

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The region, now forming the district of Cuttack, has been known for its centres of learning since distant past. Remains of Buddhist establishments found at Lalitagiri, Ratnagiri and Udayagiri in the Cuttack district have proved it to be one of the leading Buddhist complexes in the entire length and breadth of the country in ancient times. These establishments witnessed a remarkable growth in religion, art, architecture and played a significant role in disseminating Buddhist religion and culture by forming itself, like Nalanda, a leading religious and philosophical centre to which flocked scholars and students to take lessons from the intellectual stalwarts of Buddhism. It is said that Buddhist scholar Tissala, after spending fourteen years in Nalanda, came to Ratnagiri for further study which proved its importance at that time as a centre of Buddhist learning.

While Buddhistic remains of the Asia range of hills give a definite clue to the emergence of Buddhism under the Bhaumakara dynasty, Jajpur, once a famous Buddhist centre, became the prominent centre of Saivism during the Somavamsi dynasty. During a critical juncture of Indian history when the civilization of the north fell a victim to the ravages of Islam, Orissa could protect itself from the holocaust and played a vital role in upkeeping Hindu religion, art, architecture for quite a long time.

The city of Cuttack, formerly known as Abhinab Varanasi Kataka, is intimately associated with the history, culture and politics of Orissa and the now ruined magnificent fort of Barabati, the last greatest citadel of the illustrious monarchs of Orissa was the theatre of political, civil and military administration through centuries. The seat of administration of the vast Orissan empire occupied the highest rank among the innumerable forts spread from the Ganges in the north to the Godavari in the south. Illustrious dynasties ruled Orissa successfully for centuries with their capital at Cuttack. They united Orissa politically and culturally into one kingdom which facilitated the growth of a homogeneous culture and language. It is now an established fact that this empire had a long temple and fort building tradition and the temple of Jagannath at Puri, the Sun temple at Konark and the Lingaraj and Raja Rani temples of Bhubaneswar and myriads of other smaller temples became centres of cultural unification of Orissa. Since time immemorial the shrine of Jagannath at Puri has assumed an all-India character and thus has become a great centre of cultural fusion among the Oriya people.

The independent Hindu kings of Orissa were great patrons of art and poetry and embellished their courts with scholars and poets of great distinction. The Ekavali, an excellent literary work composed by Narasimhadeva's court poet Vidyadhara and the Mahabharata, written by Sarala Das during Kapilendradeva's reign are still considered great hall-marks of literature. Gajapati Prataparudradeva, author of two Dharmasastra treatises viz., *Sarasvativilasa* and *Pratapamarittanda*, depicts the law of property pertaining to the Mitakshara School of Hindu Law and the socio-religious trend of the people of the time in those two works with great authority. There were great scholars like Narahari Tirtha, Sambhukara Bajapeyi, Kavidindima Jivadeva Acharya and Pandit Godavara Mishra and their literary works enriched the Sanskrit literature of the time and greatly influenced the literary works of the future generation.

A host of great savants and religious leaders like Shri Chaitanya, Nanak and Mahima Swami came to Cuttack for propagation of their cult and enriched the religious and cultural ethos of Orissa. The *mathas* and monasteries of those times were great centres of learning. The Sanskrit *tois* maintained by many of the *mathas* imparted education to students in Sanskrit and religious scriptures.

The benevolent Oriya kings founded many *sasanas* and endowed the Brahmins and learned men with rent-free lands and other facilities to enable them to pursue scholastic and religious activities undisturbed, as a result of which many scholars and poets flourished during that period. These scholastic activities influenced and moulded the social, cultural and religious life of the Oriyas for generations.

Considering its rich cultural tradition, the district of Cuttack had not made much headway in the field of education in later years. The usual type of educational institution in ancient times in the country was the domestic school known as Gurukul¹ or the home of the teacher with whom the pupils came to live as members of his family. This was also the case in respect of Cuttack district. Some native rulers, landlords, rich persons had patronised Sanskrit studies because the Vedas, Brahmasutra and Puranas known as books of wisdom were written in Sanskrit. Later the *chatusalis* were the centres of education where the teachers known as Abadhanas with no systematic training taught the pupils in the traditional way. They taught the alphabets, repeated the multiplication tables called 'Panikias', practised addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, etc. The pupils also learnt writing on palmleaf with the help of an iron stylus. Some of the Mathas in the district maintained Sanskrit *tois* where education was imparted to the students.

Education was limited to a few boys of higher castes. Writing of Pothis was the monopoly of the Brahmins and other higher castes. There was no facility for science education. There was no importance of education in social, political and economic life of the people. For administrative purpose a little knowledge of education was considered sufficient. However, the percentage of literacy in this region was higher in comparison to most part of the country due to the influence of the two famous Oriya scriptures, The Mahabharat and The Bhagabata. At one time, people were learning letters mainly to read The Bhagabata.

Towards the end of the 18th century, there was a fairly wide network of indigenous educational institutions in the district. Like the *tolis* or Pathasalas, there were Madrasas for Muslim children. The Hindu schools were mostly attended by boys of higher castes. Sending girls to the school was a social taboo. The Muslim schools were usually attached to the mosques. Along with the boys, a few girls of tender age also attended the Madrasas. Girls of rich families were often educated at home.

Beginning of Western Education

When the British acquired Orissa in 1803, there were scarcely a single Oriya as Government employee. "The language of the courts and public offices was Persian, and it was not till 1805 that orders were passed that in all written communication with the natives of the province the subject should be written in Oriya as well as in Persian. This order necessitated the employment of Oriya muharrirs, who though skilful enough with their iron pen and bundle of palm leaves, were almost helpless when required to write on paper with an ordinary pen."¹

A graphic picture of the state of education prevailing here during the first half of the century of British rule has been described by Sir William Hunter like this,

"Government, not less than the missionaries, long found itself baffled by the obstinate orthodoxy of Orissa. Until 1838 no schools worthy of the name existed, except in the two or three bright spots within the circle of missionary influence. Throughout the length and breadth of the province, with its population of 2 and a half million of souls, all was darkness and superstition. Here and there indeed a *pundit* taught a few lads Sanskrit in a corner of some rich landlord's mansion, and the larger villages had a sort of hedge-school, where half a dozen boys squatted with the master on the ground, forming the alphabet in the dust, and repeating the multiplication table in a parrot like sing-song. Any one who could write a sentence or two on a palm leaf was passed for a man of letters."²

1. L. S. S. O' Malley's District Gazetteer of Cuttack (1933), p. 211.

2. Quoted by L. S. S. O' Malley in the District Gazetteer of Cuttack (1933), p. 212.

Even though Orissa came under the British rule in 1803, up to 1866 there was almost total absence of attempt on the part of the Government to provide the people with means of modern education. But during this period, the Christian Missionaries made some laudable contribution in developing regional language, establishment of printing press, introduction of magazines and text books and in setting up of schools, thus leading to the foundation and introduction of a modern education system in Orissa. Therefore, they can well be said to be the fore-runners of a new awakening in the field of general, technical and women education in Orissa in the 19th century.

In 1822, the first English Sunday School of Orissa for European and Anglo-Indian students was set up at Cuttack by Mr. William Bampton and James Peggs and in 1825 the first Oriya Sunday School was started with a strength of 50 non-Christian Oriya students by the missionaries. In 1823, an English charity school for the Anglo-Indian children was established at Cuttack and ran through donations from local donors. Later on, in 1841, this school was handed over to Government. In this school the children of Standard-I were imparted education through reading, writing, spelling and general grammar and the children of the lower classes were taught only reading, writing, spelling. Between 1822-23, the missionaries had 15 schools in Orissa Division under their management. In these schools there were 305 boys and 63 girl students and in the English school there were 20 boy students.

In 1829, a Boarding school was established for the first time in Cuttack. Initially 12 children belonging to Anglo-Indian community were admitted into this school. These children were imparted training which equipped them to earn a livelihood for themselves in future. Besides, the missionaries were pioneers in establishing training schools for teachers, school of handicraft, and started schools for women education and experimented with various forms of education in Orissa. But these schools were in primary level. The text books were translated version of Bengali and there was no definite policy in composition of these books.

Against this background of education in Orissa the British entered into the field but could not do much progress during the first half of the 19th century. The initial Government apathy towards education is reflected in the statement of Rickets, "I think, I may safely assert, that there is no place in our dominion where liberality and assistance on the part of Government are more called for and I earnestly recommend that the same should be afforded. At the conquest, we found the *Ooreah* in a state of great degradation and to our shame be it recorded that our policy was to perpetuate the degeneracy which prevailed among them. In the

conclusion he observed, "If schools be established and properly attended to, the *Ooreahs* will soon show that degeneracy is but the usual consequence of misrule".¹

In the year 1835, for the first time in Orissa Division, Government opened an English and a Sanskrit school at Puri but these institutions proved altogether unable to make headway against the tide of ignorance and bigotry of the people. The Brahmins had hitherto held the monopoly of education and kept it strictly in their own hands, and caste prejudice and religious superstitions were the great obstacles in the way of progress. The Government institutions were looked upon as infidel inventions.

However, in spite of such oppositions, education slowly made its way in Orissa.

In 1841, the Government took over the Cuttack School, which was the first institution of its kind in Cuttack from missionary management. Through a good deal of hardship it survived as the principal seat of education in the province. The school was upgraded to the standard of a middle English school and was the only middle school in the Division of Orissa at that time. In 1854, it was raised to the status of a high school and was subsequently named Cuttack High School. In 1942, a Council of Education was formed for the province. To teach western science and literature through local language, Lord Hardinge declared opening of 101 language schools, 8 of which were set up in Orissa. The schools that were set up in Cuttack district were at Kendraparha, Mahanga and Hariharpur. The Mahanga school was subsequently shifted to Mahasinghpur. The then Deputy Collector, Maulabi Abdul Wahid, took an active part in the construction of the school building and was one of the few local authorities of the time who encouraged establishment of local schools. By the end of 1848-49, there were 9 schools with a total attendance of 279 pupils in the Orissa Division but during the next ten years the number of schools had increased to 29 and the number of pupils to 1,046 while by 1868-69, there were 63 schools with 4,043 students.

By Wood's Despatch of 1854, the British Government decided to impart education to Indians through both English and local languages. The despatch formulated the future educational policy of the Government by setting up a separate department of education, setting up of universities, training of teachers and above all, provisions of grants-in-aid for various schools as a result of which the number of private schools grew faster than ever before.

1. Letter No. 2955, dated the 7th December, 1837 from Ricketts, Commissioner to Sudder Board of Revenue, quoted in Utkal University History of Orissa, Vol. VI, p. 436.

In Cuttack itself the number of schools recognised by Government rose from three in 1856-57 to fifty in 1870-71 and number of pupils from 168 to 2,755. The grants-in-aid policy of the Government gave a boost to the opening of many private schools. During May 1863 to April 1864, 10 schools were given grants-in-aid. In January 1868, the Cuttack High School was converted into a Collegiate school and the College Department then constituted of two classes. In the year 1876, the College Department of the high school was converted into a college which later became famous as the Ravenshaw College. The Muslim Seminary (presently Seminary School) was in the town of Cuttack, 2 were at the headquarters stations of the Jajpur and Kendraparha subdivisions and the remaining two at Banki and Kujang. The Ravenshaw Collegiate School, which was the practising school for the Cuttack Training College (presently Radhanath Training College) was maintained by the Government, the school at Kujang was a private institution and the other 7 were aided by the Government.

A scheme to train teachers was recommended by the Wood's Despatch of 1854 and Lord Stanley's Despatch of 1859. A normal class, opened to train lower class *pandits* to manage primary schools was converted into a school named as Normal School at Cuttack in 1869. The institute had two departments, the Guru Training Department and the Pandit Training Department. The former one was imparting education on Sanskrit, Bengali or Urdu. The duration of the course was one year. The latter was imparting training course on vernacular. The trained teachers were appointed in middle English or high schools. In 1857 under Sir George Campbell's Scheme the system of Normal School was reorganised. The Cuttack Normal School was converted into a first grade school and was named the Cuttack Training School. The Guru Training Department was abolished and the institute prepared the trained teachers for middle vernacular schools.

In 1872, Sir George Campbell's Scheme of educational reform extended the grants-in-aid rules to a large number of hitherto unaided schools and many indigenous institutions were absorbed into the departmental system as a result of which the number of inspected schools increased to 539 by 1875 with an attendance of 10,196 pupils. The next decade saw rapid and sustained advance of education and in 1885 more than 65,000 pupils were receiving instruction in 4,736 public institutions. But in the next decade the rate of progress could not be maintained due to failure of crops and by 1895 there were only 3,590 schools with an attendance of 55,876. The number of schools had fallen still further to 3,527 on the 31st March, 1905, but on the other hand there was considerable increase

in the number of pupils which rose to 65,237. Besides these, there were 203 schools with 1,870 pupils, which did not conform to any departmental standard and were outside the Education Department system.

The reduction in the number of schools continued in subsequent years in accordance with the accepted policy of eliminating small, inefficient and unsuitably placed schools and raising the minimum requirements qualifying a school for grants-in-aid.

The spread of education in the district during 50 years till 1931 is strikingly brought out by the figures on literacy at successive censuses.

Literates per 1,000 of the population

Census Year	Male	Female
1881	57	1
1891	109	2
1901	150	5
1911	132	5
1921	151	8
1931	147	9

The apparent failing off in 1911 was due to the fact that a higher standard was fixed in that year. At previous census any one who could only read or write was returned as literate. In 1911, only those were classed as literates who could write a letter to a friend and read the answer.

During 1933 there were 2,923 primary schools in the district including 1,136 un-aided schools and 156 girls' schools. 219 of these schools were maintained by the District Board (including 68 schools for the depressed and backward classes) and 1,476 aided. The total number of boys and girls in primary schools exceeded 75,000.

Middle Vernacular schools, which numbered 11 in 1883-84, yielded to the universal demand for English education, and by 1933, only 1 was left. During the same period the number of middle English schools rose from 18 to 37, of which three were managed by local authorities or Government, 31 were aided and three unaided. The number of high English schools rose from 4 in 1883-84 to 6 in 1904-1905 and finally to 9 in 1931-32. During the same period the number of pupils attending them increased from 454 to 1,401 and 2,178. Of these 9 schools, five namely the Ravenshaw Collegiate School, the Peary Mohan Academy,

the Baptist Mission High School, the Town Victoria High School (presently Bhaktamadhu Bidyapitha) and the Muslim Seminary (presently Syed Seminary) were of Cuttack and the remaining four were at Banki, Jajpur, Kendraparha and Kujang. In 1930-31, 77,648 boys and 13,766 girls, or 8·2 per cent of the male and 1·2 per cent of the female population were attending schools which was 4·4 per cent of the population. This was a higher percentage than any other districts of the then province.

The only college in the district, or indeed in the whole of the then Orissa, was the Ravenshaw College at Cuttack. This college, which was opened in 1868 in the Cuttack High School, was finally raised to the status of a first class college in 1878. A Law Department was added in 1881. The school classes were detached in 1912 and became the Ravenshaw Collegiate School. The Survey School, which had also been attached to it, was separated in 1915 and developed into the Orissa School of Engineering. Extensive new buildings of the Ravenshaw College were opened in 1922. The number of students increased from 100 in 1890 to 589 in 1932.

A medical school and a training college were established at Cuttack. The medical school, which was named as the Orissa Medical School, was established in 1875 and the training college known as the Cuttack Training College (later Radhanath Training College) was opened in 1923.

The Baptist Mission maintained a Christian Training College for men and women, a women's teachers training class and a school for Anglo-Indian children which taught up to Senior Cambridge examination.

State of Education in former Princely States

BADAMBA

By the year 1924-25, there was a middle school at Badamba. The school was started by Rai Sahib Madan Mohan Subudhi at his own cost. But as it couldn't be managed owing to financial difficulties, in 1925, the State took charge of the school. Besides, there were 37 lower primary schools, 1 girls' school, 1 Sanskrit *tal* in the ex-state. 1,989 students were on the roll in 1942-43 which included 267 girl students. In many schools, co-education was prevalent. The percentage of school-going population of both boys and girls was 41·58 and 6·59 respectively. In the primary school level there were 1,514 boys and 225 girls. Of the above number, there were 139 boys and 11 girls from the backward communities. In the secondary schools there were 97 students which included 4 girl students. Games were made compulsory in all the

schools. The Scouts organization in schools rendered valuable services to the ex-state at the time of need. The people of the ex-state had recognized the value of education and they appeared to be rather more advanced in this direction than in the neighbouring ex-states.

NARASINGHAPUR

All the primary schools in the ex-state except those meant exclusively for girls were mixed schools for boys and girls and co-education was adopted as the departmental policy for all primary schools. Primary education was free and compulsory and attempts were made to make it more popular, attractive and suitable. Special concessions and facilities were provided to pupils belonging to backward communities. Scholarship was awarded at every stage of education and poor and deserving students were given state-aid. All the primary schools were divided into four groups and a central school, headed by a Head Pandit, was acting as the supervising head of them.

In the year 1942-43, there were 33 schools altogether having 2,659 students (2,039 boys, 620 girls). There was one school in every five inhabited villages of the ex-state.

The following statement gives the number of different institutions and the number of scholars receiving education for the year 1944-45 and 1945-46 in the ex-state of Narasinghapur.

Category of Institutions	No. of schools		No. of pupils					
	1944-45 1945-46		1944-45			1945-46		
	(1)	(2)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Secondary School ..	..	1	..	..	..	192	..	192
Middle English School	1	..	152	..	152	..	..	..
U p p e r Primary School (Boys)	4	5	513	64	577	636	85	721
Ditto (Girls)	1	1	..	63	63	..	70	70
Lower Primary School (Boys)	25	24	1,233	392	1,625	1,199	396	1,595
Ditto (Girls)	1	1	..	69	69	..	69	69
Sanskrit Tol	1	1	15	..	15	12	..	12

All the institutions of the ex-state were fully managed by the state and all the schools were opened to the backward communities. The practical difficulty in educating the backward communities was that they lived in very small number in several detached villages. Therefore, despite all efforts made and concessions shown to them, no appreciable progress could be made.

All the schools were equipped with good libraries which were used by students, teachers and the public. Hostel facilities were also available in some of the schools. Besides study, extra curricular activities like book binding, spinning, gardening, toy making were pursued by the students. Mass drill, inter-school sports were the physical activities pursued by students as part of the efforts for moral growth and physical development. Red-cross, Girls Guide and Adult Education were also parts of the school activities at the time.

TIGIRIA

There were 20 schools in the ex-state of Tigiria in the year 1942-43. Of these, 19 were lower primary schools including one model school, the remaining one being a middle English school. There were 828 students in all these schools which included 138 girl students.

Besides academic study, industrial classes were also conducted and teaching in mat weaving, rope making and broom and toy making with palm leaves were being taught. Scouting and Guiding were also introduced.

For better working of the schools, managing committees were constituted which helped in smooth and efficient running of the schools.

ATHAGARH

In the year 1916, there was one middle English school in this ex-state. Subsequently the school was raised to the status of a high school named as Biswanath Bidyapitha. This was the only high school in the ex-state where education was imparted up to XIth standard. Besides, there was a girls' school, one Guru Training Institute, two Sanskrit *tois* and a Maktab. The number of primary schools in the ex-state in the year 1947-48 was 108 where 4,058 students (including 596 girls) were being imparted education by 212 male and 3 female teachers.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

The post-Independence period saw gradual growth in the field of education. The percentage of literacy was 23.3 in the district in 1951 including 19.3 for males and 4.0 for females. Taking the male population as a whole, the percentage of literacy was 38.6 and among females, the percentage was 8. The percentage of literacy in 1961 Census increased to 29.8 comprising 22.8 per cent for males and 7 per cent for females as against the state average of 17.4 and 4.3 per cent respectively. So far the male population taken as a whole, the percentage of literates was 45.7. Similarly, among the females, the percentage was 14.4. During the decade 1951-61, there was an increase of 6.5 per cent in literacy in the district.

According to the Census of 1971, the percentage of literacy in the district was 36.43 (including 24.9 per cent males and 11.5 per cent females) as against the state average of 26.2 per cent. Taking the male population as a whole, it was 49.8 per cent and among females it was 22.9 per cent as against the state average of 38.3 per cent and 18.9 per cent respectively. The percentage of literacy increased further to 45.4 in the Census of 1981 which was much higher than the literacy rate of the state (34.23 per cent). Among the districts, the literacy rate was the highest in Puri district being followed by Cuttack district. The male and female literacy percentage were 29.62 and 16.92 respectively. Taking the male population as a whole, the percentage was 58.4 and among females the percentage was 32.4 as against the state average of 47.1 per cent and 21.1 per cent. In the year 1991, the percentage of literacy in the district was 53.36 as against the state average of 48.55 per cent. Among males it was 63.70 per cent and among females it was 42.63 per cent as against the state average of 62.37 per cent and 34.40 per cent respectively. As it shows, there is a gradual improvement in the percentage of literacy in successive decades from 1951 to 1991.

