

Events

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Duffmuttu with Koya Kappad at Artiko.tales in Fort Kochi, Oct. 11

Friends of Thudippu brings Duffmuttu, performed by Koya Kappad and his team, to Artiko.tales in Jew Town on Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026.

This has finished · 11 October 2026

In this page

Duffmuttu reference photographs, not photographs of this event or Koya Kappad. Irshad P, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons.

Dates 11 October 2026
Times From 7 PM
Performer Koya Kappad
Organiser Friends of Thudippu

Where

Artiko.tales
Art gallery · Jew Town Road, Mattancherry

Drawn from OpenStreetMap, by its contributors.

Friends of Thudippu, the series that brought a Chavittunadakam workshop to Artiko.tales in September, is back in Jew Town. It is on Sunday, Oct. 11, with Duffmuttu, performed by Koya Kappad and his team.

The organisers introduce it as a rhythm that came over the Arabian Sea from Turkey to Kerala. It brought stories, traditions and a cultural legacy with it.

The details

The event is on Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026, at 7 p.m. It is at Artiko.tales, Jew Town Road, Mattancherry.

To get in touch, message +91 7594 987928 on WhatsApp or call the same number.

What Duffmuttu is

Duffmuttu is a group performance of the Mappila Muslims of Malabar. It takes its name from the duff, a frame drum of wood and hide. A troupe of eight to ten players sings and sways to the beat, drumming with fingers and palms. Towards the end, the players stand, sit and bow their heads in time.

The songs are mostly in Arabic. Many come from the “Safeenappattu”, a traditional book of Moulid songs, praising God, the Prophet, his family and Sufi saints.

Players perform it at weddings, mosque festivals and other celebrations. Many mosques and madrasas have their own troupes.

It is said to have started in Persia, where it was called the dap. Other accounts say the form came to Kerala by way of the Lakshadweep islands.



Who is performing

Dr. Koya Kappad is a duffmuttu master from Kappad, in Kozhikode district. He is the fourth generation of the Alassam Veettil family, which has been teaching duffmuttu for generations. He learned it from his father, Usthad Ahmad Kutty Musliyar.

He directs the Malabar Centre for Folklore Studies. In October 2022 the Kerala government made him vice-chairman of the Kerala Folklore Academy.

He is credited with bringing Duffmuttu and Arabana Muttu back among young people. He has given lessons in them as far away as Fiji and New Zealand.

Thudippu also ran the Chavittunadakam workshop at the same venue on Sept. 26. See the Chavittunadakam workshop page.

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Jew Town Road
Road
MattancherryFort Kochi