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Chandana Yatra & Dolayatra

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Puri in Odisha is an important place from religious and tourism points. The Jagannath Temple at Puri has made the place famous. Puri is considered one of the four dhama of the country along with Badrinth, Dwarka and Rameswaram. The peculiar iconography of the Jagannath triad and the temple rituals as well as colourful festivals throughout the year. "Baramase Tera Yatra". Puri is the Mokshya Kshetra. According to skanda puran a "Darshanat Mukti Sakhyata". In Dwadasa Yatra Chandana Yatra & Dolayatra is very famous yatra in Puri after Snana Yatra & Ratha Yatra.

Chandana Yatra :

"Dole tu Dolagovindam

Chape tu Madhusudanam.

Rathe tu Bamanam Drushtwa

Punarjanma na Vidyate."

It is believed that if one has a darsan of Dolagovinda, Madhusudan and Baman during Dola. Chandana and Car Festival respectively he is freed from the cycle of birth and death and he never gets rebirth. Chandana Yatra is one of the twelve famous Yatras of Lord Jagannath. This Yatra is observed for 42 days from Baishakha Shukla Trutiya to Jyeshtha Shukla Chaturdashi. This Yatra is of two types- Bahara Chandana (observed outside the temple premises) and Bhitara Chandana (observed inside the temple premises). For twenty one days from Akshyaya Trutiya. the idols of Shri Madanamohana, Shridevi and Bhudevi are seated on well-decorated Vimana and carried to the holy Narendra tank. while the idols of Ram and Krushna are carried by Palanquin. Pancha (five) Mahadevas- Shri Lokanath. Shri Yameswara, Shri Markandeswra. Shri Kapalamochana and Shri Nilakantheswara popularly known as Pancha Pandavas come to Narendra tank by thier Vimanas to move round on the water of the tank with boat (Chapa). For twenty one days from Akshyaya Trutiya to Jyestha Shukla Chaturdashi, Bhitarchandana is observed in the temple premises where all the practices and offerings like Chandanalagi, Alatalagi, Pana and Bhoga etc are done. As this type of yatra is observed within the campus of the temple, it is known as Bhitarchandana.

On the day of Akshyaya Trutiya after the Madhyanha Dhupa (afternoon session of the offering) the Trinity are worworshipped with Bandapana. Pujapanda obtains permission (Ajnamala) of the Trio for Shri Madanamohana, Shridevi, Bhudevi, Rama and Krusna to go on the pleasure trip of Chandana. Shri Madanamohana, Shridevi and Bhudevi are seated on the Manivimana while Rama and Krusna are seated on the Palanquin kept under the Jhulana Mandap. The images are garlanded. biggule is blown and the Bimanabadus carry the Bimana and Palanquin through the crowd to the Chandan Chakada amidst great pomp and pleasure. Pancha Mahadevas go on the trip alongwith the deities. On this day of Akshyaya Trutiya. after some rituals, the work of making of the chariots for car festival for the Trio starts up. After the idols reach Narendra tank, they are carried to the boats on the tank. The boats are specially built. Two boats are connected with each other on the front of which there is a wooden swan. This is known as the chapa. One chapa which is named Bhadra is bigger than the other named Nanda. Pancha

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Mahadevas and Ram and Kruna adorn the bigger chapa Bhadra while Shridevi, Bhudevi and Madanmohan sit on the smaller chapa Nanda. Mudirasta Sevak offers prasada to Deities. Hadapanayak Sevak offers betel (Bidia Pana). Another boat moves ahead of the chapas beating and blowing musical instruments known as Bajantari. The chapa or nauvihar is observed first in the day time and then at night. After the chapa moves one round around the tank, the idols are taken to the Chandanamandap where they are made to bath in the basins filled with scented water prepared by fragrant flowers and sandal wood. Madanmohan, Sridevi and Bhudevi bath in the basin placed at the middle of the mandap. Ram and Kruna bath in the basin at the eastern side of the mandap and the Pancha Mahadevs bath in the basin at the west. After the bath, the idols are garlanded and decorated with flowers. They are offered Mandua Bhoga prepared at the kitchen (Rosha Sala) at the Chakada. After it, the idols are offered betels (Bidia Manohi). At night the idols are carried to the chapas. The idols move three rounds on the water around Narendra tank. After the night chapa is over, the idols are carried to their respective abodes- Shridevi and Bhudevi to the Ratnasinghasana. Madanmohan, Rama and Kruna to their abode at the south (Dakshinighara) and the Pancha Mahadevas to their respective temples. For 19 days similar practices and rituals are repeated. On the 20th day, Bhaunri is observed. The idols come to Narendra tank with great pomp and ceremony. On this day, the idols move 21 rounds on the water around Narendra tank. On the last day of Chandana Yatra, the Haladipani festival is observed where the idols spray turmeric water. No night chapa is observed on this day. Every day from Akshyaya Trutiya to Jyestha Shukla Chaturdasi the Lord is given the Alata seva twice a day. On the days of Jyestha Kruna Ekadashi, Sabitri Amabasya, Sitalasathi and Rukminiharana Ekadashi during Bhitara Chandana, Jala krida (water-sports) is observed inside the temple.

