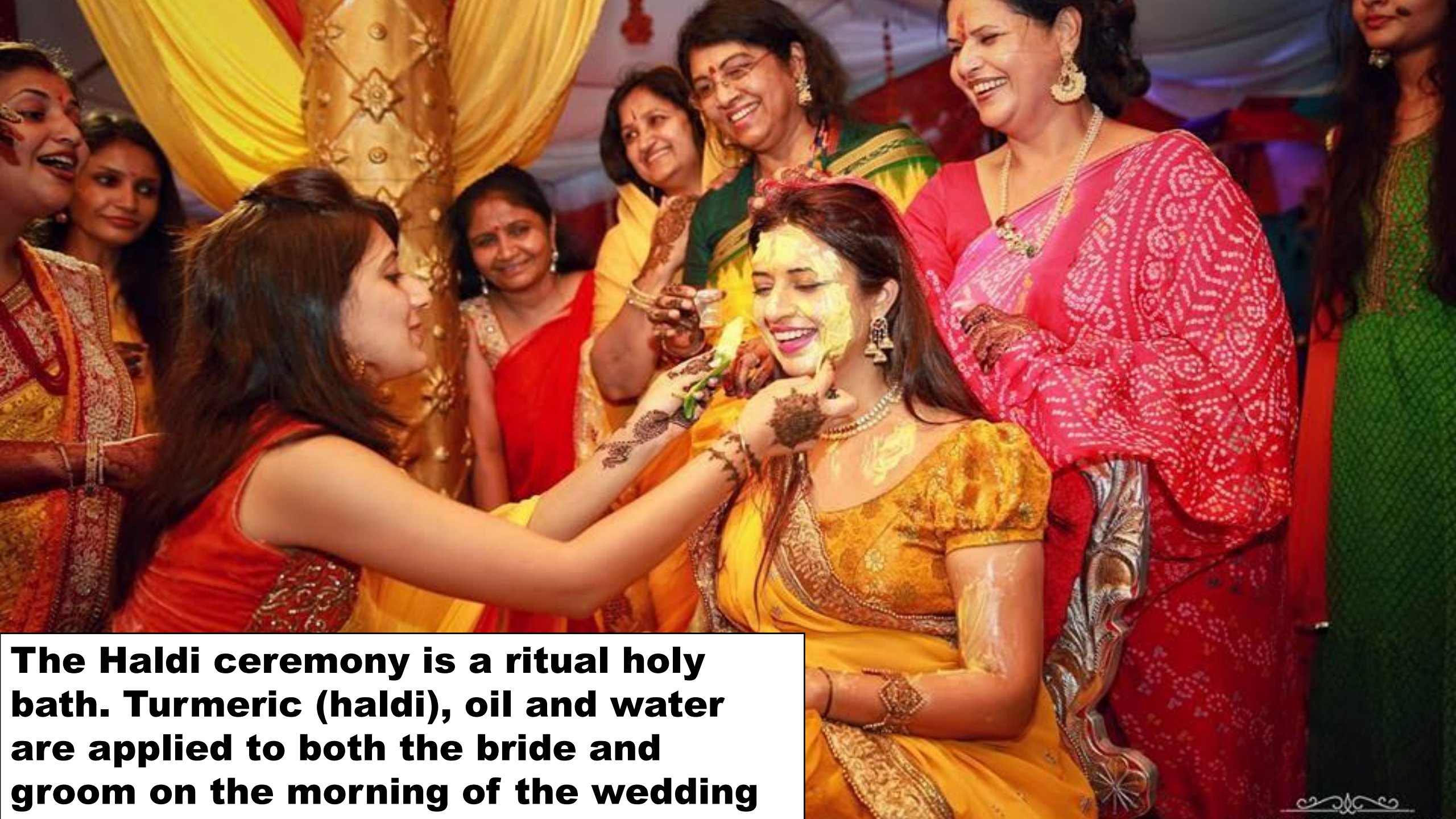


Indian wedding customs

The word “Sangeet “ means music, but when it is used as a term to describe a celebratory event during an Indian wedding it translates as Music Night or Musical party.





