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## **Bamboo is Spiritually Resonating throughout Earth and Beyond: A Successful Story**

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Bamboo music resonating everywhere Mythological, Religious, Vedic, Astrological, and Vaastu Shastra aspects associated with Bamboo. Bamboo flutes made out of bamboo in China date back to the 2nd Century BC. Music is at the center of what it means to be human – it is the sounds of human bodies and minds moving in creative, story-making ways. When we combine these elements form the rhythm, in other words, the strong pattern of sounds, words, or musical notes of poetry. Bamboos are a diverse group of evergreen perennial flowering plants subfamily Bambusoideae of the grass family Poaceae. The origin of the word "bamboo" is uncertain, but it probably comes from the Dutch or Portuguese language, which originally borrowed it from Malay or Kannada. In Chinese mythology, they believe Bamboo is the source of strength, due to its fast growth and resilience. Tongali, other Filipino tribes call it by names such as Pitung Ilong and Kalaleng. Versions of the nose flute are played in countries such as Taiwan, New Zealand, Congo, and Hawaii, although the material varies: wood, bamboo, and even whales' teeth. Tongali resembles a normal flute, it is four-holed as opposed to regular flutes that have eight or more. Yet, the sound it produces is both mellow and soothing, "Listening to it is very calming, making it ideal for meditation," though it was its history that caught his attention. Even in a shallow glance of peripheral aesthetic perspective, bamboo itself an art, like fine vertical strokes done by the keen Nature's brush.

When we get closer, bamboo is an elegant philosophy to make life simple from many complexities and teaches us how to start, sustain, and end a cycle of life most beautifully. By exemplifying itself as an incomparable equation between meaningful organic fragility and sustainability; bamboo always justifies material consumption. So, an artist who deals with bamboo can find art and aestheticism in both forms of manifest and latent components to get deeply inspired by. As an art material, bamboo has abundant dynamic potentials indeed. But we have to get past the tough fence of their high-level biologically disciplined characteristics that formed by one of the most fiber orientation on earth.



**Figure 1: Bamboo as an art material. International Open Elective Bamboo Workshop organized by NID-Bangalore " Healing Thru Bamboo Music"**

### **Bamboo history: Profoundness of Music, Nature, Instrument**

An aerophone is a musical instrument that produces sound primarily by causing a body of air to vibrate, without the use of strings or membranes, and without the vibration of the instrument itself adding considerably to the sound. The types are as follows

Bulungudyong – vertical flute (Pinatubo Ayta)

Palendag – lip-valley flute (Kalinga)

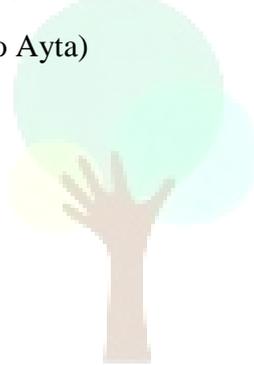
Tongali – nose flute (Kalinga)

Tumpong – bamboo flute

Tulali – flute with 6 holes

Tumpong – bamboo flute

Bansik - bamboo flute with three holes of the Negrito people in Zambales.



*Edicts of Ashoka: Kalinga was a prosperous region consisting of peaceful and artistically skilled people. Known as the Utkala, they were the first from the region who traveled offshore to the southeast for trade. King Ashoka is the other side of the Kalinga war*



**Source : [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_War)**



***Figure 2: Sushant C. Sathyendran National Institute of Design (NID) in Bengaluru, Rajiv VK Edgar Balansi Banasan he is a master bamboo craftsman and instrumentalist, musician, composer, performer, artist, and lecturer belong to the Kalinga tribe of the Philippines***

The National Institute of Design (NID) is internationally acclaimed as one of the foremost multi-disciplinary institutions in the field of design education and research. Tongali, a nose flute instrument used by tribes in Philippines practiced by Bamboo artist, Rajiv VK introduced to woodwind instrument through Edgar Balansi Banasan, a bamboo artist from the Philippines, who was one among the participants at the workshop in February 2019, when he was attending a workshop Feeling through Bamboo Music, organized by National Institute of Design (NID) in Bengaluru. Rajiv VK shares that Sushant C. Satyendran is his Guru, The guide and the light of knowledge for all his endeavors. He is well known for his talent and support to the aspired bamboo students.

Based on the inspiration gathered from Edgar B. Banasan works, Rajiv experimented to re-create the instrument and expand its reach and crafted his own Tongali. This impressed Banasan and presented a Tongali to aspire his musical journey. Besides this instrument emergence in cordial music, it's also used to "awaken" paddy fields. There is much research going on observing nature's response to the music resulting in qualitative and quantitative improvements in production. Music is the one that blends and assigns in the reorientation of the co-existence of man and nature.

### **Fascinated by the instrument of Playing Tongali**

The method of playing Tongali so beautifully like a string of pearls, he says that one has to be calm when we play it. With a regular flute you can play it irrespective of your state of mind. However, with Tongali or any nose flute, for that matter. There is a requirement of perfect ambiance with a peaceful environment. It takes years to master the instrument and making and playing means fine-tuning skills.



## Success Story of Rajiv – The Artist: Wind Craft



**Figure 3 Photo Source and the Designer Craftsman also Bamboo Craft- Trainer in the past 17 years and more Rajiv V K, Wind Craft, Thattekkani P.O, Idukki District, Kerala. For more details: [rajivwind@gmail.com](mailto:rajivwind@gmail.com), Mob No: 9961972376**

Bamboo is more than a medium of expression; it is a muse that constantly inspires to innovate and use in different ways. Over the past two decades, he has been working with bamboo through his brand Windcraft and has made sustainable pieces of art, utilitarian items, and curios.

Among the popular handicrafts he has designed are bamboo wind chimes that evoke sounds of the forest and a flowing stream. A Government license permits him to source bamboo directly from the forest. He is also a craft consultant and design trainer.

Making and playing and practicing Tongali, but also learning to play it. He had participated recently in an event in Bengaluru, last year, before lockdown, where the participants really enjoyed the aura and to this Rajiv says that It is not a song but more of a tune.

### **Bamboo is a spirituality and a way forward: Inspiration, Innovation and Togetherness**



**Figure 4: Training young aspirants to make the flute teaching them the indigeneous art and culture our tribes incorporating advanced technology**



## References

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