



## From Orissa to Odisha (1936 - 2011)

- 1936 - (1st April) Orissa became a separate province
- 1937 - First Orissan Ministry formed
- 1938 - (25th March) Gandhi came to Orissa
- Gandhi attended Gandhi Sevasangh Annual Session at Berboi, Delang in Puri district.
- Baji Rout died in police firing
- 1939 - (5th August) Subash Chandra Bose visited Cuttack
- Jaiprakash Narayan visited Cuttack
- (4th November) Congress Ministry in Orissa resigned
- Major General Bezelgate attacked and killed at Ranpur of the then Puri district
- Netaji visited Orissa
- Endowment Commission started functioning
- Rabindranath Tagore visited Puri
- 1940 - Orissa Theatre founded by Kali Charan Patnaik at Cuttack
- Madala Panji edited by Prof. Artaballav Mohanty
- 1941 - Raghu Dibakar hanged in connection with Bezelgate murder
- 1942 - Lunia killing, nine people died in police firing
- 29 people died at Eram in police firing
- 1943 - Oriya songs transmitted for the first time from Calcutta Radio Station
- Eminent Communist leader Bhagabati Charan Panigrahi died
- Utkal University started functioning at Cuttack
- 1944 - K.C.Narayan Gajapati, the Prime Minister of Orissa resigned on 30<sup>th</sup> June.



- 1945
- 50 British Air Force aeroplanes bombed over village Mayagaon near Rengoon on 12<sup>th</sup> February on a Azad Hind Fauz Camp, killing Oriya soldiers, mostly hailing from Ganjam area.
  - From July new colleges at Balasore, Sambalpur and Puri were started. Rajendra College, Bolangir was started by R.N. Singhdeo, the Maharaja of Bolangir with Intermediate Arts Classes.
- 1946
- (29th January) Gandhi came to Orissa
  - Foundation stone of Hirakud Dam laid by Sir Hawthorne Lewis, Governor of Orissa.
  - Central Rice Research Institute established at Cuttack
- 1947
- Biju Patnaik made a daring flight to Indonesia to bring Indonesian Leaders
  - Princely States merged with Orissa
- 1948
- Foundation stone for New Capital of Orissa laid at Bhubaneswar
  - All India Radio, Cuttack founded
  - High Court at Cuttack founded
- 1949
- Capital of Orissa shifted from Cuttack to Bhubaneswar
  - Bolangir district formed
- 1950
- Orissa Territorial map with 13 districts published
- 1951
- Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India reached Jharsuguda on 13<sup>th</sup> December on visit to Orissa.
- 1952
- Biju Patnaik donated an amount of 1,000 pound to UNESCO to institute the Kalinga Prize.
  - Both Oriya and English language introduced in Orissa Government transactions
- 1953
- Rourkela Steel Plant founded
- 1954
- Agriculture College established at Bhubaneswar
  - Official Language Act passed in Orissa Assembly to introduce Oriya in official work.
- 1955
- Bhoodan lands distributed among the landless people of Orissa
- 1956
- Burla Engineering College established
  - Prajamandal leader Sarangadhar Das died
  - Construction of Rourkela Steel Plant began



- 1957
- Hirakud Dam inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru
  - Orissa Sahitya Academy established
  - Similipal Forest declared as National Park
  - President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad laid the foundation stone of Museum building at Bhubaneswar.
- 1958
- Mihir Sen of Cuttack crossed the English Channel
  - Dandakaranya Development Project constituted
- 1959
- Orissa State Government established Lalitkala Academy
  - Veer Surendra Sai Medical College at Burla started
- 1960
- Orissa State Archives established at Bhubaneswar
  - Nandankanan Zoological Park established
  - Blind school established at Bhubaneswar
  - First volume of Gyanamandal under the editorship of Shri Binod Kanungo published.
- 1961
- Orissa State Legislative Assembly building inaugurated
  - Rourkela Engineering College started
- 1962
- Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation stone of Paradeep Port
  - Sainik School at Bhubaneswar established
  - Construction of Express Highway connecting from Daitari to Paradeep began
  - Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology established
- 1963
- Russian Cosmonauts Valentina Terescova visited Orissa
  - Utkal University building inaugurated
- 1964
- Jawaharlal Nehru laid foundation stone of Thermal Power Station at Talcher
- 1965
- Village Chaukidari System abolished.
- 1966
- Biswanath Das became President of Bharat Loksevak Mandal after the death of Lal Bahadur Sastry, the Prime Minister of India.
- 1967
- Berhampur & Sambalpur University established
  - Pandit Nilakantha Das died
- 1968
- Sambalpur University was inaugurated by the President of India on 5<sup>h</sup> January. Freedom Fighter and Literateur Radhanath Rath was honoured with the Padmabhusan title.



