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VOLUME - 63 MARCH - 2018

UTKARSA

A NEWSLETTER OF ODISHA SOCIETY OF AMERICAS



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MARCH - 2018 VOLUME - 63



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ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ - ୨୦୧୮ ସଂଖ୍ୟା – ୬୩

Lalatendu Moha

President

Susil Panda

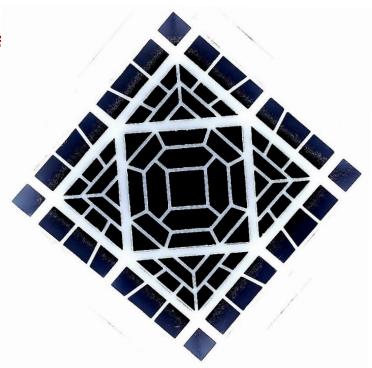
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Amar Senapati

Secretary

Sachi Pati

Treasurer



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ସୁଶୀଲ ପଣ୍ଡା

ଉପ-ସଭପତି

ଅମର ସେନାପତି ସମ୍ପାଦକ

> ମଳି ପତି କୋଷାଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ

Editorial Section

ସମ୍ପାଦନା ମଣ୍ଡଳୀ

Anu Pranay Mishra Julie Acharya Ray Nageswar Rajanala & Prasanta Kumar Bhunya **Odia Section**

Design - Photography - Typeset

ଅନୁ ପୁଣୟ ମିଶୁ ଜୁଲି ଆଗୃର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଗ୍ୟ ନାଗେଶ୍ୱର ଗ୍ଜନାଲ୍ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଶାନ୍ତ କୁମାର ଭୃୟାଁ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ବିଭ୍ଗ ଅଳଙ୍କରଣ - ଛାୟାଚିଡ - ମୁଦ୍ରାକାର

ସୂଚୀପତ୍ର

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As the editorial team for OSA, we are privileged to document, publish and promote the creative spirit of OSA. We look forward to finding avenues to promote talents and skills in the community on the national platform and also create networking opportunities for you to engage with other OSA member families in new and meaningful ways.

1. First Annual Visual Arts Competition

We are happy to inform you that we successfully launched the first Annual national competition on Visual Arts for OSA youth. We had broad participation from Youth in 5 categories:

8 winners from IL, MI, PA and NJ received prizes in recognition for their talent. We hope to increase the participation in 2019 and announce more winners.

2. OSA Youth Profiling OSA Seniors

We are very happy to announce the first publication of a new project we are launching. In this edition, we have published a profile of a OSA senior Shri Babru Samal who is an avid photographer and has chronicled OSA events and families for more than 2 decades. The profile was written by OSA Youth, 14 year old Amrita Sahu from VA.

We are inviting youth from various chapters to participate in this project by profiling a senior from OSA. Please reach out to us at editors@odishasociety.org

3. Are you an OSA Entrepreneur or run a Non Profit?

Do you run a business, franchisee or a non-profit? Tell us how we can help.

We would love to hear your ideas and feedback on these initiatives and anything else you would like us to consider. Please also let us know if you would like to volunteer on any of the initiatives. We welcome your involvement to promote the initiatives in your chapter

UTKARSA

Editorial Team



ଆମେ ଓଡ଼ିଆ...ଆମ ଓଡ଼ିଶା



॥ ଅପୁନରାବର୍ତ୍ତନ ॥

ଭାଇ - ବନ୍ଧୁ - କୁଟୁମ୍ବ

ଆମ୍ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ହୃଦୟ ଦିବ୍ୟ ବ୍ରହ୍ମତ୍ୱରେ ଜୁଡୁବୁଡୁ । ସଂଶୟ, ଜଞ୍ଜାଳ ଆଉ ଦୁନିଆ ଦାଉରେ ବେଳେବେଳେ ସେଇ ହୃଦୟ ବୁଡିଯାଏ; ନିଆଁ ପାଉଁଶରେ ଘୋଡ଼ି ହେଲା ପ୍ରାୟେକ । ଆଉ ବାଟ ହୁଡ଼ି ଯାଏ ଏଇ ମନ-ହୃଦୟ-ପ୍ରାଣ । ପୁଣି ଏଇ ମନ-ପ୍ରାଣ-ହୃଦୟ ବୁଝେ ବୁଝାଏ ନିଜକୁ; ଘରବାହୁଡ଼ା ହୁଏ ମଣିଷର । ଏଇ ବିଶ୍ୱବ୍ରହ୍ମାଣ୍ଡରେ ତେଣୁତ ଏକାକାର ଓ ଏକଧାରରେ ବହି ଚାଲିଛେ । ଏଇ ଜଞ୍ଜାଳରୁ ଅନ୍ୟକୁ ମୁକୁଳେଇବାର ପ୍ରୟାସ ତା'ପରର କଥା; ପ୍ରଥମେ ନିଜକୁ ମୁକ୍ତ କରିବାକୁ ହୁଏ ।

ଅହଂ ବ୍ରହ୍ମାସ୍ମି;

ଏଇ ପଦକ ହୃଦବୋଧ କରି ଆପଣାକୁ ଆଲିଙ୍ଗନ କରି ନିଅ ଥରେ ଭାଇ ମୋର । ସେଇତ ସତ୍ୟ ଆଉ ନିତ୍ୟ । ପ୍ରକୃତି ସହ ପାଦେ ପାଦେ ଚାଲି ମୁଁ ରୁ ଆମ୍ଭେ ଆଡ଼କୁ; ସ୍ଥିରରୁ ନିତ୍ୟମନ୍ୟ ହେବାରେ ହିଁ ମୁକ୍ତି ।

"କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ରାତିକ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ବୀଜଟିଏ ବିନା ଶବ୍ଦରେ ବିନା ଆଡ଼ମ୍ବରରେ ମହୀରୁହ ହୋଇଯାଏ ।"

ଜୀବନ ଅତି ନୀରବରେ ଅନ୍ତୁଡ଼ିଶାଳରୁ, ଜନ୍ମ, ଶୈଶବ, କୈଶୋର ,ଯୌବନ ଓ ଜରା ପଥ ଦେଇ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣାୟୁଃରେ ଲୀନ ହୁଏ । ଏଥିରେ କଣ କିଛି ରହସ୍ୟ ଥାଏ। ଥାଏ କେବଳ ସତ୍ୟ-ଦିବ୍ୟ-ନିତ୍ୟର ମୁକ୍ତ ଛାପ । ସେଇ ଅବବୋଧର ଅଧିଗମ ହିଁ ମୁକ୍ତି ।

-ପୂଭୂ

ପ୍ରଶାନ୍ତ କୁମାର ଭୂୟାଁ

ସମ୍ପାଦକ

ଓଡ଼ିଆ ବିଭାଗ

prasantabhunya@gmail.com



Executive Reports



www.odishasociety.org



President's Message



Dear Friends,

Happy Spring to you and your family. Welcome to the season where the flowers bloom and so does the hope.

We hope to see a stronger

ସମ୍ପର୍କ,

powerful

ସଂହତି

and an impactful

ସଂସ୍କୃତି

in coming days.

Let me first congratulate the OSA Editorial team for working hard to bring the new issue of Utkarsha. I applaud their effort in streamlining the process by involving a representative for each chapters, OSA's next generation kids and listening to all members closely. This year they have taken an initiative to introduce the visual arts competition at the convention.

There are many exciting updates I would like to share since the last Utkarsa was published. OSA initiated digital library astonishingly took a new turn for better. BMC moved the eLibrary to a central place closer to academic institutions at the center of the Berhampur city in a record time and opened the library to community. The library is now under BMC management and they have introduced a summer computer learning program for kids. There are record number of kids enrolled for this program now.

OSA 2018 Convention is just around the corner. Huge preparation is going on at Detroit to welcome you all to the Convention team. Internationally acclaimed Odissi dancer,



Choreographer and dance educator *Saswat Joshi* and his team will be performing. Two extreme musical talents, *Bishnu Mohan Kabi* and *Pragyan Prasmita Hota* will entertain with their award winning voice. Leading standup comedian, long time TV show host and movie actor *Kuna Tripathy* is also invited. *Mr. Jagadananda* will be the Chief Guest of this year and *Mr. Dash Benhur* (Jitendra Narayan Dash) will be the Chief Speaker.

There has not been much movement with regards to increase in OSA memberships. A committee was formed to reevaluate the membership categories and their recommendation is being evaluated. BOG recently passed a resolution to reduce the OSA Life Membership fees to \$200 (from \$300) temporarily to attract new members. OSA has received an additional fifty life memberships since March, 2018.

OSA will be turning fifty next year. We have lot of plans to mark this historic milestone across the world. We are in the process of creating a Golden Jubilee celebration team to plan and execute the celebration.

I would also like to inform you that BOG has chosen New York & New Jersey Chapter to organize 50th OSA Convention in 2019. There were multiple proposals from various chapters. A three member OSA Convention Selection Committee, appointed by me, went thru all the proposals and put forward their recommendation for BOG's consideration.

OSA Impact team has been publishing Insights, a bi-weekly email briefing to keep you informed about the realities in Odisha. They are young Odias of OSA with their eyes and ears on the ground on behalf of you. For the month of May, they will focus on healthcare. Please feel free to write to impact@odishasociety.org. The OSA Impact team is expanding and I would like to encourage our kids & youth to come out of innovative ideas to give back to the community in North America or Odisha for better.



As in home front, spring is the time of plans and projects, so as at OSA too. We have an acute shortage of volunteers to support many initiatives that we would like to start. Lot of these will help us to have a firm foot on the ground and attract more passionate members. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere gratitude to the following members and Teams who graciously stepped forward to support the current team without which we would have been crippled.

