like Chaupal, Duha, Dohak.
- (B) Couplets with names according to the number of stanzas - Batrisi, Bavni, Astapadi, Civial, Visi. Satak etc.
- (C) Names according to subject.
- I. -Rasa. Mala, Prabandha, Pooja, Swadhyay, Chaitapatti, Sarmasa.
  - II. -Caritra, Lekha, Bhas, Geeta, Stavana, Chodhaliu.
  - III. -Salacko, Geet, Hundi, Bol, Bhavna.

RASA LILA







# **The Rasa, Carcari and Phagu**

**connected with spring, circular dancing and  
music.**

**Carcari and Rasak were the Prabandha written in  
Prakrut**

**“Rasi Rasaulu Chariu junijjai”**

**-- Panchpandav Charit Rasu,  
Shalibhadrasuri, Sani 1410**









**Bharateswara Bahubali Gor of  
Vajrasenasuri written in sam 1225.**

**The Bharateswara Bahubali Rasa of  
Salibhadra**

**The Revantagiri Rasu' of Vijayasen Suri  
(Sam 1288)**

**The Saptaksetri Rasa of some unknown  
poet written in sam 1327 Vivahalau (Sam  
1331) of  
Somamurthy of Marwar**

























THANK YOU!