

S.No.	AREA OF META DATA	TO BE FILLED BY THE CONTENT GENERATOR
1	THEME	JAGANATH CULT
2	SUBJECT	History.
3	CHAPTER	The Making Of Regional Cultures.
4	CLASS/LEVEL	Seventh
5	OBJECTIVES	To explore the making of The Jagannath Cult
6	DESCRIPTION	Jagannath word means 'Lord of the World ' Jagannath is associated with lord Vishnu and is worshipped at Puri , Orissa.
7	KEYWORDS	Garbhagriha , divine, devotees, INCARNATION
8	CONTENT DEVELOPER	
9	SUBJECT COORDINATOR	
10	CIET COORDINATOR	

JAGANNATH CULT

Jagannath (or **Jagannatha**) meaning "Lord of the Universe", is a deity worshipped by Hindus and Buddhists mainly in the Indian states of Gujarat, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, WestBengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Assam, Manipur and Tripura and by Hindus in Bangladesh. Jagannath is considered a form of Vishnu or his avatar Krishna by the Hindus. Jagannath is worshipped as part of a triad on the "Ratnavedi" (jewelled platform) along with his brother Balabhadra and sister Subhadra.



IDOL OF JAGANNATH
BELIEVED TO BE THE INCARNATION OF LORD VISHNU.



The oldest and most famous Jagannath deity is established in Puri. The temple of Jagannath in Puri is regarded as one of the Char Dham (sacred Hindu pilgrimage places) in India.

The most famous festival related to Jagannath is the Ratha yatra, where Jagannath, along with the other two associated deities, comes out of the Garbhagriha of the chief temple (Bada Deula). They are transported to the Gundicha Temple (located at a distance of nearly 3 kilometres (1.9 mi)), in three massive wooden chariots drawn by devotees. Coinciding with the Rath Yatra festival at Puri, similar processions are organized at Jagannath temples throughout the world.

The famous Rath Yatra or the Chariot festival is a Hindu festival related to Lord Puri Jagannath. This festival is held in Puri, Orissa.



STORY RELATED TO ORIGIN OF JAGANNATH CULT



In the centre is Subhadra with Jagannath on the right and Balabhadra on the left. The HEADRESS of the deities is called TAHIA.

According to the most popular legend, Lord Jagannath was being worshipped by 'Savaras' (Tribal people) as 'Nilamadhab' in dense forests. King Indradyumna was ruling Abanti at that time. On hearing that the God Absolute is present in Nilagiri whose glimpse gives salvation, he sent his priest Vidyapati to Utkal. Vidyapati on return informed King and thereafter the King went to Utkal with Narada. Indradyumna was extremely disappointed due to disappearance of Nilamadhaba but was consoled that God will appear in shape of a log of wood in four-fold images. The king performed Aswamedha Yajna. On its closing day Indradyumna saw God 'Nilamadhab' in his dream. Later royal messengers informed him that a four-branched great wooden log in the sea was floating. A divine voice was heard from the heaven that "*Lord Jagannath will himself construct his own image and get them installed on the Mahavedi (The Great Throne). Mahavedi will remain closed for a period of fifteen days. The old carpenter who is standing outside with his instruments should be allowed inside and the door be closed. Nobody should open the door and go inside the room until the construction work is complete, in fifteen days*". The old carpenter was no other than the Viswakarma, the divine architect, After some days, the Queen hearing no sound or noise of construction work from inside got curious and caused doors to be opened, to find that Viswakarma had disappeared leaving behind, three wooden unfinished images. They were the trinity-**Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra**. Again in accordance with divine instruction, the king installed the three images in a newly constructed temple and worshipped them.

FACTS :

- The Chariot of Lord Jagannath is known as 'Nandhighose'. The Chariot of Balabhadra is named as 'Taladwaja'. 'Devadalan' is the Chariot of Subhadra
- The main image is that of Lord Jagannath after whom the temple is named. Lord Jagannath is also called Daru Devata, a word which means wooden deity.
- Lord Jagannath is the Family God of most people of Orissa. The daily rituals in the temple are done by Sevakas according to the Records of Rights prescribed several centuries back.
- Car festival is one of the Country's most incredible spectacles. Because the three divine images of the Puri temple are wooden, they have to replace from time to time.
- The distance covered by the chariots is 3km and the deities are travelling to Gundicha Mandir.



STUDENT'S ACTIVITY

Q.1 Fill in the blanks:

- i. _____ is the name of Lord Jagannath's elder brother
- ii. Lord Jagannath is an aspect of _____ god.
- iii. The deities are travelling to _____ mandir.
- iv. The priests in Puri are called _____.

Q.2 TRUE OR FALSE:

- i. The distance covered chariots is 3km.
- ii. The name of Lord Jagannath's chariot is Nandighosa.
- iii. The title of king of Orissa is Gajaraja.
- iv. The headdress of the deities is called Orissi.

Q.3 Why does the king of Orissa sweep the chariots? Give reason.

Answer key

ANS.1

- i. Balabhadra
- ii. Vishnu
- iii. Gundicha
- iv. Panda

ANS.2

- i. True
- ii. True
- iii. False (Gajapati)
- iv. False (Tahia)

Ans.3 To show that every work is sacred and god is above the king .

URL :

- <http://www.sundayobserver.lk/2014/03/02/mon36.asp>
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jagannath>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jagannath#/media/File:Jagannath_2_-_Sanctum_Sanctorum_-_Puri_Jagannath_Temple.png
- <http://ronpaulflix.com/other/138th-puri-jaganath-rath-yatra-will-commense-on-july-18th/>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jagannath#/media/File:Jagannath_Balabhadra_Subhadra.jpg
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jagannath#/media/File:Preparing_for_car_festival_of_lord_jaganath.JPG