2018 Convention Organizing Team

Mr Sishir Senapati, Convener

Mr Vivek Das, President OSA MI

The whole Convention Team

Membership Action Committee:

Mr Sameer Senapati, NC
Mr Ashok Panigrahi, CT
Mr Manoj Mahapatra, IL
Mr Prakash Sahu , Washington DC
Mr Ansuman Panigrahi, NJ

Editorial Board

Mrs Julie Ray Acharya, UT
Mr Prasanta Bhunya, Canada
Ms Nagesh Rajanala, NJ
Ms Anuradha Pranay Mishra, NJ

OSAnet Moderation

Mr Sunil Sabat, CA Mr Prashant Padhy, IL Mr Prabhat Mohapatra, NJ



OSA Impact

Mr Abhishek Panigrahi, NY Ms Amisha Paul, CT

OSA Awards

Mrs Ranjita Mishra (Chair), NJ
Mr Jagannatha Ratha, TX
Mrs Aparna Mohapatra, GA
Mrs Sujata Patnaik, IL
Mr Debashis Das, NC
and the appointed judges

50th Convention Selection Team

Mr Pratap Das, DC Mr Sourjya Mohapatra, MA Mr Satya Patnaik, OH

Grievance Handling

Mrs Esha Bandyopadhyay Dash, CA
Mr Birendra Jena, OH
Mr Pitamber Sarangi, NJ

Guest Selection

Mr Susil Panda, VP, OSA (Ex-officio member)
Mr Sishir Senapati, Convener, 2018 Convention
Mr Dhirendra Kar, NC
Mr Gopal Mohapatra, TX
Mrs Sabita Panigrahi, Toronto



OSA Library

Mr Nishikant Sahoo, MA

Mr Ajay Mohanty, DC

Mrs Nalini Patnaik, TN

Mr Priyadarsan Patra, AZ

Mr Sandip Dasverma, CA

I would also shout out for Mrs Kuku Das, Mrs Aparajitra Mishra, Mr Satya Patnaik, Mr Amiya Nayak, Mr Sanat Patnaik, Mr Gagan Panigrahi & Mr Tarini Das for continuous help and support to the executive team.

Sincerely

Lalatendu Mohanty

President, OSA





Secretary's Message



My dear OSA Members,

I would like to request each of you to spread word about our OSA community among our non-member Odiya friends and relatives and also encourage them to consider becoming OSA members to show our strength as an integral Indian community.

The 49^h OSA convention will be hosted by our OSA Michigan chapter. The convention team under the leadership of Dr Sishir Senapati is working relentlessly around the clock to make it a grand and enjoyable convention for all of us. We need to support them by attending the convention in huge numbers. I request all members to register for the convention in advance to help the convention team plan better.

The BOG Members have been taking their responsibility very seriously. Each month, on every 2nd Sunday, we conduct BOG meeting at 7:00 PM EST and there has been record participation during the last meetings. The minutes of the meeting are duly recorded and are available in OSA Website through the link

http://www.odishasociety.org/bog-meeting-minutes/

Since Aug 2017 few major resolutions were proposed and approved by BOG members. In Oct 2017, aligning with the vision of OSA, a fund of \$1500 (\$250 for each chapter) was proposed and approved for promoting Odia culture outside of Odia community.

To increase the number of overall OSA members, as part of a membership drive, the Life Member fee was reduced to \$200 and the Student Membership was made free. These will remain effective until GBM in July 2018.



During April 2018, it was proposed and approved to waive the OSA Convention registration fee for our senior citizens attending the convention. OSA Golden Jubilee Convention will be organized by New York & New Jersey Chapter in the year 2019.

As of April 2018, total OSA membership stands at 1230 families. As an outcome of the membership drive, since Jan 2018, more than 50 new members have registered so far. [NYNJPA - 17, South East - 12, New England - 11, Southern - 3, Chicago, Michigan, Ohio - 2, North West - 1]. This does not include the memberships registered through 2018 Detroit OSA convention.

Please visit our website "http://www.odishasociety.org/" for all community related news and updates. This year we have created a Facebook group for our members to communicate easily and instantly. Please consider joining the Facebook Group.

I would like to encourage every OSA member to participate in all local events throughout the year in big way to spread the Odia culture in North America. My sincere request to you is to make every effort to spread our message among all other Odia friends to motivate them joining OSA as life members to make this organization stronger. With the membership growth, we can represent ourselves as a strong and integral Indian community in this adopted land.

At the end, I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to all OSA members who are spending their countless hours for volunteering for our community to make it strong and vibrant. Please do not hesitate to communicate with me for any feedback or suggestions via email (asenapati@gmail.com, secretary@odishasociety.org).

See you all at Detroit convention.

Jai Jagannath!!!

Amar Senapati

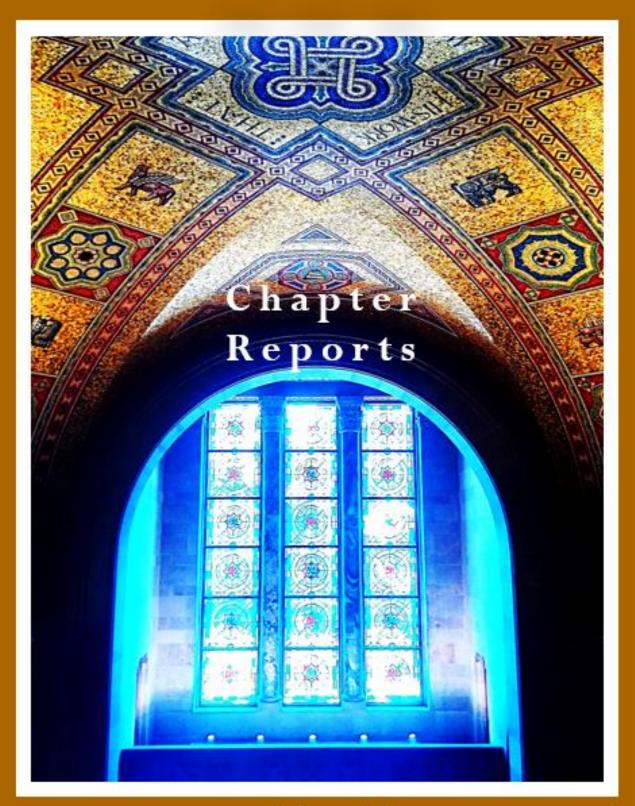
Secretary, **OSA**











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ROCKY MOUNTAIN

We are pleased to report that the OSA-Rocky Mountain Chapter (OSARM) has galloped along its upward trajectory over the past year. The chapter has currently around 45 families, who have enthusiastically participated in all community activities. Several events have been hosted and coordinated by the chapter and its members, brief summaries of which follow.

Members of OSARM participated in three outdoor and one indoor picnics in 2017, enjoying the brief summer of Denver. In keeping with our cultural roots, several ethnic festivals were celebrated by members. Diwali was celebrated in a local club, where the community kids joyously set the night air ablaze with firecrackers. In addition, annual Ganesh and Saraswati Puja celebrations were hosted by individuals, who were fantastically supported by other OSARM members.

In continuation with our tradition of the preceding years, the cohesion between the family members of OSARM and their camaraderie with other communities allowed us successfully execute the fourth annual cultural program in a row. The cultural event





had participation from talents from within the Odia community and the larger Indian community in the Denver metro area. Participants of all ages demonstrated their skills in various classical dance/music, modern dance/songs, fusion art elements and a fashion show, in front of an audience of around four hundred. The quality and tenor of the overall event has been judged by all comers to be the best OSARM has produced over the last four years.



For cultural event videos, follow the YouTube link. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLy9i7Rlu0GKw13fhwUGCQuPtXpD1XmRW0

For cultural event photos, follow the below link. https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1637833512929834&type=3





Charity Event Standupforkids

In the fall of 2017, OSARM members hosted a dinner drive for homeless and underprivileged kids in Denver, in association with the local charity organization Standupforkids. All families cooked and fed approximately hundred kids on a Sunday evening. More hearteningly, several small kids of the community displayed their altruism with great zeal in company of the adults.



In closing, it has been exciting and vibrant times at the OSARM, and we are aiming to shine brighter in the future.

Sincerely,

Suvendu Samal & Samrat Mohanty

Rocky Mountain Chapter, OSA,

Denver, CO



WASHINGTON DC

OSA Washington DC chapter celebrated its first event of the year Saraswati Puja on February 4, 2018. As many people were out of the country during the winter vacation, this day was chosen to have maximum attendance. Yet, there was snow storm prediction and it actually snowed on this day and the attendance was affected. Yet, the chapter conducted its annual Champu, Chhanda, Odissi (CCO) singing competition. In total 7 children participated, 4 in age group 11 and above and 2 in age group 6-10. The children sang very professionally. The children that participated in senior category are Sulagna Dash, Ajitesh Ojha, Sameer Dash and Isha Satapathy. In the junior category, participants are: Subham Dash and Yash Sahoo.

The judges were Sovana Das, Meera Mohapatra and Bigyani Das. Mona Mishra conducted the competition. The children were judged on Odia diction, swara and tala. All the children were given cash prizes and participation awards. Only one best singer award was given to Sulagna Dash in senior category.



Children participants in CCO Competition



Here is the list of songs the children sang.

Participant Song

Ajeetesh Ojha Kede Chhanda Janelo sahi

Isha Satapathy Malli Mala Shyamaku Debi

Sameer Dash Na tejibi Muralidhara

Sulagna Dash Sajani Taaku Karide Mana Go

Subham Dash Bitalaku Alingana

Yash Sahoo Sanginire Rasa Ranginire



The competition was held between 10:30 AM and noon. Puja started at around 12:30 PM. Other families arrived for Puja. The puja was performed by Pratap Dash with assistance from Meera Mohapatra, Ila Ojha and Bijoylaxmi Dash.



After the pushpanjali, awards were distributed to the participants. The CCO prizes were co-sponsored by OSA and Dr Ajit and Sovana Das. They distributed prizes to the children. Chapter president Anjana Chowdhury thanked everybody for being present for the puja irrespective of the bad weather with more of snow and slit prediction in the afternoon.

