



Lord Jagannath

Gourav

On my maiden visit to Puri along my grandfather,
 I quizzed, who the black faced figure is?
 Who is decorated throughout in precious jewels?
 Who dwells in that magnificent temple?
 And worshipped by everyone?

My grandpa smiled and said, "He is Jagannath, the Lord of the Universe."
 I enquired, if He is a god, why is He black,
 And not handsome like Gods we see elsewhere?

Why does not He change his appearance to an attractive one?
 My grandpa explained "Black signifies total purity and transparency like sky at night,
 Like the fathomless Ocean, calm and quite"

My inquisition rose "Why then the eyes are so round and big?"
 He keeps a vigil over entire universe through his big round eyes,
 Over every deed and misdeed of His creation day and night.
 To reward virtue and punish vice.

Then why does not He possess limbs?
 Reply came "Calmly He watches with keen observation"
 Permitting the offender from revision and restoration.

I interrupted "If He is the Lord, why does not He do anything?"
 Grandpa continued "People would be getting their dues
 After the same is evaluated;
 And on the basis of the summation of their sins and virtues,
 Their destiny would be set."

Again I asked "Why is He offered such a variety and huge quantity of food everyday?"
 While He lacks a proper mouth?

And which otherwise would have fed numerous poor?"
 Grandpa said "All food offered to Him are considered sacred,
 And helping the poor and downtrodden satisfy their hunger"

Then followed a natural question to my mind;
 "If He watches everything,
 If He reigns the universe,
 If He takes care of everybody,
 Why does not He come to our vision???"

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