

## RAJASTHANI CHURA AS A TRADITIONAL AND AESTHETIC BANGLES USED BY RAJWADI PERSONS

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*Article Received: 15 March 2026 | Article Revised: 6 April 2026 | Article Accepted: 26 April 2026*

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19852499>

**How to cite this Article:** Dr. Dhrubo Jyoti Sen (2026) RAJASTHANI CHURA AS A TRADITIONAL AND AESTHETIC BANGLES USED BY RAJWADI PERSONS. World Journal of Pharmaceutical Science and Research, 5(4), 980-984.



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### ABSTRACT

A bridal choora symbolizes love, commitment, and blessings for a happy married life. It is usually red and white and worn by brides, especially in Punjabi weddings. The choora is traditionally given by the bride's maternal uncle and aunt as a sign of good fortune and protection.

**KEYWORDS:** rajwadi chura, rajasthani chura.

### INTRODUCTION

Rajasthani chura represents a regal, traditional aesthetic, characterized by bold red, maroon, or ivory bangles, often in lac or plastic, featuring intricate Kundan, Meenakari (enamel), or gold-foil work. These sets, often called Rajwadi chura, offer a luxurious, timeless look with symbolic designs like peacocks or bride-groom motifs, enhancing the bride's attire with a high-contrast, cultural, and ornate appeal.



Figure 1: Rajasthan.

### Key Aesthetic Elements

- **Colour Palette:** Traditionally deep red or ivory for brides, but increasingly modern in maroon, pink, or pastels to blend with contemporary outfits.
- **Material:** Often made from lacquer (lac), plastic, or metal, sometimes embellished with glitter.
- **Intricate Work:** Features traditional motifs including Peacock, Kundan stones, and Meenakari (enamel) work.
- **Structure:** Known for bold kadas (thick bangles) placed on the outer sides of thinner bangles, creating a stacked look.
- **Significance:** Known as Rajwadi or Padmavati chura.

### Styling and Types

- **Rajwadi Chura:** Known for its heavy, royal design often featuring gold detailing, perfectly matched with traditional Rajasthani bridal attire.
- **Boor Dhaal Chura:** A specific, popular traditional design.
- **Modern Fusion:** Incorporating contemporary elements while maintaining the traditional, bold structure.

**Occasion:** Primarily worn by brides but also suitable for women attending festive occasions to add a regal charm. Rajputi chuda typically consists of 7, 9, 11, or 21 bangles per hand, with modern variations often including 18-piece, 30-piece, or 41-piece sets featuring red/maroon and white/ivory bangles. Traditionally made of ivory, they are now commonly crafted from materials like lac or acrylic. **Common Numbers:** While 21 is traditional, many brides choose 11, 31, or 41, often using sets with 7, 9, or 11 bangles. **Sets per Hand:** Often sold in sets of 18 or up to 30 per hand (15 for the wrist, 15 for the arm). **Colors & Style:** Primarily red and white, often featuring golden, cream, or maroon accents in dhalu (straight) or boor (carved) styles.

A traditional bridal chooda consists of 21 red and white (or ivory) bangles. While 21 is the traditional standard, modern brides often choose sets consisting of 11, 31, or 41 bangles based on preference. The set is worn on both hands, symbolizing prosperity, fertility, and marital status.

### Key Details about Chooda Bangles:

**Composition:** A typical set includes a combination of red and white/ivory bangles, often featuring studded stones, gold, or silver accents.

**Significance:** It is gifted by the maternal uncle (Mama) and aunt (Mami) and is typically worn for 40 days to a year after the wedding.



Figure 2: Rajwadi chura.

**Modern Customization:** While red remains traditional, brides now wear various colors (pink, orange, purple) and numbers to complement their wedding attire.

**Ritual:** Before wearing, the bangles are purified by the bride's maternal family, often using milk and water.

A traditional bridal chura (chooda) set typically features 21 bangles per arm, consisting of a mix of red and white/ivory bangles. While traditionally 21, modern brides often choose sets with 11, 31, or 41 bangles to suit personal preferences. The combination creates a distinct, auspicious two-color set.

