

Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Bhanja Deo



Every year Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo's Birth Anniversary is celebrated on 17th in the month of December all over Orissa. This much-admired statesman was born in Baripada, in the Mayurbhanj District of Orissa. Before he could finish his graduation at Ravenshaw college, this Great man was sworn in as the King of Mayurbhanj in the year 1890. Though he discontinued his study he visited many countries like America, Europe, Switzerland, Japan, England and China etc. It was Maharaja Shri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo who raised the pinnacles of Glory and opened a new chapter of the Golden Era of *Bhanja* Dynasty.



Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo: Maker of Modern Orissa



The Maharaja is regarded as one of the Makers of Modern Orissa. He was always using his travel experience for the upliftment and development of the State of Orissa. He introduced latest system of administration in the field of Agriculture, Education, Industry, Commerce etc. in the State. He was

always trying to exploit the rich physical and natural resources of Orissa for the benefit of people.

He has helped many institutions economically like the Cuttack Medical College, Ravenshaw College, Utkal Sahitya Samaj, Cuttack Townhall, Utkal University, Banaras Hindu University and the Utkal Sammilani etc.

The Maharaja's role in Orissa's Political Scenario

Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo played a key role in the History of Orissa's politics. He founded the State Council consisting of eminent persons like Gopabandhu Das. He also helped the Co-operative Movement of India by providing land. In the year 1903, Utkal Gauraba Madhusudan Das was deeply inspired by the



Council. He organised a grand meeting of Utkala Sammillani at Cuttack and the meeting was presided over by the Maharaja, Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo.

The Maharaja's contribution to Orissa's Literature:

In the field of Orissa's Art and Literature Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo's contribution is highly commendable. Two most famous monthly magazines i.e. Manorama and Utkalprava were his contribution. The most famous Oriya Dictionary Purnachandra Bhasakosha (Encyclopedia) was published because of his financial assistance. So, he will always be remembered for his contributions towards Orissa's literature.

During his reign he has carried on many projects of public interest. Some of his works are still unforgettable and are the symbol of modern

Orissa. This includes the Baripada to Rupsa Railway Track, Baripada Municipality, Jubuli Library of Baripada, Orphanage and Leprosy Homes, Water Reservoir near Balidiha, Haldia and Olamara of Balasore, Technical school of Baripada etc. During his tenure he encouraged the weavers and promoted the textile of 'Tasar', 'Matha' and 'silk'. All these contribution by Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo to Orissa soil are highly praiseworthy.