

The Voice of Chipko Movement in Garhwali Folk Songs

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Introduction

The word Garhwal is derived from the words 'Garh' and 'wall'. It is believed that there were 52 garhs with strong and mighty walls. It is a paradise of gods and goddess. Rich culture, treasure of flora and fauna, abundance of nature, variety of traditions, honesty and religious faith are the main characteristics of Garhwal.



The sky kissing peaks, white sheets of snow, meadows, beautiful valleys, the hissing zigzag rivers and smiling flowers touch the tender heart of everyone. As a view point of religion, literature, art and culture, it is well prosperous.

The Himalayan region had always been exploited for its natural wealth, minerals and timber. The end of the nineteenth century, it has been observed that most of the Himalayan ranges became naked. The trees were used for the commercial purposes. But in the same way it spoiled the evergreen environment. The forest cover started deteriorating at an alarming rate, resulting in hardships for those involved in labour-intensive fodder and firewood collection. This also led to deterioration in the soil conditions, and soil erosion in the area as the water sources dried up in the hills.

Meaning and Purpose of Chipko Movement

In Hindi the word Chipko means "to stick" or "to hug" and that is what the Uttarakhandi women have done in 70's to save the trees. Chipko Movement, started in 1970's was a non violent movement aimed at protection and conservation of trees and forests from being destroyed.



The villagers used to hug the trees and protect them from wood cutters from cutting them. Chipko movement was based on the Gandhian philosophy of peaceful resistance to achieve the goals. It was the strong uprising against those people who were destroying the natural resources of the forests and disturbing the whole ecological balance. The Chipko movement, though primarily a livelihood protection movement rather than a forest conservation movement, went on to become a rallying point for many future environmentalists.

Objectives of Chipko Movement

1. To aware the people about chipko movement and the personalities took part in the movement.
2. Ecological awareness.
3. To plant trees and make evergreen world.
4. Embrace the trees and Save them from being felled.

The Role of Women

One of the best things about the Chipko Movement was the way it spread by the women. In Chamoli district in 1974, a group of women protected 2500 trees from being auctioned off by the government by standing by them. Chipko empowered women to change their world.

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Nanda Devi Raj Jaat
(A Longest Royal Journey in the world)

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Introduction

Nandadevi Raj Jat is an important religious journey of goddess Parvati in Garhwal region of Uttarakhand. Nandadevi Raj Jat is associated with the legend of Nanda Devi, a goddess held in reverence by the local inhabitants of the region (Chamoli District). It involves a long trekking for taking the areas reigning deity Goddess Nanda to her divine destination of Gaungati peak which is believed to be the abode of her consort, Lord Shiva. The genesis of Nanda worship is wrapped in mystery. However most scholars agree that its genesis dates are back to the 9th century or even before. According to folk songs survey at Nauti, during Raj Jat, King Shalipal of Chandpur Garh is said to have laid the foundation of this tradition. He directed his royal priests to worship the goddess according to his instructions.

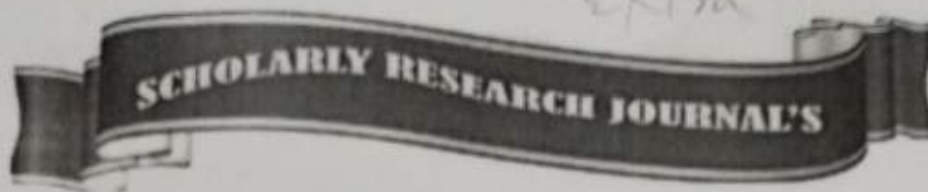
The word 'Raj Jat' originally known as raj yatra or royal journey. Perhaps it is their faith and intense devotion alone that helps them not only to smile their way through the tortuous trek but also to survive cheerfully even in the harsh climatic condition the Jat resembles the post nuptial rite of ceremonially seeing off a daughter as she leaves her husband home with all her personal effects and dowry. The Raj Jat is taken up every 12 years, after elaborate preparations by the descendants of the royal priests now living at village Nauti and royal class of Kunwars living in Kansuwa. The purpose of the 280 km, long arduous trek undertaken by thousands of devotees is to escort the Goddess to her in-laws place. The folk-lore of Uttarakhand, indeed the lives of the people are filled with dancing and singing. It is as important for them as wearing colourful clothes and ornaments; for them the gods can be influenced by dances. The art of singing and dancing also owes its inspiration to the fascinating mythical dancing damsels who dwell on snow clad peaks.

