



## The Full Limbed Lord Jagannath of Jagulei Patna

*Braja Paikaray*

Lord Jagannath belongs to both Aryans and Non-Aryans. Though Srimandir, Puri is his permanent abode, Lord Jagannath manifests his divineself in forests, in villages and in different Mathas in all corners of the State of Orissa.

Once upon a time, Khurda, the land of Khandayats and Paiks was the capital of the Gajapati Kings. Lord Jagannath had joined in the military expedition to Kanchi as a horse riding Paik and hence the Lord desired to manifest his divineself at Jaguleipatna, Khurda having full limbs and accordingly Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Goddess Subhadra have manifested themselves having full hands and legs. As per the version of the local people Lord Jagannath has manifested himself here as the "Kalki Avatar". But as per the local legend a holyman namely Mahanta Raghubar Das was an ardent devotee of the Lord. He established a Matha at village Jaguleipatna when the village was encircled with forest and thick bushes. Once in his dream Mahanta Raghubar Das was ordered by Lord Jagannath to establish the "Daru Bigraha" with full limbs at his Matha and to offer seva puja. It was also ordered by the Lord to collect the "Holy Daru" from the jungle of "Beruan Village" near Khurda. As per the Lord's desire Mahanta Raghubar Das collected the "Holy Daru" and established the three Bigrahas at Jaguleipatna Matha and started the "Ratha Yatra"

in the year 1918 with the co-operation of the local people.

After some years a strange incident occurred. The house in which the Bigrahas were offered seva puja was completely burnt but the fire had not touched the "Daru Bigrahas".

After the death of Mahanta Raghubar Das his chief disciple Digambar Baba continued the seva puja of the Lord and the "Ratha Yatra" was also being observed as usual. But after the death of Digambar Baba the "Jaguleipatna Matha" was completely forgotten from the minds of the people.

In the year 1980 due to the sincere effort of the local people and with the active co-operation of the then local M.L.A. Dr. Prasana Kumar Patsani, a concrete building was constructed for the "Daru Bigrahas" and one "Garuda Stambha" was installed at Jaguleipatna Matha and Ratha Yatra was restored with great enthusiasm. In the present time the number of tourists, research scholars and visitors have increased to Jaguleipatna Matha to have a Darshan of the full limbed Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra.

---

Braja Paikaray is an Advocate & Notary Public, Bhubaneswar Court, Bhubaneswar - 14.