



## The Cultural Significance and Preservation of Kokborok Folktales

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### ABSTRACT

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This volume explores the deep cultural significance of Kokborok folktales and their role in preserving the heritage of the Tripuri people. Kokborok, the indigenous language of Tripura, holds a rich tradition of oral storytelling, with folktales serving as an essential vehicle for transmitting moral lessons, cultural values, and historical narratives. These tales, passed down through generations, not only reflect the worldview of the Borok people but also play a pivotal role in maintaining social cohesion and cultural identity. In addition to exploring the influence of religious practices and gender roles on the preservation and transmission of these tales, this volume examines the transition from oral traditions to written narratives, focusing on the challenges and opportunities posed by modern times. Comparisons between Kokborok folktales and global folklore traditions are also drawn to highlight the universality and uniqueness of these stories. Finally, this volume addresses the threats posed by globalization and modernization to the preservation of Kokborok's oral traditions, while offering strategies for ensuring their survival.

### 1. Introduction

Folktales are an integral part of the cultural fabric of the Tripuri people, and Kokborok, their native language, has long been the primary medium through which these stories are passed down from generation to generation. These tales, often told during community gatherings or family events, are much more than simple stories—they are vessels of history, morality, and identity. In Kokborok-speaking communities, oral traditions have served as a crucial means of preserving cultural knowledge, fostering social values, and transmitting historical events, all while entertaining listeners of all ages.

At the heart of Kokborok folktales is the concept of community. Storytelling in Borok society is a communal activity, often bringing together elders, adults, and children in a shared space of learning and reflection. The tales typically feature moral lessons, personified animals, mythical creatures, and historical figures, all of which reflect the relationship between humans and nature, as well as the social and ethical codes governing Tripuri society. These stories are deeply intertwined with the region's natural environment, with animals, forests, and rivers playing significant symbolic roles. In this way, Kokborok folktales not only preserve cultural narratives but also promote environmental consciousness.

However, as society continues to modernize and as global influences increasingly permeate Tripura, the traditional practice of oral storytelling faces new challenges. The shift from rural to urban life, the growing dominance of digital media, and the increasing use of languages like Bengali and English have all contributed to a decline in the transmission of Kokborok folktales. Moreover, the younger generation, often more engaged with digital and global cultures, has become less connected to these age-old traditions.

This volume seeks to examine the vital role that Kokborok folktales have played—and continue to play—in shaping the cultural identity of the Borok people. It explores how these stories reflect the values, beliefs, and practices of Tripuri society, while also analyzing the changes that have occurred as Kokborok transitions from an oral to a written language. Furthermore, this volume delves into the role of women as key transmitters of these tales and compares Kokborok folklore with other global folktale traditions, offering a broader perspective on its uniqueness and universality.

Ultimately, this volume underscores the importance of preserving Kokborok folktales in modern times, exploring strategies for safeguarding these stories in the face of rapid social and technological changes. By examining the intersection of tradition, modernity, and identity, this volume offers valuable insights into the future of Kokborok's oral and written literary traditions.

## **2. The Role of Kokborok in Tripuri Society and Culture**

### **2.1 Oral Traditions as Cultural Preservation**

For generations, oral traditions have been a powerful means of preserving the history and customs of Tripuri society. Storytelling in Kokborok is not simply a form of entertainment but a mechanism for reinforcing cultural values. Folktales often carry messages about social cohesion, respect for nature, and the importance of community life. In the absence of written records for much of the language's history, these tales played a crucial role in keeping the culture alive and vibrant. The rich oral history has acted as a bridge between the past and present, ensuring that younger generations understand their heritage and identity.

The language itself is filled with idiomatic expressions, proverbs, and phrases that reflect the worldview of the Borok people. These expressions often encapsulate wisdom about human nature, social behavior, and the environment. Through these, Kokborok has maintained a strong link to Tripura's natural surroundings, with many stories involving animals, rivers, and forests that reflect the importance of the natural world in the Borok community's daily life.

### **2.2 Kokborok in Rituals and Religious Practices**

Kokborok is also deeply intertwined with the spiritual and religious practices of the Borok people. Traditional Tripuri rituals and religious ceremonies are often conducted in Kokborok, further embedding the language within the community's spiritual life. Many folktales are linked to the religious beliefs and rituals of the people, often invoking deities, spirits, and ancestral figures.