Lunch was prepared by volunteers Leena Mishra, Geeta Mohanty, Meera Mohapatra, Sangeeta Nayak, Sujata Bohidar, Anasuya Dash, Ila Ojha and Anjana Chowdhury.

After the delicious lunch and socialization, participants warmed up to face the bad weather outside with mental energy.

Pictures of the event are captured by Dr Babru Samal at



by

Bigyani Das



OSNE

Continuing to celebrate our rich culture and heritage, OSNE celebrated Saraswati Puja on 01/27/2018 with utmost devotion to the Goddess of knowledge, Music and Creative Arts. The whole community came under one roof to celebrate our roots. It started with Saraswati Vandana and Sholka chants by our young talents which is followed by Odishi dances, Bollywood number and so much more. To keep it more original, couple odia songs were sung by our OSNE members in their melodious voice.











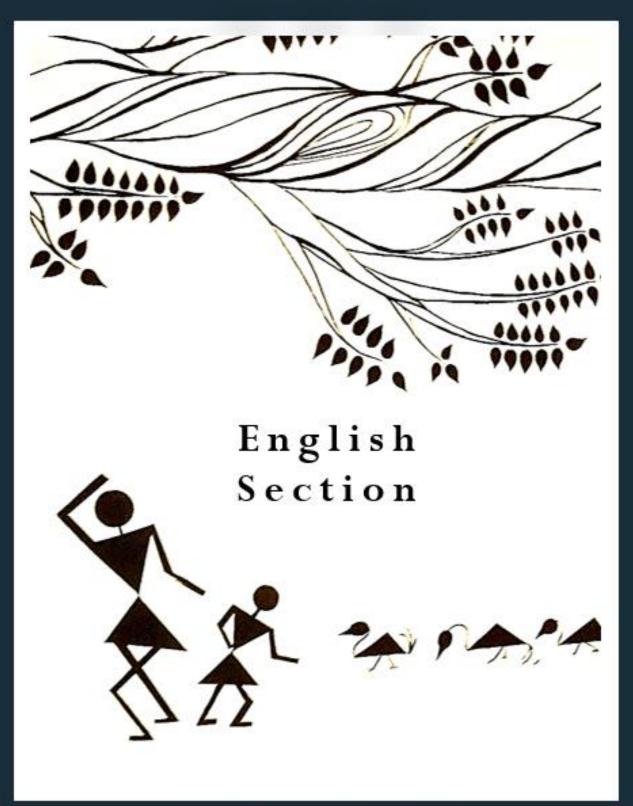






All our men, women and beautiful children looked coloriful with their traditional attire and nevertheless the home cooked food was just delicious, of course no one can beat us on our culinary skills. Here are some pics of our celebration.





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Join our family's devotional trek to the sacred town of Puri in Odisha and its famous Vaishnava temple

Our annual trips to India are incomplete without worshiping our beloved family Deity-Lord Jagannath, Ruler of the Universe. In March, 2010, we headed for Bhubaneswar, Odisha's capital city. Home to almost 600 temples, Bhubaneswar is the jumping-off place for pilgrims to Puri, sixty kilometers to the north. Buses and taxis regularly ply between the two cities, especially during the months from August to February, when the weather is the most pleasant. Eminent artists and writers have brought glory to their home state of Odisha, and everyday life here is a natural affirmation of its rich cultural tapestry. Although Odia is the spoken language, many people here can also converse in English and Hindi.

The road to Puri is fringed with graceful coconut and other palm trees. A low sun in the sky rides alongside our car over unremitting patches of lush paddy fields. We pass Pipli Village, famous for its prismatic applique work, wishing we had enough time for a side trip to Konark, the famed Sun Temple. Halfway to Puri, we do stop at Dakshineswar Kali, a powerful temple to the Goddess; and later at Sakhi Gopal, a revered Krishna temple. On the outskirts of Puri, we offer the prayers at Batamangala Temple, where all devotees offer prayers before and after worshiping Lord Jagannath.

The Jagannath temple is now easily visible, towering above the ancient city of Puri sprawling at its feet. The main road to the temple is a scene of happy chaos. Cyclists, rickshaws and minibuses spouting black smoke dodge the omnipresent pedestrians, while vendors pursue harried tourists.



The temple, fortified by two walls built in the fifteenth century, has four entry gates: Simhadwara, Lion Gate; Ashwadwara, Horse Gate, Vyaghradwara, Tiger Gate; and Hastidwara, Elephant Gate. The gates denote dharma, artha, kama and moksha, the four goals of human life. The animals signify the four emotions of lust, love, attachment and jealousy, which are to be conquered for reaching the divine. Kings enter through the Lion Gate and saints through the Horse Gate. We enter through the Lion gate and climb the 22 steps to the temple's inner compound, carefully skirting an iron tile--a harbinger of misfortune if stepped upon.

The morning activity fills the temple. Families surround chanting brahmins, priests in cotton dhotis scuttle around, hawkers sell garlands of marigold and basil. All the while, fearless monkeys scamper wherever they please. Roars of adoration from a sea of devotees emanate intermittently from the temple's innermost shrine.

A sense of awe and happiness descends upon us as we breathe in the fragrance of camphor and ghee lamps. These are hallowed grounds earlier traversed by Lord's illustrious devotees from diverse religious faiths and stratas of society--Guru Nanak, Salabega, Kabir, Tulsidas, Chaitanya.

We soon emerge into the cobbled temple compound, sprawling 400,000 square feet, that in days of yore provided shelter to civilians during Muslim invasions. The main structure housing the Deities, completed in the 12th century, looms 214 feet above us. The interior walls of this great compound are covered with pattachitra paintings, the folk art of Odisha, displaying images from epics, fables, myths, royal processions, court ladies, animals and birds. Most of the rest of the temple, however, has been covered in a thick coat of plaster to protect the structure from the ravages of sea air. Restoration efforts removing this plaster have revealed detailed carvings of remarkable beauty.



We offer ghee lamps to the Deities of each of the 43 shrines encircling the main temple, including the major shrines of Ganesha, Ananta Vasudev, Vimala, Shakti, Sri Rama and the Navagraha. We ladies are most charmed when offered red bangles and kumkum by the priest at the Goddess Lakshmi temple. Just before leaving this outer area, we worship at the sacred banyan tree, making a wish while tying a stone to a branch.

We purchase our sacred offering at the government stand and, accompanied by a priest, enter the temple itself. As we stand behind the famed Garuda pillar, we catch our first glimpse of our Lord. We embrace the Garuda pillar, as doing so heals one of all ailments and sins. The crowds are overcome with devotion, and cries of "Jai Jagannatha" rend the air.

We inch closer to the Deities until parallel with the guardrail, beyond which only priests are allowed. The massive Deities are in their tribal forms, with huge eyes, attired in gold and decorated with jewels and flowers. Some say the triad of Deities represents the synthesis of major cults of Hinduism: Siva, Shakti and Vishnu; thus Lord Jagannath is the amalgamation of all Gods.

His gigantic eyes pierced my innermost subtle thoughts. As a scholar aptly said, "The sacred does not simply present itself to our gaze: it reaches out to seize us in its searing grasp." Abruptly, I am bought back to ordinary consciousness by the sound of clashing cymbals, announcing the offerings of cakes made from rice and bananas.

Our worship complete, the volunteers urge us back into the courtyard. The divine spell breaks as we emerge into the bright sunlight. We sit down to savor the prasadam while the priest summarizes the temple's routine. The day begins, he explains, by offering lamps to the Deities, followed by bathing and dressing. The daily bathing is done symbolically, in front of three mirrors reflecting the Deities' images--their wooden forms are not suitable



for frequent immersion. Actual bathing is just once a year, on the full moon of Jyeshta, May/June.

The daily worship, in which the Deity is treated in a very human way, combines the divine adventures of Krishna's boyhood home of Vrindavan and his adult reign as king in Dwarka. There are 36 ceremonial attires for the Deities, ranging from those appropriate for a child, the madhurya lila, to those for a king, aishwarya lila. A popular one is suna vesa when the Gods are adorned in gold upon their return from the annual car festival. The Deities are offered food six times a day, and at night they are lulled to sleep through renderings of Gita Govinda, songs of the 11th-century poet Jayadeva, along with offerings of coconut and betel. During the scalding summer months, the Deities are covered in cool sandalwood and symbolically taken for boating excursions. During Kartika months (October/November), they enjoy afternoon siesta to compensate for rising earlier in the morning.

We make our final salutations to the Nilachakra, Lord Vishnu's discus, made of eight metals. The twelve-foot diameter disk, mounted on top of the temple, was repaired last year by the Archeological Department of India. Our last stop before leaving the temple grounds is Koili Baikuntha, the "burial ground." Every 12 or 19 years when the Deities are replaced, the old ones are ceremoniously buried here. The new Deities are prepared at this same site from auspicious neem logs found after an elaborate search in the distant forests. These logs are carried to the temple in carts pulled by devotees. As the Deities are installed, the Brahma Padartha must be transferred from the old ones to the new ones. This mysterious object, said to be a sacred Saligrama stone, is moved at midnight by the senior priest. He is blindfolded and his hands padded, so that even he does not see or touch the powerful Brahma Padartha.