NUMBER OF LITERATES

According to the criteria laid down at the 1991 Census as well as in the earlier censuses, a person is considered as a literate if he or she is able to read and write any language with understanding. It is not necessary that a person who is literate should have passed any minimum educational standard. In the Census of 1991, all children of the age group of 6 years or less have been treated as illiterates even if any child is going to school and may have picked up reading and writing a few words. Earlier all children below the age of 4 years were treated as illiterates.

The number of literates in the district has increased considerably after Independence. In the Census of 1951, the number of literates in the district was 5,89,541 consisting of 4,87,231 males and 1,02,310 females. The number rose to 9,12,551 in 1961 out of which 6,99,090 were males and 2,13,461 females. The number further rose to 13,94,399 in 1971 out of which 9,59,679 were males and 4,34,720 females. According to the Census of 1981, 21,02,667 persons including 13,63,907 males and 7,38,760 females were found to be literate in the district. The figure stands at 29,36,614 literates including 17,84,764 males and 11,51,850 females in the district in the Census of 1991. So far as urban areas are concerned, the highest number of literates are found in the Cuttack town (M) followed by Chaudwar and Kendraparha. The number of literates of these three towns are 1,80,419; 24,547 and 22,215 respectively.

The table given below indicates the number of literates according to the educational standard in the district as per the Census of 1981.

Educational Standard (1)	Males (2)	Females (3)
Non-formal ..	54,504	19,932
Formal ..	4,46,579	2,96,932
Primary ..	3,61,865	2,34,299
Middle ..	2,98,390	1,37,182
Matriculate/Secondary ..	1,17,280	34,339
Higher Secondary/Intermediate/ Pre-University...	33,588	7,202
Non-Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	213	28
Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	11,191	1,664
Graduate and above ..	40,296	7,186

SPREAD OF EDUCATION AMONG WOMEN

During early days, people of the region gave little attention for education of women. In poor and backward families even today girls from their tender age are required to earn for their families. It was a practice of the middle and higher class families to train younger girls in household works rather than to send them for study in any educational institutions. Some other factors such as want of adequate state aid, intense conservatism

of the people, system of child marriage and scarcity of educated female teachers hindered the progress of female education during early British period. Even those who were getting little education were discouraged to continue their education after attaining puberty. It took more than 60 years after British occupation for opening of modern schools for girls in the district. For the first time in 1869 a primary school was started exclusively for girls at Cuttack called the Cuttack Hindu Girl School with six or seven students. Later on in 1873, the school was named as the Ravenshaw Hindu Girls' School (presently Ravenshaw Girls' School). The Government took control of this institution from the 1st March, 1913.

One high school for girls named as Model Girls' High School was started at Cuttack in 1906 by Reba Ray, a niece of poet Madhusudan Rao. One of the first girls who passed the matriculation examination from this school was Chandramukhi Sarangi. She passed in the first division in the year 1911. Prior to that Narmada Kar, daughter of Viswanath Kar, editor of Utkal Sahitya passed from that school. The Model school was later closed due to discontinuance of Government aid.

In 1915, college classes for women were opened in the Ravenshaw Girls' School. In 1952, the College was shifted to its present building, the residence of Utkal Gaurav Madhusudan Das and was named as Sailabala Women's College, after Sailabala Das, the adopted daughter of Madhusudan Das who also happened to be the first principal of the girls' school.

Women education, though far behind that of men, made enourmous strides in the first 30 years of this century. In 1904-05, there were 64 girls' schools with 1,706 pupils in the whole district. The number increased to 149 lower primary schools with 4,062 pupils, 7 upper primary schools with 345 pupils and two middle vernacular schools with 393 pupils in 1932-33. As mentioned earlier, the Ravenshaw Girls' High School was functioning with over 60 pupils and 2 college classes were attached to it which prepared girls for the I. A. examination of the Patna University. In addition, 8,531 girls attended the ordinary primary schools for boys.

During post-Independence period, sincere efforts were made to promote education among women. Emphasis was given to increase the enrolment of girl students in different educational institutions in providing facilities like appointment of school mothers to look after the students, introduction of attendance, scholarship or free supply of dresses for regular attendance, appointment of lady teachers through sympathetic selection methods, etc.

In 1951 Census out of 5,89,541 literate persons, 1,02,310 were females. They constituted 8 per cent of the total women population of the district. The district had 9,12,551 literates during 1961 Census of whom 2,13,461 were females. Among the females the percentage of literacy was 14.4. In 1971 Census the number of female literates further increased to 4,34,720. The number of female literates for 1981 Census was 7,38,760 whereas in 1991 Census women literate figure rose to 11,51,850.

During 1961 there were 43 primary schools with 97,804 girl students. There were 9 high schools, 18 M.E. schools and one college for female students in the district in which 4,269, 4,557 and 793 pupils were enrolled respectively. After 10 years i.e., in 1970-71, number of girl students increased to 1,45,664 in primary schools, 18,099 in M.E. schools, 18,980 in higher secondary schools and high schools and 1,577 in different colleges. The number of female students further increased to 2,25,000 in primary schools, 45,000 in M.E. schools, 26,000 in higher secondary and high schools and 5,407 in colleges during 1980-81. Presently, females are not only prosecuting their studies in large numbers, they are also excelling male students in many of the Secondary Board and University examinations.

The table below indicates number of different educational institutions, number of students enrolled and number of teachers employed for the education of girls in the district during the five-years ending 1988-89.

Year	Primary schools			M.E. schools			High schools			Colleges		
	No. of schools *	No. of girl students enrolled ('000)	No. of female teachers	No. of schools *	No. of girl students enrolled ('000)	No. of female teachers	No. of schools *	No. of girl students enrolled ('000)	No. of female teachers	No. of colleges **	No. of girl students enrolled	No. of female teachers
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1984-85 ..	5,512	267	1,797	1,705	83	573	828	34	1,365	84(7)	8,397	375
1985-86 ..	5,618	269	2,010	1,735	85	59	900	39	1,371	84(7)	9,785	478
1986-87 ..	5,709	273	3,248	1,875	87	821	930	40	1,397	84(7)	10,994	482
1987-88 ..	5,871	275	3,965	1,878	90	1,182	961	70	1,464	95(9)	12,382	604
1988-89 ..	6,078	282	4,691	1,880	93	1,449	968(114)	71	1,524	98(10)	13,735	612

* Total number of institutions both for boys and girls.

** Bracketed figures indicate number of colleges for women.

Spread of Education among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Prior to Independence, apathy of the Government for the education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes along with their poverty, ignorance and lack of adequate facilities stood in the way of the spread of education among them. Some of the ex-princely states, now included in the district, took interest in the education of the people of the backward castes. During post-Independence period sincere efforts are being made to make these communities educated.

Special types of schools like Sevashrams and Ashram schools have been set up in areas predominantly inhabited by Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the district. Sevashrams, equivalent to primary school standard, along with general education provide elementary training in crafts like spinning, gardening and handicrafts. Ashram schools are equivalent to middle school standard. Being residential institutions, these schools bring up the pupils under their fostering care. To make the pupils feel at home in the schools, provision for music, dance and other entertainment popular with tribal people have also been introduced. Apart from general education, the students are imparted training in crafts like spinning, weaving, carpentry, smithy, poultry rearing, cattle breeding, bee-keeping, etc. Besides free education, students from these communities get stipends and lump grants in upper primary schools, middle schools, high schools and colleges. According to the Census of 1961, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes accounted for 17.9 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively of the total population of the district. The statement below shows the total number of literates found amongst them along with the percentage of literacy:

Caste/Tribe	Population	Total literates	Percentage of literacy
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Scheduled Castes ..	5,47,922	67,701	12.4
Scheduled Tribes ..	85,863	7,510	8.7

The standard of literacy among both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was far below the district average during 1961 Census. Out of the 67,701 Scheduled Caste people of the district, 56,662 were males and 11,039 were females, of whom 53,438 males and 10,559 females

belonged to rural areas whereas 3,179 males and 480 females were residing in urban areas. 7,510 Scheduled Tribe persons were enumerated as literates in this census of whom 6,001 were males and 1,509 were females. Out of these people, 5,827 males and 1,509 females were residing in rural areas whereas in urban areas only 174 males were enumerated as literates.

A decade after, in the Census of 1971, there were 1,24,757 Scheduled Caste persons recorded as literates. Out of them 1,00,162 were males and 24,595 were females. Among the males and females 94,045 and 22,701 were residing in rural areas and 6,117 and 1,894 in urban areas respectively. Among the Scheduled Tribe population of the district, 8,712 (7,666 males and 1,046 females) were found literates, out of whom 8,302 (7,311 males and 991 females) were living in rural areas and 410 (355 males and 55 females) were living in urban areas.

In the next decade, i.e., 1981 Census, there were 2,07,599 Scheduled Caste persons who were found literates. Out of them 1,54,703 were males and 52,896 females. Out of them, 1,42,784 males and 48,605 females belonged to rural areas whereas 11,919 males and 4,291 females were residing in urban areas. Among the Scheduled Tribes, 15,606 persons including 13,514 males and 2,092 females were found literate. Out of these people 12,260 males and 1,833 females were residing in rural areas whereas 1,254 males and 259 females belonged to the urban areas of the district.

Thus, it is seen in successive census decades that there was gradual increase in number of literates among the Scheduled Caste people. The percentage of literacy among these communities increased from 12.4 in 1961 Census to 18.5 in 1971 Census. It further increased to 25.38 per cent during 1981 Census. But the percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribe communities decreased from 8.7 in 1961 Census to 7.87 in 1971 Census. However, in 1981 Census, the percentage of literacy among these communities increased to 10.78.

The district had 6 high schools of which two were for girls, 4 Ashram schools including two Kanyashrams, 10 residential Sevashrams and 45 upper primary and lower primary schools (Sevashrams) functioning exclusively for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe pupils of the district by the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department up to 1989-90. Besides, students of these communities also prosecuted their studies in general schools and colleges.

The growth of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students starting from primary stage to general colleges for five years ending 1988-89 (in '000 excluding colleges) is given below.

Year	Upper primary schools		Middle schools		High schools		Colleges	
	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1984-85 ..	78	18	22	4	8	1	2,150	338
1985-86 ..	82	22	22	5	9	1	2,312	365
1986-87 ..	82	22	23	5	14	1	2,583	471
1987-88 ..	82	22	23	5	18	1	2,961	532
1988-89 ..	82	22	32	5	23	2	3,113	547

More about the progress of education among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people in the district find mention in the chapter XVII 'Other Social Services'.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Primary Education

After Independence, universalisation of elementary education received maximum importance. Constant efforts were made in this direction by launching enrolment drives by way of providing facilities like supply of free mid-day meals, grant of various scholarships to meritorious students, and grants for maintenance of students in hostels. Additional facilities were also provided to encourage women's education. The growth in number of primary schools as a result of these initiatives was very rapid. In the year 1950-51, there were 2,611 primary schools in the district. The number increased in succeeding years going up to 4,066 in 1960-61 which included 43 schools specially meant for girls' education. Number of Primary schools increased further to 4,662 with enrolment of 3,70,629 pupils after a decade in 1970-71. During the next decade, i.e., 1970-71 to 1980-81 the percentage of new primary schools established was less than the previous decade. In 1980-81, there were 4,876 primary schools in which 5,28,000 students were enrolled.

The growth in number of primary schools, enrolment of students and number of teachers from the year 1984-85 to 1988-89 is given in the following table.

Year		Number of primary schools	Enrolment figure in '000			Number of teachers
			Boys	Girls	Total	
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1984-85	..	5,512	368	267	635	13,717
1985-86	..	5,618	371	269	640	13,930
1986-87	..	5,709	371	273	644	14,059
1987-88	..	5,871	374	275	649	14,643
1988-89	..	6,078	378	282	660	14,695

Overriding priority had been given to the programme of universalisation of elementary education in the national policy of education, 1986. 1990 being the target year, the Technology Mission had taken up the responsibility of providing education for all children in the age group of 6—11. For qualitative improvement in the primary education, Operation Black Board Scheme has been in operation.

ORIENTAL STUDIES

Sanskrit Tols and Colleges

Till the beginning of the academic session of 1992-93, the district had 53 recognised Prathama and Madhyama Sanskrit Tols of which 2 were Government managed and the rest were aided by the Government. Besides, there were also another 40 unrecognised Tols established in different parts of the district. All the Madhyama Tols had provision for Prathama teaching.

For Prathama, a two-year course has been prescribed whereas the students of Madhyama are required to study a three-year course. On an average 10 students read in each class. Two teachers are appointed for Prathama Tol whereas the teacher strength in a Madhyama Tol is 5. In aided institutions, Government provide salary for the teachers and stipends to selected students. Government also provide funds for contingencies.

In the district there were 8 Sanskrit colleges of which 3 impart teaching in both Upashastri (+2) and Shastri (B.A.) courses and rest 5 were Upashastri(+2) institutions. The Sanskrit colleges teaching Shastri and Upashastri were Abhaya Sanskrit Ayurveda Vidyalaya, Kendraparha; Biraja Sanskrit Tol, Debidwar, Jajpur and Dr. H.K. Mahtab Adarsa

Ayurveda Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Cuttack. The Upashastri institutions are Ananta Sanskrit Vidyapitha, Kaduapara, P.O. Sidhala; Gopinathpur Sanskrit Tol, Jadupur; Sailendra Narayan Sanskrit Vidyapitha, Rajnagar; Laxmi Nrusingha Sanskrit Vidyapitha, Kharagpur (Erasama) and Bijoya Chandra Sanskrit College, Kujang. In Shastri institutions teaching is imparted for a period of 5 years. In Upashastri institutions students are required to study for 2 years. These institutions are recognised by the Sri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Puri.

Maktabas

The Muhammedan pupils, besides attending ordinary primary schools, also attend special schools meant for them known as Maktabas primary Urdu schools, intended for them. In 1947, there were 40 Government-aided Maktabas and 5 primary schools having Urdu section in the district. There was also one elementary training school for Muhammedans maintained by Government at Cuttack. At present, there are 105 Maktabas and Madrasas in the whole of the district.

Middle Schools

The number of middle schools which was 127 in 1951 increased to 1,560 in the district according to the Fourth Educational Survey (1978-79) and the number of teachers and enrolment in these schools was 4,988 and 1 lakh 30 thousand respectively. The middle section available in the secondary level of education are accounted for in the aforesaid number of middle schools/sections. By 1986-87, the reference year for the Fifth Educational Survey, the number of middle schools increased with a significant growth with the number of teachers and enrolment. Total number of schools, teachers and enrolment in these schools for the year 1986-87 were 1,875, 6,301 and 2 lakh 16 thousand respectively. The expansion of middle school education in the district during the period 1984-85 to 1988-89 is shown in the table below.

Year		No. of M. E. schools	No. of teachers	No. of students (in '000)
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
1984-85	...	1,705	5,425	203
1985-86	..	1,735	5,578	210
1986-87	..	1,875	6,301	216
1987-88	..	1,878	6,808	222
1988-89	..	1,886	7,185	236

Non-formal Education

Until recently the non-formal education centres were being used as cheaper model primary schools in the state. These centres were being set up in the smaller habitations where a regular primary school was not considered viable from the standpoint of population. But at the advent of opening of more primary schools in all the habitations having a population of 300 in non-tribal areas and 200 in tribal areas, non-formal centres will serve the real purpose for which they were intended. Henceforth, these centres will mainly run for the economically backward children who cannot avail of full-time education, for working children and for the dropouts, who are forced to discontinue education on economic grounds. Non-formal centres are now functioning as Madhyamik Chhatasalis imparting education for classes VI-VII. These are new projects functioning under the scheme of Non-formal Education. Co-ordinators and Supervisors are being appointed for good administration and supervision of the Non-formal Education Projects.

Secondary Education

Rapid progress has also been made in the field of secondary education in the district since Independence. Against 51 high schools during 1950-51, the district had one higher secondary school (Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack reconverted as High School in 1964) and 111 high schools, five of which admitted only girls in 1961. In the next decade the percentage of increase was higher. During 1970-71, there were 433 high schools in the district which enrolled 68,670 boys and 18,980 girl students. Number of teachers employed in these schools was 4,144. The number of high schools further increased to 583 with 6,256 teachers in 1980-81. 82,000 students were enrolled in these schools which included 25,000 girl students. The Utkal University was conducting the Matriculation Examinations of the high schools up to 1956. With effect from 1956 Supplementary Examination, the Board of Secondary Education, Orissa, Cuttack took it over.

In order to produce educated employables, vocational education has been introduced in the state with effect from the year 1987-88. For the said purpose some high schools have been upgraded to vocational higher secondary schools. The following vocations have been introduced at the first stage in the vocational higher secondary schools: seed production, farm mechanic, horticulture, agriculture, chemicals, poultry, dairy, repair and maintenance of radio and T.V. set, etc. audiovisual technician, inland fisheries, insurance,

stenography, auto engineering, re-binding of electric motors, repair and maintenance of electrical motors, creche and pre-school management, plant protection, sericulture, office management, mechanical engineering and commecrial garment-designing and making.

The table given below indicates the progress of secondary education in the district during five years ending 1988-89.

Year	Number of schools	Number of teachers			No. of students ('000)		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1984-85	828	7,050	1,365	8,415	70	34	104
1985-86	900	7,060	1,371	8,431	70	39	109
1986-87	930	7,117	1,397	8,514	70	40	110
1987-88	961	7,367	1,464	8,831	109	70	179
1988-89	968	7,551	1,524	9,075	113	71	184

There are also three Kendriya Vidyalayas located at Cuttack, Charibatia and Paradeep of which the former two enrol students up to + 2 classes. The school at Paradeep has provision up to 10th standard. The schools are affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education and are managed by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, an autonomous body of the Central Government. There is also another school by the name of Aviation Research Centre English Medium School at Charibatia.

Special Schools

In the district there are one Cambridge School, one Stewart School and one Convent School located at Cuttack. All these institutions impart education up to secondary standard. The pupils of these schools appear at the Indian School Certificate Examination. The medium of instruction of all these institutions is English. Besides, a large number of nursery schools have been established in almost all the urban areas of the district.

EDUCATIONAL UNITS

The district has been divided into eight educational districts and three circles. The educational districts are located at Cuttack, Kendraparha, Jajpur, Jagatsinghapur, Tirtol, Athagarh, Pattamundai and Jajpur Road; each under a District Inspector of Schools. The headquarters of Circles I & III are located at Cuttack whereas the Circle II is functioning at Jajpur. Each of the Circles is in charge of an Inspector of Schools.

Board of Secondary Education

The Board of Secondary Education was established in the year 1956 at Cuttack to conduct secondary level examination for the State of Orissa. The Board has been conducting the High School Certificate Examination since the Supplementary Examination of 1956. Prior to that the examination was conducted by the Utkal University. Besides the examinations, the Board is preparing syllabus and printing text books for the said examinations appointing experts in different subjects to guide the teachers of high schools and taking interest in improving the overall education standard in schools. The Board also awards Certificates of Teachership to the successful students of the secondary training schools of the state.

The Board functions in its own building at Ranihat Bajrakabati Road, Cuttack. It has established a high school, namely Secondary Board High School which is one of the leading schools of the district.

Higher Education

Since the setting up of Ravenshaw College, the first of its kind in the then Orissa Division during second half of 19th century, college education has made enormous stride in all these years. Immediately after the establishment of Utkal University at Cuttack in 1943 (later shifted to Bhubaneshwar), two more colleges, viz., Christ College and Stewart College were opened at Cuttack. The two college classes for women attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' School, Cuttack were separated to become a full-fledged womens' college and a college at Jajpur started functioning. This was the picture of college (general) education of the district by 1950-51. Two more colleges were founded at Kendraparha and Banki during the next decade ending 1960-61. There has been tremendous expansion of college education in the district during subsequent decades.

By 1970-71, the number of colleges in the district increased to 15. The number of students was 10,625 including 1,577 women.

The number of colleges and students further increased to 41 and 30,434 respectively by 1980-81. Among the students 5,407 were women. Till the above year, the district had only one women's college. However, the number increased to 5 in the next year, 7 in the year 1982-83, 9 in 1987-88 and 10 in 1988-89.

The table below indicates the number of colleges for general education with number of lecturers and students, both men and women. from 1984-85 to 1988-89.

