



Approved by: Chief Post Master General, West Bengal Circle, Department of Posts
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Kushtmandi of Dalsahin Dinsjpur is home to crafts persons who are involved in making wooden masks locally called As Mukha. It is inexorably linked with the "Gomira Dance", performed by various ethnic groups of Dinajpur, where the performers wear the masks. Bold demonic look is the characteristic feature of the masks. The wood crafted Gomira masks represent the characters of the two distinct forms of dance - the Gomira and the Ram-Lanwas. Most Gomira face masks have subsidiary characters crafted along the periphery of the main character. Initially the masks were made from pure woods, such as wood from Neem tree, as per Hindu mythology. Mostly the artists use wood from "gamar tree" (*Gmelina arborea*). Locally available and cheaper wood such as mangro, kadam, teak, etc. are also used. Masks are also used for household decoration. In 2018 "Wooden Mask of Kushtmandi" was granted the geographical indication certificate by Government of India. West Bengal Postali Circle would like to celebrate the cultural