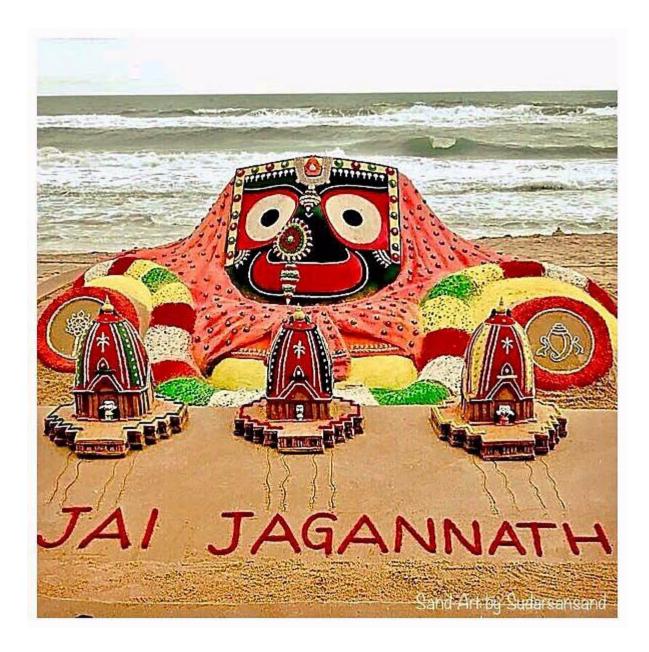
serves at least 10,000 devotees a day with mounds of pearly rice, sunny lentils, piquant curries and robust sauces ladled onto banana leaves. Fifty-six types of food offerings (bhoga) are prepared here daily and offered to the Lord. There are some 750 wood stoves in the kitchen, operated by 500 cooks with 1,500 helpers. Every day, 7,200 kilos of rice and a proportionate quantity of pulses and vegetables are cooked in earthen pots, nine per stove.

After our meal and a brief rest, we set out to shop for souvenirs in the vast marketplace adjacent to the temple. We complete our visit with a brisk walk along Puri's famous beach. Perhaps next time we will come for the most famous event of all, the great chariot festival held in June/July, when the actual Deities are taken in procession to Gundica Temple, three kilometers away. These are not the "parade Deities" used in all other temples, but the actual Deities--a practice unique to this temple in all of India.

These massive chariots--the source of our English word juggernaut, meaning a huge and overwhelming force--are built anew each year. They are made from 1,072 logs by 125 carpenters. The largest, that of Jagannath, stands 70 feet tall and rolls on 18 huge wooden wheels. The chariots are pulled by devotees, using thick ropes each more than a hundred feet long. Thousands vie for a chance to help pull these chariots--all under the watchful eye of the security forces (see a video at http://bit.ly/rath-yatra). After nine days, the Deities return to the main temple. This Rath Yatra festival is duplicated at temples across India and around the world.

Tired but gratified, we return to our car for the journey back to Bhubaneswar. I cast one last look at the proud Nilachakra crowning the temple with its fluttering flags. Jayadeva's Gita Govinda songs resonate from the walkway shops, beseeching the Lord not for fame or material gains, but only for His love and grace.





by

Deepti Paikray

A homemaker, Hatha yoga teacher and freelance writer residing in New Jersey, US.

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Story



MAA

Dayananda Babu was sitting on a rocking chair on the balcony of his bedroom. After retirement, he had nothing to do in the morning, just sit and read his newspaper, since his wife was busy with household work and he had no one else to talk to. All his children were away at their work place, but sometimes he talks with Ramu. Ramu had been with them from 10 years, and had been considered a family member in the household. Dayananda Babu had found him on the street when he was begging for food, and he had asked him, "Do you want to come with me to our house?" The boy was very happy and nodded, "Yes!" and immediately asked, "Are you going to give me food?" Dayananda Babu felt very sad when he came to know that the boy had not eaten for two days. He immediately took him to the nearest restaurant and gave him some food, then brought him to his house. There, he told his wife Mita, "See, I found another son for you!" At first, Mita got shocked and asked him, "Who is that boy? And how can we keep a street boy in our house?" Dayananda Babu said "I talked with him, his parents had died in an accident and he has nowhere to go- and don't worry- I talked with him, he seemed to be a nice boy." Dayananda Babu added, "As all our children are grown up now, they will leave us at any time and start their own life. We need someone to stay with us." And that's how Ramu was added to their family and became their youngest son.

While sitting on the balcony, he saw some kids standing in front of their house, looking around here and there and plucking guavas from their tree, as they thought no one was watching them. Dayananda Babu was enjoying watching their antics.

While watching them, one memory of him from 60 years ago reappeared. Once, when he was 5 or 6 years old, he had plucked some mangoes from his neighbor's house. Seeing him



plucking the mangoes, his neighbor got angry and shouted at him, "I will tell your mother that you are stealing mangoes from our garden!" and snatched the mangoes from him. Little Dayananda got scared and came home crying, and told the story to his mother. Dayananda's mother knew he was only taking them due to a childish nature. However, she did not say anything bad about the neighbor. Instead, she said,

"We have some ripe mangoes in our garden. Let's go pick them."

After picking those mangoes, she kept some for their house and the rest she told Daya (Dayananada Babu's nickname) to take and give to Kasi Uncle (neighbor). Daya did exactly as his mother asked him to do. After few minutes the neighbor came to apologize for shouting at Daya. He said

"I am sorry, Bhabi. Today I behaved badly with Daya."

Then Daya's mom replied,

"This is not about mangoes, Kasi, it is about the child's mind.

I don't want him to get mad at you or think bad about you,

I want him to grow up as a real man with love and compassion for all.

I would be very happy if you hug him and have some mangoes together."

While hugging Daya, tears came out from Kasi's eyes. Dayananda Babu thought if all the mothers were like his mother then there would be peace everywhere. He remembered another incident... Once, he was busy playing with his friends, and his mom asked him to go get oil from the store. He went unwillingly, and mistakenly got the oil without paying for it. His mother saw he did not give the money to the shopkeeper, got mad and asked him to immediately go back to the store and give the shopkeeper money. He never saw a beggar go empty handed from their house, and many times he saw his mother give her food to beggars saying,

"They are hungrier than me."

She always told Daya,



"Do you know why God has given us more food than we need?

So that we can share our food with everyone."

She said,

"Never beg from anyone but give to everyone who begs you."

There are a number of incidences where Dayananda Babu learnt his life's lessons from his mother. But he has had a little sadness somewhere in his heart that his Mother died when he was only 10 years old. He always wished if his mother would have lived little longer, he could have learnt a lot from her. Even now he always follows what his mother taught him in his childhood. He thought to himself "Yes! It is well said that a mother is a child's first teacher."

Dayananda Babu came to his senses when he heard Ramu shouting at the kids for plucking guavas. Dayananda Babu stopped Ramu from shouting and said,

"Who will eat those fruits if the kids won't eat them?

Look at their faces! How happy they are,

do you think if your Maa or I will eat those guavas, we will be that happy?

He came out of the house and started plucking the ripe guavas, giving them to the kids.

While he was doing this, an unknown happiness was flowing through his veins...!

by



Capturing Moments

"Seeing beauty where we least expect it makes the search worthwhile...!"

The snap of a shutter cements the moment, capturing it for years to come. The world changes in a streak of color, and present moments are lost in the blink of an eye. Amidst such an impermanent world, we need to capture those few beautiful moments and nostalgic memories that we would otherwise miss.





Photography is the art of freezing time and finding beauty in the simplest things. Meet Dr. Babru Samal, who was born and brought up in Basudevpur, Bhadrak in Orissa and came to the USA in 1973 to study genomics. He has a Ph.D in Molecular Biology from University of Southern California and lives in Rockville, Maryland with his wife, Jayashree Samal. They are blessed with two children, Nihar and Manisha. Babru Uncle, a respected member in our Odia community, has come to every OSA function, rain or shine, to take these pictures. It is a testament to his incredible dedication. Though he has no formal training in photography, he uses his intuition to click when the moment demands. As he said, "We come across many things every day, but seeing essence in those is worth our endeavor. Seeing beauty where we least expect it makes our search worthwhile."

Babru Uncle first started photography in his college years, when film was an expensive commodity and the development of pictures was time consuming. However, with the advent of digital photography allowing for more experimentation, he became fascinated by the simple things that people missed in life. By talking to Babru Uncle, I realized how vital it was to pay attention to everything happening around us. In his words, "People can get happiness from revisiting things in the future that they might not have noticed in the moment. I take two kinds of photos; one is of people and the other is of beauty I find in nature."







For his photos of people, Babru Uncle enjoys the opportunity that OSA gives in the form of human interactions and the enactment of traditions that have been passed down for ages. With all these cultural functions and pujas, photography becomes the best way to "freeze moments in time." In OSA, he sees people from all walks of life come together and celebrate the bonds that tie them together. He aims to portray the pleasure that comes from being with friends and family. In addition, performances of Bollywood dance, Odissi and other classical dance, classical music, and elaborate plays provide him access to Odia art in its truest form. "In traditional Indian classical dance, there is plenty of expression of amorous moments between a lover and his beloved. I derive joy from capturing those fleeting moments." Each dance tells an intricately woven story designed to impart a message to the viewer..



Families that look back at all the photos Babru Uncle has taken can see the evolution of their own family over time. Be it the addition of a new family member or the passing of an old, these photos document the passing of time - the only constant in life. His website is like a timeline for all of us. Birthdays, weddings, graduations, be it a celebration or a solemn occasion, one can always find a repertoire of pictures to go back to and reflect



upon. I have known Babru Uncle all my life. My parents, my brother, and I all have been chronicled over time from Babru uncle's photography. It is incredible to see all the photos of my friends and family, all the celebrations and the various OSA functions we have had in one consolidated website.

His nature photos aim to find small details of life that he sees differently. "As a life scientist, I see things differently from, say, a mathematician or a physicist." To find these minute details and be able photograph them with such ease and skill is truly an incredible feat. Babru Uncle's website has many examples of his talent for artistically framing flowers, trees, or simple leaves in such a way that they impart a deeper message to the viewer.



However, finding subject matter for these pictures is not easy. To satisfy his thirst for exploration, Babru Uncle and Mami Aunty have traveled to almost twenty-six countries across four of the continents, and many individual states in India and the USA. From exploring the rocky Incan countryside of Machu Picchu to a walk in the colorful culturally.



rich city of Venice, they truly have travelled across the world. For all of us at home who cannot pursue travel with as much rigor and enthusiasm, Babru Uncle documents every portion of his trip, providing us with a gateway to everywhere he has visited.