#### Key Details about Chura Bangles:

**Colour Combination:** The set is traditionally made of red and white/ivory bangles.

**Auspicious Numbers:** Sets often follow shagun numbers (lucky numbers) like 11, 21, 31, or 41, according to and.

**Composition:** A typical 31-bangle pair, as described by, might include 21 red bangles, 4 dot bangles, and 2 golden shimmer bangles for each hand, though variations are common.

**Significance:** The chura is traditionally gifted by the maternal uncle (mama) to the bride.

A Rajputi poshak is a traditional full-body attire associated with Rajputs, specifically the Rajputs of Rajasthan, India. It is typically worn by Rajput women and includes four pieces, Ghagra, odhani, kaanchli and futai.

The Chooda ceremony is much more than just a ritual; it holds deep cultural and emotional significance in Punjabi weddings. Traditionally, the Chooda is meant to be worn for a period ranging from 40 days to a year after the wedding.

**Red Chooda** — The traditional bridal red. Pairs with red, maroon, gold, and beige lehengas.



Figure 3: Traditional chura.

**Dark Red Chooda** — A richer, deeper crimson.

**Pink Chooda** — Romantic and modern.

**Ivory Chooda** — Sophisticated and contemporary.

**Gold Tone Bangles** — Warm and regal.

The seven bangles represent the 7 blessings for a full and happy life. Originated in Japanese mythology, more specifically in the 7 Gods of Luck, also known by many as the ring of happiness or ring of seven links, it results from the union, as the name suggests, of 7 gold rings. The best chooda depends on your comfort and style, but pure pearl choodas are generally considered superior for their comfort, durability, and skin-safe properties, particularly for long-term wear. Traditional red and maroon shades are classic, while modern brides often opt for custom-designed kundan, diamond, or pastel-colour sets to match their outfits.

**Key Considerations for Choosing:**

**Top Quality Choice:** Pure Pearl Chooda. They are comfortable, durable, and stay cool, preventing the rashes sometimes caused by cheaper plastic or acrylic options.

**Best Traditional Look:** Red or maroon chooda with white accents, preferably in 21 or 25 bangles for traditional significance.

**Modern/Designer Options:** Kundan studding, diamond, and mirror-studded choodas, including personalized options with the couple's names.

**Designers/Stores:** Chotteylal & Sons in Delhi (known for pearls) is a popular recommendation.

**When to Buy:** Order at least two months in advance to ensure the right size and design.



**Figure 4: Red chura.**

For the best quality that lasts beyond the wedding ceremony, premium handcrafted choodas with a high-quality finish are highly recommended to avoid colour bleeding. Rajputi chuda (bridal bangles) are traditionally made of ivory, but modern versions are predominantly crafted from high-grade plastic, "boor" material (a mixture of plastic and white powder), lac, or metal (gold/silver plated). These red and white bangles are often embellished with Kundan, stones, and intricate hand-painted nakashi work.



Figure 5: White chura.

## CONCLUSION

Chuda comes in various colours nowadays; however, red and white bangles are the most popular and recommended traditional Chuda for brides. People are going experimental today, so they love adding more colours like magenta, pink, and peach with white bangles. Even white colour bangles come in different shades. In Sindh the traditional churas were rings of ivory covering the fore arms or full arms, these were worn by all sects, religions and classes but unlike other parts of India these were not worn as wedding symbol, as unmarried women would also wear Churas, perhaps only till forearms. The seven bangles represent the 7 blessings for a full and happy life. Originated in Japanese mythology, more specifically in the 7 Gods of Luck, also known by many as the ring of happiness or ring of seven links, it results from the union, as the name suggests, of 7 gold rings. A Chuda is a set of that are typically red and white, though sometimes the red ones are swapped for another color, but they're always maintained in a two-color scheme. In the past, Churas were made from Hathi Dant (ivory) with beautiful inlay work, but our Chudas are made with Pure Pearl Shells. The Chooda is believed to bring good luck and is worn by the bride for approximately 40 days after marriage. It is considered inauspicious for the bride to remove the Chooda during this period. This practice underscores the cultural significance of the Chooda as a protective charm for the new bride. Before the Chooda is placed on the bride's wrists, it is dipped into raw milk and rose water. Milk symbolises purification and cleansing — washing away negativity before entering a new life chapter. Rose water symbolises sweetness, harmony, and positivity in married life.

## REFERENCES

1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chura\\_\(bangles\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chura_(bangles))