- 1969 - V.V.Giri became President of India on 24<sup>th</sup> August.
- 1970 - A regional party named Utkal Congress was formed by Biju Patnaik.
- 1971 - Sri Jagannath Sanskrit University established at Puri  
 - Acharya Harihar Das passed away  
 - Lance Naik Albert Ekka posthumously awarded highest Gallantry Award Param Veer Chakra for his heroic deeds in Bangladesh War.
- 1972 - Severe cyclonic storm hit Orissa Coast
- 1973 - Cuttack-Paradeep Railway line opened for Traffic  
 - Foundation stone laid for Naval Training Centre at Chilika
- 1974 - Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati Narayan Dev passed away
- 1975 - Dr. J. V. Bolton felicitated by Orissa Sahitya Academy for his thesis on 'Vyas Kabi Fakir Mohan Senapati'.  
 - Salt Water Crocodile Research Centre established at Dangamal of Bhitarkanika
- 1976 - The State Government made an Act called "The Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act-1976" to free bonded labourers.
- 1977 - Foundation stone laid for Fishery Research Centre at Kausalyaganga
- 1978 - Terrible Tornado hit Bandhagoda village of Keonjhar district  
 - Foundation stone laid for Upper Indravati Project
- 1979 - Sarala Puraskar founded by IMFA Public Charitable Trust
- 1980 - Prince Charles of England visited Orissa  
 - Biju Patnaik conferred as 'Bhoomi Putra' title by Indonesian Government
- 1981 - NALCO established at Angul
- 1982 - Annual Conference of the Indian Road Congress was held at Bhubaneswar on 23rd December.
- 1983 - Dr. H.K.Mahatab received the Kendriya Sahitya Academy Award for his essay collection "Gaan Mazjlis".
- 1984 - Foundation stone laid by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for Ordnance Factory at Saintala in Balangir district.  
 - OREDA set up at Bhubaneswar  
 - Ex-Chief Minister of Orissa Shri Nabakrushna Choudhury died  
 - Ex-Chief Minister of Orissa Shri Biswanath Das died



- Foundation stone laid for Talcher-Sambalpur Railway line
- Ex-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi addressed her last public meeting at Bhubaneswar.
- Orissa Science Academy established
- 1985 - Eminent Sarvodaya leader & Bhoodan leader Rama Devi passed away
- First State level Lok Adalat held at Cuttack
- 1986 - Noted Editor of 'Gyanamandal' Vinod Kanungo received Padmashree Award
- Foundation stone laid for Pathani Samant Planetarium at Bhubaneswar
- 1987 - Ex-Chief Minister of Orissa Dr. Harekrushna Mahatab passed away
- Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium at Cuttack inaugurated
- 1987 - Harekrushna Mahatab State Library at Bhubaneswar inaugurated
- Sachidananda Routray received Gyanapitha Award
- 1988 - His Holiness Dalailama visited Orissa
- Cuttack Door Darshan Kendra started newscast in Oriya
- 1989 - Bhubaneswar Stock Exchange started functioning
- Foundation stone laid for IB-Thermal Electrical Project
- Millennium Ceremony of Cuttack City inaugurated
- Rabi Ray elected as Speaker of Lok Sabha
- First test of Ballistic Missile Agni test-fired from Chandipur
- 1990 - Justice Ranganath Mishra sworn in as Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India
- 1991 - Eminent litterateur Kalindi Charan Panigrahi passed away
- Mahila Vikas Samabaya Nigam constituted by Government of Orissa
- 1992 - Freedom Fighter Rajkrishna Bose passed away
- 1993 - Eminent Singer Balkrishna Das passed away
- Thirteen districts of Orissa re-organised and number increased to thirty
- 1994 - Similipal Reserve Forest declared Biosphere by Government of India
- Justice G.T. Nanavati sworn in as Chief Justice of Orissa High Court
- 1995 - Indonesia awarded their highest National title "BINTANG JASUTTAM" to Biju Patnaik.



