



The Fila Capsule

25th
Anniversary
2023

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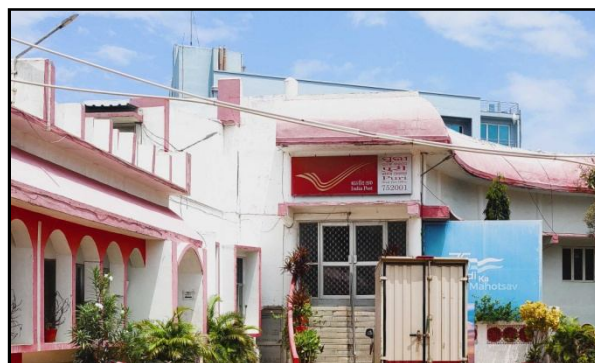
JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2023

QUARTERLY



INTRODUCTION

The PurushottamKshetra, Puri (Pooree) was the Capital of Orissa province till 1816, located at Eastern part of the country at sea shore Bay of Bengal is the religious, pilgrimage attractions due to residence of Lord of the Universe Jagannath (Juggernaut-spell by British, mentioned in Orissa district Gazetter). There are unexplained myths, histories, miracles associated with Lord trioJagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra, the gigantic archaeological marvels temple premises with many more God and Goddess, Annual festivals Rathayatra and unique Mahaprasad, mesmerising Art and Culture linked with the divinity journey attracts millions of devotees to this pious place.

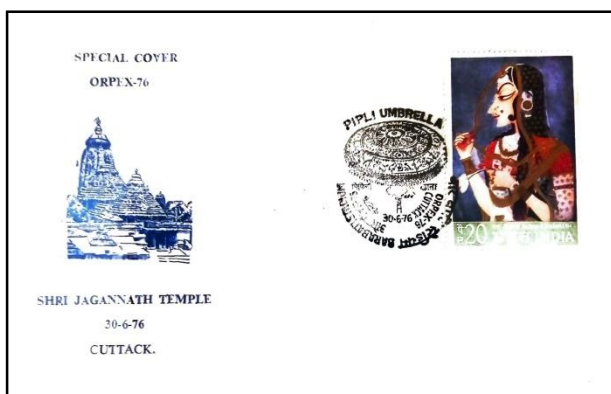
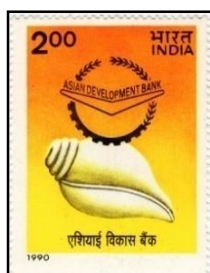


The glory sanctum of Jagannath find mention in several occasions and event in modern Odisha Circle Postal Department a gift to stamp lovers through issue of postage stamps, Miniature sheet, Sheet let, First day cover, Special cover, Exhibition commemorative covers, commercial used cover, Permanent pictorial cancellation, postmark etc.

For presentation in story form relevant postal materials are used.

SANKHAKSHETRA

The Journey to the pious city, also popularly known as Sankhakshetra (Conch place) related to holy Conch shell province of the Vishnu Avatar- Lord killed the demon Gayasur and placed the ayudhasDakshinabartiSankha.



The antiquities and religious sanctuaries find mention in various Purana written in sanskrit particularly the MatsyaPuran. (SANSKRIT- Special cover and Matsyapuram stamp). One of the ancient name was Nilachal or blue hill due to a believe the main holiest temples structure stand on a huge sand ridges.

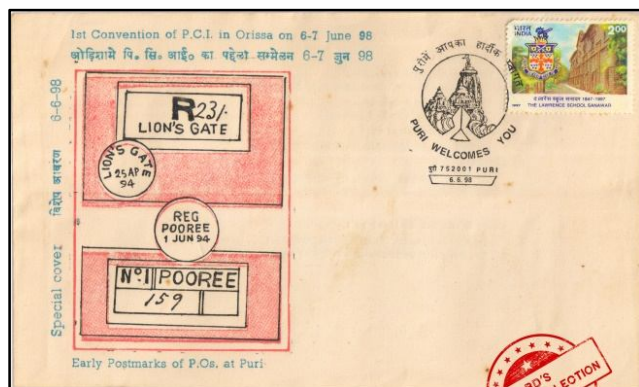
JOURNEY TO THE SACRED SOIL

The cult of Jagannath is a vibrant system with divergent religious sects and creeds. The huge iron gate to the modern era Swachha iconic city was near sacred Goddess Batamangala (10kms away) from the main city.



