**GLOSSARY**

_Aash_ - kind of small plant available in India

_Abhang_- 'Bend'; a standing posture with a slight bend in both the upper and lower halves of the body so that a plumb line from the top of the head to a point midway between the heels passes slightly to the right of the navel.

_Alpana-_ Alpana or alpona refers to colourful motifs, sacred art or painting done on a horizontal surface on auspicious occasions in Bengal like Puja, wedding or community events. The art typically has some religious significance. This type of art is found on the Indian subcontinent. The word Alpana is derived from the Sanskrit alimpana, which means 'to plaster' or 'to coat with'.

**Avant-Garde** – Who thinks beyond the time he is living in.

_Bhadrolok_- Gentleman.

_Bhagne_ – Nephew.

_Bhava_ - Expression. The term bhava is often translated as feeling, emotion, mood, devotional state of mind.

**Brahmins** - Priests and the transmitter of Vedas

_Chattopadhyay_ - Variant spelling of Bengali surname.

_Damaru-A_ damaru or damru is a small two-headed drum, used in Hinduism and Tibetan Buddhism. The damaru is known as a power drum, and when played, it is believed to generate spiritual energy. It is associated with the Hindu deity Shiva

_Desh_- A Bengali journal

_Dwibhang_ - Two bent body posture is called dwibhang.

_Ganesh_- Ganapati. Lord of Ganas with elephant head

_Ganga_- Goddess personifying the Ganges River.

_Gangopadhyay_- Variant spelling of Bengali surname.

_Gurudev_- Poet Rabindranath Tagore

_Ha Ja Ba Ra La_- a drama written by Sukumar Roy.

_Brahma_- Vedic and Hindu god of creation.

_Indra_- Vedic god of thunder, rain and clouds.

_Jataka_- Birth story and narration of many life of Shakyamuni Buddha.

_Kailash_- The range of mountains of Himalayas and the mountain that serves as Shivas abode.
Kaliya – The serpent who contaminated the pond of Vrindabana.

keertan – Devotional song of Baishnabas.

khepa boul – Community of carefree folk singer and performer of rural Bengal

Kongsha – The evil uncle whom lord Krishna slained

Krishna – Incarnation of lord Vishnu

Kshatriyas – Warrior or the member of the Warrior cast

Kuber - King of Yakshas and the god of wealth’s and riches.

Kuberni - Female Yakshi and wife of Kuber

Malancha – Kind of Indian flower.

Mama – Uncle.

Mithun – Loving couple.

Mukhopadhyay- Variant spelling of Bengali surname.

Nataraja – Shiva as the king of dance.

Neel-shila – Blue stone.

Om - The ancient syllable "OM" is the shortest of the Mantras and in Indian tradition it is a word suggestive of God. The scriptures tell us that "OM" is the planets primordial vibration from which the entire universe has arisen. All other sounds are contained within it.

Palash – Kind of Indian flower

Pathe – Way.

Payes – One kind of sweet dish, dessert.

Pous – A Bengali month or fall of Autumn.

prem – Love.

Radha- The favorite consort of the god Krishna, and an incarnation of Lakshmi.

Radhachuda – kind of flower

Rasa – Expression of various moods.

Ravana – The evil king of Lanka, slained by Lord Rama.

Sadhana – Devotion.

sadhe – Desire.

Santhals – A tribe of Bankura, Birbhum of Westbengal

Sarees – a garment wear by the Indian women

Shilpo Shastra – The doctrine of art.

Shimul – It is the flower of cotton plant.

Shiva – Auspicious and one of the principal gods of destruction
**Shivalinga** - Central votive object specially the male sex organ of phallus associated with Shiva

**Shudras** – One of the classification of ancient cast system, and the untouchables.

**Shyaoda** – kind of tree available in India

**The Upanishads** – Body of ancient Indic religious text

**Tribhang**—It is the name of a special posture of Lord Krishna in which Krishna is shown to stand while slanting knee, waist and neck (with three turns in the body, the posture is called Tribhang).

**Vaishyas** – One of the classifications of ancient cast system.

**Vajra** – The armour of god Indra, thunderbolt

**Varanadah** - A porch or balcony, usually roofed and often partly enclosed, extending along the outside of a building. Also called regionally gallery.

**Vishnu** – The preserver of the universe

**Yamuna** – Famous Indian river.

**Zamindars**- A landowner, especially one who leases his land to tenant farmers.