Year	Number of colleges	Number of teachers			No. of students		
		Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1984-85	84	1,330	375	1,705	31,833	8,197	49,330
1985-86	84	1,611	478	2,089	38,372	9,785	48,157
1986-87	84	1,631	482	2,113	42,223	10,994	53,217
1987-88	86	1,785	604	2,389	48,185	12,382	60,537
1988-89	98	1,852	612	2,464	49,055	13,755	62,790

By 1991-92 the number of colleges increased to 126 including 19 for women with 2,744 teachers of whom 668 were women and 65,590 students including 14,575 women. Co-education facilities are available in all the colleges except the institutions exclusively meant for women. The three colleges of Cuttack, viz., Ravenshaw Evening College, Sailabala Women's College and Jatiya Kavi Birakishore College are managed by the State Government, apart from the N. C. College, Jajpur. Out of the colleges of the district, 80 were imparting teaching up to degree/post-graduate standard whereas the rest 45 were junior colleges providing education up to +2 examination. The colleges are affiliated to the Council of Higher Secondary Education Orissa, Bhubaneswar for +2 examination. For degree and post-graduate examinations, the colleges are affiliated to the Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.

An account of the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, the premier institution for higher education in the entire state is given below. A list of colleges of the district imparting general education is given in Appendix I.

Ravenshaw College

As mentioned earlier, in the year 1823 the Missionaries established the first educational institution in Cuttack which was named as Cuttack English School. The school was renamed as Cuttack School from November 1841 to nearly 1864. Then the institution was raised to the status of a high school. With the growing need of collegiate education in Orissa, Mr. H. L. Harrison, the then Inspector of Schools, recommended to upgrade the Zilla School into a college. The good result of this school of 1865 and 1866 prompted W. W. Hunter, the Inspector of Schools at that time to write, "This stands unquestionably first among the educational institutions of Orissa, having the largest number of candidates at the entrance examination contrasted with the result obtained by schools in advanced Bengal districts, but comparing the work done with the difficulties attending the doing of it, the Cuttack school deserves unqualified praise." He concluded that, "the time has arrived for the promotion of collegiate education in Orissa".*

The Director of Public Instruction examined the views of the authorities and agreed to it. In February 1867, the plan was accepted by the Lieutenant Governor Sir Cecil Beadon and finance was sanctioned. In January 1868, the Cuttack Zilla School was converted into a collegiate school. The College department then consisted of two classes. Only under-graduate students were allowed to appear at first in the examination of Arts. In January 1875, T.E. Ravenshaw, the then Commissioner of Orissa Division, proposed to convert the college department of the high school into a college in which the students would be able to complete the entire course necessary for attaining the B.A. degree. The Government agreed to the proposal with the condition of a fifty: fifty funding pattern. This was accepted by Mr. Ravenshaw and in the year 1876 the college was opened. This solved a long standing problem in the field of higher education in the state. Maharaja Krushna Chandra Bhanja, the Ruling Chief of Mayurbhanj state, made a generous contribution of Rs.20,000/ to the college as a permanent endowment and on his request the name of the college was changed to Ravenshaw College to commemorate Mr. T.E. Ravenshaw's services to the cause of education in Orissa.

In 1921, the college classes were shifted to its new building and since then the college has come a long way in becoming one of the premier educational institutions of the country. The college which had 188 students in the year 1906, now has 4,500 students on its rolls taught by

* Report of Public Institution, 1865-66.

230 eminent professors, each of them proficient in their respective fields. The college offers co-education facility in both under-graduate and Post-graduate Classes in Humanities, Science and Commerce subjects. New subjects are being opened from time to time and seats are being increased in subjects with growing demands. Separate blocks are being provided to various teaching faculties. Teaching up to Honours stage is provided in Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, English, Economics, Oriya, Zoology, Geology, Geography, Philosophy, Sanskrit, Psychology, Political Science, History and Persian. Facilities for Post-graduate teaching are provided in Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, English, Economics, Political Science, Oriya, Zoology, Geography, Hindi, Education, Applied Geography and Commerce. There are also M. Phil. courses in English, Oriya, Economics, History, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Botany. Facilities are also available for carrying research for Ph. D., D.Sc., and D. Litt. Degree. Besides, an Evening College is also functioning in this College. A branch of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has been opened in this college. Coaching classes for candidates preparing for various competitive examinations are also run in this institute. In 1946, the Wireless Training class was started in this college. The college has its own dispensary and a power house to take care of the distribution and maintenance of electricity within the college campus.

The college provides boarding facility to outside students. There are many hostels, viz., East Hostel, West Hostel, New Hostel, Women's Hostel, T. R. W. Boys' Hostel and New P. G. Hostel which provide accommodation facility to about 1,300 students. Besides these hostels in the campus, there are three other hostels outside the college campus, which accommodate about 400 students.

Besides educational activities, there are cultural meets, dramatic and musical performances, debating sessions and many other forms for creative expression of the students. The college magazine named "Ravenshawian", the hostel magazines, research bulletins of various departmental associations are some of the periodicals published for the benefit of students, research scholars and general public. The Kanika Library, named after the Maharaja of Kanika, has a huge collection of text books, journals reference books and manuscripts and is a centre of study for hundreds of students and research scholars. (The Kanika Library is dealt separately in this chapter). There are also athletic clubs, gymnasium, research laboratory to cater to the needs of the students.

The history of Ravenshaw College is, in a way, the story of modern Orissa. The most significant cultural, intellectual and political movements of the state have sprung from this institution. Great Oriya personalities like Gopabandhu Das, Acharya Harihar Das, Nilakantha Das, Godabarish Misra and Nilamani Senapati, the first Oriya I.C.S., had their academic pursuit in this college. Biswanath Das, Dr. H. K. Mahtab, Nityananda Kanungo, Biju Patnaik who have attained political eminence were once a part of this college. Great scholars like Artaballava Mohanty, Shri Jadunath Sarkar, Jogesh Chandra Roy, Dr. P. Parija, P. S. Sundaram, Dr. B. Prasad, Dr. Sadasiv Mishra, Dr. Shriram Chandra Das imparted teaching to students as the teaching staff of this college. Great creative writers like Kalindi Charan Panigrahi, Annada Sankar Ray, Dr. Mayadhar Mansingh, Baikunthanath Patnaik, Gopinath Mohanty, Sacchidananda Routray, Surendra Nath Mohanty were once part of this institution of whom the college feels proud.

As an institution, it has been the fountain-head of learning in Orissa and has produced eminent poets, philosophers, scientists, administrators, historians and artists. Despite rapid growth of colleges all round the state, this institution still continues to be the centre of cultural life of this state. The college has been declared as an autonomous institution since the year 1989.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Secondary Training Schools

There are 14 secondary training schools in the district at present (1992-93). Five of these schools are located at Cuttack whereas one each is functioning at Ragadi (Banki), Jagatsinghapur, Narasinghapur, Athagarh, Kendraparha, Rahama, Dolipur, Kujang and Balia. Two training schools located at Cuttack, and the training school at Jagatsinghapur, Kendraparha and Kujang admit only women students. The school at Dolipur, which is named as the District Institute of Educational Training, admits students successful in +2 examination and above, and in the other institutions the minimum qualification required for admission is Matriculation. One of the schools at Cuttack is meant for Urdu teachers training. The intake capacity of these training schools varies from 50 to 100 and the duration of training is one year and 8 months. One Hindi Training Institute is also functioning at Cuttack since 1956. It imparts trainees to 80 inservice teachers. The institute has two hostels for the students. The Board of Secondary Education, Orissa awards Certificates of Teachership to the successful candidates.

Bhubanananda Orissa School of Engineering, Cuttack

The Bhubanananda Orissa School of Engineering, Cuttack (previously known as the Orissa School of Engineering) was established by the then Provincial Government in 1923 with 3-year sub-overseers course in civil engineering having an intake capacity of 40 students. In 1947, the school was upgraded with diploma courses in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. In order to meet the requirement of technical personnel in different fields, Government enhanced the strength of the institution with the introduction of diploma course in instrumentation and control engineering and automobile engineering in 1971. Diploma course in electronic and tele-communication engineering was started in 1985-86. Post-diploma courses in television engineering and computer application started in 1987-88 and 1988-89 respectively in this institution. Presently the duration of course for most of the diplomas is four years. During 1991-92, the institution had 623 students and 23 teachers. The institution is affiliated to the State Council of Technical Education and Training, Orissa, Cuttack.

Other Technical and Professional Schools

There are a number of technical and craft schools in the district. The Institute of Textile Technology, Chaudwar imparts education in textile technology and is managed by the State Council of Technical Education and Training, Orissa. The Industrial Training Institute at Cuttack is affiliated to the National Council of Vocational Training, New Delhi. It awards Trade Certificates in 22 number of trades and enrolls 808 students in various trade disciplines. Established in 1962, this is a major technical school of the state. It is managed by the Director of Technical Education and Training, Cuttack.

The Related Instruction Centre, Chaudwar instructs apprentices on trade theory, engineering, drawing and workshop calculation and science to I.T.I. trainees during their apprentice period. The Industrial Training Centre for Women at Cuttack trains women students in draughtsmanship, radio and T.V. mechanism, electronics, stenography, secretarial practice and tailoring trades. It is affiliated to the National Council for Vocational Training, New Delhi.

The Mahila Sibani Siksha Sadan at Cuttack is affiliated to the State Council for Vocational Training, Orissa and teaches women students in cutting and tailoring trade. Besides, there are some other technical and craft schools located in the district which train students to take up self-employment under various technical trades. A detailed list of these institutions is given in the following table.

Name of the Institute	Year of establishment	Courses of study	Duration of course	No. of students	No. of teachers	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Industrial Training Institute, Cuttack	1962	Draughtsman, Fitter, Electronics, Wireman, Welder, Carpenter, Blacksmith, Electronics, etc. (22 trades)	2-year course in 14 trade disciplines and 1-year course in 8 disciplines	808	70	Affiliated to National Council for Vocational Training, New Delhi. Hostel for trainees is available.
2. Related Instruction Centre, Chaudwar	1984	2 months apprentice training to I. T. I. pass-out	2 months	200	8	Free admission. Affiliated to Director of Technical Education and Training, Orissa, Cuttack.
3. Industrial Training Centre for Women, Cuttack	1970	Draughtsman, Radio and T. V., Electronics, Stenography, Secretarial Practice, Bakery and Confectionery and Cutting and Tailoring	2 years for Draughtsman, Radio & T. V., Electronics, 1 year for other courses	167	13	Affiliated to the National Council for Vocational Training, Government of India.
4. Institute of Textile Technology, Chaudwar	1983	Textile Technology	3-year Diploma course in Textile Technology	33	8	Affiliated to State Council of Technical Education and Training, Orissa, Cuttack.
5. National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Olampur	..	Orthetic & Prosthetic ..	..	..	..	Affiliated to the Utkal University.
6. Mahila Sebak Sikshya Sadan, Cuttack	..	Cutting & Tailoring ..	..	16	..	..

Physical Education

For the physical development of students, physical training was made compulsory in secondary schools. Keeping this in view, Government of Orissa have encouraged physical training in the state. In 1957, the first physical education college was started by the Government at Barabati Stadium, Cuttack. In 1980 and 1985, Bachelor Degree in Physical Education (B. P. Ed.) and Master's Degree in Physical Education (M. P. Ed.) were introduced respectively. Education is imparted to teachers and students on various aspects of the game as well as principles of physical education, anatomy and physiology of human body and first aid, sports, medicines, etc. The institution is affiliated to the Utkal University. There were 30 (including 4 women) students for B. P. Ed. course and 10 (including one woman) for M. P. Ed. course during 1988-89. Number of teachers was 4. There is a hostel and the boarders are given stipends during their training period.

Radhanath Institute of Advance Studies in Education, Cuttack

The Cuttack Training College (later named as Radhanath Training College) was established in 1923.

The College prepared graduates for Licenciante in Teaching (L. T.) course which was rendered D. Ed. (Diploma in Education) course after 1926. In 1948, the Cuttack Training College was renamed as the Radhanath Training College in memory of late Radhanath Ray, the celebrated poet of Orissa. In 1955, the D. Ed. course was upgraded to B. Ed. (Bachelor of Education) course as per a new regulation. The college is affiliated to the Utkal University.

The college functions in its own building adjacent to the Ravenshaw Collegiate School. In 1957, one-year post-graduate course leading to M. Ed. (Master of Education) Degree was started.

The College, the oldest training institute of the state, has been upgraded as an Institute for Advanced Studies in Education (I. A. S. E.) by the Government of India with effect from 1988-89. The college imparts teaching to 128, 24 and 12 students in B.Ed., M.Ed. and M. Phil. courses respectively. The institution is now renamed as the Radhanath Institute of Advance Studies in Education. Research and in-service teachers' training programmes are also undertaken in this institution. This college provides Ph. D. fellowships.

The Ravenshaw Collegiate School and the Practising Government Girls' High School are the two laboratory schools of the College to carry out experimentation and innovations in school education.

Shri Ram Chandra Bhanja Medical College, Cuttack

The Shri Ram Chandra Bhanja Medical College, Cuttack is the oldest centre of medical teaching and training in the state. The institute was started as a small dispensary in the premises of the present medical college during Maratha period to render medical assistance to sick pilgrims en-route to Puri. It was converted into a small hospital after the British took over the administration of Orissa. Regular financial assistance was made available for smooth running of the hospital. In 1875, Dr. Steward, the then Civil Surgeon of Cuttack, thought of starting a medical school utilizing this hospital as an infrastructural nucleus and with the kind support and sincere patronage of Sir Richard Temple, the then Lt. Governor, and the Divisional Commissioner, Mr. T.E. Ravenshaw, the Orissa Medical School came into being. Since then, Licentiate Medical Practitioners (L.M.P.) were trained and in 1916-17 Orissa Medical School was affiliated to the Bihar and Orissa Medical Examination Board which granted the L.M.P. Diploma.

Major A.T. Anderson, who was the Principal of the Orissa Medical School-cum-Civil Surgeon of Cuttack during the tenure of Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati Narayan Deo as the Prime Minister of Orissa, proposed to the then Director of Health to promote the Medical School into a college and the matter was laid before the Medical Council of India. As a result of this the Orissa Medical College was born on the 1st of June, 1944. Subsequently the College was named as the Shri Ram Chandra Bhanja Medical College. In 1952, the M.B.B.S. Degree of this College was recognised by the Medical Council of India. Consequently P.G. courses in different disciplines (M.D./M.S.) were started in 1960. At present, there is facility for P.G. training in 21 subjects like General Medicine, Surgery, Gynaecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Ophthalmology, Otorhinolaryngology, etc. Besides post doctoral training facility in Cardiology and Neurosurgery, there are super speciality disciplines in Clinical Haematology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Urology, Cardio-thoracic surgery and plastic surgery. Since 1981, Post-doctoral training leading to the award of D.M. and M. Ch. Degree has also been instituted in the discipline of Cardiology and Neurosurgery respectively.

There is one Dental College with 20 seats functioning in the Shri Ram Chandra Bhanja Medical College premises. There are provision for Pharmaceutical and Nursing Training in the Shri Ram Chandra Bhanja Medical College.

The College admits 107 students for a 4 and a half-year M.B.B.S. course. Besides, there are 75 seats in the Post-graduate stage including 37 seats (2-year course for in-service doctors) and 38 seats (3-year course)

for Resident House Surgeons. There are also 2 seats in D.M. (Cardiology) and 2 seats in M. Ch. (Neurosurgery) course in the College. More about the institution find mention in the Chapter XVI—'Medical and Public Health Services'.

Madhusudan Law College, Cuttack

For the first time in the then Orissa Division, provision for teaching of Law was made in the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack in 1881. Law classes were opened in this college and the successful candidates were awarded Bachelor of Law (B.L.) Degree by the Calcutta University. In 1908, the University framed new regulations as a result of which B.L. classes were closed. The classes were re-opened again after 12 years in 1920. Till 1949, Ravenshaw College continued to manage the law classes. The Utkal University took over the management of these classes in the above year and converted it into a full-fledged constituent college named as the Madhusudan Law College. This institution functioned in the Ravenshaw College building till it was shifted to its present site at the Bardhaman House in 1963. Initially B.L. (now LL.B.) was a two-year course. Presently three years teaching after graduation is required to qualify for this examination. Apart from LL.B., the college also provides teaching in LL.M course since 1973. Number of students admitted in LL.B. and LL.M. classes in this institution during 1988-89 were 1,752 including 104 women and 45 including one woman respectively. The teachers included 12 males and one female. Total seats available in the Preliminary Law class in both morning and day shifts of the institution are 610. The present student strength is 1,630.

The institution, which is the oldest of its kind in the state, provides hostel with a capacity to accommodate 100 male students and library for its students. There are also two other Law colleges in the district namely the Law College, Cuttack and the Dinabandhu Sahu Law College, Kendraparha. Both the colleges, which are privately managed, provide teaching in LL.B. course. All these institutions are affiliated to the Utkal University.

College of Accountancy and Management Studies, Cuttack

The College of Accountancy and Management Studies, Cuttack was established in 1962 by the Industries Department of the State Government to impart advanced studies in managements and provides coaching facilities for professional courses. The college imparts teaching in Master of Management Studies, Master of Bank Management, Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer and Management, Information System, Post-Graduate Diploma in Management. The College is affiliated to the Utkal University for these courses.

The duration of the course for M.M.S. and M.B.M. are for two years whereas for P.G.D.C. and M.I.S. and P.G.D.M. Examination the students are qualified after completion of an one-year course. There are 16 seats in each of the courses.

Oral coaching for Intermediate and Financial Cost Accountancy Examination as recognised by the Institute of Cost and Works Accounts of India, Calcutta and Intermediate Company; Secretaryship Examination as recognised by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, New Delhi are provided in this college. There are 125 seats for the above two courses. The institution has one hostel for 85 boarders. It also has provided a library for its pupils.

Other Professional Colleges

In Cuttack, there is one homeopathic college. There is a Sanskrit college at Kendraparha named as Abhaya Sanskrit College. The homeopathic college (named as the Cuttack Homeopathic College) is privately managed and affiliated to the Utkal University whereas the Sanskrit College is affiliated to the Sri Jagannath Sanskrit University, Puri. Started in 1982, the Cuttack Homeopathic College admits 25 students for a five and a half year-course (including one-year Housemanship) leading to the award of Bachelor in Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery (B.H.M.S.) Degree. One hostel has been provided for the students. The IPSAR, Tulasipur, Cuttack established in 1983 and recognized in 1993 by the AICTE, Govt. of India, conducts a two-year course in PGDM (MBA) and PGDIRPM.

ADULT EDUCATION

The Adult Literacy Programme was taken up on the joint efforts of the Central and State Governments in the district purely on a functional basis since the later part of 1978. Four Project Officers were posted at Cuttack, Jajpur, Kendraparha and Athagarh to execute the above programme. Each of the Project Officers was assisted by 3 to 4 Assistant Project Officers and all these officers were controlled by the District Adult Education Officer, Cuttack. Under each Project Officer there were 300 adult literacy centres and each centre had 30 trainees. A part-time Instructor with Rs. 100 per month as honorarium was appointed to teach these trainees. Besides, six voluntary organizations of the district were given central assistance under this programme. The aim of the scheme was to impart teaching to rural illiterates within the age-group 15 to 35.

On 31st March, 1992 all the adult literacy centres were closed and all the Project Officers and Assistant Project Officers were withdrawn. Instead, a post-literacy programme has been launched under which about 450 Jana Sikhya-Nilayas, each managed by a Preraka, have been

opened in different parts of the district. The members of these Nilayas are being supplied books, newspapers, etc. by the District Adult Education Officer. Government sanctioned Rs. 7,000 for opening of a new Jana Sikhya-Nilaya, apart from sanctioning Rs. 7,000 for continuance of each of the new and old such Nilayas.

Government have also launched literacy drive through posters, playing records and documentary films to motivate people to participate in the programme.

A Directorate at the state level is functioning at Bhubaneswar which co-ordinates the adult literacy programmes.

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Central Rice Research Institute

The Central Rice Research Institute is a Central Government establishment located at Cuttack in 1946. It is in the administrative control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (I. C. A. R.). A detailed account on it has been given in chapter IV (Agriculture and Irrigation).

INSTITUTIONS FOR CULTIVATION OF FINE ARTS

Kala Vikash Kendra

The Kala Vikash Kendra is the foremost cultural organization of Orissa engaged in the training and propagation of performing arts in the state. Babulal Doshi, an art-loving social worker of Cuttack founded this organization in 1952 and since then the Kendra is carrying on training and research on Odissi dance, music, drama, folk art and fine arts in the state. Different schools of the centre are entrusted with the activities of different sections of the performing arts.

The college of Indian Dance and Music functioning in this Kendra is affiliated to the Indira Sangit Viswa Vidyalaya of Khairagarh (M.I.) and provides teaching facilities up to post-graduate level in the disciplines of Odissi dance, Odissi vocal music, Hindustani vocal music, Tabla, violin, guitar and Pakhawas.