During 6.6.1998 the First Philatelic Congress meeting at Puri commemorate a special cancellation with bilingual text "PURI- welcome you" was issued. The first inclination and attraction of visitors and devotees to the

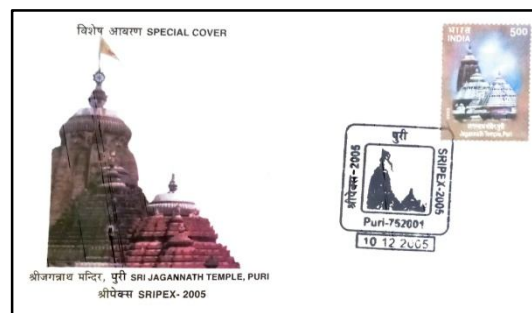
Badadandapassing through Atharanala is the entrance to 12th Century temple built in Kalinga style architecture Rekha and Pidha carved in gorgeous sculpture and carving.



The entry of the Ganga dynasty temple is the Eastern Gate popularly known as Singhdwar or Lion's Gate. There is evidence of this Gate on a special cover 1998 showed of early mail postmark in 1854 during the 1st Convention of Philatelic Congress of India during 6.6.1998. A small quaint Singhdwar Sub Postoffice exist to fulfil with a date postmark on postal stationery as a memory to the pilgrimage cum philatelist but the article has to travel through post box attached in the Post office.

MAIN TEMPLE PREMISES

The three more entrance to the sacred shrines are Aswadwara(South gate), Vyghradwar (West gate), Harshadwar (North gate). The 65m Jagannath temple have four components in structure- Viman (garbhagruha), Jagamohan, Natyamandap and BhogaMandap. There are more than 100 different carved temples, ruin architecture and mandaps(elevated flat platforms), the large kitchen, Ananda Bazar, seven wells and two gardens are also significant inside the temple premises. The worship of Lord begins at the Ratnasinghsan from early morning hour for the devotees.



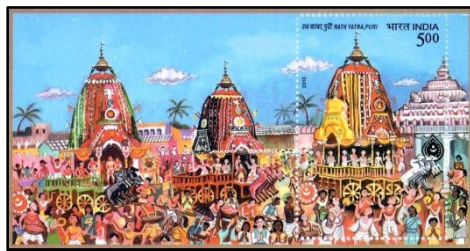
The Mahaprasad, offered to the Trinity Lord prepared since long ago in the temple kitchen. The kitchen has the capacity of cooking meal for more than one lakhs devotees per day in earthen pot and fire woods. The prepared half boiled rice, dal, curry, vegetables, sweet dishes after offering in Bhogamandap for devotees in an open air eating space called Anandabazar.



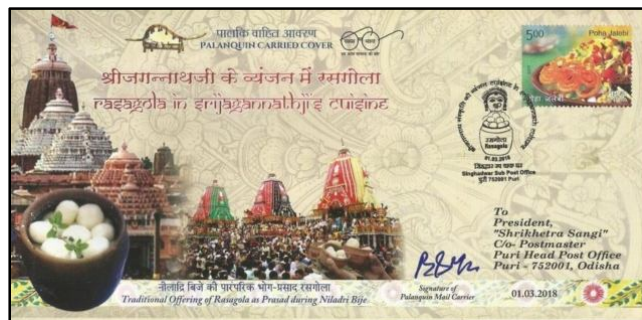
It has been found 56 types of dry and cooked food, sweets offered popularly known as Chhapanbhog throughout day.

RATHAYATRA or CHARIOT PROCESSION

The description of SkandaPurana and World's largest annual religious festival with participations of lakhs of disciples known as Rathayatra or Shree GundichaYatra is celebrated since time immemorial. The newly wooden built 3 chariots of different large size and shapes covered with colorful applique design clothes are the major attraction where four deities siblings Lord Sudarshan, Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra and Lord Jagannath came out of the main temple in organise procession, sit on the chariot pulled fromSrimandir to Gundicha Temple (3kms).



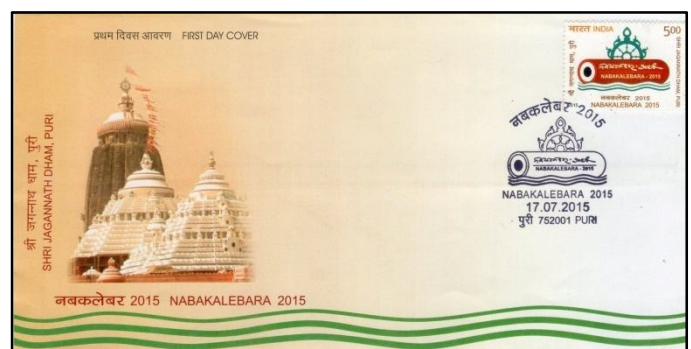
The return car festival or Bahudayatratra on AsadhaShuklaDasami after a stay of 9days in Gundicha Temple is celebrated with similar fashion. The last phase of yatra, the deities are adorned with gold ornaments Sunabeshainfront of Lion's gate on SuklaEkadasi. Niladribije is a special event on 13th day of Asadha with a myth that Lord of the universe offer Odisha sweet Rasagollabhog to his wife Goddess Laxmi since 12th Century also celebrated as Rasagolla divas in modern days.