Interestingly, Mami Aunty is also a firm believer in the power of art and pursues fine art combining our traditional Indian styles with modern digital techniques. Not only do Babru Uncle and Mami Aunty complement each other but they are a perfect example of how two individuals encourage each other to follow their passions and dreams to the fullest.

Ultimately, Babru Uncle believes that following his passion helps to liberate him and allows him to express himself in the best way possible. We, as the OSA community, should look to Babru Uncle for inspiration to chase our dreams and do what we really enjoy. After all, creativity coupled with passion is the key to unlocking one's inner self.



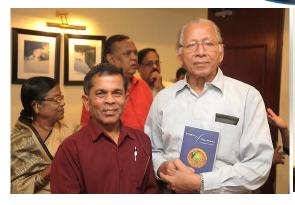


Babru and his moments with dignitaries...



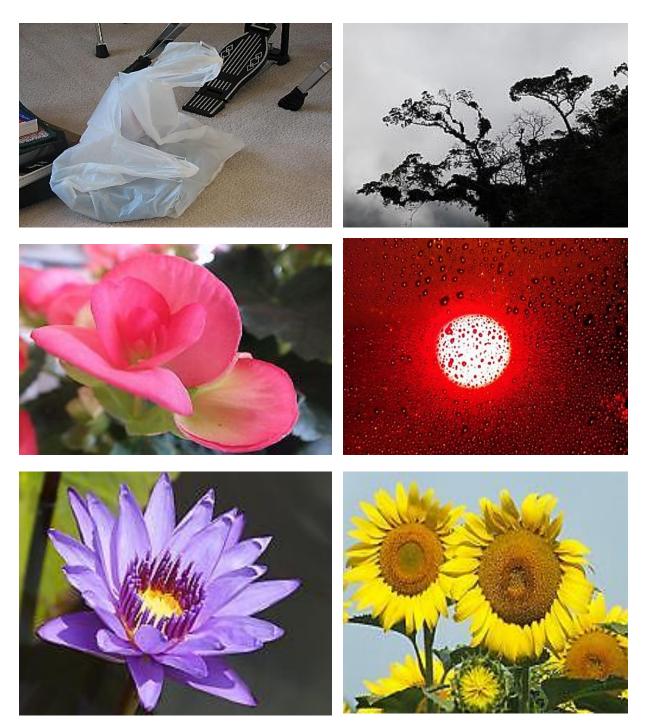












For More photos, visit:

http://babru.com/

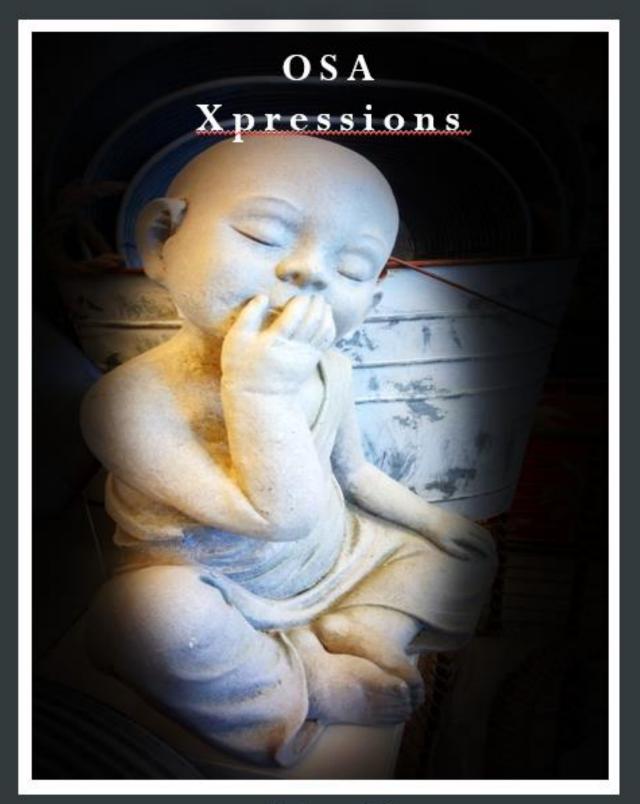
http://yourshot.nationalgeographic.com/profile/343765/

By







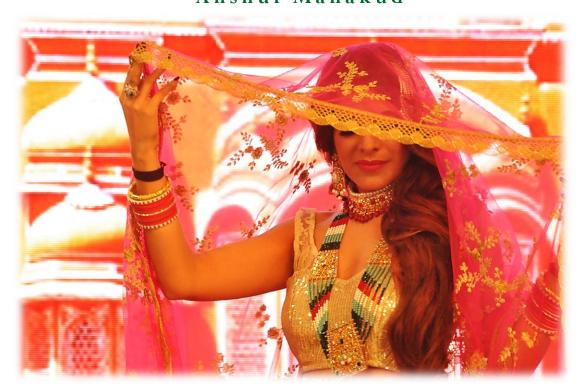


www.odishasociety.org



Fashion Moments PHOTOGRAPHY

by Anshul Mahakud







Digital Art

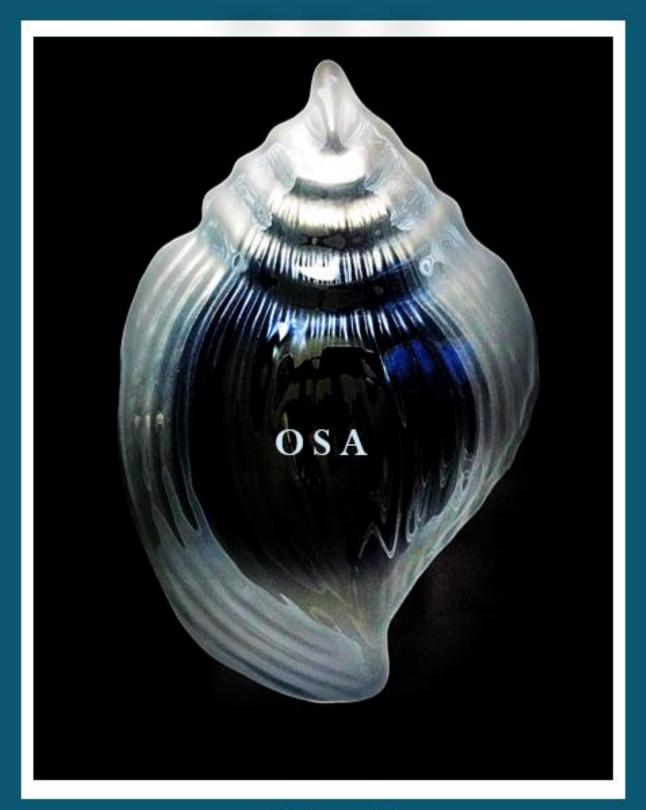
by Sushrita Maharana











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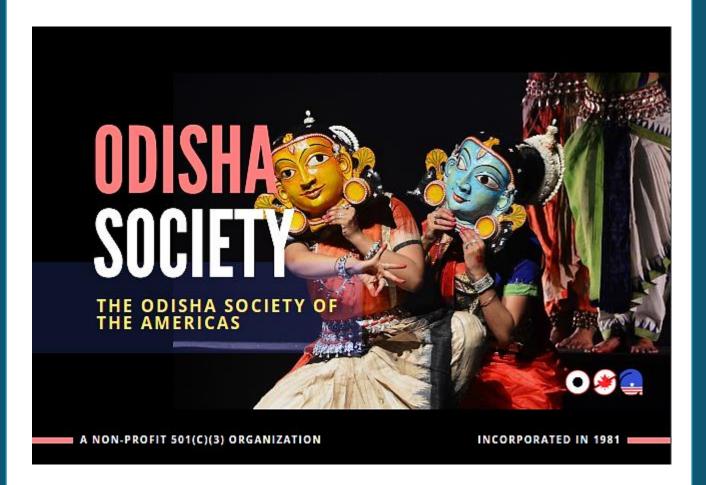
The soul of OSA...

O S A

Odisha Society of Americas

3 21

ଆମେରିକୀୟ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସମାଜ



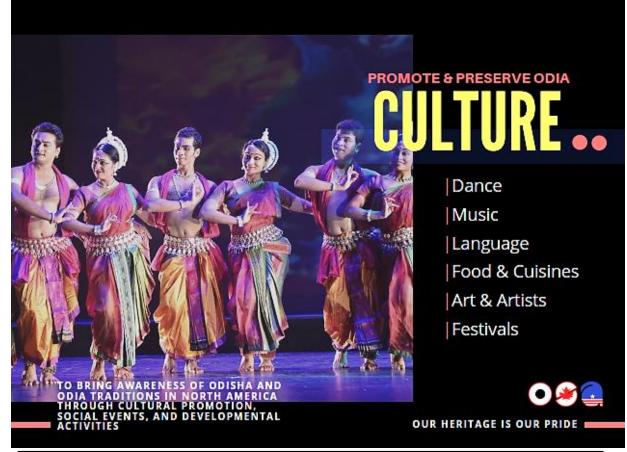
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Heritage is Pride - Network is Growth - Unity is Strength



SUPPORT GROUPS | HELP LINE | MENTORSHIP | WOMENS FORUM | NEED BASED ENTREPRENEURS | REHABILITATE | HELPING SENIORS | JOB TRAINING HELP











PANTS

| Grants to Social Projects | Digital Library | Adopt-a-Village | Disaster & Calamities | Higher Education | Invest Odisha | Help visiting Odias



OUR NETWORK IS GROWTH



SYNOPSIS

BUILDING A LIFE TIME CONNECTION

RUNS BY VOLUNTEERS
EIGHTEEN CHAPTERS
MEMBERS ONLY ORGANIZATION
ELECTION EVERY 2 YEARS
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

~25
ANNUAL CONVENTIONS

~2500 VOTING MEMBERS \$300K FIXED ASSET NATIONAL BUDGET \$20K CHAPTERS BUDGET \$100K CONVENTION BUDGET \$200K

INCOME SOURCE



MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS FUND RAISING SPONSORSHIP





SPECIAL PROJECTS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



OSA IMPACT

The protagonist is often in the spotlight, doing the most out of all the characters

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Multiple chapter level projects helping local churches, Food Banks, Soup Kitchens, Voluntary help in non-profit events, Clean-up Drives

ADOPT-A-VILLAGE

MODEL PUBLIC E-LIBRARY



LEARN ODIA

Making next generation kids learn to write & speak Odia. Odia Speech Compitition, Odia Radio Programs, Youth Odia Plays on Odia stories

LEARN ODIA CLASSICAL MUSIC

Publish Classical Music tracks for kids to learn Champu, Chhanda & Odissi

OSA WAS RECOGNIZED WITH ODIA SAMMAN AWARD BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, HON. PRANAB MUKHERJEE IN 2017



CULTURAL

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

All its chapters to find avenues to promote Odia culture - art, music. food and dance and have become the Odia brand ambassadors in North America.