In the fifties, the Kendra pioneered the movement for regeneration of Odissi dance and for its recognition as another form of Indian classical dance. This movement was led by eminent Odissi dance teachers of the Kendra like Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra and Guru Mayadhar Rout. The institute runs a research department on dance

and music. It has surveyed the folk dances and music of all the 13 districts of Orissa and has taken effective steps for their presentation and dissemination. It has prepared a graded course of study on Odissi dance and Odissi music up to M.A. Examination for adoption by the College of Indian Dance and Music.

The institute runs an organization named "Abhinaya" for carrying on dramatic activities. The stage and auditorium of this institute is a centre for major dramatic activities of the state where various troupes pursue their dramatic activities.

The Sishu Manjari Organization of the Kendra promotes cultural activities among children and maintains a library with books suitable for the children. The Folk Art Museum treasures instruments of music, masks, ornaments, dressess, paintings and other usables of the Adibasi people of Orissa. The Champaklal Mehta Fine Arts Centre teaches paintings to various students.

The Kendra maintains a performing group of artists who have given performances at various places inside and outside the country and has won many laurels. The journal for performing arts, published from this Kendra, has served a great deal in enlightening the people interested in the dance form and has enriched the art and culture of Orissa.

The Kendra, through the Distressed Artists' Fund has been generous enough to the artists by providing them with financial assistance in their old age and also helping them in their financial distress. The Kendra is a pioneering institute of Orissa devoted entirely to the cultural development of fine arts and music of the state and has attained great distinction.

Utkal Sangeet Samaj

The Utkal Sangeet Samaj is a cultural organization of eminence dedicated to the promotion of Odissi dance and music in the state. The organization was founded in 1933 at Cuttack by Lakshmikanta Choudhury who was a Professor of Sanskrit in Ravenshaw College. Since its inception the organization is pursuing various courses in its endeavour to encourage and popularise Odissi dance and music in the state.

The organization imparts lessons to school and college students in Odissi dance and music through prescribed syllabus of its own and awards Certificates of Diploma in Music and Dance. The institu-

tion holds state level Odissi song and dance competitions to find out new talents and organizes conferences to popularise the art. The artistes of this institution give performances on stage, Doordarshan and All India Radio on various occasions.

National Music Association

Established in 1943 at Cuttack by a young group of music lovers, the National Music Association is now a renowned institute teaching classical music to students since 1947 up to M. Mus. (Sangeet Alankar) standard in Hindustani classical music. The school is affiliated to the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal of Bombay. Vocal music is taught in the style of Gwalior Gharana following the syllabus of the Mandal. The examination in Hindustani classical music is held through written, oral and practical (demonstration) tests to award M. Mus. Diploma. In 1951 regular classes in Odissi dance and music was also started and teaching was imparted by eminent Gurus. The teaching wing of the Association is known as Utkal College of Music and Dance or Utkal Nrutya Sangeet Mahavidyalaya.

In 1951, the drama division of the association was opened. The drama division through innovations and experiments brought about new developments in contemporary dramatic performances.

Besides teaching Odissi, vocal, music and dance, the Association participates in seminars, cultural exchange programmes and gives Odissi dance and Odissi vocal performances and has own many laurels through its recitals. The association has also made notable contribution to the field of folk songs, folk dances and puppetry.

A list of some other institutions of the district imparting teaching in dance, drama and music is given below :

1. Jagulai Yubak Sangha, At—Jhadeswarpur, P. O. Haladia,
Via—Nischintkoili, Cuttack-754207
2. Sarala Sangeeta Kala Parishad, At / P.O. Kandarpur, Cuttack
3. Jayanti Sangeet Kala Niketan, At / P. O. Gadadharpur,
Via—Tigiria, Cuttack
4. Binapani Kala Pitha, At Chandikhol Chhak, P. O. Sungura,
Via—Dhanamandal, Cuttack
5. Shri Shri Swapneswara Kala Niketan, Kantabania, P. O.
Chhatrapura, Via—Pritipur, Cuttack

6. Satyanarayan Sangeeta Natak Krida Parishad, At. Chedokoni,
P. O. Gajabandha, Via. Mahakalparha -754224, Cuttack
7. Sulochana Music and Art College, At / P. O. Madhusudanpur,
Via. Binjharpur, Cuttack
8. Ananta Kala Kshetra, At / P.O. Niali, Cuttack
9. Binapani Sangeet Natak Centre, At. Radhakantapatna, P. O.
Bentapada, Via. Athagarh, Cuttack
10. Mukti Kalamandir, Dhuanpatria Lane, Bakharabad, Cuttack
11. Ramachandra Kala Mandir, At/P.O. Tarikunda, Cuttack
12. Rural Development Community Centre, At. Gourapara,
P. O. Mahanga, Cuttack
13. Utkal Sangeet Samaj, Talatelenga Bazar, Cuttack
14. Binapani Sangeet Sadan, At. Balia, P. O. Bhagabatpur,
Via. Kendraparha, Cuttack
15. Baleswari Sangeet Kala Niketan, At /P. O. Nischintkoili,
Cuttack
16. Sangeet Parijat Dance and Music College, College Square,
Cuttack
17. Natyakar Ramachandra Jayanti Parishad, At / P. O. Tarikunda,
Cuttack
18. Dasarathpur Kala Bikash Kendra, At / P. O. Dasarathpur,
Cuttack
19. Chakadola Club, At. Barahipur, P. O. Osanga, Via. Mahanga,
Cuttack- 754200
20. Kalinga Bharati Sangeetakala Niketan, At. Kuakhia,
Sarangapur, P. O. Rasulpur, Via. Kabirpur, Cuttack
21. Tulasi Cultural Association, Kendraparha - 754211
22. Abhipsa Sangeet Natak Kala Niketan, Asureswar, Cuttack
23. Gokulachandra Sangeet Sadan, At / P. O. Kendraparha,
Cuttack
24. National Art Akademi, At. Oranda (G. P.), P. O. Bali
(Athagarh), Cuttack. 754029
25. Gopal Das Memorial Cultural Organisation, At. Nasipur,
P. O. Badamula-basanta, Via. Kendraparha, Cuttack

26. Shri Jagannath Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, At. Tentulinali, P. O. Uttamapur, Cuttack
27. Annapurna Kala Parishad, Mahanadi Vihar, Plot No. 979, Cuttack-4
28. Jayadurga Purana Pitha, At/P. O. Indupur (Haroli), Cuttack
29. National Music Association, Buxi Bazar, Cuttack-753001
30. Kala Vikash Kendra, Cuttack
31. Janata Kalakendra Kothi, At/P. O. Baharana, Via. Bali-kuda, Cuttack

Art / Craft

1. Sunday Art School, Prajatantra Campus, Cuttack
2. Champaklal Mehta Art School, Kala Vikash Kendra
3. Prativa Vikash Pratisthan, Rajabagichha Labour Colony, Cuttack-9
4. Cuttack College of Art and Craft, Muhamuddia Bazar, Cuttack (functioned up to 1982)

SPORTS

Orissa Olympic Association

Before formation of the Orissa Olympic Association, different outdoor and indoor games of the district were managed by the Orissa Athletic Association which was continuing since 1908. The activities of the Association was confined only to football, athletics, cricket and hockey in the areas like Cuttack, Paralakhemundi, Brahmapur, Jatni and Baripada. It was felt necessary to have the regular State Olympic Association and to involve the districts of Orissa in the movement. Accordingly, in the year 1946 the *ad hoc* Orissa Olympic Association was formed. Immediately the State Government introduced financial assistance to the sports associations, which was first of its kind in the country. In the beginning, the Orissa Olympic Association was confined in its activities to football, hockey, cricket, athletics and annual sports in co-operation with the Orissa Athletic Association. The Barabati Stadium is the property of the Association. Two members from each of the district athletic associations and all state level sports associations, its founders and life members, Director of Public Instruction and Secretary, Orissa Council of Sports constitute the Association. There is an Executive Committee which manages and supervises the affairs of the sports in the state and also the stadium.

Barabati Stadium

The Barabati Stadium is an important landmark in the development of games and sports in the state. The magnificent stadium is situated in Cuttack City facing the ruins of the historic Barabati Fort and occupies part of the ancient Barabati area—hence the name Barabati Stadium.

In the year 1949 when Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was the Prime Minister of Orissa, the State Government made available 20 acres of land in the Barabati Fort area to the Orissa Olympic Association for the building of a Stadium. But financial stringencies made it difficult for the Orissa Olympic Association to get on with the construction of the stadium. The committed organisers decided on floating lottery to raise money for the stadium. Initial funds for running the lottery was arranged by the Orissa Police by staging boxing and wrestling contests. The lottery was floated and as many as 37 draws were held successfully. After meeting all the expenses connected with the running of the raffles, a major portion of the surplus money was diverted for the construction of the Barabati Stadium. The construction of the stadium was started in 1950. The following years portray the grand spectacle of a grim struggle waged by a determined band of organisers like Bhairab Chandra Mohanty, Sailen Kumar Ray, Mihir Kumar Rao and Joe Hyde to give shape to an idea which blossomed into reality and the Barabati Stadium came into being. The Stadium owes its existence to the untiring efforts and dedication of late Bhairab Chandra Mohanty.

Built with modern skill and ingenuity, the stadium has four covered galleries, club house and pavilion that can accommodate 24,500, 1,200 and 1,500 spectators respectively. However, when people are required to seat for a short period, the capacity is increased to 35,000. The pavilion has been built for distinguished visitors—cum—high denomination ticket holders. Besides, an up-to-date double-storey building as the club house within which are a large hall upstairs, a large hall down stairs with a wooden floor, a fixed stage, anterooms and boxed seats have been provided.

Below the tiered cemented seats of the public galleries in extensive semi-circular blocks are offices, reception and living rooms for guests, committee rooms and bath rooms with latest modern fittings. The double storey Gate House houses the offices of the Orissa Olympic Association and provides a grandstand view of the attractive oval-shaped green turf, well-cured and toned to serve the diverse purposes of this composite stadium.

The seven-storey torch-cum-clock tower of the stadium is 100 ft. high. It has been specially built to hold the bowl where the flame of competitions is being kept. The stadium has tennis court and hostels for both male and female athletes. The players' dormitory can accommodate 500 players at a time. There are facilities for the games of football, hockey, basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, table tennis, lawn tennis, badminton, cricket, judo, karate, handball, weight lifting, wrestling, cycling and boxing. As stated earlier, one Executive Committee manages and supervises the affairs of the sports in the state and also of the stadium.

The Olympic Association has rented rooms on monthly basis and provides facilities for conferences and for the purpose of marriages on rent. The average collection of rent is ten lakhs of rupees per year. The association provides annual grant to its affiliated district and state level sports associations from the fund to promote sports and games.

The stadium has witnessed many national and international competitions and has helped the promotion of sports and allied activities of the state to a great extent.

Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium

A centrally air conditioned Indoor Stadium named as the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium has been constructed at Cuttack at a cost of Rs.4,34,80,362/-. Out of the said amount, Rs.4.25 crores has been spent exclusively for construction purpose and the balance amount has been spent for other ancillary works. The construction of this stadium was taken up in 1983-84 and was completed in March 1987. The stadium provides facilities for playing indoor games like gymnastics, volleyball, basketball, tennis, table tennis, badminton, weight lifting and wrestling, etc. The stadium when free from indoor games, is let out for cultural shows.

CULTURAL AND LITERARY ORGANIZATIONS

Quite a good number of cultural and literary organizations are functioning in almost all the urban areas and in some of the villages in the district. The primary functions of these organizations are to organize literary and cultural meetings, symposia, to stage drama and variety shows, and to organize indoor and outdoor games. Some of these organizations are also publishing journals and books. An account of some of these institutions is given as follows.

Utkal Sahitya Samaj, Cuttack

The Utkal Sahitya Samaj is the pioneer literary and cultural organization of Orissa. An organization named "Alochana Sabha" was started by a group of students in 1893 with the active support of Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao, a prominent literary figure of Orissa. The "Utkal Sammilani" which was started with a view to forming a separate province of Orissa consisting of all outlying Oriya speaking tracts, decided in its conference on 7th May, 1903 to form "Utkal Sahitya Samaj" for the development of Oriya literature and the "Alochana Sabha" merged into it. The organization had prominent personalities of Orissa as its members.

At the beginning, the Organization confined its activities to holding discussions on literary and historical subjects and organising library and collection of books. One historical research unit was started and an Oriya dictionary was compiled and published on behalf of the organization. In 1933, the Utkal Sangeet Samaj was started as an offshoot of this institution to propagate and encourage Odissi dance and music in the state. Due to some unpleasant development in the society, the library of the Samaj was removed to a different place under another institution named "Utkal Gourab Madhusudan Pathagar". Another offshoot of this institution was the "Oriya Sahitya Parishad" which had the credit of publishing a literary magazine named "Sahakar". In 1947, the institution was made a member of the P. E. N. (poets, essayists and novelists of India) and eminent litterateurs like Dr. Arta Ballav Mohanty, Kalandi Charan Panigrahi and Pandit Banambara Acharya pioneered the literary activities of the institution. A magazine named "Jagaran" was published. Among other things, the institution organized literary festivals, demonstration of Odissi songs and dance and started a publication unit which published a number of books and collected portraits of eminent personalities of Orissa. During this time the Utkal Gourab Madhusudan Library was taken up by the institution.

The institution celebrated its "Diamond Jubilee" in 1972. On this occasion, a literary conference was organized.

The institution is now engaged in organising literary competitions, Kabi Sammilani, publication of books, felicitating eminent personalities in literature and fine arts, micro-filming of old newspapers and periodicals and preservation of portraits of eminent literary persons. The institution also awards prizes in various literary competitions and has also many valuable publications to its credit.

Prachi Samiti, Cuttack

The Prachi Samiti was a literary organization founded in 1926 by Dr. Arta Ballabha Mohanty at Cuttack. The society, which has now ceased functioning, aimed at publishing old Sanskrit and Oriya literature which were hitherto unpublished. Till then though some rich medieval Oriya literature preserved in palm-leaf manuscripts had been published, critical editions were hardly available. This state of affairs drew the attention of some scholars. It was Dr. Arta Ballabha Mohanty, who took up the challenge.

After the formation of the society, forty-nine books were published with critical introduction, discussion on the date of the authors and with exhaustive notes. These publications include great literary works like Rasakallola, Mathura Mangala, Ushabhilasa, Nalacharita, Bidagdha Chintamani (Vols. II, III, IV and V.) Labanyabati (Vols. I and II), Chaitanya Bhagabata, Madala Panji and Chaturabinoda. For facilitating the publication of the books, a printing press was founded in a building at Ganesh Ghat by the side of the Kathjodi river. A quarterly research journal was also published under the title "Prachi".

The works of the society greatly contributed to the literary heritage of Orissa.

Kalinga Bharati, Cuttack

The Kalinga Bharati is a literary organization established in 1943 at Cuttack by the eminent litterateur late Bichhanda Charan Patanayak. The Utkal Chhatra Sahitya Samaj is an incorporated body of the organization and along with its parent organization aims at bringing about a renaissance in Oriya national culture and purge out baneful influences of western culture on it.

The organisation has adopted collection of palm-leaf manuscripts as one of its prominent plank of programmes and publish them after meticulous editing. The twin organizations have brought out Hindi and English translations of Oriya classics. The Baidehisa Bilasa of Upendra Bhanja has been translated into Hindi and Rasika Harabali of the same poet has been translated into German language. Transliteration of texts has also been attempted to acquaint the outer-world with the expression and the pronunciation patterns of Oriya language and the metre structure of Oriya literary texts.

In order to enrich Oriya literature, the organization has also attempted to translate prominent literary works of other languages as well as of world literature. The 'Bhanja Mandapa', now under construction by the Kalinga Bharati is all set to be a centre of art, culture and literature of Orissa. The organization celebrates the Jayanti festival of Upendra Bhanja every year in mid-May.

Prajantra Prachar Samiti, Cuttack

For the development and spread of Oriya literature, art, culture and journalism, the Prajantra Prachara Samiti was founded at Cuttack on 8th August, 1947. Late Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was the founder and editor of this literary organization. The management of the Samiti is entrusted to a 5-member committee. A daily newspaper 'Prajantra' is being published on behalf of the Prajantra Prachara Samiti. The newspaper also covers literature, dance, music along with political and social news. Dr. Mahtab continued as its editor till his death in the year 1987. He brought out an article under the heading 'Gan Majlis' (ଗାଁ ମଞ୍ଚ) weekly in this paper focusing attention of the authorities and the public on various aspects and problems of rural life in very simple and colloquial Oriya which was very popular among the masses. For this he was awarded Kendriya Sahitya Akademi award. This has now been published in two volumes.

The newspaper publishes a monthly literary magazine named 'Jhankara' and on the anniversary day of the magazine i. e., on *Mahavisuba Sankranti*, a literary congregation popularly styled as 'Bisuba Milan' (ବିଷୁବ ମିଳନ) is held and on this occasion eminent personalities from various Indian languages are invited to address the congregation and prizes and citation are given to eminent writers in Oriya on this occasion.

Litterateurs in Oriya are awarded on this occasion with cash prizes and citations. To encourage children's literature the writers of 'Minabazar', a children's magazine, are also awarded. The organization also publishes a popular weekly feature magazine 'Prajantra Saptahiki'.

The Universe, Cuttack

The Universe, a premier organization of Orissa is working at Cuttack for the cultural, social and economic development of the state. Started in 1973, the organization has now diversified its activities.

The organization conducts seminars on various subjects and invite eminent personalities from various walks of life to deliver speeches. Its initiative to sponsor excavation at Lalitagiri, Udayagiri and Ratnagiri is laudable. All these activities were pursued under a forum called the National Forum which was subsequently replaced by the Council of Cultural Growth and Cultural Relations which later became the Trust Body of all the organizations working under it and also became the owner of the campus called "The Universe".

The Institute of Oriental and Orissan Studies is a separate body working under the "Universe" which is entrusted with the responsibility of organising seminars and publication works. Seminars conducted by this organization covers subjects like religion, environment, tribal folk culture, etc. The organization has so far published five volumes of books on folk culture. It has its own printing press.

The organization exchanges delegates with foreign countries and proposes to introduce teaching of foreign languages. The Utkal University has recognised the institute as a teaching centre for foreign languages and research.

The Institute of Historical Studies is another body of the Universe which also conducts annual seminars and conferences and honours eminent historians.

The Council of Environmental Research and Awareness, Society for German Studies and Relations; Annapurna, a Women's Organisation; the Einstein Science Club, Institute of Oriental and Orissan Studies, each a separate body working under the 'Universe' having their own office bearers function independently in their respective fields. All these organisations help in projecting the cultural heritage of Orissa and acquaint people with the cultural traditions of other people.

The 'Universe' has also an organisation for children called "Maitree Manjari", which organises functions for the children. All these organisations which have separate office bearers function under the Universe in the campus which has the central building of the organisation named Sanskruti Bhawan. There is also a technical institute for women and a library run by the Universe. One Executive Committee manages the organisation which gets financial assistance in shape of membership fees and aid from Government.

Sarala Sahitya Sansad, Cuttack

To perpetuate the memory of Sarala Das, the great Oriya poet, Sarala Sahitya Sansad was formed in Cuttack in 1982. The society organizes literary conferences and seminars where eminent scholars deliver lectures on Sarala literature. The Sansad has endeavoured to bring into focus the epic works of Sarala Das and has so far published eleven books in Oriya on various aspects of Sarala and other old poets' literature. Notable among them are Sarala Sahitya Samikhya, Sarala Mahabharata, Sarala Katha Sarita, Sarala Srustira Diga Diganta and Sarala Katha Kallola. The book, Mahabharatara Pattabhumih: Vyasadeva O' Sarala Das is a comparative study between eighteen Parvas of Sarala Mahabharata and Vyasa's Mahabharata. 'Sarala Das Katha Sagar' is a Hindi publication of the society which consists of twenty-four stories of Sarala Mahabharata translated into Hindi. 'Stories from Sarala's Mahabharata' is an English publication of the Samiti which has twenty-four stories of Sarala Das translated into English. The Sansad has undertaken translation of Oriya stories into Bengali and also works on Bhagabat of Jagannath Das.

The Sansad has instituted a literary award, namely the Sarala Samman (ଶାରଳା ସମ୍ମାନ), since 1986 which carries a cash award of two thousand rupees and a citation. The award is given annually to eminent Oriya writers for their contribution to Oriya literature.

Oriya Gabesana Parishad, Cuttack

This literary organization was founded in 1980 at Cuttack and is managed by an Executive Committee consisting of nine members. The membership of this organization constitutes eminent litterateurs from the state as well as the Universities outside the state.