Dola Yatra : Dola Yatra is a famous festival of Shrimandir. It is one of the twelve famous yatras of Lord Jagannath. It is also known as Basanta Mahotsava. Madana Mahotsava and Phalgu Mahotsava. Dolayatra is an old festival. It is said that by order of Brahma, King Indradyumna started this yatra. Dolayatra is celebrated in the temple (Shrimandir) for seven days. This yatra is held five days before phalguna purnima and continues till Chaitra Pratipada. Although everywhere Sriradha and Srikrusna are the prime deities in this festival, at Sriksheeta Dolagobinda, Sridevi and Bhudevi are the prime deities. From phalguna shukla dashami to trayodashi, after Madhyanha Dhupa, rituals like Chacheri Vesa, Chacheri Bhoga, Phagulagi, etc are done. The deities are taken to Jagannathballav Matha where worship and game wit.. Phagu (a coloured powdery substance) is held. Agni

Utsava is held on the day of Chaturdasi. On this day after Madhyanha Dhupa and Sarbanga, the Chacheri Vesa of Dolagovinda, Sridevi and Bhudevi is completed on the bed at the Dakshinighar. After that Dolagovinda, Sridevi and Bhudevi are placed on Ratnasinghasana. Chandana and Phagu are put to the body of the idols. Puja Panda gives Ajnamala to the idols whereafter the idols are brought to the Laxmi temple where they are seated upon the Palinki. The game of Phagu is observed here. Then the idols are brought to the Agni Utsava house of the Dolabedi. Puja Panda performs Homa here. After offerings (Sitalabhoga manohi), fire is burnt in the Agni-griha. The idols move seven rounds around the Agnigriha. After that the idols come back to Srimandira.

After Abakasha and Mailama on Dola Purnima day, the Puspalaka Sevaks perform the rituals like Chandanalagi, Khandualagi and Gabhalagi at Trimundi (heads of the deities). Pujapanda gives Agyanamala to the idols who move seven rounds around Ratnasinghasana. The three idols are taken to the bed at the Navikata Mandapa. Here rituals like Mahasana, Majana, Banakalagi, Patajodalagi are done. Then offering (Sitalabhoga) is completed. After it, the deities are seated upon the Vimana kept at the door of the Satapahacha. The Vimana is carried by the Vimanabadus amidst ringing of bells and blowing of biggule (Kahali) to Dolabedi. At Dolabedi, the Mahajana Sevaks carry these idols with their hands and move them seven rounds around the Doli (Swing) and put them on the Doli. The devotees are allowed to have darsan of the deities. While the deities swing on the Doli, the dhupas of morning, afternoon and evening are held according to Sodasa-upachara. After Naibedya, Alatabandapana and Phagukhela, the idols are taken from: the swing. They are made to move seven rounds around the Doli and seven rounds on the vedi, and getting down they make seven rounds around Dolamandap and go back to Srimandir. After seven rounds around Srimandir, the Vimana is kept in front of Saraswati temple. After sitalabhogamanohi, the vimana is carried to Bhandaradwara near Bhitarakatha. After Bandapana and jalalagi, Dolagovinda is carried to Dakshinighara while Sridevi and Bhudevi are taken to Ratnasinghasana.

On Chaitra Kruna Pratipada, after Madhyanhadhupa, Dolagovinda appears on the Ratnasinghasana. Pujapanda gives ajnamala to Sri Dolagovinda, Sridevi and Bhudevi. Mahajana Sevaks carry the idols to the Vimana kept under the Jhulanamandapa. The Vimanabadus carry the Vimana to Narendra Chakada. Mudirasta offers Prasad. Pujapanda performs the ritual of Sitalamanohi according to Panchopachara. Mudirasta does the rituals of Bandapana and Chamara-alata seba. After these rituals are completed, the deities are brought back to Srimandira..

In this way Dola Yatra is observed in Srimandira for seven days. It is believed that whoever has a darshan of this holy yatra, he will get salvation, and after death he will live in Baikuntha, the abode of Lord Vishnu.

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Summary

In this article describes two of the twelve famous yatras (festivals) of Lord Jagannath at Puri's Srimandira. The chandan yatra is a 42-day festival observed from Akshyatrutiya to Jyestha shukla chaturdashi, divided into two parts – Bahara chandan (outside the temple) and Bhitari chandan (inside the temple) During the first 21 days the idols of mandanmohan, Ram, Krushna, Bhudevi & Sridevi and Panch Mahadev of Puri (also called Panch Pandava) are taken in a grand procession to the Narendra Tank. Placed on specially built decorated boats called chapa, Bathed in sanctified water, offered food and betel and made to more rounds on the water last day is called name Bhaunri.

The another festival 'Dolayatra' and so known as Basanta Mahotsava or Madana Mahotsava, is a seven day festival held around phalgun purnima, during when the deities undergo special chacheri Vesha, Phagu Play, Agniutsava at Dolabedi, it is the great ceremony of Lord Jagannath.

Keyword

Madanmohana
Chandan Chakada
Shridevi
Chapa
Bhudevi
Pancha Pandavas
Bajantari
Dakshinighara
Haladipani Festival
Dolabedi
Khandualigi