ODISSI STEERING COMMITTEE

Promote Dance schools & teachers across North America and provide opportunities to showcase their talent.

PROMOTING ART

OSA proudly sponsored the International Odissi festival held in Odisha in December, 2011

ODISHA SOCIETY

PERFORMING.

Numerous performances such as "Amazing Odisha" at Kennedy Center, International Odissi Event

EXHIBITIONS

on Odisha culture, dance, and arts in Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Boston. Produced a short video on Odishan arts, culture and

REGIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL

Promote Togetherness

ODIA A CLASSICAL LANGUAGE

Helped to promote Odia as a classical language

VISITING ARTISTS

OSA has been promoting & showcasing Odia artists for decades. It has coordinated numerous spectacular performances across North America.





PERFORMING ARTS

Numerous performances such as "Amazing Odisha" at Kennedy Center. International Odissi Festival

RADIO PROGRAMS

Odia Radio Programs in all Sundays in New York Metro & California

OUR CULTURE IS OUR IDENTITY



SUPPORT GROUPS

MEMBER

Informative Session
Consular Support
Technological
Consultation
Helping Hands
Corporate
Discounts
Promote
Entrepreneurs
Special Member
Initiatives

HELP LINE

Accessible to all Odias in distress

Emergency Medical Expenses

Educational Aids

Post Death Body Transfer to relatives

WOMEN

Region-based committees Networking w/ organizations Create a safe space for women Establish Committee Join with South Asian Women Support Organization

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Life Time
Achievements
Academic Excellence
Cultural
Ambassadors
Distinguished Odia
Visual & Performing
Arts
Youth
Entrepreneurship



OSA - BUILDING AN ODIA VILLAGE IN NA

CONNECTION

OSA CHAPTERS

Direct Connection to Members and local communities

Multiple Events
throughout the year
Encourage local
participation and
showcase talents

Represent OSA in larger community Events OSA NET||DISCUSSION FORUM
WEBSITE||SOCIAL NETWORKING
DIRECTORY OF ODIAS||QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTERS||ANNUAL
MAGAZINE||DIRECT MAIL||GENERAL
BODY MEETING||OSA YOUTUBE

CHAPTERS ARE THE BRAND
AMBASSADORS OF THE SOCIETY





MEMBER INITIATED

SEEDS IPAC

Aims to seek, evaluate and support sustainable, Indian Performing Art Center specializing in Odissi, equitable, and decentralized grassroots development Odisha Folk Dances & Music. projects in the developing world, particularly in the state of Orissa in India. DANCE SCHOOLS

Many of our members are passionate in teaching and ODISHA FOUNDATION performing odissi dance in their local communities. Work towards the growth and inclusive development of

IGURUKUL

Creating an excellent learning environment in the area of teaching, leadership, community building, event management and fund raising

Odisha and Odia culture around North America

DEE CREATIONS

Promoting Odisha Artists in North America

IPAT

IASF



ODIA SOCIETY

SELFLESS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUN

ODISHA CONNECTION

Prabasi Odisha Divas

Higher Education Seminar

Odisha Development Day

Invest Odisha/Invest Bhubaneswar

Malaria Eradication in Odisha*

ADOPT-A-VILLAGE

For meaningful development of a village, collaboration with Centurion University started skills development for women and night school for all adults of Badigam village

HERITAGE TOURS

Taking our youths back to their roots and making them realize the strong heritage they are proud to belong to

OSA IMPACT

A change maker grant is given to KRISHCO, a social entrepreneur supporting farmers & their agriculture

*Discussion going on on "Malaria No More"





OUR ROOT IS OUR IDENTITY

ONE ODIA SOCIETY





PLANS



BUILD A STRONGER ODIA COMMUNITY

Make conscious effort to stay connected with individuals of Odia origin, support each other & our Next Generation, promote our identity, making difference in the community we live in, and give back to Odisha

||Sanhati|| Provide a mutually supportive environment for Odia immigrants

||Sanskruti|| Showcase our culture and heritage at a different level

||Samparka|| Facilitate the exchange of information between Odisha and North America, and help building a better Odisha

ODISHA SOCIETY

BE THERE FOR EACH OTHER

QUOTE



World is like a salad bowl, you put in the different things. You want the vegetables - the lettuce, the cucumbers, the onions, the green peppers - to maintain their identity. You appreciate differences - Jane Elliot

Our Heritage, Our Culture, Our Language, together is our identity.



ODISHA SOCIETY

HONE ODIA IDENTITY





ODISHA SOCIETY

HONE ODIA IDENTITY











www.odishasociety.org



॥ ଗାଁ ॥

ଗାଁ କଥା ସବୁ ମା'କଥା ପରି ମଧୁର ସରଳ ଶୁଦ୍ଧ ଗାଁ'ର ଚଳଣୀ ଗାଁ'ର କାହାଣୀ ଜାଣଇ ଜ୍ଞାନୀ ନିର୍ବୋଧ;

ଗାଁ ହଜୁଅଛି ଆଧୁନିକ ହାଟେ ଗାଉଁଳୀ ଯାଉଛି ହଜି ଗାଁ ପରବାଣୀ ଗାଁର କାହାଣୀ ଭାବି ଆଖି ଯାଏ ଭିଜି;

ଗାଁରେ ରହିଛି ସବୁ ଚିହ୍ନ ମୋର ସ୍କୃତି ଧରି ଅଛି ହୃଦେ ମାଟିରେ ମିଶିବି ମାଟିର ପୁଅ ମୁଁ ମୋ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦେ;

-ପୁଭୂ





॥ ମୋ ଗାଁ ॥

ଏଇ ମୋ ଛୋଟିଆ ସୁନ୍ଦର ଗାଁ, ରହିବାକୁ ମୋତେ ଦେଇଛି ଠାଁ । ଝାଟିମାଟି ଆମ ଚାଳଛପର, କାନ୍ଥରେ ଦିଏ ମା ଝୋଟି ସୁନ୍ଦର । ଏଇଠି ବସି ମୁଁ ଦେଖେ ପ୍ରକୃତି, ସବୁଜ ଶ୍ୟାମଳ ସୁନ୍ଦର ଅତି । ଧାନକେଣ୍ଡା ଅବା ସୁନାର ଝରା, ନଡ଼ିଆ ପଦର ସୁନ୍ଦର ତୋରା । ମୁକ୍ତବାୟୁ ଏଠି ଖୋଲା ଆକାଶ, ସତେଜ ପରିବା, ସୁନ୍ଦର ଶସ୍ୟ । ଏହିପରି ଭାଗ୍ୟ କାହୁଁ ପାଇବ ? ପ୍ରକୃତ ପ୍ରକୃତି ଧନସମ୍ପଦ ।





॥ ମୋଗାଁ ॥

ଏଇ ମୋ ଛୋଟ ଗାଁ ଏଇ ମୋ ସୁନା ଗାଁ, ଜନମ ବେଳୁଁ ତା କୋଳେ ବଢ଼ି ପାଇଛି ମୋର ନାଁ ।

କାକରବୋଳା ଘାସର ଖେଯେ ସୁରୁଜ ରଖ୍ନୀ ଢ଼ାଳେ, ମନ୍ଦିର ଘଣ୍ଟି , ପକ୍ଷୀର ରାବେ ଆଖି ଯେଉଁଠି ଖୋଲେ ।

ସାହାଡ଼ା ଦାନ୍ତକାଠି ଟେ ଧରି ଦାଣ୍ଡଦୁଆରେ ବସି, ପ୍ରଭାତ ଶୋଭା ଦେଖୁଥାଇ ମୁଁ ମୁରୁକି ହସି ହସି ।

କୁହୁଡ଼ିଆ ସେ ଶୀତ ସକାଳେ , ଉହ୍କେଇ ଧାସେ ବସି, ଏଣ୍ଡରୀ ପିଠା, ଗୁଡ଼ ଗଇଁଠା ଖାଇଛି କେତେ କିଛି ।

ଫିରିଙ୍ଗି ପଛେ, ଧାନ ଖଳାରେ ଆଉ ମାଣ୍ଡିଆ କ୍ଷେତେ, ବେଙ୍ଗୁଲୀ ରାଣୀ , କେଁ କଟର ଗୀତ ଶୁଣିଛି କେତେ ।

ମଠବନ୍ଧରେ ପହଁରିଛି ମୁଁ ପଦୃପୁଷ୍କର ଖାଇ, ନଦୀନାଳରେ ତୋଟା ବଣରେ ବୁଲିଛି ହୋଇ ବାଇ ।

ଭେଣ୍ଡା ଠୁଁ ବୁଢ଼ା ଗାଁର କୋଠଘର ପିଣ୍ଡାରେ ବସି, ବାଘ ଓ ଛେଳି, ଧାଡ଼ି ଧୋକଡ଼, ସତରଞ୍ଜ ରେ ଖୁସି ।