The primary objective of the Oriya Gabesana Parishad is research on Oriya language. Besides, the organization has to its credit some useful publications. It also organizes symposia on language and literature.

A half-yearly research journal named 'Eshana' is published on behalf of this organization.

Gokarnika Sahitya Samaj, Dharmashala

The Gokarnika Sahitya Samaj was established in 1974 at Dharmashala in Cuttack district. The affairs of the society is managed by a six-member committee. The organization conducts the Jayanti ceremony

of eminent children litterateur Pandit Upendra Tripathi. On this occasion, the Gokarnika Award is presented to distinguished writers for their contribution to children's literature. The organization also conducts literary symposia from time to time.

A monthly literary magazine named 'Gokarnika' is published by this organization.

Bhasa Samiti, Cuttack

The Bhasa Samiti was established in 1973 at Cuttack and since then it has been working as a cultural organization for analytical study of Oriya and other Indian languages and achievement of national integration through linguistic interaction.

The organization is managed by a nine-member committee and runs a library with financial assistance received from the members and Government organizations. It also publishes a bulletin.

The Bhasa Samiti has a future plan of publishing books and doing research on the impact of non-Aryan languages and tribal dialects on Oriya and other Indian languages.

Ganakabi Smruti Sansada, Cuttack

The Ganakabi Smruti Sansada was established in 1975 with the objective of celebrating the birth anniversary of the noted Oriya dramatist Baishnaba Pani. On this occasion a literary symposium is held and dance-drama competition is organized. A seven-member advisory board assists the Sansada in its functioning.

Madhu Smruti, Cuttack

Madhu Smruti, Cuttack is an organization formed to celebrate the birth and death anniversary of Utkal Gourab Madhusudan Das, known as the father of Orissan renaissance. A working committee organizes the functions of the organization.

Adyasakti Sahitya Sansada, Cuttack

This organization was founded in 1981 at village Kantapada, P.O. Kanakpur in Cuttack district. The organization celebrates various functions on religious occasions and also conducts literary activities like poetry recitation and literary discussions.

A literary quarterly magazine named 'Palli Prativa' is published on behalf of the organization.

Nabin Biswa Sahitya Sangathanana, Dharmashala

It is a social and cultural organization founded in 1980 at Dharmashala and is working for the research, development and popularisation of modern Oriya literature.

A number of symposia have been conducted by the organization and souvenirs containing research articles have been published.

A literary magazine named Nabina Biswa is published on behalf of this organization.

Utkal Bharati Smruti Sansada, Adhanga

Established at Adhanga Sasana in 1980, Utkala Bharati Smruti Sansada is a cultural organization which conducts literary symposia and invites eminent literary persons of Orissa to participate in it. It also organizes welfare programmes relating to adult education and development of creative activities among children. The Sansada also observes National Days and celebrates birth anniversary of eminent personalities of Orissa.

Sanjay Smruti Sikshya Sanskrutika Parishad, Athanga

Established in 1980 at Adhanga Sasana in Cuttack district, the organization conducts literary symposia and celebrates various cultural functions. A meeting of freedom fighters is also held here every year. A twelve-member organizing committee looks into the functioning of this institute.

Jugantara Sanskrutika Parishad, Ghatakula

With a view to improving literary and cultural consciousness among rural mass the Jugantara Sanskrutika Parishad was established in 1981 at Ghatakula in Cuttack district.

Besides organising literary activities, the organisation celebrates the birth anniversary of eminent poet Abhimanyu Samantasinghara. On this occasion debates, essay and song competitions are held among school students and the winners are awarded prizes.

"Jugantara", a literary magazine, is published on behalf of the Parishad. It has also a library of its own.

Utkalamani Anchalika Club, Lunigan

The Utkalamani Anchalika Club was found in 1982 at Lunigan in the district. The club celebrates the Jayanti ceremony of Gopabandhu Das and on this occasion conducts debates and other competitions. On the days of national importance, inter-club debate competitions are also held. To create religious awakening among the people, symposia on religious subjects are also organized from time to time. The club depends on membership fees and donations for its management.

Chasi Mulia Pathagara, Darbachha

This is an old library established in 1956 at Darbachha village near Marshaghai. The library aims at creating reading habit among people and for that also organises literary discussions and invites eminent writers of the state to participate in it. The organisers also stage drama to encourage young artists to prove their talents. The book bank of this library helps students for higher studies by lending them books. There is a plan of the organization to undertake publication work.

GRAMPHONE RECORD LIBRARY

There is a Gramophone Record Library at Kubera Sahi, Ranihat, Cuttack. It is known as Kala Sangeet, Cuttack. The owner is Indramani Sahu. He has collected, classified and preserved more than 2,500 gramophone records.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The public library system can be traced back to the days of the Chatasalis and the Tungis. These were maintained mainly in the form of palm-leaf manuscripts by the villagers or the head of the village. The Chatasalis, managed by the Abdhanas had also a few palm-leaf manuscripts. The Britishers brought with them the modern schools and colleges with provision for libraries. They also encouraged the establishment of public libraries.

The credit for establishing academic libraries goes to the Christian Missionaries John Peter and Bampton Peggs. With the establishment of Baptist Missionary Schools and Orissa Mission Press, the growth of library was further accelerated. The missionary school libraries had books on Christianity. With Government grant for management of schools, European Literature found place in the libraries. After Macaulay's Minutes, scientific literatures were included. The libraries usually contained books in regional laangaage, English, Sanskrit, Arabic.

Wood's Despatch of 1854 brought out further changes in school library development in the district. It also emphasised on girls' schools and translation of text books into provincial languages. The Education Commission of India (1881) further enlarged the scope and with this background the academic libraries system was further developed. A library in Cuttack named as the Cuttack Library was started on 1st April, 1859 by Dr. E. Roer, first Inspector of Schools of Orissa Division with help of Mr. R. N. Shore, Commissioner of Orissa

and others. The library had 528 books. Another library started in Cuttack by Siksha Bidhayika Sabha on the 24th April, 1881. It figured in the Utkal Dipika of the 30th April, 1881. Presently, all the schools and colleges of the district provide library facilities to a good number of users. In the college level, besides the degree colleges, College of Accountancy and Management, S. C. B. Medical College, Radhanath Training College (all of Cuttack) have very good libraries with huge collection of books. The Kanika Library of Ravenshaw College, Cuttack which was established in the later part of the 19th century is one of the oldest and the best libraries in the state with huge collection of text books, journals and reference books. The library has more than one lakh books and is the centre of study for hundreds of students and research scholars. Another library which was established during this period, is the Jubilee library, Kendraparha.

The administrative library development system inherited from the ancient infrastructural concept of archives and record rooms was in operation by the time Cuttack was taken as the provincial city. With the introduction of paper books and documents in record offices, the concept took a change. Later, the British system of record offices and libraries for the use of officers developed. The Record Room and library maintained by the Board of Revenue, Cuttack is one of the oldest and richest institutions of its kind where many valuable Government records are preserved for reference of Government officials and scholars. Some of these old valuable records have now been shifted to the Orissa State Archives, located in the capital city, Bhubaneswar. Revenue Divisional Commissioner, Central Division, Cuttack, District Collectorate Office, Directorate of Map and Survey, Government Printing Press, Orissa High Court, All-India Radio, Doordarshan Kendra, Central Rice Research Institute, Press Information Bureau, Board of Secondary Education, Orissa, Public Service Commission Office and some other Government establishments have their own libraries with many useful books. The Cultural Affairs Department and the Information and Public Relations Department maintain one District Library each at Cuttack.

The press organizations also maintain special libraries for their use. The Matrubhumi, the Prajatantra, the Samaj, News of the World and other such organizations have their own libraries with old publications of their newspapers which are useful for reference purpose. There are library-cum-reading rooms at the district and subdivisional headquarters.

Besides, hundreds of socio-cultural organizations and private institutions in various villages and towns in the district also have their own libraries. The rural libraries are benefited from the Raja Ram Mohan Ray Foundation, Calcutta since 1972.

CULTURAL AND LITERARY BACKGROUND

The district formed a part of the Kalingan empire of by-gone days. The land of Kalinga finds mention in the epic, the Mahabharata, Pali Jatakas and different Puranas. Kalingan merchants and traders had prosperous trade relations with distant countries and their supremacy over the sea is evident from the reference to the kings of Kalingas as "the lord of the sea" (Mahodadhipati) * in Raghuvamsha of Kalidasa. The prosperity of this land had attracted Ashok (273 B. C.-232 B. C.) to fight the bloodiest battle in history known as the Kalinga War to attest the independent and prosperous region to his vast empire. The Ashokan inscriptions at Dhauli and Jaugada bear witness to the lost glory of the proud and prosperous people of Kalinga. The language used in these edicts is Pali-Prakrit which gives evidence of a language then spoken or understood by at least some people of this region.

The records left by Emperor Kharavela in the 1st century B. C. on the ceiling of the Hatigumpha cave in Udayagiri hill near Bhubaneshwar shows that Orissa, even two thousand years ago, had a highly developed society and culture. The language used in the inscription is an earlier form of the Magadhi Prakrit and is closer to the present-day Oriya. From the fifth century A. D., we, however, come across a series of inscriptions from which we get an idea about the spread of Sanskrit language in this part of the country. The texts of the epigraphs give us an idea that the composers of these texts were vastly learned in Sanskrit literature.

Orissa has a rich tradition of Sanskrit learning and culture which began during the Sailodbhava rule over this land from circa 7th century A. D. and continued unabated in the subsequent centuries. The rulers of medieval Orissa patronised Sanskrit and many Sanskrit poets and scholars adorned their courts. The Hindu kings of Orissa were great patrons of learning and some of them were accomplished scholars and writers in Sanskrit. Gajapati Kapilendra Deva (1435—66 A. D.), the founder of the Solar dynasty in Orissa, is the author of a Sanskrit play named "Parasurama Vijaya". His son Purusottama Deva, though inferior to him as a warrior, excelled him as a poet. Gajapati Prataprudra Deva (1497—1533 A. D.) was a scholar and a patron of letters. Many famous poets adorned his court and their contribution to the literature of this country is immense.

* Raghuvamsha, VI. p. 54

The Gajapati kings of Orissa were also great patrons of Oriya literature. During their period Jagannath cult had grown into a symbol of Hindu kingship and royal authority. The cult of Jagannath had grown into a culture of multiple dimensions and had systematised and assimilated the essence of many spiritual and religious disciplines and had developed into a homogeneous culture under which the culture and literature of Orissa grew.

A search for palm-leaf manuscripts during the past few decades has resulted in the discovery of a large number of Sanskrit manuscripts on Kavya, Nataka, Alankara, Sangita, Jyotisha, etc. which were either composed or copied in Orissa. Many more must be still lying in the *mathas* or religious monasteries and in the family heirloom of individual households. A lot has been written by renowned European and Indian scholars about the political history of Orissa and her ancient monuments but nothing about any connected and systematic history of the growth of Sanskrit literature in Orissa until recent past. The Pali-Prakrit writings of Ashok and Kharavela, Sanskrit prose in the copper plate grants of Mathara dynasty, the Sanskrit verses of the royal grants of Sailodbhava kings and the poetic skill and talent in the copper plate grants of Bhaumakara kings give a clear picture of the development in style and script of Sanskrit writings in Orissa.

The rule of Somavamsi kings witnessed great revival of Brahmanic faiths in the holy land of Utkala. Yajati Keshari of this dynasty performed Dasashwamedha or ten-horse sacrifices for which he brought ten thousand Brahmins, well-versed in the Vedic lore and literature from Kanyakubja in Madhyadesa who after the splendid performance of ten-horse sacrifices near Viraja Khetra settled with their families in different parts of the region after receiving land grants from the king. Sanskrit literature under the patronage of the royal dynasty developed during this period. Sadharana Bhatta, Simha Datta, Purushotama Bhatta, Narayana Satkavi are some of the great Sanskrit scholars of this period who were proficient in different branches of learning and contributed a lot to Sanskrit literature.

Numerous examples can be cited from the vast number of Orissan epigraphic records to show that Sanskrit continued to be cultivated in Orissa till the end of the Hindu rule in 1568. The number of poets, dramatists and other learned people who composed their works in Sanskrit during the Hindu rule in Orissa is numerous. Other branches of Sanskrit studies like Jyotisha, Ayurveda, Darshana Smriti, Tantra, etc. also were developed under the patronage of benevolent monarchs of Orissa. During the reign of Prataprudradeva there was unprecedented development of both Sanskrit and Oriya literature.

Sanskrit literature also flourished under the patronage of the kings of Khurda till Khurda was captured by the British and the king was shifted to Puri where members of the royal dynasty continue to stay as the first servitor (Adya Sevaka) of Lord Jagannath.

Dramatic Activities *

Orissa has a glorious tradition of dance, drama and music. Rulers of this sacred land had patronised the performing art through ages. Kharavela (1st century B. C.), the emperor of Chedi dynasty, is perhaps the only king in the world who declared himself to be an expert in "Gandharva Vidya" in his Hatigumpha cave inscription. Ganga rulers were also great patrons of this art as can be seen from different temples and monasteries of Orissa built during their reign. The Suryavamsi kings were themselves dramatists, poets of repute and patronised this art wholeheartedly. Gajapati Kapilendradev was the propagator of regional language and it was during his period that the great poet Sarala Das (15th century A. D.) wrote his voluminous 'Mahabharat', the great epic in the regional language. As mentioned elsewhere, Kapilendra himself wrote 'Parasuram Vijaya', a Vyayoga (a drama in one-act) which was also staged in Puri. The literary tradition was kept alive by other Suryavamsi rulers also. Purushottam Dev, his son, was a poet and a dramatist who wrote Abhinab Venisamhar, Abhinab Geetagoovinda, Mukti Chintamani and some other Kavyas. Prataprudra Dev, son of Purushottam Dev, also was a poet. His governor for Rajmundry, Ray Ramananda Patnaik was a dramatist, who wrote and staged 'Jagannath Ballabh Natak'. Thus, it is seen that Orissa was a famous seat of Sanskrit learning where poets, dramatists, rhetoricians, dramaturgists and philosophers regularly penned their valuable observations.

Dramas in Sanskrit were regularly staged before selected audiences by the kings, zamindars and rich people. Dramas like Anargha Raghav, Venisamhara, Chandrakala, Parsuram Vijay, Abhinaba Venisamhara, Jagannath Ballabh, etc. were staged in different parts of the then Orissa. The common mass were not allowed to enjoy those performances. They had their own devices of entertainment, namely Suanga, Yatras, Leelas, Dandanatas and other forms of folk-plays and dances. As the actors were illiterate, they had to remember the entire script from oral instructions. Moreover, these rural form of visual art grew up from the joint authorship of local poets through ages. Hence, no single authorship can be attributed to these works.

* Dr. Hemanta Kumar Das.

Suangas, the oldest form of folk-drama, were in vogue during the 'Charya' period (9th century) as clear reference about 'Suanga' is found in the Charyas. But we do not know, what type of Suangas were being staged during those days. Likewise, Yatra, another form of folk-play was also widely performed throughout Orissa. The dramaturgists of the region have identified 'Geeta Govinda', the masterpiece of Jayadeva, as a sophisticated form of Yatra. Besides Sanskrit dramas, written documents about other branches of folk-plays are not found till the advent of printing press; though few palm-leaf manuscripts on Rama Lila and Krishna Leela have been discovered. It is not known actually how the people of Cuttack entertained themselves till the Britishers occupied Orissa in 1803 and made Cuttack their capital for the Orissa Division.

Modern Oriya drama came into existence under direct British influence. Before that we had two parallel streams of entertainment, one, the sophisticated Sanskrit plays and the other the folk-dance and drama of the common mass. By the time the Britishers came, the Sanskrit dramas had already been extinguished and the folk-plays also suffered almost extinction being charged of obscenity.

In 1866, there occurred a serious famine in Orissa which is popularly known as 'Na-Anka Durvikhya'. The post-famine period was a period of decadance in the field of art, literature and other branches of culture. However, the scene changed gradually, and with the emergence of modern drama in Bengal, dramatic performance in Orissa became inevitable.

The students of Catholic Mission School of Cuttack erected the first proscenium stage and staged portions of Shakesperean drama (English) on 27th and 30th July, 1872* which was first of its kind in Orissa. In 1878, 'Ramavishek', a Bengali play was staged at Cuttack. But the credit of staging the first Oriya drama goes to Jagan Mohan Lala, a government servant, who wrote and staged an Oriya drama called 'Babaji' (The Hermit) in 1877 at Mahanga in Cuttack district. Later in 1881, Ram Sankar Ray wrote and staged 'Kanchikaveri' an Oriya drama in Cuttack. Gradually, a tradition of stage play grew up and within a short time spread to the rural areas of the district. In far away places, especially Bengali dominated areas, regular stage plays were performed. Jagan Mohan Lala established a permanent theatre pendal at his native place, which was followed by Mahant Raghunath Puri of Kothpada village. Various amateur theatre parties and cultural organizations grew up and regular theatre performances were organized. 'The

* Utkal Dipika, dated 3rd August, 1872.

Amateur Theatre'—a theatre party patronised by the Utkal Gourav Madhusudan Das, Magnetic Theatre, Basanti Theatre, Usha Theatre, Binapani Theatre are some of the noted theatre groups of the late 19th and early 20th century. Dramatic clubs also sprang up in different educational institutions. Towards 1913, a professional stage called 'Balanga Art Theatre' was established at Puri town by Banamali Pati, which was a touring party. Very often it came to Cuttack and staged Oriya dramas. Govinda Chandra Surdeo and Mohan Sundar Dev Goswami also had their own touring parties, who had regular stage saows at Cuttack. Kalicharan Patnaik established his 'Sakhigopal Natya Sanshad' which was a regular visitor to Cuttack. Gradually, since forties of this century Orissa Theatre, Annapurna 'B' group, Rupasri Theatre, Janata Theatre and Kalasri Theatre pendals were established at Cuttack town, which were all professionals. The Annapurna Theatre was active even up to mid-sixties of this century. At one time, there were three professional stages at Cuttack town, simultaneously staging Oriya plays. Aswinikumar and Kalicharan set new trends in dramatic tradition of the state. However, these theatres did not last long due to various reasons. First of all, the stereotype drama could not satisfy the audiences. The advent of modern cinema and, subsequently, video, became keen contestants of the stage plays. Dearth of good organizers and dedicated workers lack of patronage and finance gave a heavy set-back to the theatre world. Thus, professional theatres in Orissa were extinguished.

In the meantime, several group theatres have come up which are presently the only source of hope for the Oriya theatre. They, in spite of much hardship, arrange regular stage plays. Dramatists of yester years like Manoranjan Das, Pranabandhu Kar have almost stopped writing. Only Gopal Chhotray is still active. Later dramatists like Bijoy Mishra, Ratnakar Chaini, Ramesh Panigrahi, Kartik Rath, Rati Ranjan Mishra are still writing dramas, which are staged by these theatre] groups. At present we don't find much hope for the stage plays, as stages have suffered a heavy set-back due to the non-co-operation of the audiences, for reasons stated earlier, as is the case in many parts of the country.

Yatra

Yatra is a popular form of folk play and traces of it are found in various old scriptures and literature. As stated earlier, from the Hatigumpha inscription it is known that king Kharavela was a great patron of dramatic performances and 'Samajas' (a popular synonym for drama) were regularly staged on a 'Chattara' (a specially built pendal) during his time. Some critics of dramas are of opinion that there was one

open-air stage in Rani Gumpah where regular stage performances were taking place. However, this powerful media of mass communication faced severe criticism by the western educated intelligentsia during seventies onwards of the 19th century. Even Utkal Dipika, the Oriya weekly of that period criticised it as full of obscenity and of low taste.

In the twentieth century, Bajshnab Pani, notable folk-play writer and Bala Krushna Mohanty, a composer of Yatra, contributed a great deal to this folk-art. Others who worked for the growth of Oriya Yatra include Govind Chandra Surdeo, Ram Chandra Swain and Krushna Prasad Basu. The present day yatra has become commercial and has lost most of its traditional touch. Presently, there are a number of both professional and amateur Yatra parties in the district who set out on tour from Dusserah festival and return to their headquarters before the Raja Sankranti (in mid-June).

Ramalila

Ramalila, as a form of folk-drama, is very popular among the people and is being traditionally performed in many villages and towns of the district. There are Ramalila Samitis at many places and episodes from the Ramayan are enacted by local artists night after night during the Rama Navami days and the people gather in large numbers to enjoy the show. The Ramalila performances are held in many of the Sahis of Cuttack. The Ramalila held at the Raghunathji temple in Telengabazar and at the Municipality ground in the above city need special mention. Ramalila performances are also held at Asureswar in the Kendraparha subdivision and at many other places in the district.