Religious events, such as the worship of Garia, the festival that celebrates the harvest and is central to Tripuri culture, are conducted in Kokborok. The festival itself is accompanied by the recitation of oral narratives that describe the gods' blessings on the people and the earth. These rituals and accompanying stories are critical to maintaining the community's connection to both the language and their cultural heritage.

### **2.3 Challenges in Modern Times**

Despite its deep roots in Tripuri culture, Kokborok faces modern challenges. The increasing dominance of Bengali and English, particularly in urban areas, has reduced the prevalence of Kokborok in everyday interactions. Younger generations, especially those pursuing education in Bengali or English, are less

exposed to Kokborok's rich oral traditions, which poses a risk to the language's continued cultural role. In response, there has been a growing movement to revitalize the language through formal education, cultural programs, and the promotion of Kokborok literature in both oral and written forms.

### **3. Traditional Kokborok Folktales and Their Impact on Modern Literature**

#### **3.1 Themes and Motifs in Kokborok Folktales**

A central feature of Kokborok folktales is their close connection to nature. Many stories depict animals, such as tigers, birds, and snakes, which are portrayed as wise or cunning creatures, often teaching humans lessons about humility, respect for nature, or community values. These animal tales not only entertain but also convey moral lessons that emphasize the importance of harmony between humans and the natural world.

For example, one common folktale motif is the theme of cooperation and unity, where animals or humans work together to overcome challenges. These stories reinforce the Tripuri belief in collective responsibility and social harmony, reflecting the importance of community in Borok culture. Other tales may explore the consequences of greed, dishonesty, or disrespect for nature, with characters often meeting unfortunate fates as a result of their misdeeds.

#### **3.2 Impact on Modern Kokborok Literature**

As Kokborok transitions from an oral to a written language, these traditional folktales continue to influence modern literature. Writers and poets have drawn upon the themes and structures of these stories, adapting them to suit contemporary issues while maintaining their cultural resonance. This blending of traditional motifs with modern narratives has enriched Kokborok literature, ensuring that it remains relevant to today's readers while preserving its deep cultural roots.

Authors like **Sudhanwa Debbarma** and **Naresh Chandra Debbarma** have incorporated elements of traditional folktales into their works, reimagining ancient stories to address modern concerns such as environmental degradation, migration, and cultural loss. These contemporary adaptations ensure that Kokborok's literary tradition remains dynamic and evolving, rather than static and confined to the past.

#### **3.3 Challenges in Folktale Preservation**

Despite these efforts, there are significant challenges in preserving traditional Kokborok folktales in modern times. The increasing influence of Bengali and English, as well as the dominance of digital media, has shifted the focus away from traditional storytelling practices. Furthermore, with younger generations more connected to global cultures through the internet, there is a risk that Kokborok's oral traditions may be seen as outdated or irrelevant.

To address these challenges, many cultural organizations are working to document and preserve traditional stories through digital archives, publications, and cultural programs aimed at young people. By integrating these folktales into formal education and leveraging technology to make them accessible to a wider audience, there is hope that Kokborok's oral traditions can be preserved and revitalized for future generations.

#### **4. Influence of Religious Practices on Kokborok Oral Literature**

##### **4.1 Spiritual and Mythological Themes in Folktales**

Religious practices have had a profound influence on the content and structure of Kokborok oral literature. Many traditional folktales and oral narratives are steeped in spiritual themes, involving mythological beings, gods, and ancestral spirits. These stories reflect the Borok people's spiritual beliefs and their connection to the natural and supernatural worlds.

For example, the worship of the deity *Garia*, who is honored during the harvest festival, is a common theme in Kokborok oral traditions. Stories about *Garia* emphasize the reciprocal relationship between humans and nature, illustrating how the deity blesses the people with good harvests in exchange for respect and proper rituals. These folktales are not only spiritual narratives but also serve as moral lessons, teaching the importance of gratitude, balance, and respect for natural cycles.

Other folktales involve interactions with spirits or gods who guide or challenge the protagonists. These spiritual beings are often portrayed as guardians of the natural world, with the power to either protect or punish humans based on their actions. Through these stories, the Borok people reinforce their belief in the interconnectedness of all living things and the importance of living in harmony with both the seen and unseen forces of the universe.

##### **4.2 Rituals and Ceremonial Storytelling**

In addition to their content, Kokborok oral traditions are also deeply intertwined with religious rituals and ceremonies. Many stories are recited or performed as part of religious festivals or rites of passage, ensuring that they remain an integral part of community life. For instance, during the *Garia Puja* festival, oral stories about the deity *Garia* are often told to remind participants of the origins of the festival and the importance of maintaining proper ritual practices.

