

Jorhat Tourism

NEWSLETTER

#11 | OCTOBER 2024

Dear Reader,

This month, let us help you explore Jorhat's Rich Heritage. First up - Borbheti, a sacred pilgrimage site established in 1768 that draws thousands of devotees annually. Then comes the Burhi Gosani Dewalaya, a prominent Hindu Shakti temple built in 1794.

Also, the Lachit Borphukan Maidam commemorates the heroic Ahom general who triumphed over the Mughals. Read about this and more.

Shri Jay Shivani, IAS

District Commissioner - Jorhat & Chairman-Destination Management Committee-Jorhat

BORBHETI NA-LOGUWA UTSAV



Borbheti, located approximately 12 kilometers from Jorhat town, is a significant holy place associated with the Mayamora Vaishnavite tradition. In 1768, the esteemed Vaishnavite saint and Satradhikar, Sri Sri Astabhuj Dev, made the pivotal decision to relocate the monastery from Sutiapata Satra to Borbheti, a site less vulnerable to the Brahmaputra River's fluctuations. This location, situated in the heart of Malow Pothar, was chosen for its deep waterbody, reaching a depth of 36 feet in summer.

In accordance with the saint's vision, eight lakh disciples of the Mayamora Vaishnavite sect were invited to construct a platform for a naamghar within the 36-foot deep waterbody during the autumn of 1768. This initiative gave rise to what is now known as Borbheti, Mahabheti, or Ratnagiri. A naamghar and kirtan ghar were established, where devotees engaged in naam-kirtan for seven days, culminating in celebrations featuring Vaona, a traditional dance and theatrical form.



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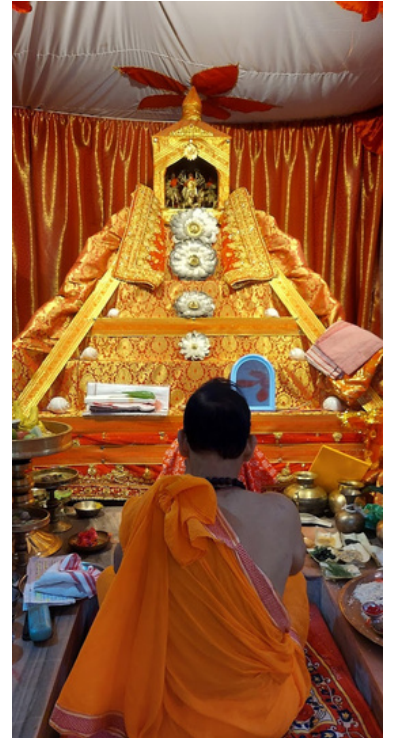


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Every year, following the harvest season, the Mayamora devotees gather on the first Sunday of the first week of Aghon to celebrate the Na-lagawa festival at Borbheti. This vibrant event includes the lighting of lanterns with clay candles, which are then placed on the foundation of the naamghar as a mark of reverence. Various ceremonies and rituals are performed in harmony with the singers' rhythms, attracting approximately 50,000 devotees from different parts of Assam.

A distinctive tradition during this festival is the donation of salt to the foundation, symbolizing purity and devotion. The Na-lagawa festival continues to be a cherished celebration at the historic Barbheti Namghar, fostering unity and spiritual connection among devotees.

BURHI GOSANI DEWALAYA



Burhi Gosani Dewalaya is a prominent temple located on Dewal Road in Jorhat, Assam. This renowned Hindu Shakta temple is dedicated to Goddess Durga and was established in 1794 by Ahom king Rudra Singha. Famed for its grand annual Durga Puja celebrations, the Dewalaya serves as a significant center for Shakti worship. Historically, Burhi Gosani Dewalaya is linked to the Ahom-Jaiantia conflict reflecting the Shakti worship practices of the Ahom Dynasty. Daily pujas are conducted at the temple, which also houses other shrines dedicated to Shiva, Jagadharti, Ganesh, and Kali.