SANSKRIT LITERATURE

The poet Udayana Acharya, a resident of Puri district, was connected with the ruling Ganga family (12th century A. D.). One of the two stone inscriptions composed by him which have been discovered and published so far, belongs to the Subarneswar temple of Niali of Cuttack district. It can be dated to circa 1190 A. D. Even though 'Arjya Saptasati' written by his elder brother Gobardhan had wide circulation in India, no work of Udayan is known to have been published yet. However, he earned reputation by writing 'Bhavabivabini', the first commentary of the famous Gitagovinda of Jayadev.

The poet Bidyadhar is a well-known Sanskrit scholar on Alankar. In his work 'Ekavali' he has eulogised his patron Ganga emperor Narasimhadev I (1238—64). The bravery and heroism of the king Narasimha have been impressively described in several verses of this work.

The Sandhivigraha Mahapatra (Minister of peace and war) of the Ganga emperor Narasimha IV of Baranasi Katak (modern Cuttack), Krishnananda belongs to the later part of the 14th century. His work Sahrudayananda Mahakavyam is an imitation of Sri Harsa's Naisadhiya Charitam Mahakavyam.

Kaviraj Narayan Das of Kapinjala Gotra, the great great grandfather of the profound scholar Viswanath Kaviraj, Chandrasekhar Sandhivigraha Mahapatra, the father of Viswanath Kaviraj and Viswanath Kaviraj himself (all belonging to Puri district) were associated with different rulers of Ganga dynasty. They were all well-known Sanskrit scholars. Narayan Das wrote Sarvangasundari Tika on Sri Gitagovindam whereas Chandrasekhar Sandhivigraha Mahapatra wrote Basarava and Puspamila and Viswanath Kaviraj was famous for his work Sahitya Darpan.

As stated earlier, Gajapati Kapilendradev of early 15th century is the author of one-act drama named Parasuram Vijaya. His son Gajapati Purusottamdev of mid-15th century wrote Mukti Chintamani, Gopalarchana Padhati, Namamalika, Avinava Gitagobindam, Ananda Vilasa, Dasagrivabadha, Janaki Pramoda, Kuvalayasva Charitam and Avinava Venisanharam. His son Gajapati Prataparudra is the author of Saraswati Vilasa, Pratapamarttanda or Proudha Pratapamarttanda, Nirnaya Sangraha and Kautuka Chintamani.

Kavichandra Acharya Dibakar Mishra was born in a family noted for their scholarship and poetic talent. He is credited with the authorship of Bharatamruta Mahakavyam, Dhruta Charitam Bhana, Devi Satakam, Parijata Haran Natakam. It is believed that Avinava Gitagovindam was written by him under the patronage of Gajapati Purusottamdev and as a token of gratitude, the authorship of the work ascribed to his royal patron. Dibakar Mishra migrated to the court of Krishnadev Ray of Vijaynagar and continued his literary career there after the death of Prataparudradev. The other court poets of Prataparudradev were Kavindra Markandeya and Kavidindima Jivadeva Acharya. Jivadev wrote Bhakti Bagabata Mahakavyam which is a gem in Sanskrit literature whereas Kavindra Markandeya was the author of the Dasagrivavadha Mahakavyam.

Apart from literature, other branches of Sanskrit studies like Jyotisha, Ayurveda, Darshan, Tantra, etc. also were equally developed under the patronage of the benevolent Gajapati Prataparudra. There was unforeseen and unprecedented development of Oriya literature during his regime.

The reign of Prataparudra may aptly be termed as a period of renaissance in the history of Orissa due to tremendous development of both Sanskrit and Oriya literature.*

Krishna Dasa Badajena Mahapatra was a poet of the court of Gajapati Mukundadeva (1550-1568 A. D.), the last independent ruler of Orissa. He is the author of the work *Gitaprakasha*. The importance of this work is that the author while explaining various metres in this work has given examples, stanzas from different poems in Sanskrit, Oriya and Hindi (Brajaboli), mostly composed by himself, which give the impression that he was also a master in above three languages. The work has ample materials for scholars engaged in research on the development of music in the Oriya and Brajaboli literature. With Krishna Dasa almost closes the glorious period of Sanskrit literature in Orissa, which came under the devastating Muslim sway after the death of his patron Gajapati Mukundadeva in 1568 A. D.

Kavibhusan Govinda Samantaraya, a Sanskrit scholar and author of *Surisarvasvam* and *Samrudha Madhav Natakam*, flourished in the estate of Banki in the middle of 18th century. He was a staunch follower of the Goudiya School of Vaishnavism.

Kavichandra Kamalalochan Khadgaraya, a famous poet of later part of 18th century, was the grandson of Kavibhusan Govinda Samantaraya. The descendants of this scholar are still living in the village Pathapur under Banki police-station. His works include *Bhavalila Chintamani*, *Sangita Chintamani*, *Gitamukunda* and *Vrajayuvavilasa*.

After occupation of Orissa by British, names of two Sanskrit scholars of Orissa need mention. Bhubaneswar Misra Badapanda, an inhabitant of ex-state of Tigiria, was the author of some works, of which *Ananda Damodar Champu* has been published. The other poet, Kavichandra Bhubaneswar Rath belonged to the ex-state of Athagarh. He wrote *Rukmini Parinaya Mahakavyam*.

ORIIA LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Oriya, the language spoken by majority of the population, is a language of Sanskrit origin. It is believed that the language of Dravidian and Tribal origin was prevalent in different parts of the region before the advent of Ashoka. The conquest of Kalinga by

* Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts of Orissa (Kavya-Alankar-Sangeeta)—Volume II.

Ashoka in 261 B. C. brought in its wake a form of language called Prachy Prakrit (a derivative of Sanskrit) as a result of which the Aryan influence over the local language predominated and the Dravidian influence receded to the background. Thus, Pali and Prakrit entered into Kalinga and a language of Sanskrit origin started to be spread in this land.

The Chedis, who ruled over Kalinga after the extinction of Magadhan dominance, were of the northern origin and they spoke and patronized a language of Sanskrit origin. The later dynasties who ruled over Orissa from 4th century A. D. used Sanskrit instead of Prakrit as their official language. The revival of Hinduism and of Sanskrit and the mighty change that took place in northern India in the field of culture and religion during the Gupta period had its repercussion on Orissa also. As K. C. Panigrahi put it, "The use of Sanskrit as the official language and also as the language of books must have influenced the local language which gradually became more Sanskritic in their origin and vocabulary".

Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali were never the spoken language of Orissa but the Orissan people adopted a language derived from all of them and it must have taken centuries to evolve a language of its own which became Sanskritic in origin. Up to the ninth-tenth century A. D. Orissa consisted of three political and cultural units known as Kosala, Utkala and Kongoda. These three units were united under one rule by the Somavamsis. This change fostered the growth of a common language in Orissa, the language of the coastal strip, the land of Odras predominating in it.

The Ganga period provides us with a number of specimens of the Oriya language from the stone and copper plate inscriptions. These specimens of Oriya language show the examples of a language used in documents but do not produce any evidence of the presence of a literary language in Orissa. The folk-songs, which existed in pre-Ganga and Ganga period indicate about the early form of the Oriya language and literature and give the evidence that it had closeness to the early Bengali and Assamese language. The Khanabachana, an ancient form of folk-song which also contains some Bengali words is supposed to be the earliest form of Oriya literature.

Though Oriya literature existed in oral form from a very early date, the origin of the regular written literature can be traced from the first part of the fifteenth century A. D.

The claim that esoteric songs of Buddhist origin known as Baudha Gan O Doha or Charyagiti ascribed to 9th century as specimen of proto-Oriya literature is subject to controversy. The Bengalis, the Maithilis, the Assamese, the Magadhis and the Bhojpuris also claim these songs as the specimens of their proto-literature. Some works and expressions for these languages can be traced in the Charyagitis of the Buddhist Sahajies. The possible explanation for this phenomenon is that the spoken language of the eastern region in those days was the common stock language, Ardha-Magadhi. According to Dr. Satyanarayan Rajguru, from medieval times the Charya songs were being composed in eastern India through Ardha-Magadhi in their local variations.*

Oriya literature took a concrete shape in the 15th century with Sarala Das's Mahabharata and was further enriched by the writings of the saint-poets of the 16th century known as the Panchasakhas : Jagannath Das, Balaram Das, Jasobanta Das, Ananta Das and Achyutananda Das.

"A few poems, notably Vatsa Dasa's 'Kalasa Chautisa' and Markanda Das's Kesava Koili, have been assigned to the pre-Sarala period, though the arguments advanced in favour of their date have yet been far from conclusive. A large prose work known as Rudra Sudhanidhi by Narayananda Abadhuta Swami is assigned to the pre-Sarala period by some scholars, but its editor Dr. K. K. Kar, after a discussion of its internal evidences, has assigned it to the post-Sarala period. Another very small work known as Sisudeva is also sometimes taken to be a pre-Sarala composition, but Dr. Natabar Samantaray has conclusively shown that it is a later Oriya translation of a Hindi work. Considering all these facts a conclusion becomes unavoidable that Sarala Das was the originator of the Oriya literature".**

Since British occupation of Orissa, the city of Cuttack has remained the habitat of the Oriya writers and poets, most of whom from within and outside the district have made the city of Cuttack as

* Dr. Satyanarayan Rajguru, Odisar Itihas, p. 48.

** Dr. Krushna Chandra Panigrahi, History of Orissa, pp. 289-290.

their second home to establish themselves in Oriya literature. However, a brief account of the works of some noted Oriya poets and writers born in the district is given below:

Ray Ramananda (1533 A. D.)

Ray Ramananda was born in Ramai Anandakola village near Jajpur and had written Jagannath Ballava Natak, a drama in Sanskrit, various poems in Bangali, Krushna Lila and some other poems in Brajaboli. He also wrote in Oriya which are not traceable now. According to some, Ray was born at Bentpur in Brahmagiri police-station of Puri district.

Achyutananda Das (A.D. 1497—1533) (Some scholars assign him to the 18th century.)

Born in village Tilakana near Nembala of Cuttack district, Achyutananda Das is one among the 'Panchasakhas'. He wrote Sunya Samhita (ଶୂନ୍ୟ ସମ୍ବିତ୍), Khila Harivamsa (ଖିଳ ହରିବଂଶ), Chhayalish Patala (ଛାୟାଲିଶ ପଟାଳ), Agata Bhabisya Malika (ଅଗତ ଭବିଷ୍ୟ ମାଳିକା), Kaibarta Gita (କୈବର୍ତ୍ତ ଗୀତା), Gopalanka Ogala (ଗୋପାଳଙ୍କ ଓଗାଳ), Gupta Bhagabat (ଗୁପ୍ତ ଭଗବତ), Gurubhakti Gita (ଗୁରୁଭକ୍ତି ଗୀତା), Brahma Sankholi (ବ୍ରହ୍ମ ଶଂଖୋଳି), Bhabisya Purana (ଭବିଷ୍ୟ ପୁରାଣ), Baramasi Gita (ବାରମାସୀ ଗୀତା), Sapta Bhagabata (ସପ୍ତ ଭଗବତ) and many Chaupadi, Chautisha, Janana and Malika. Besides these, he had also written many devotional songs in different poetic metres.

Sarala Das (15th century A. D.)

Sarala Das, a poet of the 15th century, was the real originator of the Oriya literature. He was a contemporary of Kapilendradeva (A. D. 1435 to 1467), the famous Gajapati king of Orissa. His Mahabharata (ମହାଭାରତ) is a landmark in Oriya literature. Sarala Das's work formed a perennial source of inspiration to the succeeding generation of poets and writers. Chandi Purana (ଚଣ୍ଡୀ ପୁରାଣ) and Bilanka Ramayan (ବିଲଙ୍କା ରାମାୟଣ) are two of his other major works.

Jasobanta Das (1487/91 A. D.) (Some scholars assign him to the 18th century.)

Born in Adhanga village of Cuttack district, Jasobanta Das was an eminent writer of Oriya literature and had works like Siva Swarodaya (ଶିବ ସ୍ୱରୋଦୟ), Prema Bhakti Brahmagita (ପ୍ରେମ ଭକ୍ତି ବ୍ରହ୍ମଗୀତା), Atma Parache Gita (ଆତ୍ମା ପରଚେ ଗୀତା), Govinda Chandra (ଗୋବିନ୍ଦ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର), Malikas and various devotional songs to his credit. He was one among the saint-poets known as "Panchasakhas."

Dibakara Das (17th century)

Born in Thengana village of Cuttack district, Dibakara Das wrote Jagannath Charitamruta (ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଚରିତାମୃତ) and Ekadashi Mahatmya (ଏକାଦଶୀ ମହାତ୍ମ୍ୟା).

Dwaraka Das (1656—1739 A. D.)

Dwaraka Das was born in Dhulisara village of Cuttack district and was a contemporary of Gajapati Mukundadeva and Balarama Das. Premarasa Chandrika (ପ୍ରେମରସ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରିକା), Tatwa Chudamani (ତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ଚୁଡ଼ାମଣି), Bhakti Rasamruta (ଭକ୍ତି ରସାମୃତ), Sansara Bodha Chautisa (ସଂସାର ବୋଧ ଚଉତିଶା), Gita Tatwa Bhagabata (ଗୀତା ତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ଭଗବତ), Govinda Gita (ଗୋବିନ୍ଦ ଗୀତା), Saiba Purana (ଶୈବ ପୁରାଣ), Gundicha Keli (ଗୁଣ୍ଡିଚା କେଳି) are some of his major works.

Kamalalochana Khadgaraya (18th century)

Kamalalochana Khadgaraya was born at Banki of Cuttack district and had written Gita Mukunda (ଗୀତ ମୁକୁନ୍ଦ), Sangita Chintamani (ସଙ୍ଗୀତ ଚିନ୍ତାମଣି) Brajajuba Bilasa (ବ୍ରଜଯୁବ ବିଳାସ) and Bhagabat Leela (ଭଗବତ ଲୀଳା).

Sadhu Sundara Das (1720—1838 A. D.)

Sadhu Sundara Das was born in Kumarpur village in Athagarh subdivision of Cuttack district. He had the rare distinction of editing and circulating a handwritten magazine named Kujibara Patra (କୁଜିବର ପତ୍ର) which is said to be the first ever Oriya magazine published.

Padmanabha Srichandan (A. D. 1735—1757)

Padmanabha Srichandan was the ruler of Banki and was a scholar of repute. He has written Kavyas like Sashirekha (ସଶିରେଖା), Ichhabati (ଇଚ୍ଛାବତୀ) and Chaupadis. His *kavya* Sashirekha was published by Prachi Samiti.

Abhimanyu Samantasinghara (A. D. 1757—1806)

Abhimanyu Samantasinghara was born in Balia of Cuttack district and is a major Oriya poet of the 18th century A. D. Bidagdha Chintamani (ବିଦଗ୍ଧ ଚିନ୍ତାମଣି), Prema Tarangini (ପ୍ରେମ ତରଙ୍ଗିଣୀ), Preeti Chintamani

(ସାବି ବିଭାମଣି), Rasabati (ରସବତୀ), Sulakshana (ସୁଲକ୍ଷଣା), Bagha Gita (ବାଘ ଗୀତ), Chadhei Gita (ଚଢ଼େଇ ଗୀତ), Prema Kala (ପ୍ରେମ କଳା) are some of his major works. The Bidagdha Chintamani is considered to be his magnum opus. It is a devotional and scholarly work of rare distinction expressing Vaishnavite devotional fervour of the poet with unique lyrical grace.

Hadi Das (A. D. 1772–1837)

Born in village Champapur near Chhatia in Cuttack district, Hadi Das is the author of various devotional songs, *Janana* and *Chautisa*. A collection of his works, Hadi Das Granthabali (ହାଡ଼ିଦାସ ଗ୍ରନ୍ଥାବଳୀ) has been published.

Brajabihari Srichandan (A. D. 1786—1813)

Brajabihari Srichandan was the ruler of Banki. He is the author of Nishamani Chautisa (ନିଶାମଣି ଚଉତିଶା). Besides, he has written many *kavyas* and poems.

Jadunath Singh (19th Century A. D.)

Jadunath Singh was the ruler of Aul (Aali) and belonged to last quarter of 19th century. He was a prominent poet and some of his poetic works are Sangeeta Chudamani (ସଙ୍ଗୀତ ଚୁଡ଼ାମଣି), Prema Sagara Champu (ପ୍ରେମସାଗର ଚମ୍ପୁ) and Chaturi Chautisa (ଚତୁରୀ ଚଉତିଶା).

Pandit Bhubaneshwar Badapanda

Pandit Bhubaneshwar Badapanda was born in Tigiria and is the author of Niti Sara (ନୀତି ସାର), Alankara Chandrika (ଅଳଙ୍କାର ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରିକା), both written in Oriya.

Bichitranda Das (A. D. 1828—1875)

Born in Kantabania village in Cuttack district, Bichitranda Das was a Sirastadar in the office of the Commissioner of Cuttack, Mr. T. E. R. Ravenshaw and a spokesman of Oriya language and literature. He is the author of Durviksha Kalantaka Jatibhramsa Bisaya (ଦୁର୍ଭିକ୍ଷ କାଳାନ୍ତକ ଜାତିଭ୍ରମ୍ମଣ ବିଷୟ) and Krusi Bigyana (କୃଷି ବିଜ୍ଞାନ).

Bichhanda Patnaik (A. D. 1828—1878)

Bichhanda Patnaik was born in Kantabania village of Jajpur and was a prominent literary activist of Orissa. He was the author of text books like Bhugola Sutra (ଭୂଗୋଳ ସୂତ୍ର), Charupatha (ସ୍ଵରୂପାଠ),

Utkala Byakarana Sankshepa (ଉତ୍କଳ ବ୍ୟାକରଣ ସଂକ୍ଷେପ) and Oriya translation of literary works like **Kadambari** (କାଦମ୍ବରୀ), **Bodhodaya** (ବୋଧଦୟ), **Raghuvamsa** (ରଘୁବଂଶ) and **Sita Banabasa** (ସୀତା ବନବାସ).

Gourishankar Ray (A. D. 1838—1917)

Gourishankar Ray was born in a village called Dikhitapada in the district of Cuttack. He was the founder of the Cuttack Printing Company and published 'Utkal Dipeeka', the first printed Oriya newspaper to safeguard the interest of the Oriyas and to develop Oriya language and literature. He was a lover of drama and music and was active in its promotion. He compiled and published **Satika Baidehisa Bilasa** (ସତୀକ ବୈଦେହୀଶ ବିଳାସ) and other works of poet Upendra Bhanja. He also published the Oriya Panjika of Samanta Chandrasekhar.

Jagamohan Lala (A. D. 1838—1913)

Jagamohan Lala was born in 1838 in Mahanga. He is the author of the first Oriya drama, **Babaji** (ବାବାଜୀ). **Odisa Bijaya** (ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଜୟ), **Sati** (ସତୀ), **Bhrama Bhanjana** (ଭ୍ରମ ଭଞ୍ଜନ) and **Preeti** (ପ୍ରେତି) are some of his other works.

Madhusudan Das (A. D. 1848—1934)

Madhusudan Das (Utkala Gourav), born at Satyabhamapur of Cuttack district, is the father of modern Orissan renaissance. He edited some English periodicals and wrote some excellent patriotic songs in Oriya which were collected and published by the Mukura Press at Cuttack.

Govinda Ratha (A. D. 1848—1919)

Born in Padmanabhapur, Banki, Govinda Ratha was one of the founders of the Utkal Sammilani. He has written about 200 books which include **Kataka Darshana** (କଟକ ଦର୍ଶନ), **Lat Darshana** (ଲଟ ଦର୍ଶନ), **Ghoda Dimba** (ଘୋଡ଼ା ଦିମ୍ବା), **Mahamela-Darshana** (ମହାମେଳା ଦର୍ଶନ), **Future Saheb** (ଫିଉଚର ସାହେବ), **Pancharatna** (ପଞ୍ଚରତ୍ନ), **Kalikata Barnana** (କଳିକତା ବର୍ଣ୍ଣନା), **Kabita Bilapa** (କବିତା ବିଳାପ), **Sloka Ratnabali** (ଶ୍ଳୋକ ରତ୍ନବାଳୀ) and some text books.

Ramashankar Ray (A. D. 1858—1937)

Ramashankar Ray was born at Cuttack and was a pioneer novelist and dramatist in Oriya. His novels or historical romance are Soudamini (ସୌଦାମିନୀ-1882), Bibasini (ବିବାସିନୀ-1891), Banabala (ବନବାଳା-1882) and Prematari (ପ୍ରେମତରୀ-1878). Kanchi Kaberi (କାଞ୍ଚିକାବେରୀ-1881), Bisamodak (ବିଷମୋଦକ-1900), Budha Bara (ବୁଢ଼ାବର-1892), Kalikala (କଳିକାଳ-1883), Kanchanamala (କାଞ୍ଚନମାଳା-1904), Lilabati (ଲିଳାବତୀ-1912), Biswajagyan (ବିଶ୍ଵଯଜ୍ଞ-1916) and Ramabhiseka (ରାମାଭିଷେକ-1917) are some of the dramas he wrote. He had also translated Rigveda Samhita, Ishopanishad and Bhagabat Gita.