Ceremonial storytelling not only preserves these tales but also strengthens communal bonds, as storytelling is often a collective experience that involves the entire community. Elders take on the role of custodians of tradition, passing down sacred knowledge through the recitation of these stories, while younger generations learn about their cultural and spiritual heritage through participation in these rituals.

### **4.3 Challenges in Maintaining the Connection Between Religion and Oral Literature**

As the Borok people increasingly integrate into modern, urbanized life, there is a growing disconnect between younger generations and the traditional religious practices that have long supported the transmission of Kokborok folktales. The move away from rural, community-centered lifestyles has led to a decline in participation in religious festivals and rituals, which in turn affects the preservation of oral literature.

With fewer opportunities to engage in these traditional ceremonies, younger Borok speakers may not be exposed to the religious stories and spiritual themes that were once a core part of their cultural education. This disconnect poses a challenge to the continued relevance of Kokborok oral literature, as it risks losing its connection to the spiritual beliefs and practices that have sustained it for generations.

To address this challenge, some community leaders and cultural organizations are working to adapt religious storytelling practices to modern contexts. This includes incorporating Kokborok spiritual stories into digital platforms and educational programs, as well as organizing cultural festivals in urban areas to reconnect younger generations with their spiritual heritage.

## **5. The Transition of Oral Traditions to Written Narratives**

### **5.1 Challenges of the Transition from Oral to Written Forms**

The transition from oral traditions to written narratives has been a critical step in preserving Kokborok literature. However, this shift has not been without its challenges. Oral storytelling is inherently flexible, with stories often being adapted by the storyteller depending on the audience, occasion, or setting. This

fluidity allows for personal interpretation and keeps the stories alive within the community. In contrast, written literature tends to fix stories in a more static form, potentially limiting the creative and adaptive aspects of oral traditions.

One major challenge in this transition has been the issue of script standardization, as discussed in previous volumes. Without a widely accepted written script for Kokborok, the process of recording oral stories has been fragmented. While some writers prefer using the Roman script, others opt for the Bengali or Devanagari script, leading to inconsistencies in how Kokborok is written and read. This lack of standardization complicates the broader effort to record and distribute written versions of Kokborok folktales.

Moreover, the move from oral to written traditions has led to concerns about the loss of certain cultural nuances that are inherent in oral storytelling. The performance aspects—tone, rhythm, gestures, and audience interaction—are difficult to capture in written form. As a result, some of the richness and immediacy of Kokborok folktales may be lost in the process of writing them down.

## **5.2 Benefits of Written Narratives for Preservation**

Despite these challenges, the transition to written narratives offers numerous benefits for the preservation of Kokborok literature. Writing down Kokborok folktales ensures that they can be passed down to future generations in a more permanent form. This is particularly important in a rapidly modernizing society where oral storytelling is becoming less common.

Written narratives also make Kokborok literature more accessible to a wider audience. Once recorded, these stories can be shared beyond the immediate community, allowing for the dissemination of Kokborok culture to readers both within and outside of Tripura. Written texts can be incorporated into educational curricula, making them a key tool for teaching younger generations about their cultural heritage.

In addition, the written form allows for more in-depth analysis and interpretation of Kokborok folktales. Scholars, writers, and researchers can engage with these texts in ways that are not possible with oral traditions alone. The availability of written narratives has also led to the development of new genres within Kokborok literature, including novels, essays, and scholarly works that build upon traditional stories.

### 5.3 Modern Writers Preserving Oral Traditions Through Written Narratives

Several modern Kokborok writers have played a pivotal role in preserving oral traditions by recording them in written form. Authors like **Radha Mohan Thakur** and **Daulat Ahmed** have documented many traditional stories, ensuring that they are preserved for future generations. These writers often blend elements of oral traditions with modern literary techniques, creating a bridge between the past and the present.

Additionally, the digital age has provided new opportunities for preserving written versions of Kokborok folktales. Digital archives, online platforms, and e-books allow Kokborok literature to reach a global audience while ensuring that the stories remain accessible for generations to come. Writers and cultural activists are increasingly turning to these technologies to document and share Kokborok's rich literary heritage.