The OdishaRasagolla also recognized as Geographical indications product of Odisha No 612, certificate no- 345 dt 29.07.2019.

NABAKALEBAR

The Nabakalebar is a sanskrit word Naba means new Kalebar meaning body. In each 12 to 19 years the embodiment of wooden old built Goddess relinquish from old to new bodies in festive manner following rituals. The four Lord's are also known as "Darubrahma" carved out of perishable neem tree wood.



The God's considered Parambrahma, all rituals from morning to night performed are similar to human beings (washing of face, brushing of teeth, taking bath, food in intervals, sickness, medicine consumption and go through ordeal of death). According to Holy GITA the Lord is Parambrahma immortal but dies like Jiva and enters into fresh body. As per Hindu Lunar calender when there are two asadha in a year called Purushottam month, NabakalebarNiti is performed. There are two types re-embodiment ceremonies followed in Temple Sri Angafita and the SampurnaNabakalebar. The 65 days SampurnaKalebarbidhi is lengthy and critical process with clue for selection of neem tree which has to fulfill specification and symptoms. There are four dark trees identified from different places after proper worship and rituals, cutting the twigs and branches, bringing the DARU- the measurable trunks through wood cart on roads, drag by disciple, to Kiolibaikuntha a sacred place inside the temple.The carving of idols start after snanaPurnima with high secrecy and Brahma transfered from old to new. The old wooden murtis are considered dead and buried in pits.

RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS AND MATHAS

Puri is surrounded by large number of Mathas and religious establishments belonging to different sects and settle in this land. GobardhanMatha founded by Adisankaracharyaone of Hindu Peeth who visited during spiritual conquest to

Holy city. The KabirChaura Math belongs to followers of Saint Kabir situated near Swargadwar. Sikhguru and founder Sikhism Nanak visited the city JaganNathPuri during 1510 AD, gurdwaraBaulisaheb came into existence and now Baulimath. In sikh history, JanamSakshi (Biography of the guru), and Holy Gurugranthaheb incorporated.



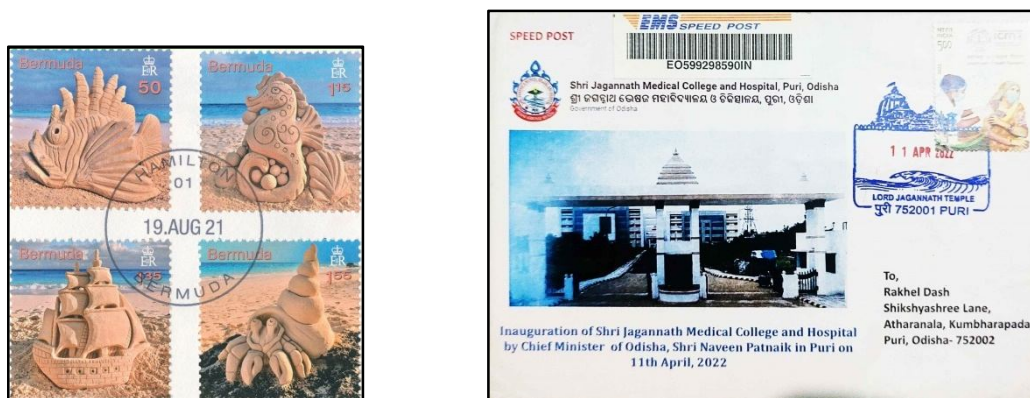
Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab donated a Kohinoor diamond to Puri temple before his last stages of illness. The vaishnavism spiritual perceptorRamanujachaya visited Puri when his divinity was well known and influenced to established the Badasantha, Emabar, PanditRamdas, Jagatmohini, kataki, Narasinghahari, Raghav Das, Samadhi mathaetc in around Puri with his followers. His influence of few days stay at Puri reforms worship rituals.

SEA SHORE

Puri, a lovely summer resorts with exquisite largest sea-beach on the Eastern coast of Bay of Begal known as Mahadodhi (the great ocean) and cremation ground Swargadwar (Gateway to heaven).