Gopalaballava Das (A. D. 1860—1914)

Gopalaballava Das was born at Satyabhamapur, Cuttack and is the younger brother of Utkal Gourav Madhusudan Das and father of a prominent freedom fighter and social worker, Rama Devi. He is the writer of Bhima Bhuyan (ଭୀମା ଭୂୟାଁ-1908) a novel and Kabita Manjari (କବିତା ମଞ୍ଜରୀ), a collection of poems.

Sadhu Charan Ray (A. D. 1860—1898)

Sadhu Charan Ray was born in Jajpur subdivision. His works include Bhaba Kusuma (ଭବା କୁସୁମ), Bhabana (ଭବନା), Dhruba Charita (ଧ୍ରୁବ ଚରିତ) and Priti Kusuma (ପ୍ରିତି କୁସୁମ). He was part-time editor of different literary magazines. He joined Brahmo Movement in Orissa.

Biswanath Kar (A. D. 1864—1934)

Born at Mulabasanta village of Cuttack district, Viswanath Kar was an editor and essayist of repute. The Bibidha Prabandha (ବିବିଧ ପ୍ରବନ୍ଧ), a collection of essays, is his great contribution to Oriya literature. He started Utkal Sahitya Press and was the distinguished editor of Utkal Sahitya, a monthly literary magazine, which brought to light many literary talents of Orissa. Brahmadharma Tattwa (ବ୍ରାହ୍ମଧର୍ମ ତତ୍ତ୍ଵ) is another work of him.

Nilamani Bidyaratna (A. D. 1867—1924)

Nilamani Bidyaratna was born in Banki in Cuttack district and took active part in the activities of Utkal Sammilani. He was an eminent journalist and edited 'Prajabandhu' which was published from Rambha, 'Hiteisini' published from Bamanda; 'Ganjam Guna

Darpan' from Badakhmundi and Utkal Dipika at different times. He wrote Odia Kabi O' Kavya (ଓଡ଼ିଆ କବି ଓ କାବ୍ୟ) and Niti Paraga (ନୀତି ପରାଗ). He was a versatile writer and was one of the leaders of Orissan renaissance.

Uzir Beg (A. D. 1869—1937)

Born in village Baruan near Haripur of Jajpur subdivision (Cuttack district), Uzir Beg was the author of poetic dramas like Nandotsaba Gitabhinaya (ନନ୍ଦୋତ୍ସବ ଗୀତାଭିନୟ) Jarasandha Badha (ଜରାସନ୍ଧ ବଧ), Babrubahana Yuddha (ବାବ୍ରବାହନ ଯୁଦ୍ଧ) and Sitabanabasa (ସୀତା ବନବାସ).

Gopal Chandra Praharaj (A. D. 1872—1945)

Gopal Chandra Praharaj, born in Sidheswarpur village of Cuttack district, was a writer of humour and satire, lexicographer and an educationist. He is the author of popular works like Utkal Kahani (ଉତ୍କଳ କାହାଣୀ), Bhagabata Tungire Sandhya (ଭଗବତ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରୀରେ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା), Bai Mahanti Panji (ବାଇ ମହାନ୍ତି ପଞ୍ଜି) and Dho Re Baya Dho (ଧୋ'ରେ ବାୟା ଧୋ). Besides, Dunianra Halchaal (ଦୁନିଆଁର ହାଲଚାଲ), Nananka Bastani (ନନାଙ୍କ ବସ୍ତାନି), Swapnare Rajajoga (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନରେ ରାଜଯୋଗ) are some of his other works of social satire with an undertone of humour. The Purnachandra Odiya Bhasakosa (ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାକୋଷ) is his magnum opus.

Nandakishore Bal (A. D. 1875—1928)

Born in village Kusupur in Cuttack district, Nandakishore Bal was an eminent poet and writer. For his lively delineation of Orissa's rural life he is popularly known as Pallikavi. He is the author of Nanabaya Gita (ନାନାବାୟା ଗୀତ), Palli Chitra (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ଚିତ୍ର), Krushna Kumari (କୃଷ୍ଣ କୁମାରୀ), Charuchitra (ଚାରୁଚିତ୍ର), Tarangini (ତରଙ୍ଗିଣୀ), Janmabhumi (ଜନ୍ମଭୂମି), Nirmalya (ନିର୍ମାଲ୍ୟ), Sita Banabasa (ସୀତା ବନବାସ), Sandhya Sangita (ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ସଙ୍ଗୀତ), Prabhat Sangita (ପ୍ରଭାତ ସଙ୍ଗୀତ), Sarmistha (ସର୍ମିଷ୍ଠା) and Nirjharini (ନିର୍ଜରିଣୀ). His Kavyas Sarmistha and Krushna Kumari have a high place in Oriya literature. His only novel, Kanakalata (କନକଲତା) became extremely popular. He was also a literary critic and essayist of repute.

Kamapala Mishra (A. D. 1875—1927)

Kamapala Mishra of Jajpur, Cuttack is the author of the drama, 'Sita Bibaha' (ସୀତା ବିବାହ), which was made into the first Oriya feature film. He is also the writer of dramas like Basanta Latika (ବସନ୍ତ ଲତିକା) and Harischandra (ହରିଷ୍ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର) and poetical works like Ambika (ଅମ୍ବିକା) and Apurba Swapna (ଅପୂର୍ବ ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ).

Reba Ray (A. D. 1876—1957)

Born in Cuttack, Reba Ray was an essayist and edited the magazine 'Anjali'. Kabita Sangraha (କବିତା ସଂଗ୍ରହ) is a collection of her poems. She was a pioneer of women education in Orissa.

Gopal Das (A. D. 1877—1939)

Gopal Das, Chaudakulata, Cuttack has written a number of poetic dramas like Kanchi Bijaya (କାଞ୍ଚି ବିଜୟ), Janu Bhanga (ଜାନୁଭଙ୍ଗ), Dushmanta (ଦୁଷ୍ମନ୍ତ) and Karna Badha (କର୍ଣ୍ଣବଧ).

Braja Sundar Das (A. D. 1880—1944)

Braja Sundar Das was born in Cuttack and was the founder of Mukura Press and editor of the magazine 'Mukura'. He was a litterateur and a patron of literature. He wrote some poems which were published in Mukura. Later, his poems were collected and published under the title 'Brajasundar Smarak'. He also published a number of books in his printing press.

Bhikari Charan Patnaik (A. D. 1878—1962)

Born in Huda Sahi, Cuttack, Bhikari Charan Patnaik was the writer of some social and historical dramas like Sansara Chitra (ସଂସାର ଚିତ୍ର), Raja Purushottama (ରାଜା ପୁରୁଷୋତ୍ତମ), Kataka Bijaya (କଟକ ବିଜୟ), Bhot Bhikari (ଭେଟ ଭିକାରୀ), Karana Saantanka Dhama (କରଣ ସାନ୍ତକ ଦିନ), Ratnamali (ରତ୍ନମାଳୀ), Susila (ସୁଶୀଳା), Joutuka (ଯୌତୁକ), Nirupama (ନିରୁପମା), Adbhuta Adarsha (ଅଦ୍ଭୁତ ଆଦର୍ଶ). He also wrote the drama Nandikeswari (ନନ୍ଦିକେଶ୍ଵରୀ), based on the story of a Kavya of the same name by Kavibar Radhanath Ray.

Baishnaba Pani (A. D. 1882—1956)

Born in Kothapada, Cuttack, Baishnaba Pani was a versatile poet and dramatist. He is the author of more than two hundred dramas, poetic dramas (Geetinatya) and farcial compositions which were extremely popular all over Orissa and outside and can aptly be called the 'Shakespear' of Oriya drama. Meghanada Badha (ମେଘନାଦ ବଧ) was his first poetic drama. He has also written many social and patriotic songs. His Geetinatyas are still popular in Orissa.

Bairagi Charan Mishra (A. D. 1883—1966)

Bairagi Charan Mishra of Cuttack was a social reformer and essayist. He translated Bhagbat Geeta into Oriya and is the author of many other books. He published a magazine called 'Biswakalyan' through which he pursued his reformist activities. A collection of his works, Granthabali (ଗ୍ରନ୍ଥାବଳୀ) has been published.

Balakrushna Kar (A. D. 1887—1957)

Born in Tirabindha, Cuttack, Balakrushna Kar was a journalist, dramatist, and essayist. He founded the Saraswata Press in 1937 and published the bi-weekly 'Matrubhumi' in 1947 which was converted to a weekly in 1950 and to a daily in 1951. He also edited Sahakar (ସହକାର), a literary magazine of repute and Janha Mamun (ଜନ୍ମ ମାମୁଁ), a children's monthly. His dramas and children's literature are widely appreciated. Sishu Sankhali (ଶିଶୁ ସଂକ୍ଷାଳି), in two volumes, is one of his major contributions to Oriya literature. He, under the banner of 'Ananda Lahari Upanyasamala', encouraged Oriya novelists in publishing a number of novels. His works include Chandragupta (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରଗୁପ୍ତ), Siba Das (ଶିବ ଦାଶ), Fula Changudi (ଫୁଲ ଗୁଲୁଡ଼ି), Sishu Ramayana (ଶିଶୁ ରାମାୟଣ), Niti Manjari (ନୀତି ମଞ୍ଜରୀ), Se Desara Sati Charitamala (ସେ ଦେଶର ସତୀ ଚରିତମାଳା), Bira Charitamala (ବୀର ଚରିତମାଳା), Se Desara Purana Katha (ସେ ଦେଶର ପୁରାଣ କଥା), Saraswata Geeta (ସାରସ୍ୱତ ଗୀତା) and Saraswata Ramayana (ସାରସ୍ୱତ ରାମାୟଣ).

Artaballava Mohanty (A.D.1887—1963)

Artaballava Mohanty of Naganpur in Cuttack district was a renowned Sanskrit and Oriya scholar. He founded the Prachi Samiti and brought out critical editions of many ancient and medieval Oriya texts with exhaustive explanatory notes and scholarly introduction. He edited a selected portion of Madala Panji (ମାଦଳା ପଞ୍ଜି). He also compiled Prachina Gadya Padyadarsha (ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ଗଦ୍ୟ ପଦ୍ୟାଦର୍ଶ). A critical edition of Sarala Mahabharat was the last important work of his illustrious career. He also compiled a glossary of words and expressions in Oriya for administrative use.

Chandramani Das (1887—1948)

Poet Chandramani Das of Kumuda Jayapur, Cuttack district is known for his Dhamara (ଧାମର) *kavya* and translated from English the poetry called 'Deserted Village'.

Bipin Bihari Ray (1887—1975)

Born at Asureswar, Cuttack, Bipin Bihari Ray was a reputed philosopher and essayist. Prabandha Sopana (ପ୍ରବନ୍ଧ ସୋପାନ) and Samajika Prabandha (ସାମାଜିକ ପ୍ରବନ୍ଧ) are his two collections of essays.

Batakrushna Praharaj (A.D. 1889—1961)

Batakrushna Praharaj was born in the village Sidheswarpur of Cuttack district and is credited with a number of books like Ashru Bindu (ଅଶ୍ରୁ ବିନ୍ଦୁ), Matamatha (ମାତାମତା), Namaskara (ନମସ୍କାର), Ghanabarta (ଘନବାର୍ତ୍ତ), Kapilendra (କପିଳେନ୍ଦ୍ର) and Prahelika Sangraha (ପ୍ରହେଳିକା ସଂଗ୍ରହ).

Ratnakara Pati (A.D. 1889—1969)

Born in Biribati, Cuttack, Ratnakara Pati was Professor of Philosophy in Ravenshaw College, Cuttack and a reputed essayist. His essays were collected and published in Prabandha Prakasha (ପ୍ରବନ୍ଧ ପ୍ରକାଶ) in two volumes.

Pranakrushna Parija (1891—1978)

Professor Pranakrushna Parija, born in Ichhapur village in Balikuda P. S. of Cuttack district was an eminent educationist, able administrator, excellent writer of Oriya prose and a scientist of international repute. He wrote his autobiography in Oriya which provides interesting reading. His book entitled Orissa Past and Present was published by the Utkal University.

Chintamani Acharya (A.D. 1891—1957)

Chintamani Acharya of Puruna Hata Sasana in Cuttack district is a historian, essayist, lawyer and educationist. He wrote a number of books notable among them being Itihasa Prasanga (ଇତିହାସ ପ୍ରସଙ୍ଗ), Srikrushna (ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣ), Jagannath Das (ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଦାସ), Bhubaneshwar (ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର) and a novel, Saphala Swapna (ସଫଳ ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ). He translated Srimad Bhagabata into Oriya and wrote a number of articles on various topics.

Aswini Kumar Ghosh (A.D. 1892—1962)

Aswini Kumar Ghosh was born in Cuttack and is one of the pioneers of modern Oriya drama. He wrote about 25 dramas of which Bhisma (ଭୀଷ୍ମ), Seoji (ସେଓଜୀ), Savitri (ସାବିତ୍ରୀ), Kalapahada (କଳାପାହାଡ଼), Govinda Vidyadhara (ଗୋବିନ୍ଦ ବିଦ୍ୟାଧର), Irani (ଇରାନୀ), Konarka (କୋଣାର୍କ), Samaleswari (ସମାଲେଶ୍ୱରୀ), Utkal Gouraba (ଉତ୍କଳ ଗୌରବ), Dasia Bauri (ଦାସିଆ ବାଉରୀ),

Paikapua (ପାଈକ ପୁଅ), Taj Mahal (ତାଜମହଲ), Sri Mandir (ଶ୍ରୀ ମନ୍ଦିର), Bhanja Bhujang (ଭଞ୍ଜ ଭୂଞ୍ଜ), Raghu Arakhit (ରଘୁ ଅରକ୍ଷିତ), Hindu Ramani (ହିନ୍ଦୁ ରାମଣୀ), Master Babu (ମାଷ୍ଟର ବାବୁ) are famous. His dramas were staged by professional and amateur dramatic groups and were very popular. He was a novelist also and wrote Mukti (ମୁକ୍ତି), Budha Chacha (ବୁଢ଼ା ଚାଚା), Chanabala (ଚଣାବଳା), etc.

Birupakshya Kar (A.D. 1893—1968)

Born in Damaparha, Banki, Birupakshya Kar was a reputed lawyer at Jajpur. He is also one of the early historians of Orissa and took a keen interest in exploring the past glory of the land. Many of his historical essays were published in Utkala Sahitya and Satyabadi. Some of his essays have been collected and published.

Krushnaprasad Basu (A.D. 1894—1968)

Krushnaprasad Basu was born in Kuansarapur, Jajpur and wrote a number of dramas which include Mitha Mahura (ମିଠା ମହୁର), Sakuntala (ଶକୂନ୍ତଳା), Karagara (କରଗର), Krushnacharita (କୃଷ୍ଣଚରିତ), Bhuyanpidha (ଭୂୟାଁ ପାଡ଼), Hari Anweshana (ହରି ଅନ୍ୱେଷଣ), Babrubahana (ବବ୍ରୁବାହନ) and Harischandra (ହରିଷ୍ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର). He also wrote a large number of Khanda Kavyas and songs. His Akhadaghare Baithak (ଆଖଡ଼ାଘରେ ବୈଠକ) deals with various topics with subtle humour and satire which remind one of the prose style of Fakir Mohan Senapati and Gopal Chandra Praharaj.

Gopabandhu Choudhury (A.D. 1894—1958)

Gopabandhu Choudhury of Cuttack was a great political leader and social worker of Orissa who followed the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and the great Sarvodaya leader Binoba Bhawe. Gandhi O Utkal (ଗାନ୍ଧି ଓ ଉତ୍କଳ) and 'Chasi Mulia' (ଚାଷୀ ମୂଲିଆ) are his two poetical works. He also translated some works of Mahatma Gandhi like his autobiography "My Experiment with Truth", "Untouchability", "Geeta", etc. into Oriya.

Karunakara Kar (1895—1967)

Born in Mulabasanta, Cuttack, Professor Karunakara Kar was an erudite scholar in Oriya and Sanskrit. His thesis on 'Charyageeti' speaks of his original research and erudition. He is the author of books like Sahitya Darpana Tika (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଦର୍ପଣ ଟିକା), Sankaracharya, Buddhadeva, Chikitsa Kalpadruma (ଚିକିତ୍ସା କଳ୍ପଦ୍ରୁମ), Odia Sahitya Itihasa Samalochana (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଇତିହାସର ସମାଲୋଚନା), Ascharya Charjya Chaya (ଆଶ୍ଚର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଚର୍ଯ୍ୟା ଚୟା), etc. He edited Rudra Sudhanidhi (ରୁଦ୍ର ସୁଧାନିଧି).

Girijashankar Ray (born in 1896)

Girijashankar Ray of Cuttack was an eminent essayist and literary critic. He wrote several books like *Sahitya Sandarva* (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସନ୍ଦର୍ଭ), *Sarala Bhasatattwa* (ସରଳ ଭାଷାତତ୍ତ୍ୱ), *Rachana Bichara* (ରଚନା ବିଚାର) and *Oriya Natyakala* (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନାଟ୍ୟକଳା).

Padmasri Radhanath Rath (born in 1897)

Radhanath Rath, born at Radhanathpur in Athagarh subdivision of Cuttack district, is a journalist and essayist. He is the editor of the 'Samaj' and has written books both in Oriya and English. *Saibya* (ସୈବ୍ୟ) and *Utkalamani Gopabandhu* (ଉତ୍କଳମଣି ଗୋପବନ୍ଧୁ) are two of his major works. Besides, he has written the book entitled 'Freedom Movement in Orissa.'

Kalicharan Patnaik (1898—1978)

Born in Badambagada, Cuttack district, Kalicharan Patnaik was a great dramatist and music composer. He was an authority of Odissi dance and music and was instrumental in establishing 'Odissi' as one of the classical dances of India. He wrote a number of plays like *Girl School*, *Bhata* (ଭତା), *Raktamati* (ରକ୍ତମାତି), *Atibadi Jagannath Das* (ଅତିବଡ଼ି ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଦାସ), *Abhijan* (ଅଭିଜାନ), *Jaydev*, *Chakri* (ଚକ୍ରୀ), *Phata Bhuin* (ଫଟା ଭୂଇଁ), *Chumban* (ଚୁମ୍ବନ) and *Rakta Mandar* (ରକ୍ତ ମନ୍ଦାର). He has also written many poems and songs. His 'Orissa Theatres' brought a revolutionary change in the dramatic art of Orissa. His autobiography, *Kumbhara Chaka* (କୁମ୍ଭାର ଚକ) won him the Central Sahitya Akademi Award.

Lala Nagendra Kumar Ray (1898—1978)

Lala Nagendra Kumar Ray of Cuttack was an eminent dramatist and is the author of popular dramas like *Kalinga Vijaya* (କଳିଙ୍ଗ ବିଜୟ), *Sesha Swadhinata* (ଶେଷ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା), *Raghu Arakshita* (ରଘୁ ଅରକ୍ଷିତ), etc. His other works include *Bibidha Ratna Samgraha* (ବିବିଧ ରତ୍ନ ସମଗ୍ରହ) and translation of some Nobel prize winning books into Oriya.

Birakishore Das (1898—1977)

Popularly known as 'Jatiya Kavi', Birakishore Das was born in Punanga village of Cuttack district and was very famous during the time of freedom struggle for his patriotic songs. His patriotic songs, directed against the British rule, inspired thousands for which

he was imprisoned several times. Mohana Bansi (ମୋହନ ବଂଶୀ), Bidroha Bina (ବିଦ୍ରୋହ ବୀଣା), Ranabheri (ରଣ ଭେରୀ), Ranadunduvī (ରଣ ଦୁନ୍ଦୁଭି) and Ari Ferinahin Yuddha Sarinahin (ଅରି ଫେରିନାହିଁ ଯୁଦ୍ଧ ସରିନାହିଁ) are some of his popular song collections.

Rama Devi (1899 –1985)

Rama Devi, born in village Satyabhamapur of Cuttack district, was a great Gandhian leader and social worker of all-India repute. She along with her husband Gopabandhu Choudhuri had plunged into national struggle for Independence and had sacrificed their all for the national cause. Her autobiography 'Mo Nija Katha' (ମୋ ନିଜ କଥା) written in a simple and forceful style tells the story of the freedom struggle in Orissa in which she and her family were deeply involved.

