

# **Samba no pe: A Brief History**

## **A brief history of Samba**

The roots of samba came from a mix between African and European influences. Many agree that batuque was the dance and the rhythm in which Africans showed their culture. Batuque was the main body of popular Brazilian music, from it came many branches and trends, which spread through the nation, including urban and rural areas.

Batuque was a group folk dance, not a ballroom dance. The word 'samba' came from the African word 'semba', meaning belly button in the Luanda dialect. The word first appeared at the beginning of the 19th Century, appearing in a North East of Brazil publication by a priest called Lopes Gama.

The first samba song recorded was in 1917, called Pelo Telefone, from the duet Donga and Mauro de Almeida. There are also unconfirmed reports of samba recordings dating back to 1912 and 1914.

Samba derivations

(A) samba as a dance

Variations include Samba de Gafieira, samba no pe (the samba of Carnaval), samba pagode, samba rock ...

(B) Samba as music

Variations include Samba de breque, samba cancao, samba enredo, bossa nova, partido alto, samba reggae, samba funk