

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

**Name of the Element:** Dautatu: Etymology, Dau = kidney beans, tatu = to gather

Ritual during the Chawmos festival in which collection, cooking and distribution of Kidney beans takes place predominantly carried out by young girls

**Brief Description:** On the afternoon of the 20<sup>th</sup> of December in the Birir valley, beans are collected by young girls from neighbouring villages e.g., Sindik village for residents of the Guru village in a small steel pot known as a *Thas*. As they reach each house, the girls knock towards the right of the main door and sing “*Dau bi gri truway o shara la tatra wala*”, “May your households be filled with the grace of your fields”. The kidney beans are brought back to the village, placed in a large pot and cooked in either a house or more frequently in the Hand (temple). The act of collecting and cooking takes place communally and is exclusively carried out by young girls who are yet to visit the Bashali. The cooking starts in the evening and ends at around 11:00 PM. The beans are boiled with a mixture of dried mint seeds, salt, and pepper. As the cooking ends, flute (*ishpoini*) music is played along with a jerry can providing percussion in the temple. The next morning, the same girls who had collected the beans from each household distribute the food across the villages including the households from which they had initially collected raw beans.