- 1996 - Navakalevara Festival of Lord Jagannath was celebrated at Puri.
- 1997 - Ex-Chief Minister Biju Patnaik passed away  
- Eminent Archaeologist Dr. Satya Narayan Rajguru died  
- Eminent Odissi Dancer Sanjukta Panigrahi died
- 1998 - Radhanath Rath, Editor of 'Samaj' passed away  
- Social worker Malati Choudhury passed away  
- Kalinga Stadium at Bhubaneswar inaugurated  
- Talcher-Sambalpur Railway opened for Traffic  
- 3rd SAARC Jamboree held at Khurda
- 1999 - Ballistic Missile Agni-II test-fired from Chandipur  
- Fakir Mohan University at Balasore and Uttar Orissa University at Baripada started functioning.  
- Severe super cyclone devastated the Orissa Coast in the month of October  
- Kujanga Gandhi Narayan Birabar Samanta died  
- M. M. Rajendran sworn in as Governor of Orissa
- 2000 - Naveen Patnaik sworn in as the Chief Minister of Orissa on 5th March  
- Utkal University of Culture inaugurated  
- Freedom Fighter Chintamani Panigrahi passed away  
- Foundation stone laid for Oil Refinery at Paradeep  
- Government of Orissa introduced Professional Tax  
- Second World Oriya Conference held at Rourkela  
- Severe drought in Orissa
- 2001 - Severe flood in Orissa
- 2002 - Severe drought in Orissa
- 2003 - Justice Sujit Burman Roy became the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court  
- Severe flood in Orissa.  
- Renowned poet Binod Nayak passed away on 15.11.2003
- 2004 - Padmashree award to Indian hockey defender Dilip Tirkey, Nrutya Guru Maguni Charan Das & Dramatist Manoranjan Das.  
- Dr. Prafulla Mohanty nominated for Kendra Sahitya Academy Award.  
- Doyen of Odissi Dance Kelucharan Mahapatra passed away on 7.4.2004.



- Rupa Mishra an Oriya lady became the I.A.S. topper on 7.5.2004.
  - Naveen Patnaik sworn in as the Chief Minister of Orissa for the second term on 16.5.2004.
  - Pioneer of Modern Oriya literature Padmashree Sachi Routray passed away on 21.8.2004.
  - Poet Guru Prasad Mohanty passed away on 26.8.2004.
  - Eminent poet Purnananda Dani passed away.
  - Short-story writer, novelist and essayist Kishori Charan Das passed away.
  - Dr. Subas Pani joined as Chief Secretary of Orissa on 1.9.2004.
  - Ex-Chief Minister of Orissa Sri Nilamani Routray passed away on 4.10.2004.
  - Shri Rameshwar Thakur sworn in as the new Governor of Orissa on 17.11.2004.
- 2005
- BJD, MLA & Dy. Chief Whip Shri Sankarsan Naik passed away in a road accident.
  - Mining Cess Policy introduced.
  - Renowned litterateur, essayist and critic of Oriya literature Chintamani Behera passed away on 7.3.2005.
  - Retired Judge and well cultured personality Justice Naba Kumar Das passed away on 11.3.2005.
  - Financial Accountability bill passed by Orissa Legislative Assembly.
  - Introduction of VAT.
  - Right to Information Act implemented in the State alongwith constitution of State Information Commission on 20.10.2005
  - Edu-Sat project inaugurated.
  - Hon'ble President of India's two day visit to Orissa (26th & 27th December).
- 2006
- Government of Orissa enters into an MOU with Creative Ports Pvt. Ltd. for setting up a port at Kirtania in Balasore district
  - Vedanta Foundation signs agreement to set up Vedanta University in Puri district.
  - Foundation stone of Sports Academy laid by Chief Minister
  - Portrait of legendary leader Biju Patnaik unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament.