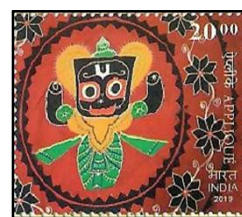
There are lots of hotels, Hotel association and other organisation organized annual BEACH Festival, Bring your own film festivals etc. The sea beach Sub postoffice provides date seal mark on posted articles is a philatelist destination during the stay.



There is sand art prepared regularly by PadmashrèeSudarshanPattanaik and Sri ManasSahoo attracted many of the visitors. The first medical College in the Lord's name was inaugurated in 2022.

ARTS, CULTURE AND DANCE

Epigraphic evidence of illustrations and pictorial PALM LEAVES goes back to 6th Century AD manuscript preserved in ancient temples and musuems of Odisha. Mandala Panji, the unique chronicle of Jagannath Temple activities and sabas are codified in palm leaves.

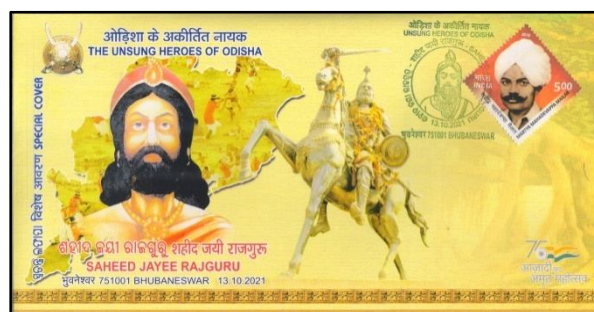
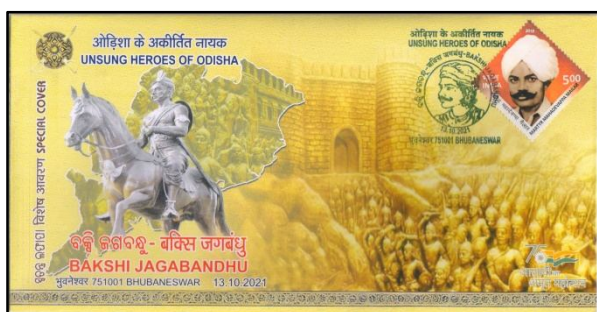


The pattachitra and cloth arts are part of heritage tradition of Raghurajpur a village recognised for the uniqueness. The tradition, devotion, secular, classical dance form Odissi is 2000 years old as evidence from carved courtyard in caves, Buddhist and Jainism monasteries and small and big temples. A renowned Odissi dancer of the modern era, Padma Vibhushan Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra from Puri's Raghurajpur village is credited with reviving and popularizing this classical dance form in the 20th century. The famous hymns 'Jagannathstaka' composed by Adishankaracharya followed by Sri Jaydev "Geeta Govinda" revealed the close association of devotional music and dance rituals during 11th Century AD. The Gotipuo dance tradition patronized by rulers as a part of rituals performed on the occasion of Chandan, Jhulan and Dola Jatra still continuing by Sahiakhada. The boy youth of the Jagaghara dressed like warriors and go in procession to perform martial art called Naga and Medha dance of puranic stories of Lord Rama.

Puri is renowned for another form of textile art, Applique. The Applique Work of Pipili in Puri has gained global recognition, receiving a Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2007.

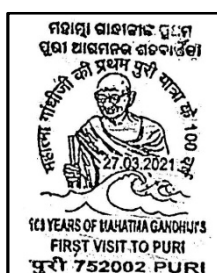
HEROES OF PURI

Puri endured great hardships during the British rule before India gained independence. To resist the cruel actions and oppressive tactics of the British, the first Indian revolution, known as the Paika Rebellion, began in 1817 under the leadership of Bakshi Jagabandhu, who was born in Gadarodanga village, Puri.



Jayirajguru, another Odia leader in the Indian independence movement, rebelled against the British East India Company. Born in 1739 in Puri's Biraharekrushnapur village, he served as a princely priest in the Khurda kingdom. After a failed attempt to remove him, the British attacked Khurda's fort, captured Rajguru, and executed him in Baghitota, Midnapore.

Puri's role in India's fight for independence wouldn't be complete without mentioning Chandan Hajuri, affectionately known as Chakhi Khuntia. He actively joined the 1857 rebellion, collaborating closely with Laxmibai in opposition to the British Empire. In the year 1921, Mahatma Gandhi visited Puri for the first time to propagate his ideas of the Noncooperation Movement.



Another hero from this sacred land, Gopabandhu Das, played a pivotal role in the creation of the separate Odisha state in 1936. He earned recognition for his humanitarian work during Odisha's floods and is affectionately known as the "Utkal Mani," symbolizing the Jewel of Utkal or Orissa.