The Haldi ceremony is a ritual holy bath. Turmeric (haldi), oil and water are applied to both the bride and groom on the morning of the wedding

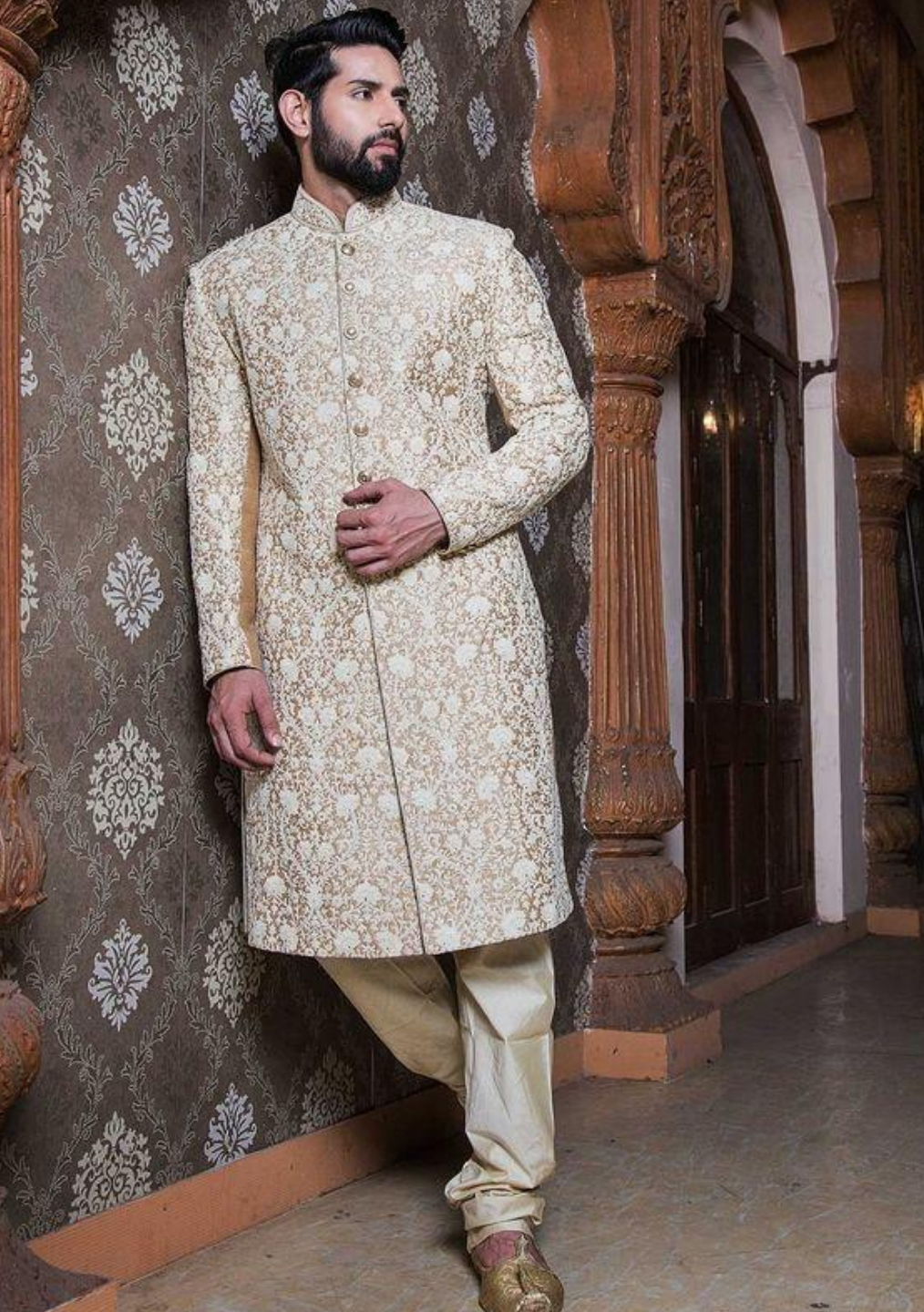




The *choora* is a set of red and white bangles that are presented to the bride by her maternal uncle.



Wedding garment



Many communities of South, West, and Eastern India still wear traditional costumes. Kurta or a shirt may be worn or sometimes just a Angavastram may be used to cover the chest. On the other hand, in the Northern parts, the bridegroom usually wears a Sherwani, Jodhpuri suit, or a western suit.



The bride wears a wedding sari or a lehenga according to the region. Red is considered to be the most preferable color. While the saree is preferred as the bridal dress in South India, West, East India, most brides of other parts of India prefer Lehenga as bridal dresses.



A baraat is a celebratory wedding procession for the groom involving live music and dancing. While it does not hold religious significance, it is an important custom nevertheless.



Traditionally the bride is escorted by her brothers and uncles underneath the Chadar



Newlyweds exchange garlands. They put them on each other necks for the rest of the ceremony.



The Jeelakarra Bellam

The wedding *mandap*, or wedding altar, is a structure constructed for marriage ceremony. It may appear on an elevated platform and is decorated with anything from flowers and greenery to fabric and crystals.





The couple is traditionally joined beneath the mandap by their parents



After the ceremony itself the newlyweds can change their clothes and have a reception party.