- President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam lays foundation stone of International Institute of Information Technology at Gothapatna near Bhubaneswar.
- Gopabandhu Gramin Yojana inaugurated.
- Biju KBK Yojana initiated
- Former Chief Minister Smt. Nandini Satpathy passed away.
- Three-tier Panchayt Elections held.
- Mittal-Arcelor signs MOU to set up a steel plant in Orissa.
- 2007 - The Orissa Tableau exhibited at the Republic Day - 2007 at New Delhi adjudged as the best in the whole country.
- Ashok Ganguly became Hon'ble Chief Justice of Orissa High Court.
- Prabodh Trikey selected as the Captain of Indian Hockey Team.
- Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare sworn in as Governor of Orissa.
- Commemoration of 150th year anniversary of 1st war of Indian Independence at Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel Hall, Old Assembly.
- 2008 - Police Commissionerate in twin city of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack commenced.
- Kalpana Das brought glory to the State by climbing Everest mountain.
- Saheed Pramod Satapathy posthumously conferred with country's prestigious gallantry award 'Ashok Chakra'
- New Agriculture Policy - 2008 introduced in the State.
- 2009 - Shri Naveen Patnaik took over charge as Chief Minister of Orissa for the 3rd consecutive term.
- Ms. Padmini Rout (Chess Player) selected for Ekalavya Award.
- Eminent Historian Dr. M.N. Das passed away.
- Janaki Ballav Pattnaik received 'Atibadi Jagannath' award.
- Ignace Tirkey conferred with prestigious Arjun award.
- 'Prince Dance Group' from Ganjam adjudged best in India's Got Talent.
- 2010 - 15th National Youth Festival organised at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar.
- Eminent Singer Dr. Raghunath Panigrahi, Hockey Player Ignace Tirkey, Guru Mayadhar Raut selected for Padmashree Award. Renowned Heart Surgeon Dr. Ramakanta Panda conferred with Padma Bhusan Award.
- K. Ravi Kumar won the Gold Medal in the Weightlifting Event at the Commonwealth Games.





- Noted devotional Singer Bhikari Bal, popularly known as "Bhajan Samrat" passed away.
  - Bill passed in Lok Sabha changing the name Orissa to Odisha and Oriya to Odia.
  - Orissa Rowers Pratima Puhana and Pramila Prava Minz made the State proud by bagging the Bronze Medal in ASIAD GAMES.
  - Chief Minister confers Biju Patnaik Award on eminent Scientists Dr. Kulamani Parida and Dr. Rajanikant Chowdhury.
- 2011
- On March 24, 2011 Rajya Sabha passed the Bill to change the name of our state from Orissa to 'Odisha' and amendment in the Constitution to rename Oriya language as Odia.
  - On November 1, 2011 the Govt. of India came out with the Gazettee Notification on the passing of the Orissa (Alteration of name) Bill, 2010 and the Constitution (113th Amendment) Bill by the Parliament. The Gazettee Notification mentioned that the change of names came into effect from the 1st of November 2011.
  - Orissa is 'Odisha' now and its language Oriya is 'Odia'. Odisha Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik has expressed his gratitude to H.E. the President Smt. Pratiba Devi Singh Patil for giving her consent to the Orissa (Alteration of name) Bill, 2010.

**Nobody can become perfect by merely ceasing to act. – Bhagavad Gita**