## 6. The Role of Women in Preserving and Transmitting Kokborok Folktales

### 6.1 Women as Custodians of Oral Traditions

In Kokborok-speaking communities, women have historically played a central role in preserving and transmitting folktales and oral traditions. As primary caregivers and community elders, women are often the first storytellers in the lives of children, passing down the cultural knowledge, moral lessons, and historical narratives embedded in Kokborok folktales. These stories are shared in domestic settings, during family gatherings, and at community events, making women the custodians of the language and the culture it carries.

Women's role as storytellers has also been crucial in maintaining the continuity of Kokborok oral traditions through periods of social and cultural change. In times of political upheaval, migration, or displacement, women have ensured that the stories of the Borok people continue to be told, preserving their cultural identity even in the face of external pressures.

### 6.2 The Influence of Women's Perspectives in Folktales

Many Kokborok folktales reflect women's perspectives, especially in terms of themes like family, morality, and survival. Women in these stories often embody resilience, wisdom, and moral authority, serving as examples for future generations. The portrayal of female characters in these stories underscores the important role women play within the family and the community.



For instance, in several Kokborok folktales, the central characters are women who face and overcome challenges through cleverness, patience, and perseverance. These stories convey the value of emotional strength, nurturing, and resourcefulness—qualities that are often associated with women in traditional Tripuri society. Through these narratives, women not only reinforce cultural norms but also subtly challenge the boundaries of their roles, showcasing their agency and influence within the community.

### **6.3 Challenges Women Face in Preserving Folktales**

While women continue to play a key role in the preservation of Kokborok folktales, modern challenges have made it more difficult for these traditions to be passed down in the same way. Urbanization, migration, and the increasing influence of Bengali and English in educational and social contexts have disrupted the traditional channels through which women transmit stories to the younger generation.

In many cases, women who have moved from rural areas to urban centers find themselves disconnected from the cultural environments where oral storytelling thrives. With the demands of modern life, the time and space for storytelling within families and communities have diminished, making it harder for women to continue their role as cultural transmitters.

In addition, the influence of digital media and globalized forms of entertainment has shifted the focus away from traditional storytelling practices. Younger generations are increasingly drawn to technology and digital platforms, where access to global cultures and languages is easy. This creates a generational gap in which the younger Borok people are less exposed to Kokborok folktales, which rely on face-to-face interaction and oral transmission.

### **6.4 Adapting Traditional Storytelling in Modern Contexts**

Despite these challenges, there are ongoing efforts to adapt the role of women as cultural transmitters in modern contexts. Many cultural organizations and community groups are creating platforms for women to share Kokborok folktales in new ways. These include storytelling events, digital recordings, and collaborations with schools to integrate oral traditions into educational programs.

By using modern technology to record and share these stories, women can continue to pass down Kokborok folktales in a way that resonates with younger audiences. Some women storytellers are even using social media platforms to reach a broader audience, ensuring that the stories they have been telling for generations are accessible to both local and global communities.

Moreover, the recognition of women's roles as custodians of cultural heritage has led to increased support from community leaders and cultural institutions, who now see the preservation of Kokborok folktales as a key part of maintaining the Borok people's identity.

## **7. Comparative Analysis of Kokborok Folktales and Global Folktale Traditions**

### **7.1 Common Themes Across Folktale Traditions**

Kokborok folktales share many themes with folktales from other cultures around the world, reflecting the universal human experience. Common motifs such as the triumph of good over evil, the importance of community, and the reverence for nature can be found in folktales from diverse cultural backgrounds. In Kokborok folktales, animals, nature, and supernatural forces often play significant roles, teaching lessons about humility, respect, and the interconnectedness of life. These motifs are also present in global folktales, from African and Native American stories to European and Asian mythologies.

For example, the use of animal characters to convey moral lessons is a common theme in both Kokborok folktales and African fables. In Kokborok stories, animals like tigers, snakes, and birds often represent wisdom, cunning, or danger. Similarly, in African folklore, animals such as the tortoise, hare, and lion are central characters that embody human traits and teach moral lessons. These shared themes demonstrate the universality of folktales in conveying values and wisdom across different cultures.

### **7.2 Unique Cultural Elements in Kokborok Folktales**

While Kokborok folktales share universal themes with global folktales, they also contain unique cultural elements that reflect the specific beliefs, values, and experiences of the Borok people. One such element is the deep connection to nature that permeates Kokborok storytelling. The forests, rivers, and animals of Tripura are not only settings for these stories but active participants in the narrative, often representing spiritual forces or ancestral spirits. This contrasts with many Western folktales, where nature often serves as a backdrop rather than an active force.