ଆଖଡ଼ା ଘରେ ଶିଖନ୍ତି ସର୍ବେ ଭଳିକି ଭଳି ବିଦ୍ୟା, ଖଣ୍ଡା ଖର୍ପର, ଧନୁ ଓ ଶର ଶିଖୁଣୁ ହୁଏ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା । ଦଣ୍ଡଯାତରା ନାଟକ ପାଇଁ ଶିଖନ୍ତି ରାମାୟଣ, ପୁଅ ପିଲାହିଁ ସୀତା ଦୁଅଇ, ସାଜଇ ହନୁମାନ ।

ଗୋଧୂଳି ବେଳ ନଇଁ ଆସଇ, ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାର ଦୀପ ଜଳେ, ଆଳତୀ ଘଣ୍ଟି ଗାୟତ୍ରୀ ମନ୍ନ ଝଙ୍କୃତ ଘରେ ଘରେ ।

ଅନ୍ଧାର ନଇଁ ଆସଇ ଯେବେ ଉଜ୍ଜଳ ହୁଏ ଘର , ଚିମିଲି, ଡିବିରି, ଲଣ୍ଡନ ଜଳେ ଦୂର ହୁଏ ଅନ୍ଧାର ।

ଟୁଙ୍ଗୀ ରେ ବସି ପିଢ଼ା ଉପରେ ପଣ୍ଡିତ ଗାନ୍ତି ଗୀତା, ଭାଗବତ ଆଉ ରାମ ଚରିତ ଗୋବିନ୍ଦ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଟୀକା ।

ରାତି ଅଧରେ ଉଲ୍ଲୁକ ରଡ଼େ, ବିଲୁଆ ହୁକେ ହୋ, ଦୂର ରୁ ଆସେ ଅମୃତସ୍ୱନ ଧୋରେ ବାୟା ଧୋ ।

ଛଣପଟିରେ କନ୍ଥା ପକାଇ ସୋଲାପୁରୀ କୁ ଘୋଡ଼ି, ସହଳ ଶୁଏ, ଉଠଇ ଶୁଣି କାଉ କୁକୁଡ଼ା ରଡ଼ି ।

ମୋ ଗାଁ ସାଇଭାଇ ସଭିଏଁ ସରଳ ଆପଣାର, ଆଶୀଷ ଦେଇ ସରବ ଘଟେ ରଖ ଜଗଦୀଶ୍ୱର । -ପୁଭୂ





॥ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ ॥

ସତ୍ୟ ଶିବ ସୁଦରର ଏଇ ବିଚିତ୍ର ଧରଣୀରେ କୁହୁଡ଼ିଆ ଅନ୍ଧାରକୁ ଦିଗନ୍ତର ଆଢ଼ୁଆଳରେ ଲୁଚେଇଦେଇ ଅତି ସନ୍ତପଣରେ ଆସୁଥିବୁ ମୋ ଗାଁକୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

କେରୀକେରୀ ସୁନାଦୁବ ଧାରେ କାକର ହସି ଉଠିବ ସୁରୁଯର କଅଁଳିଆ ରଶ୍ମୀରେ ଝଲମଲ ହୋଇ ଖେଳୁଥିବ ସେତେବେଳେ ଅଳପ ହସି ତାକୁ ଛୁଇଁଯାଉଥିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ସୁନାନାକୀ ଝିଅ ମୋର କୁଲେଇ ଧରି ଖେଳୁଥିବ ସୁରୁଯର ରଶ୍ମୀ ସବୁ ପତ୍ରଉହାଡ଼ରେ ଲୁଚକାଳି ଖେଳୁଥିବେ ସେତେବେଳେ ମୋ ଝିଅର ଅଲରାଏ କେଶଗୁଚ୍ଛକୁ ସାଉଁଳେଇଯିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ବିହଙ୍ଗମ ସବୁ କାକଳି ଧ୍ୱନିସହ ଦିଗ୍ବଳୟରେ ହଜିଯିବେ ଗାଈ ଗୋରୁସବୁ ଗାଁ ଦାଣ୍ଡରେ ଧୂଳି ଉଡ଼ାଇ ଯାଉଥିବେ ସେତେବେଳେ ସେହି ଧୂଳି ଭିତରେ ହଜିଯାଉଥିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ଚାଳଭାଡ଼ିରୁ ଧୂଆଁ ସବୁ କୁଣ୍ଡଳୀ ହୋଇ ଉଡ଼ି ଯାଉଥିବେ ବେଲା ତାଟିଆ ଡେକ୍ଚୀ ସବୁ ରନ୍ଧାଶାଳେ ଝଙ୍କାର ତୋଳୁଥିବେ ସେତେବେଳେ ପଞ୍ଚଫୁଟଣର ଆଘ୍ରାଣପାଇଁ ଆସିଯିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…! ପଦୁଅଁ ପୋଖରୀରେ ଭଅଁରଙ୍କ ହାଟ ବସିଯିବ ଗ୍ରାମଦେବତୀଙ୍କ ଆସ୍ଥାନରୁ ଘଣ୍ଟ ଓ କାହାଳୀର ସ୍ୱନ ଶୁଭୁଥିବ ସେତେବେଳେ ଧୂପ ଦୀପ ନୈବେଦ୍ୟ ରେ ଆଶୀଷ ନେବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ଅମୃତର ଶିଶୁ , ମାଆର ଥନରୁ ଅମୃତ ଶୋଷୁଥିବ ବୋଉ ମୋର ଦାଣ୍ଡ ଦୁଆରେ ପଞ୍ଚମୁରୁଜରେ ଚିତା ଲିପୁଥିବ ସେତେବେଳେ ଆମ ଘର ସଂସାରକୁ ଉଜ୍ଜଳ କରିଦେବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ପଣ୍ଡାଘର ଖୁଡ଼ୀ ନଈରୁ ଗରାଏ ପାଣି ନେଇ କୁଦି ଆସୁଥିବେ ମିଶ୍ରଘର ନାନୀ ଦୂବ ବରକୋଳି ନେଇ ବଟଉସ୍ତ ମୂଳେ ଥିବେ ସେତେବେଳେ ତାଙ୍କ ପୂଜାପାଣି ଛଡ଼ା ପାଇଁ ଜଗିଥିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ବହି ବସ୍ତାନୀ ସଜାଡ଼ି ପିଲାମାନେ ଝଟପଟ ବାହାରୁଥିବେ ଫଟଫଟିଆ ଗାଡ଼ିରେ ଧୂଆଁ ଉଡ଼ାଇ ସରପଞ୍ଚ ଦାଣ୍ଡରେ ଚାଲିଯିବେ ସେତେବେଳେ ଧିରେ ଧିରେ ଗାଁ ମଝିକୁ ଆସିଯାଇଥିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

ହଳାହଳ ଧୂଆଁ ଓ ଧୂଳିର ପ୍ରଦୂଷଣରେ ସହରଟା ହଜିଯାଉଥିବ ସୁରୁଯ ପରି ଅଣନିଃଶ୍ୱାସୀ ହୋଇ ତୁ କୋଳାହଳରେ ହଜିଯାଉଥିବୁ ସେତେବେଳେ ମୋ ଗାଁ ତୋଟାମାଳକୁ ଧାଇଁ ଆସୁଥିବୁ ତୁ ସୁପ୍ରଭାତ…!

-ପୁଭୂ





॥ ସାଇପଡ଼ିଶା ॥

ଶୁଣ ହେ ମୋର ଭାଇ ଭଉଣୀ କଥା ମୋ ଛୋଟ ଗାଁର , ଅଙ୍ଗେ ନିଭେଇଥିବା ଲେଖୁଛି ମୋ ସାଇ ପଡ଼ିଶାର ।

ସକାଳ ହୁଏ ଡାମରା କାଉ , କୁକୁଡା ରାବ ଶୁଭେ, ଚମକି ଉଠେ, କୁରୁଳି ଉଠେ ଗାଁ ଦାଣ୍ଡ ମୋ ଭାବେ ।

ହରି ଗଉଡ଼ ଗାଇପଲକୁ ନେଇଯାଏ ଅଡ଼େଇ, ଗୋବର ଛେରି ହମ୍ବାରଡ଼ିରେ ଯାନ୍ତି ଧୂଳି ଉଡ଼ାଇ ।

ଗୋବର ଲେଣ୍ଡି ଗୋଟାଇ ନେଇ ବ୍ରାହ୍ମଣ ଘର ଆଈ, ଲିପିପୋଛିକି ମୁରୁଜ ଝୋଟି ଦିଅନ୍ତି ଗୀତ ଗାଇ ।

ମଣ୍ଡାଫୁଲ କୁ ତାପରେ ଥୋଇ ଆଖିଦୁଇ କୁ ମୁଦି, ଠାକୁରାଣୀକୁ ପୂଜା କରନ୍ତି ଦୁଳହୁଳୀରେ ବଦି ।

ମୁନିକା ଶାଗ ବିଡ଼ାଏ ଧରି ପଡ଼ିଶା ଘର ଖୁଡ଼ୀ, କାନି ପାଟିରେ ଧରି ପଶନ୍ତି ଘରେ ରଡ଼ିଟେ ଛାଡ଼ି ।

ତେଲିଘର ମାଇଁ ଚଟୁଏ ନିଆଁ ମାଗି ନିଅନ୍ତି କେବେ, ପାଇକ ମା ଡିମ୍ବଭଜା ଟେ ଖୁଆନ୍ତି ଆଣି ସରାଗେ ।

କମାଖୁଡ଼ୀଙ୍କ ହାତଗଣତି ଘରଖରଚ କଥା, ସିଲଟ ଧରି, ହିସାବ କରି ବୁଝାଏ ଲେଖାଯୋଖା ।

ଖଲିଆ ମା, ମୁଣ୍ଡକୁ ମୋର ସାଉଁଳାଏ ଗେଲରେ, ଦଣ୍ଡାସି ଅଜା ଅଙ୍ଗୀକୁ ମୋର ଠିକ୍ କରନ୍ତି ଭଙ୍ଗୀରେ । କମଳା ଖୁଡ଼ୀ ଡାକି କହନ୍ତି ଗମ୍ଭିରୀ ପାଶେ ଥାଇ, ଦଦାଙ୍କୁ ଏଇ ଘୋଟଣାଟାକୁ ନେଇ ଦିଅନ୍ତ ଯାଇ ।

