



14. Garuda Stambha, literally the pillar with the celestial eagle refers to the one on the eastern end of the Nata Mandapa or the Dancing Hall in the Puri temple. The pillar is most probably the fossilised remains of an ancient tree atop which sits the carrier eagle of Vishnu-Krishna - Garuda. This a favourite site for getting an audience of the presiding deities of the temple manifest on the Ratna Simhasana in the sanctum.

The author is a scholar researching on Jagannatha and Jayadeva. His recent book - BLUE HILL - HYMNS TO JAGANNATHA - translations in English verse of a selection of hymns from originals in Sanskrit and Oriya and a long introduction on Jagannatha has received critical acclaim. He can be reached at subaspani@yahoo.co.in or subaspani@hotmail.com



## Car Festival

*Er. Niranjan Rath*

Orissa with culture and sculpture of Lord Jagannath at Puri,  
As if heaven has descended on the earth with religious glory.

Queen Gundicha, the founder of the Universal occasion,  
Has arranged a memorable meeting of Creator and Creation.

Lord Balabhadra on Chariot Taladhwaja,  
Goddess Subhadra on Chariot Darpadalana;  
Lord Jagannath on Chariot Nandighosha,  
A statistical scenery of sensation of hilarity and heaven.

Saints and satans with their actions and reactions attend the function,  
It teaches the logic of life of humane humanitarian.

Symbol of brother hood and love of God to man-kind,  
Intiate righteous mannerism in mortal body and mind.

The gathering of the people, the rhythm of prayer,  
Extraordinarily make an auspicious surrounding there.

The memory of the day, the summary of the event,  
Preaches a marvellous belief in Omnipresence of Omnipotent.

Oh ! Almighty give blessings to the human race,  
Unity, integrity, peace and happiness.



Er. Niranjan Rath lives at S-2/617, 618, Niladri Vihar, Po-Shailashree Vihar, Bhubaneswar.