Additionally, the role of deities and spirits in Kokborok folktales is distinct from those in many other traditions. The reverence for gods like *Garia* and the emphasis on rituals that maintain balance between humans and nature reflect the Borok people's animist beliefs. While many global folktale traditions involve interactions with gods and supernatural beings, Kokborok stories tend to focus on the symbiotic

relationship between humans and these forces, emphasizing harmony with nature as a central moral value.

### **7.3 Moral Lessons and Social Norms in Kokborok and Global Folktales**

Kokborok folktales, like many folktale traditions worldwide, serve as a means of reinforcing social norms and imparting moral lessons to younger generations. These lessons often revolve around community values, such as cooperation, honesty, respect for elders, and the importance of maintaining balance in society. For example, stories about animals working together to overcome challenges in Kokborok folktales mirror similar narratives found in global stories that emphasize collective effort over individualism.

One key difference between Kokborok folktales and some Western folktale traditions is the way morality is framed. In Kokborok stories, moral lessons often revolve around maintaining harmony within the community and with nature, whereas Western folktales, particularly those from European traditions, tend to focus more on individual virtues such as bravery, intelligence, and resourcefulness. This reflects the communal nature of Tripuri society, where the well-being of the group is often prioritized over individual success.

### **7.4 Adaptation and Survival of Folktales in the Modern World**

The process of adapting folktales to modern contexts is a challenge faced by many cultures around the world, including Kokborok. While traditional storytelling practices remain vital in preserving cultural heritage, modern forms of media and entertainment have begun to overshadow these oral traditions. Similar trends are observed in other cultures where younger generations are more engaged with globalized forms of media, leading to a decline in traditional folktale transmission.

However, both Kokborok and global folktale traditions are finding ways to adapt to these changes. The recording of oral traditions in written or digital formats, the integration of folktales into educational programs, and the use of social media platforms to share these stories are all strategies being used to keep these traditions alive. For example, indigenous communities in the Americas and Australia are using digital media to preserve and share their oral traditions, much like how Kokborok activists are working to preserve their stories.

These efforts demonstrate that while the medium of storytelling may change, the underlying cultural importance of folktales remains strong. By adapting to new technologies and media platforms, Kokborok folktales, along with global traditions, continue to evolve and survive in the modern world.

## **8. Challenges in Preserving Kokborok Folktales in Modern Times**

### **8.1 Impact of Globalization and Urbanization on Storytelling Traditions**

The rapid globalization and urbanization of Tripura, like many parts of India, have presented significant challenges to the preservation of traditional Kokborok folktales. As more people, especially younger generations, move to cities for education and employment, they become less connected to the rural communities where these stories are traditionally shared. Urban lifestyles, dominated by fast-paced schedules and technological entertainment, leave little space for the slow, intimate, and communal activity of oral storytelling.

Globalization has also introduced new forms of entertainment and storytelling, particularly through movies, television, and social media platforms, which increasingly dominate the attention of younger audiences. These globalized forms of media often convey values and narratives that are far removed from the traditional moral lessons embedded in Kokborok folktales. As a result, there is a growing disconnect between the younger Borok generation and the cultural heritage passed down through these folktales.

### **8.2 Language Shift and Decline in Use of Kokborok**

Another significant challenge to preserving Kokborok folktales is the shift in language use among the younger generation. As Bengali and English have become dominant languages in educational and professional settings, many young Borok people prioritize learning these languages over Kokborok. The decline in the use of Kokborok, particularly in urban areas, directly affects the transmission of folktales, as the stories are intimately tied to the language in which they are told.

Language is not just a vehicle for storytelling but also a repository of cultural meaning. The idioms, expressions, and unique linguistic structures of Kokborok are essential for understanding the deeper nuances of these folktales. When the language is lost, much of the cultural context embedded in these stories is lost as well. The decline in Kokborok use poses a significant threat to the preservation of these

oral traditions, as younger generations may no longer understand or appreciate the full meaning of the stories.

### **8.3 Competition from Digital and Globalized Media**

In modern times, the rise of digital media and globalized entertainment has significantly altered the landscape of storytelling. With access to a vast array of global content on platforms like YouTube, Netflix, and social media, traditional forms of storytelling face stiff competition. Younger audiences are increasingly drawn to these globalized forms of entertainment, which are often in languages like Bengali, Hindi, and English, and offer instant gratification in the form of fast-paced, visually rich narratives.