Purpose of Thematic Study of Nanda Devi Raj Jaat

Nandadevi Raj Jaat is an inspiring long journey by the people of Uttarakhand. While journey, plenty of songs sung by the different villagers in different tunes having deep faith and feelings towards lord Shiva and Parvati. Thematic means subjective. I mean, why Nandadevi Raj Jaat? What are the reasons and who are behind of this long journey? First of all Garhwali people have great religious faith as they are devotees of various gods and goddess. We don't want to vanish our tradition. Young generation should learn about our culture, religion, language and faith of the people. Various folk songs sung during one month journey of Nandadevi are precious. Generally these songs never written but handed over mouth to mouth. I wish these marvelous songs to be preserved.

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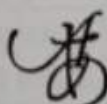
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4. Literature & Culture (With Reference to Uttarakhand)

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Juinagar, Navi Mumbai.

Abstract :

The name of Uttarakhand is derived from the beautiful Sanskrit word 'uttara' meaning by north while 'khanda' means a piece of land, altogether it is known northern land. Literally kedarkhand represented by Garhwal and manaskhand represented by Kumaon. This region was made up of many small forts which were ruled by chieftains. But now due to globalization and modernization very few forts could be seen. Physically Garhwal and Kumaon both are surrounded by beautiful fields, hills, and white crown mountains, the pure buzzing rivers as well as queue of forest and dancing chirping animals and birds. Uttarakhand is a paradise of adventure, sports lovers' tourists and pilgrimage. Culturally and Religiously, Uttarakhand is very rich, safe and sound from the ancient time. Many rishis and mahamunis visit for the meditation, peace and for other purposes. Even philosophers, scientists, geographers and biologists visit for the research task. Garhwali people speak Garhwali language. Uttarakhand is very cute in literature and rich in culture. Though it does not have script, it has various dialects. The folk songs, folk music and folk dances form the colourful and vibrant culture of Uttarakhand reflect its traditional cultural richness. The literature passes mouth to mouth. A person born with music and die with music.



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Teacher Empowerment : Excellence @ Teaching Teacher as a Change Agent

Dr. Sudama Singh Bhandari*

ABSTRACT

Teacher is a finest creation in the world. I feel any natural or unnatural being may be teacher directly or indirectly in different ways and perspectives. But human being is a wonderful creature that thinks or understands; adjust or suggest; spoil or create; build or destroy and so many things. History itself is the witness of the relationship between the power of teacher, role of education and the empowering spirit of God. Teacher is a tutor, an educator, instructor, path maker, goal shaper, guru and so on. Teacher is a supper humanistic tool who provides and put his educational will power towards the society by determining words and smiling face. Sometime it is very difficult to verify where from to start and what is the end of education. Perhaps there is intimate and enchanted relationship between teacher and education. The teacher has the instinct of power, etiquette, reality, reliability, truth, love, discipline, sincerity and humanity. But to implement all these objectives among the students and general learner is required patience, determination and extra knowledge. I mean they must be empowered with such educational tools. They are the agent who can change the scenario of the world of education.

There are various sources to empower the teachers so they may call themselves an agent of education. Ved puran, Modern technology and the history of human life inspire and boost the morale of the teacher. In today's context I would like to say that education and the teachers are becoming prey of politics. There could be seen gap between teachers and the education. Even number of teachers are puppet of internet, face book and looser of their own capability and self respect. Teacher is a model of a society. He must utilize his brain and sense. He needs to empower and equip himself by his thoughts, ideas, skills, relationship, coordination, truth and humanity. No doubt teacher is a change agent of society if he takes initiative and interest in his assignment and noble profession. In some extent I feel that there is need of boosting and encouragement politically, socially and economically so the teacher can maintain his dignity among the students and the society which may be sign of teacher empowerment. Change is the law of nature. Anything could be changed and empowered if heart desired and wishes.

INTRODUCTION

The word education is derived from the two different roots of Latin word educare and educere meaning by to train or to bring up while other is to lead out or to bring forth. The question arises whom to train and bring up or what to train. Secondly what to lead out and bring forth and who will lead out and bring forth. I think all could be done by a good thinker, philosopher, teacher, scholar and a tutor. I don't think only teacher may be agent of education. Ancient time there was treasure of knowledge provided by the adults to their children with the help of stories and

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