

Indian children love the Khomcha–Wallah.

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By Liz Canham

Indian children love the Khomcha–Wallah. He wanders the streets, the busier the better, basket of goodies on his head and a cane stool under his arm. When he encounters a likely crowd he sets down his basket on the stool and starts to trade. The basket will contain the half–prepared ingredients of what is known in northern India as chaat – savoury snacks from traditional Hindu cuisine – which may be served in a banana leaf bowl.

One item might be Aloo Chaat which is fried, golden–brown potato cubes tossed with chilli powder, roasted cumin powder and chaat masala**.

Another, Dhai Baras which are split–pea patties. They will be already fried and softened in warm water. To complete the dish the Khomcha–Wallah may add beaten, creamy plain yoghurt with salt on top, and a choice of spice mixes. One mixture will be aromatic and probably contain roasted cumin, black pepper and dried mango powder, another will be hot a fiery with chillies, another sweet and sour like tamarind chutney.

Some Indian cities have become renowned for a certain sort of chaat – Jaipur for Paapri Chaat (similar to Dhai Baras but served with cubed potatoes chick peas) and Mumbai for Pau Bahji (spicy potato and vegetable curry served in a bun) but it is Delhi which is the chaat capital of India.

Some other chaats are:

Aloo Samosa – little pastry triangles filled with a spicy mixture of small diced potatoes and peas with chillies, chilli powder, fresh coriander, cumin and garam masala.

Keema Samosa – similar to above but including minced beef or lamb.

Aloo Tikki – mashed potato mixed with peas, cumin powder, corn flour, chilli powder and salt, formed into patties and fried until crisp and golden.

Tandoori Chicken Chaat – Tandoori chicken, shredded and mixed with diced green mango, onions,

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green chillies, coriander leaves and chaat masala**, dressed with lemon juice, oil and chilli powder.

**Chaat Masala is a spice mix made by combining the following ingredients.

4 tsp powdered dried mango
3 tsp cumin seeds, roasted and ground
3 tsp salt
½ tsp ground black pepper
1 tsp garam masala
1 tsp coriander seeds, roasted and ground
½ tsp ground ginger
½ tsp fennel seeds, roasted and ground (optional)
¼ tsp cayenne pepper

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Native American Indian Clothing For The Whole Family

By Edward Charkow

Throughout the years, the clothes that we wear have changed with society. Jeans, shirts, skirts, dresses, and even undergarments have changed designs. It almost seems as if nothing is the same as was it was before, that is expect for Native American Indian clothing.

While traditional clothing has been altered over time, for the most part, Native American Indian clothing has stayed the same. Native American Indians celebrate tradition and that can be seen in their clothing. Native American Indian clothing use to be worn by American Indians, but since then the clothing has expanded in popularity. Now, anyone who wants to can purchase Native American Indian clothing for their whole family.

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Suede or imitation suede are the two most commonly used materials in Native American Indian clothing. White, brown, and tan are often considered the most popular colors for American Indian clothing. Additional colors may be available. The color of a piece of clothing will all depend on the clothing maker or supplier. Popular clothing designs include matching fringes, unique borders, and beautiful beads. Different styles and designs make American Indian clothing popular for individuals of all ages.

Women, whether they are of Indian decent or not, are often frequent buyers of Native American Indian clothing. There are a wide variety of different reasons why women choose to and enjoy purchasing Native American Indian clothing. One of the most common reasons is it because of the beauty.

Shirts and dresses are the items that are mostly commonly purchased out of all women's clothing. In addition to shirts and dresses, a large number of women purchase clothing accessories. These accessories most often come in the form of purses, handbags, and shawls. Depending on the outfit in question, it is possible to purchase an outfit with matching accessories.

Men, unless they are of Indian descent, are less likely than women to purchase Native American Indian clothing. It is not known why more American men prefer not to wear Indian clothing; perhaps it has to do with the selection of clothing available. Their clothing can come in a wide variety of different colors, but the styles are not as large as the women's. Popular clothing pieces for men include leggings, shirts, and jackets.

Native American Indian clothing for children is almost as popular as women's clothing in today's society. A large number of parents purchase Native American Indian outfits for their children. There are a wide variety of different clothing styles and designs, including dresses, leggings, skirts, shirts, and jackets.

Native American Indian clothing can be purchased from a wide variety of locations. Clothing piece are most commonly purchased from a Native American Indian storefront location, online store, or custom ordered directly through a designer. Custom–made American Indian clothing is exciting because you can design your own piece of clothing, but it will increase the price of an outfit.

If you are interested in purchasing a Native American Indian outfit, it is important that you do not believe popular myths surrounding the clothing. Native American Indian clothing is not just limited to

those of Indian decent. Anyone and everyone who wishes to wear American Indian clothing can do so if they choose to.

Edward Charkow is the administrator for American Indian History. For more information please visit:

<http://www.americanindian–history.com>

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