



Samibruksha : A Historical Analysis

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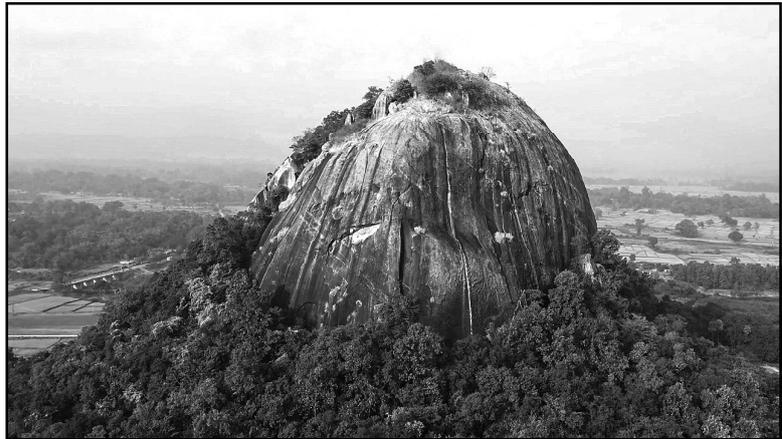
Mayurbhanj is the land of Nature and endless Mythology and mysteries. In recent times Mayurbhanj is the largest district of Odisha but once upon a time Mayurbhanj was a Princely state. If we will study the history of Mayurbhanj thoroughly then the presence of mythological evidences and mysterious stories of EPICS like Mahabharat can easily be found. The evidences of the presence of Shaivite and Buddhist cult are obvious to this land. The mysterious Similipal National Park and its outskirts have preserved unbelievable stories for the future generation.

Mythology is one of the core concepts of Indian culture.

The more you analyse the more you will be attached to the mythological history of this land. We can't leave the important role of Veda, Upanishad, Epics when we analyze this. Always a question comes to mind that what is the difference between visible and invisible ? How important are the epics and religious writings of the sages ? What is the connection between the forests, mountains, rivers, lakes and other visible symbols ? If we establish a relationship between

the religious history and those natural symbols our belief becomes stronger.

Perhaps the story is 5000 years old when Vedavyasa had written the epic Mahabharat,



People of every age group in India are strongly connected to this epic that every bit of this is believed, followed by the people of India. The story Visualises the scene of defeated Yudhisthir in gambling and going for 12 years of banabasa and entering into the Virat kingdom for Agynatabasa for one year along with his four brothers Bhima, Arjuna, Nakula and Sahadeva and their wife Droupadi. This story is written in the Banaparba of Mahabharat. As it was the term



of the Agynatabasa that Pandavas will stay unidentified for one year.

After completing 12 years of Banabasa the crucial phase of Agynatabasa was to be started where their identity shouldn't be revealed to anybody. Pandavas chose the Virat Kingdom which was under the able guidance of Kichaka the brother in law of Maharaja Virat. It was very important for Pandavas to hide their super natural and glowing weapons which could easily open their secret. They didn't get any such place to safely hide those weapons. They prayed Lord Shiva to help them. Pleased of their Prayers Lord Shiv took the shape of a tree which was spread from the Paatala to the sky. Pandavas now entered the Virata kingdom keeping their weapons on the tree roost. As another name of Lord Shiv is "Somo" the tree got the name Samibruksha or Samibriksha.

This place is situated at the river Bank of holy river Kushabhadra under the Kolialarn Grampanchayat in Kaptipada subdivision of undivided Mayurbhanj district. The stone structure of Samibruksha is spread towards the sky as if it stands tall as a witness to the erstwhile Mahabharat Era. The story of Samibruksha is described in the Banaparba of Mahabharat. The description which is found about the stone of Samibruksha in Epic of Mahabharat is Lord Shiv himself. The height of this place is 500 meter and radius is 1000 meters. As per the revenue department it is spread over 18 acres and 12 decimals and the other stone plates which are nearby are spread over 4 acres and 42 decimals. In total it is an area of 22 acres and 54 decimals.

From the ground upto the peak of the mountain there are several caves which preserve the stories of Mahabharat. If one will go towards the south from the west the age old caves and

Shiv ling worshipped by the tribal people can easily be found. On the same way there is a place known as Antabhanga where the stone structure is quite flat and the Devasabha mandapa (another stone structure) is situated there. There are also other places of historical importance such as Bhima anthua, the foot marks of the holy cow Kamadhenu.

There are six statues of Pancha Pandavas and Droupadi. The stone structure above those statues resembles mythological Seshnag and another stone structure is known as Chhaya mandapa or Nrutyashala. In the left side there is the mysterious Virat Shiv ling and Maa Parbati is situated. The Cave which is believed to be the secret place where the Pandavas had kept their weapons known as Girija Gumpha. Another round structure of stone is spread over the main stone structure which is known as Antabhanga but from mythological point of view it is known as the Parbati jyoti of Lord Shiv.

The power of wisdom is believed to be felt here. Whether anyone worship or not but nature continues to worship this place. The holy river of Kushabhadra which originates from the mysterious Similipal cleans the holy feet of Lord Shiv (Samibruksha). The wild flowers shower over the Shiv ling as if it is ordered by the nature. It is not only believed but can be felt if one uses his inner self and sees through the eyes of divine belief. With the Entry of Kaliyuga people may have forgotten the path of divinity, the belief may have decreased and they may try to ride the stone structure (Shiv ling) but nature is always worshipped for its divinity.

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