

DIVIYAN KELIYA



2 Players



7 and up



15 min

BACKGROUND

Diviyan Keliya comes from Sri Lanka. It belongs to the family of hunting games in which the two players oppose each other and have different powers.

MATERIALS

- A board with 49 interlinked points (see image)
- 2 pawns representing leopards
- 24 pawns representing cows

Object of the Game

For the leopards: To capture the cows

For the cows: To paralyze the leopards

PROGRESS OF THE GAMES

At the start of the game the board is empty. One by one, both players place the pawns on the board at their discretion until all the pawns appear on the board. The player representing the leopards places the first pawn on the board—usually in the center of the board. Once all pawns are placed on the board, both players can start to move the pawns.

Cows can move in any direction following the lines drawn on the board to any available space. Leopards move the same way. Leopards capture the cows by jumping over them to the next available space (as in checkers). Leopards may jump over multiple cows in the same turn. Cows corner leopards when both leopards have no available space to move to.

Alternative versions of the game include Hat Diviyan (1 tiger against 7 leopards on a triangular board) and Demala Diviyan Keliya (3 leopards against 15 dogs on a triangular board).