ଇଙ୍ଗିଲି ଆଇ କଖାରୁ ବଡ଼ି ଆପଡ଼ା କାପଡ଼ାଲୁ, ଟିଣ ଉପରେ ପକାଇ ଯେତେ ହୁଅନ୍ତି ବାଲୁବାଲୁ ।

ପାତର ଆଇ କବାଟ ଖୋଲି ଡ଼ାକ ଦିଅନ୍ତି ଦାଣ୍ଡେ, ଗରାଖ ମୋର ଖାଇବୁ ଆସ କଷି ନଡ଼ିଆ ଖଣ୍ଡେ ।

ପାଳମା ଘର ବାଡ଼ି କଲମୀ ଆମ୍ବଟା ଯେଉଁ ମିଠା, ଖାଇଖୋଇଛି ହେଲେ ନୋହିଛି ମନଟା ମୋର ଚିଟା ।

ମଠ ମନ୍ଦିର ବଗିଚା କଥା ସଦା ରଖିଛି ମନ, ସପେଟା କରମଙ୍ଗା ନରକୋଳି ଖାଇଛି ପୁତିଦିନ ।

ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ନଇଁଲେ ମା ମାଉସୀ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାଦୀପ କୁ ଜାଳି, ତୁଳସୀ ମୂଳେ ଦୀପ ଜାଳନ୍ତି ଦେବୀଙ୍କ ଗୀତବୋଲି ।

ଭଣ୍ଡାରୀ ମାଇଁ ଡାକ ଦିଅନ୍ତି ଉପେଇ ନାଆଁ ଧରି, ନ ଶୁଣିଲେ ରଇ ଜାଳନ୍ତି ତୁଣ୍ଡରେ ଗାଳିକରି ।

ସାଇ ବିଜୁଳୀଖୁଣ୍ଟ ବଲ୍ବଟା ମିଞ୍ଜି ମିଞ୍ଜିକା ଜଳେ, ସାରକାଟା ଓ ସାପନିଶୁଣୀ ଖେଳ ହୁଏ ତାହାର ତଳେ ।

ରାତି ବଢ଼ଇ, ଝିଙ୍କାରି ଡାକେ ସଭିଏଁ ଯାନ୍ତି ଶୋଇ, ପୁଣି ସକାଳ ହୁଏ ଯେଝା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ଯାଆନ୍ତି ବ୍ୟସ୍ତ ହୋଇ ।-ପୁଭୂ





॥ ଗାଁ ପୋଖରୀ ॥

ସକାଳ ଅଇଲା, ସୁରୁଯ ଉଇଁଲା ପଦୁଅଁ ଫୁଟିଲା ଦେଖି । କଇଁମାଢ଼ୀ ତଳୁ ରୋହୀ ଚବକିଲା ଫିରିଙ୍ଗି ଝାଡ଼ିଲା ପକ୍ଷୀ ।।

ବାହୁଣୀମାଇଁର ତରତର ଚାଲି ବଟଉସ୍ତେ ପାଣି ଦେବ । ପାଳବୁଢ଼ା ଯାଇ ହଗୁରା ତୁଠରେ ପାଣି କରେ ଚବଚବ ।।

ଗୁଡ଼ାଖୁ ଘଷୁଛି ସାହୁଘର ପୁଅ ଦୋକାନ ଖୋଲିବ ଯାଇ । ମାଛନାଠି ଧରି ବଇଂଶୀ ନାଇକ କେଞୁଆ ଅଗେ ଥୋପଇ ।। ପୂଜାରୀ ଧୁଅଇ ମନ୍ଦିର ସାମାନ ମଠତୁଠରେ ଯେ ବସି । ମାଇପି ତୁଠରେ ଗାଁ ମାଇପଙ୍କ ମେଳାତ ଗଲାଣି ବସି । ।

ଡାହୁକ ଧାଇଁଲା କଲିବିଲି ହୋଇ ସାରୁବୁଦା ହଲଚଲ । ଟେରୀ ବେଙ୍ଗୁଲୀର ଛନକା ପଶିଲା ଧଣ୍ଡାର ପାଟିରୁ ଲାଳ ।।

ଅଣ୍ଡିରା ତୁଠରେ ରାଜନୀତି ହାଟ ପିଲେ ପହଁରନ୍ତି ଡେଇଁ । ଭୂୟାଁ ପିଲା ବ୍ୟସ୍ତ ଖପରା ଡିଆଁରେ ଖୁସିରେ କୁରୁଳି ଯାଇ ।। ।-ପୁଭୂ





॥ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ ॥

ଜନ୍ମରୁ ମିଳିଛି ସେଇତ ଇନାମ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ ମୃତ୍ୟୁରେ ରହିବ ସେଇ ଭିଟାମାଟି ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ;

ମାଟି ଧୂଳି ନଈ ବିଲ ବଣ ତୋଟା ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ ଏନ୍ତୁଡ଼ିଶାଳରୁ ନିର୍ବାଣ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତେ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ;

ନରହିବି ପଛେ ସଦାକାଳେ ରହୁ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ ଆନଦେ ରୁହନ୍ତୁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ମିଳୁ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ

-ପୁଭୂ



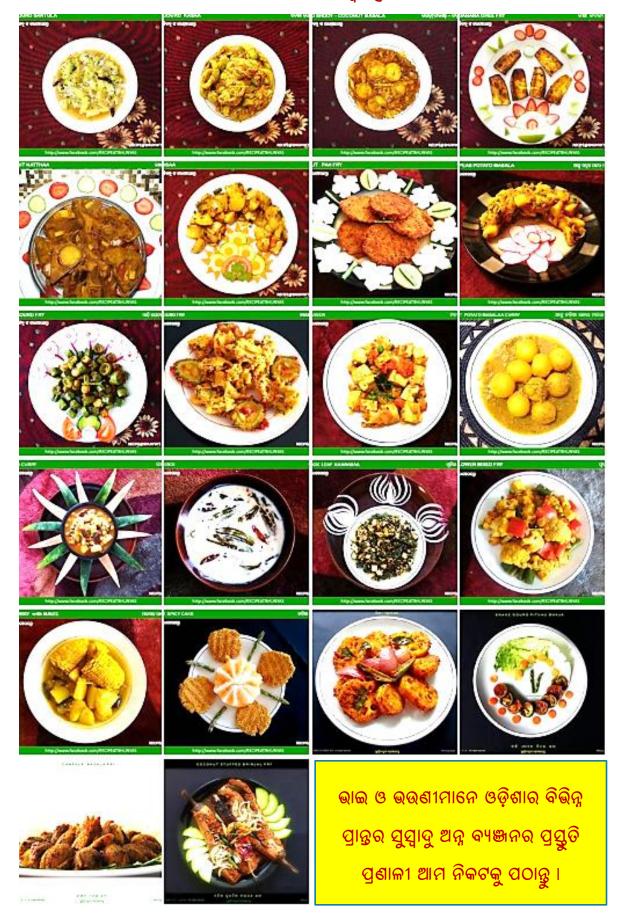




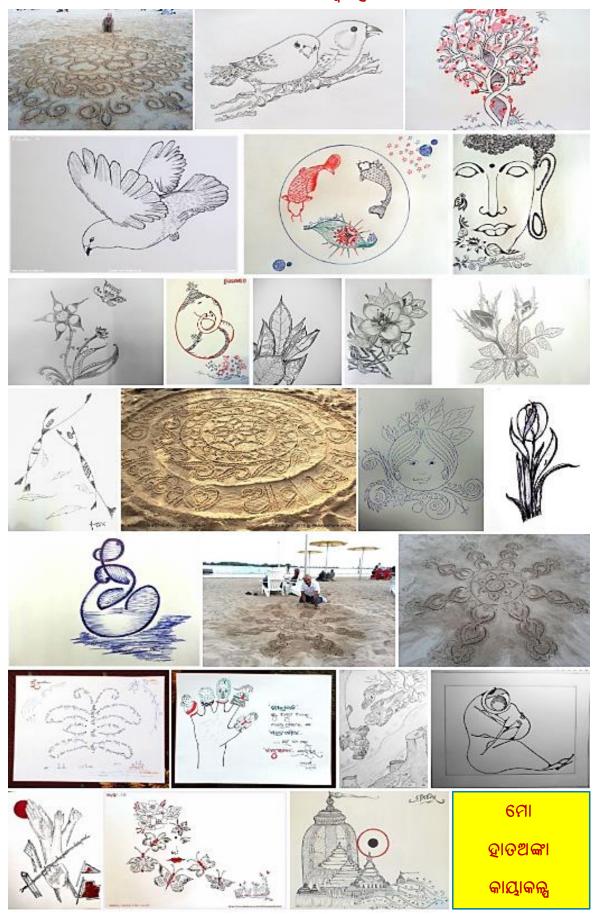




















ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀମାନେ...! ଅତିଶୀଘ୍ର ଆସୁଅଛି



ସତ୍ୟ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକଙ୍କ ସମ୍ପାଦିତ ଆମେରିକାରୁ ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ପତ୍ରିକା



ସାହିତ୍ୟ - ସଂସ୍କୃତି - ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ

Dear All,

Namaste

That was the UTKARSA for all of us. We are sorry for unintentional delay of the publication of this issue. Please send us your write up for the coming June 2017 issue as soon as possible to help us to release the forthcoming issue.

For the forthcoming issue of UTKARSA

Please send your write ups by 15th of every month

Please send your raw document...

- Without any editing or graphics.
- With your Photo, web links, Address, E_mail id & Phone No.

Please let us know any errata in the issue so that we correct and edit the digital version. Your constructive comments are always welcome and yes, Please let us know few words about the current issue.

Thank You All...!

Editors

editors@odishasociety.org