Traditional Kokborok folktales, by contrast, require patience, attention, and engagement with the storyteller. The communal aspect of storytelling, where stories are told in person within a group, is being replaced by individualized consumption of media through smartphones and laptops. This shift in the way stories are consumed has weakened the role of oral traditions in the community, making it harder to sustain the practice of passing down Kokborok folktales.

### **8.4 Efforts to Preserve and Revitalize Kokborok Folktales**

Despite these challenges, there are ongoing efforts to preserve and revitalize Kokborok folktales in modern times. One key strategy is the documentation of these stories in written and digital formats. Several cultural organizations, along with individual researchers and writers, have been working to record oral folktales and publish them in books, anthologies, and digital archives. This ensures that even if the oral tradition weakens, the stories themselves are preserved for future generations.

Another approach involves incorporating Kokborok folktales into formal education. Schools in Tripura, particularly those serving Borok communities, have begun including Kokborok literature and folktales in their curricula. By teaching these stories in schools, educators hope to instill a sense of pride in the students' cultural heritage and encourage them to engage with the language and its stories.

Additionally, there are efforts to use digital platforms to engage younger audiences with Kokborok folktales. Social media campaigns, YouTube videos, and podcasts featuring traditional stories have been created to appeal to tech-savvy younger generations. By presenting the stories in modern, accessible formats, cultural activists hope to bridge the gap between traditional oral storytelling and contemporary digital media consumption.

Collaborations between artists, writers, and filmmakers have also led to the adaptation of Kokborok folktales into modern formats, such as short films, animated videos, and theater performances. These adaptations retain the essence of the traditional stories while making them more engaging for modern audiences, ensuring that the cultural relevance of Kokborok folktales continues in contemporary contexts.

## 9. Conclusion

Kokborok folktales are a vital part of the cultural identity and heritage of the Tripuri people. Passed down through generations, these stories not only serve as a form of entertainment but also carry deep moral, social, and spiritual lessons that reflect the values and beliefs of the Borok community. As oral traditions, they have played a critical role in preserving the language and cultural practices of the Borok people, acting as a bridge between the past and the present.

However, as modernization and globalization continue to shape the world, the traditional practice of oral storytelling faces significant challenges. The rise of urbanization, the shift away from Kokborok in favor of more dominant languages, and the increasing influence of globalized media have contributed to the decline in the transmission of these folktales. Younger generations, in particular, are becoming disconnected from the stories that have long been central to their cultural identity.

Despite these challenges, there is hope for the preservation and revitalization of Kokborok folktales. Efforts to document and record these stories in written and digital formats, along with their inclusion in educational curricula, are helping to ensure that these stories are not lost. The use of modern technology, such as social media and digital platforms, has also opened up new avenues for engaging younger audiences with traditional stories, making them accessible in formats that resonate with contemporary life.

Moreover, the role of women as custodians of oral traditions continues to be a key factor in the preservation of Kokborok folktales. As storytellers within families and communities, women have

historically been instrumental in passing down these stories, and their efforts remain vital today. By adapting storytelling practices to modern contexts and continuing to share these tales in schools, homes, and public events, women are helping to ensure that Kokborok's rich oral heritage endures.

The transition from oral to written narratives has further ensured the survival of Kokborok folktales. While this shift presents its own challenges—such as the potential loss of performative and interactive elements—written narratives provide a lasting record of the stories and allow them to reach a wider audience. Additionally, modern Kokborok writers have drawn inspiration from these folktales, incorporating traditional themes and motifs into new literary forms, ensuring that the stories continue to evolve and adapt to modern realities.

Finally, a comparative analysis of Kokborok folktales with global storytelling traditions highlights both the uniqueness of the Borok experience and the universal themes that connect cultures across the world. Kokborok folktales share common motifs with many global traditions, such as the use of animals to teach moral lessons or the emphasis on community and nature. Yet, they also reflect the specific cultural, religious, and environmental context of Tripura, making them a distinctive part of the global folktale landscape.

In conclusion, while the challenges to preserving Kokborok folktales are real and significant, the efforts to document, adapt, and share these stories provide a pathway for their continued relevance. Through a combination of traditional storytelling practices and modern technology, Kokborok folktales will remain an integral part of the Tripuri cultural heritage, serving as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of the Borok people and their language.

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