

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA INVENTORY ON THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Name of the Element: Rhash Girik: Compiling, Measuring and Distribution of Crops

Brief Description: Rhash Giriik is practiced twice a year after the harvest of summer and autumn. In this the grain is compiled, calculated and measured. In the process a small basket (bat'iinyi) that can hold 2.5 kg grain is used to fill a larger basket (prustheny) that can hold up to 8 bat'iinyi approximately 20kg. Bigger basket is made according to the smaller one. The bigger one can be equal to five, six or eight grain fills of the smaller one. For modern day measurements 20 grain fills of the smaller one equal to 50 kg or 4-grain fills of the big ones equal 50kg. One Batee = 2.5kgs, 20batee = 50kgs and 40 batees=100 kgs called one wa'aw in Kalash language.

Measuring a grain with these baskets is called Rizan karik. It is done by putting the grain in these baskets until it is heaped up and until no more grain stays on the heap. This is a practice done by the male members. Earlier it was practiced in the cattle houses, but now it is also practiced on the rooftops. A small proportion of crop is taken out in a clay pot for offering to Balumain in Indrein.

When the first meal is prepared from the crop, a feast is given to the neighbours and family members. This is called ishperigar. The units of bat'iinyi can be altered also. These are made to suit the need of the user. The bat'iinyi can also be 3 or 5. A small bat'iinyi can hold up to 2.5 kg but also another used that can be used to hold up to 5 kg.