

## **KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA INVENTORY ON THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Name of the Element:** **Chotyak** = tattoo, This is the act of making tattoos from ink, grass of wheat, and soot on the cheeks and foreheads of women.

**Brief Description:** It is practiced by first gathering the ingredients such as ink, grass of wheat (sharayk) and 'Ras' (soot from Bukhara).

The procedure is as stated below:

At first sharayk is taken and it is grinded till oil comes out of it. In this state the oil is mixed with inl (preferably blue or black) and 'Ras.'

When the mixture is ready, then with the help of a stick or any other material that would aid in making the design (tattoo) by dipping it in the mixture and applying on the face.

Then a needle is taken and pricked on the design. Blood is allowed to flow out.

The mixture is again put on the tattoo and the whole process takes about two days for the tattoo to be made properly .