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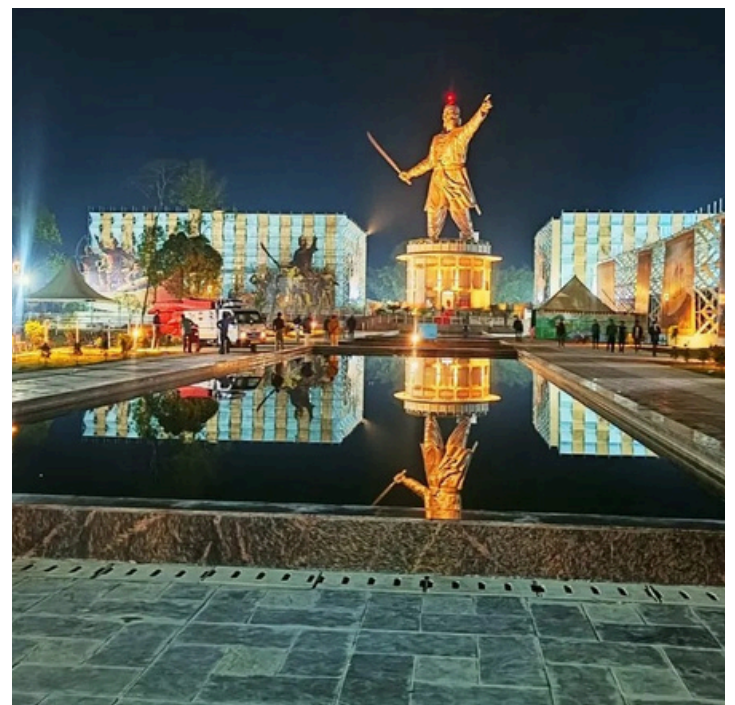


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LACHIT BORPHUKAN MAIDAM & STATUE OF VALOUR

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently unveiled a 125-foot bronze statue of General Lachit Borphukan, the esteemed commander of the Royal Army of the Ahom Kingdom, known for his remarkable leadership during the Battle of Saraighat. This historic battle marked a significant moment in Assam's history, where Borphukan successfully defeated the Mughal forces, halting the expansionist ambitions of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, who had sent his troops to seize Assam in 1671.

The statue was unveiled at the Lachit Borphukan Maidam Development Project in Hollongapar, near Teok. This expansive area, spanning 16.5 acres, is being developed as a prominent tourist destination that will highlight the rich history of the region and commemorate the legacy of Lachit Borphukan. His contributions are integral to the narrative of Assam, and this initiative aims to educate visitors about his valor and the historical significance of his leadership.



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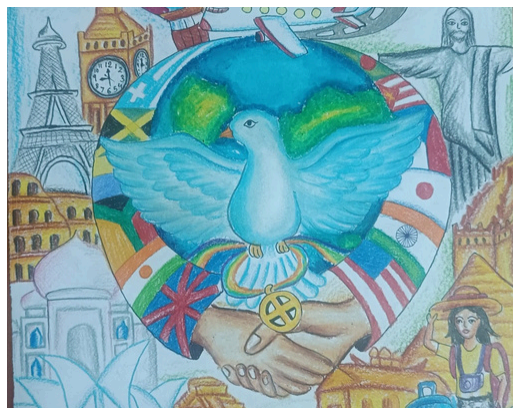
SWADESH DARSHAN 2.0

On **September 27, 2024**, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, in collaboration with the Youth Tourism Club of JB College, organized a poster-making competition titled "**Tourism and Peace**" in celebration of **World Tourism Day**.

During the event, tourist guide Jayant Jyoti Sharma addressed the students, emphasizing the significance of tourism and the crucial role that Youth Tourism Clubs play in promoting tourism and developing local destinations.

The competition was judged by renowned painter Saurav Jyoti Barua. The results were as follows: Ankar Bora secured the first prize, followed by Mansi Paul in second place, and Abhishruti Goswami in third.

This initiative not only encouraged creativity among students but also highlighted the importance of tourism in fostering peace and cultural understanding.



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