

IGNCA team visits Ghodasimar Temple

Ranchi: The Regional Centre of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Ranchi, has started a study programme 'Documentation of Art Heritage of Jharkhand'. Under the programme, a team of researchers led by Dr. Bachchan Kumar, Regional Director, Ranchi Regional Centre of IGNCA, visited Satgaowa Block of Koderma district of Jharkhand on September 23 and 24.

This block has archaeological remains that represent rich cultural heritage of Jharkhand. In dumdum village under Pataiya Panchayat, there is a temple called as Ghodasimar. This temple is erected on mount (debris) of a group of ancient temples. The people of the locality say that wherever they dig the ground of the area, they find some sculpture or part of the temple which belong to the 8th to 12th century AD.



A deity near Ghodasima Temple at Satgaowa Block of Koderma district of Jharkhand

PNS

“The Ghodasimar has been a centre of attraction during ancient time. It may be existing as a religious centre of the area. I recommend this area for the archaeological excavation to bring out the art heritage of Jharkhand. There is required a

small museum where the sculptures could be housed and studied,” said Kumar.

People of the area consider Ghodasimar temple where a Jyotirlinga is worshipped at the sanctum as one of the 12 Jyotirlinga in India.

The temple has myths. It is believed that the cultivable lands of the surrounding area do not require water for agricultural production. It is also believed that the land in its vicinity has so many bricks and stone but they are not removed because their removal may hamper the crop production of the land.

On Dibaur Ratnapur hill, situated 45 kilometers away from the temple there is a stone water tank and blacksmithy implements with 1336 Sak sambat inscribed on its wall. People consider that from this hill, lord Viswakarma had built 110 temples in a night.**PNS**

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