Abadhuta Biswanatha Baba (End of 19th century to 1992)

Born near village Salepur, he is revered as a great exponent of the Mahima cult. He was a great Mahima Sanyasi and erudite scholar. His famous works are Mahimadharma Pratipadaka (ମହିମାଧର୍ମ ପ୍ରତିପାଦକ), Sadhu Giti (ସାଧୁ ଗୀତି), Mahimadharma Itihasa (ମହିମାଧର୍ମ ଇତିହାସ), Bhagabata Sara Satya Dharma (ଭଗବତ ସାର ସତ୍ୟ ଧର୍ମ), Tattwa Siromani (ତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ଶିରେମଣି), Gruhastashrama Subha Karma Bidhan (ଗୃହସ୍ଥାଶ୍ରମ ଶୁଭକର୍ମ ବିଧାନ), Chinmaya Brahma Gita (ଚିନ୍ମୟ ବ୍ରହ୍ମ ଗୀତା), Sarbaveda Vedantasara (ସର୍ବବେଦ ବେଦାନ୍ତସାର), Mahima Gadi Itihasa (ମହିମା ଗାଦି ଇତିହାସ), etc.

Balakrushna Mohanty (1900 --1910)

Balakrushna Mohanty, Palasola, Cuttack district was a writer of poetic dramas, famous among which are Kedar Gouri (କେଦାର ଗୌରୀ), Muchukund Moksha (ମୁଚୁକୁନ୍ଦ ମୋକ୍ଷା), Mohan Sundara (ମୋହନ ସୁନ୍ଦର), Sudama Daridryabhanjana (ସୁଦାମା ଦାରିଦ୍ର୍ୟ ଭଞ୍ଜନ), Amara Bilasa (ଅମର ବିଳାସ), Nirmalaprabha (ନିର୍ମଳ ପ୍ରଭା), etc. He has also some Suangs and farcical compositions to his credit.

Golaka Chandra Pradhan

Born at Gopalpur in Asureswar Pragana of Cuttack district, Golak Chandra Pradhan is an erudite scholar and poet. He wrote Kavyas following the medieval poetic tradition of Upendra Bhanja and others and excelled in this field. Indurekha (ଇନ୍ଦୁରେଖା), Satyabhama (ସତ୍ୟଭାମା) are his two famous *Kavyas* written in highly ornate style.

His other poetical works are Arjuna Dakshina (ଅର୍ଜୁନ ଦକ୍ଷିଣା), Sri Raghunath (ଶ୍ରୀ ରାଘୁନାଥ), Tulasi Vilasa (ତୁଳସୀ ବିଳାସ), Debakuta (ଦେବକୂଟ) and Yoga Darpana (ଯୋଗ ଦର୍ପଣ) .

Banambara Acharya

Born in Bentakara, Cuttack, Banambara Acharya was a research scholar, essayist and a compiler. Some of his important works are Rasakalpadruma (ରାସକଳ୍ପଦ୍ରୁମ), Sangita Muktabali (ସଙ୍ଗୀତ ମୁକ୍ତାବଳୀ), Bhanja Mahodaya (ଭଞ୍ଜ ମହୋଦୟ), Bhakti Binoda (ଭକ୍ତି ବିନୋଦ), Ashwa Shastra (ଅଶ୍ଵ ଶାସ୍ତ୍ର), Ambika Bilasa (ଅମ୍ବିକା ବିଳାସ), Rasa Muktabali (ରସ ମୁକ୍ତାବଳୀ), Baula Charita O' Ramagatha (ବୌଳା ଚରିତ ଓ ରାମଗାଥା), Sahrudayananda (ସହୃଦୟାନନ୍ଦ) and the translation of Bharata Natya Shastra (ଭରତ ନାଟ୍ୟ ଶାସ୍ତ୍ର) .

Sarat Chandra Mukharjee

Born in Nuagan, Cuttack, he is one of the Sabuja poets of Orissa. The Pancha Puspa (ପଞ୍ଚ ପୁଷ୍ପ) is a collection of his poems. Some of his poems were published in Sabuja Kavita (ସବୁଜ କବିତା), a collection published by Sabuja Sahitya Samiti.

Kartik Kumar Ghose

Kartik Kumar Ghose was born in Cuttack and is an eminent dramatist. He is one of the pioneers of modern Oriya drama and has written some popular dramas like Mir Kashim, Bira Abhimanyu, Ka Age Kahibi (କା' ଆଗେ କହିବି), So Dina Ratire (ସେ ଦିନ ରାତିରେ), Kapurusa (କାପୁରୁଷ), Apana Kuhanti (ଆପଣ କୁହନ୍ତୁ), Dhrtarastra O' Gandhari (ଧୃତରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ଓ ଗାନ୍ଧାରୀ), Pare Kahibi (ପରେ କହିବି), Bhagabata Tungi (ଭଗବତ ଟୁଙ୍ଗୀ) and Charitraheena (ଚରିତ୍ରହୀନ).

Upendra Tripathy

Upendra Tripathy was born in Dharmashala, Cuttack and is well-known for his children's literature. Ghanti Ghagudi (ଘଣ୍ଟି ଘାଗୁଡ଼ି), Gandhi Koili (ଗାନ୍ଧି କୋଇଲି), Dindima (ଡିଣ୍ଡିମ), Chanakya (ଚାଣକ୍ୟ), Usha (ଉଷା), Kasi Kakudi (କାଶି କାକୁଡ଼ି) and Hasa Changudi (ହସା ଚାଙ୍ଗୁଡ଼ି) are some of his poetical compositions meant for children.

Ratnakara Kar

Ratnakara Kar, born in village Mulabasanta in Cuttack district, is a poet of repute. Ananda Ramayana (ଆନନ୍ଦ ରାମାୟଣ), Kanakarekha (କନକରେଖା), Hemamanjari (ହେମ ମଞ୍ଜରୀ), Hemaprabha (ହେମପ୍ରଭା) are some of his poetic works. Besides, he has written a large number of devotional songs on Lord Jagannath. He was honoured by Orissa Sahitya Akademi.

Bhagaban Pati

Bhagaban Pati was born in Kendraparha and was associated with the compilation of Purna Chandra Odia Bhasakosa (ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାକୋଷ). He was a journalist by profession and was associated with several newspapers. He wrote as many as 30 books which include stories of the Sanskrit dramas. Malabika (ମାଳବିକା), Basantasesa (ବସନ୍ତ ସେନା), Mudra Rakshyasa (ମୁଦ୍ରା ରକ୍ଷସ), Ratnabali (ରତ୍ନବଳୀ) and Swapna Basabadatta (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ ବାସବଦତ୍ତା) and also Oriya prose, like Swadhinatara Kahani (ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତାର କାହାଣୀ) ।

Sarala Devi

Sarala Devi was a prominent litterateur, social worker and political activist who took a leading part in the freedom movement. She has written a number of books which include Sarala Mahabharatare Nari Charitra (ସାରଳା ମହାଭାରତରେ ନାରୀ ଚରିତ୍ର), Ray Ramananda, Bira Ramani (ବୀର ରାମଣୀ), Pancha Pradipa (ପଞ୍ଚ ପ୍ରଦୀପ), Maru Kahani (ମରୁ କାହାଣୀ), Utkala Bharati Kabi Pratibha (ଉତ୍କଳ ଭାରତୀ କବି ପ୍ରତିଭା), Rabindra Puja (ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ର ପୂଜା), Biswa Biplabini (ବିଶ୍ୱ ବିପ୍ଳବିନୀ), Sati Dharma (ସତୀ ଧର୍ମ), etc. She was one of the writers of the novel Basanti, combinedly written by some poets and writers of the Sabuja group.

Rama Prasad Singh

Born in Mahanga, Cuttack, Ramaprasad Singh was an eminent novelist and journalist and is credited with the authorship of novels like Pratihinsa (ପ୍ରତିହିଂସା), Agnipathe (ଅଗ୍ନିପଥେ), Pujara Bali (ପୂଜାର ବଳି), Marura Sathi (ମରୁର ସାଥୀ), Chhinnamasta (ଚ୍ଛିନ୍ନମସ୍ତା), Jugantara (ଯୁଗାନ୍ତର), Samapti (ସମାପ୍ତି), Homasikha (ହୋମଶିଖା) and Marichika (ମରିଚିକା).

Banamali Brahmachari

Banamali Brahmachari was born in the village Doholi of Cuttack district. His writings include Huke Ho (ହୁକେ ହୋ), Gunadarpana (ଗୁଣ ଦର୍ପଣ), Kie Kemiti (କିଏ କେମିତି), Charu Charitra (ଗୁରୁ ଚରିତ୍ର), Banara Manakatha (ବନର ମନକଥା), Charita O Charitra (ଚରିତ ଓ ଚରିତ୍ର) and his autobiography, Jane Sikshakara Nija Katha (ଜଣେ ଶିକ୍ଷକର ନିଜ କଥା).

Abhiram Paramahansa

Abhiram Paramahansa of Badamba, Cuttack is the author of many religious books, important among them are Bhakti Kallola (ଭକ୍ତି କଲ୍ଲୋଳ), Bhaba Kallola (ବବ କଲ୍ଲୋଳ), Bhajan Bhabamruta (ଭଜନ ଶବ୍ଦାମୃତ), Koili Siksha O' Tattwa Gyana (କୋଇଲି ଶିକ୍ଷା ଓ ତତ୍ତ୍ୱଜ୍ଞାନ), Krushna Koutuka Gita (କୃଷ୍ଣ କୌତୁକ ଗୀତା) and Sanatana Dharma Gita (ସନାତନ ଧର୍ମ ଗୀତା).

Baikunthanath Patnaik

Born in Badamba, Cuttack, Baikunthanath Patnaik was an eminent poet and was one of the founder members of the 'Sabuja Sahitya Samiti' which heralded the 'Sabuja Juga' in Oriya literature. His poetical works include Kabya Sanchayana (କାବ୍ୟ ସଂଗ୍ରହ), Uttarayana (ଉତ୍ତରାୟଣ), etc. He also wrote a drama called Mukti Pathe (ମୁକ୍ତିପଥେ). His works have been collected and published in two volumes by the Utkala Sahitya Samaj, Cuttack. He got the Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his poetry collection 'Uttarayana'.

Ramachandra Swain

Born in Gothina, near Jagatsinghapur of Cuttack district, Ramachandra Swain is a dramatist and has written many poetic dramas which include Susila Kumuda (ସୁଶିଳା କୁମୁଦ), Chandrakanta (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରକାନ୍ତ), Nalini Pramoda (ନଳିନୀ ପ୍ରମୋଦ), Mohana Bina (ମୋହନ ବୀଣା), Indra Kumar (ଇନ୍ଦ୍ର କୁମାର) and Ananga Prabha (ଅନଙ୍ଗ ପ୍ରଭା).

Udayanath Sarangi

Udayanath Sarangi was born in village Sipigrama in Cuttack district and is a poet and writer of children's literature. He has written poems and stories like Tuuku Musi (ତୁକୁକୁ ମୁଷି), Kutukutu (କୁତୁକୁତୁ), etc. for children and has translated the novel

Tamakakanka Kutira (ଟମକକ କୁଟିର), **Dampaty Kalahe Chaiba** (ଦାମତ୍ୟ କଳହେ ଚୈବ), a short story collection and his autobiography **Gandhi Maharajanka Sisya** (ଗାନ୍ଧୀ ମହାରାଜଙ୍କ ଶିଷ୍ୟ) are some of his other literary works.

Kanhu Charan Mohanty

Born at Nagabali, Cuttack, Kanhu Charan Mohanty was an eminent novelist and has written a large number of popular novels which include **Ka** (କା), **Bajrabahu** (ବଜ୍ରବାହୁ), **Sasti** (ଶାସ୍ତି), **Antaraya** (ଅନ୍ତରାୟ), **Uddandi** (ଉଦ୍ଦଣ୍ଡୀ), **Dunianra Dau** (ଦୁନିଆଁର ଦାଉ); **Epari Separi** (ଏପାରି ସେପାରି), **Adekha Hata** (ଅଦେଖା ହାତ), **Jhanja** (ଝଞ୍ଜା), **Sarbari** (ଶରବରୀ), **Mana Manthana** (ମନ ମନ୍ତନ), **Mayabartta** (ମାୟାବର୍ତ୍ତ), **Mamatara Maya** (ମମତାର ମାୟା), **Ha Anna** (ହା ଅନା), **Bali Raja** (ବାଲି ରାଜା), **Abhinetri** (ଅଭିନେତ୍ରୀ), **Tunda Baida** (ଟୁଣ୍ଡ ବାଇଦ), **Milanara Chhanda** (ମିଳନର ଛନ୍ଦ), etc.

Satyananda Behura

Born in village Bilipada of Jagatsingapur subdivision, Satyananda Behura is a novelist and has written **Smrutira Puja** (ସ୍ମୃତିର ପୂଜା), **Radhanathara Stree** (ରାଧାନାଥର ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ), **Subarna Puspa** (ସୁବର୍ଣ୍ଣ ପୁଷ୍ପ), **Dabi O' Dana** (ଦାବୀ ଓ ଦାନ), **Bhinne Ghara** (ଭିନ୍ନେ ଘର), **Jaya Vijaya** (ଜୟ ବିଜୟ), **Swarna Pradipa** (ସ୍ୱର୍ଣ୍ଣ ପ୍ରଦୀପ), **Shreemati Nayakanka Baithakakhana** (ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ନାୟକଙ୍କ ବୈଠକଖାନା), **Sabat Maa** (ସାବତ ମା), **Ashru Kana** (ଅଶ୍ରୁକଣା), **Nitai Das** (ନିତାଇ ଦାସ) and twelve other novels, besides **Katha Kaha** (କଥା କହ), for children.

Krushna Chandra Kar

Krushna Chandra Kar of Mulabasanta, Cuttack is a poet and lexicographer. He has written the biography of Bilwamangal and has translated **Hansaduta** and **Rutusamhara**. He has also written a **Khanda Kavya**, **Khandadhara** (ଖଣ୍ଡଧାର). He has contributed about 80 books which include dictionaries like **Taruna Sabdakosa** (ତରୁଣ ଶବ୍ଦକୋଷ) and English-Oriya dictionary. He was an associate in the preparation of **Purnachandra Odia Bhasakosa**.

Ramakrushna Nanda

Born in Bairoi village in Cuttack district, Ramakrushna Nanda is an essayist and a writer of children's literature. **Tulasi Das**, **Bishwa Parichaya** (ବିଶ୍ୱ ପରିଚୟ), **Don Kusti** (ଡନ କୁସ୍ତି), **Sangram**

O' Sadhana (ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଓ ସାଧନା) are some of his important works. Besides, he has also written his autobiography. He was the editor of a magazine, named 'The Sansar'.

Kamalakanta Das

Kamalakanta Das, born in village Raghunathpur in Cuttack district, was a novelist, a story writer and a biographer. His well-known novels are 'Bou' (ବୋଉ), Saradi Nani (ସରଦୀ ନାନୀ), Mana Chori (ମନ ଚୋରି), Bhauja Bou (ଭଉଜା ବୋଉ), Manisara Dabi (ମଣିସରା ଦାବୀ), Sahara Mafasala (ସହର ମଫସଲା), Madabhati (ମଦଭାତି), Bananira Nidra Bhanga (ବନାନୀର ନିଦ୍ରା ଭଙ୍ଗ), etc. He has also written seven volumes of stories and six biographies.

Manamohini Devi

Manamohini Devi, born in Cuttack, is a distinguished poetess. Jharana (ଝରଣା), Gitali (ଗୀତାଳୀ), Puspali (ପୁଷ୍ପାଳୀ), Arkabali (ଅର୍କାବଳୀ), Kumari Gitika (କୁମାରୀ ଗୀତିକା) are some of her collections of poetry. She has been honoured by the Orissa Sahitya Akademi.

Chakradhar Mohapatra

Born in the ex-state of Narasinghapur in Cuttack district, Chakradhar Mohapatra is a versatile writer and research scholar. He wrote popular novels like Gobara Gotej (ଗୋବରା ଗୋଟେଜ), Apurna Prema (ଅପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ପ୍ରେମ) and Balangi (ବାଲାଙ୍ଗୀ). Utkala Itihasara Agyanta Adhyaya (ଉତ୍କଳ ଇତିହାସର ଅଜ୍ଞାତ ଅଧ୍ୟାୟ) and The Real Birth Place of Buddha (written in English) are two of his research-oriented works. He is also one of the pioneers in the collection of Oriya folk-songs and has compiled Odia Gramya Geeti (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଗୀତି). His other important works are Kuntala Kumari (biography) and the critical edition of Jadumani Granthabali. In addition, he has written many essays, stories and poems.

Ghanashyam Mohanty

Born at Mallikapur village in Jajpur subdivision, Ghanashyam Mohanty is a poet and novelist. His poetical works are Biyoga Bina (ବିୟୋଗ ବୀଣା), Suna Bhauni Mora (ଶୁଣ ଭଉଣୀ ମୋର), Dasahara Bheti (ଦଶହରା ଭେଟି) and Uthare Uthare Odiya Paika (ଉଠେଉ ଉଠେଉ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପାଇକ). Dharama Jhia (ଧରମ ଝିଅ) in two parts is his popular novel.

Kunjabihari Tripathy

Born in village Pathuripada near Banki, Kunjabihari Tripathy is an eminent scholar, epigraphist and essayist. His learned works include Sanskruta Sahitya (ସଂସ୍କୃତ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), 1st and 2nd volume, Prachina Odia Abhilekha (ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଅଭିଳେଖ), Alankara Parichaya (ଅଳଙ୍କାର ପରିଚୟ), Odia Bhasa O' Lipira Krama Bikasha (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ଓ ଲିପିର ଛମ ବିକାଶ), Anchalika Sabdakosa (ଆଞ୍ଚଳିକ ଶବ୍ଦକୋଷ), and a translation of Dharmapada into Oriya.

Nabakishore Das

Nabakishore Das of Pallibihar, Cuttack is a distinguished poet, novelist and biographer. Mukula (ମୁକୁଳ) and Manjari (ମଞ୍ଜରୀ) are his two famous poetical works. He also wrote Utkal Gourab Madhusudan (biography) and novels like Atmara Jhada (ଅତ୍ମାର ଝଡ଼) . Biswabani (ବିଶ୍ୱବାଣୀ) is a collection of his learned essays.

Jayakrushna Mishra

Jayakrushna Mishra of Tigiria, Cuttack is an essayist and a poet. Some of his works are Ansupa (ଅଂଶୁପା), Malyagiri Kavya (ମାଲ୍ୟଗିରି କାବ୍ୟ), Upendra Bhanja Jibani (ଉପେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଭଞ୍ଜ ଜୀବନୀ), Manjula Mani Malini (ମଞ୍ଜୁଳାମଣି ମାଳିନୀ), etc.

Pranakrushna Samal

Born in Kalaanti, Cuttack, Pranakrushna Samal is a distinguished poet. Kasturika (କସ୍ତୁରିକା), Rajaparba (ରାଜପର୍ବ), Jyotsna (ଜ୍ୟୋତ୍ସ୍ନା) are his best known poetry collections. Nilakamal (ନିଳକମଳ), Sahajatrini (ସହଜାତ୍ରୀଣୀ) and Hatika Dant (ହାତିକା ଦାନ୍ତ) are his popular novels.

Gokulchandra Kar

Gokulchandra Kar was born in Cuttack and was a writer of children's literature. Mahabharata Katha (ମହାଭାରତ କଥା), Hari-vamsa Katha (ହରିବଂଶ କଥା), Romancha Kahanimala (ରୋମାଞ୍ଚ କାହାଣୀମାଳା) in seven volumes and a series of five books on Jaladasyu (ଜଳଦସ୍ୟୁ) are some of his popular works.

Binod Kanungo

Binod Kanungo, born at Mallipur in Cuttack district, was a freedom fighter, journalist, constructive worker and an encyclopaedist. He will be remembered for his monumental compilation work, the

'Jnanamandala' of which 42 volumes have been published so far. He built up an institution, viz., 'The Jnanamandal Foundation' which has now taken up the incomplete projects of his encyclopaedia.

Besides the encyclopaedia, he has written Bapuji's Padajatra in Orissa, Saptasila (ସପ୍ତଶିଳା), his autobiography titled Runa Parishodh (ରଣ ପରିଶୋଧ) and as many as 50 books on different topics for children.

Kabiprasad Mohapatra

Born in Pattamundai in Cuttack district, Kabi Prasad Mohapatra is a poet and dramatist. Sakhigopal (ସାକ୍ଷୀଗୋପାଳ) and Maara Daaka (ମାଆର ଡାକ) are his two dramas and his other works are Bikshipta (ବିକ୍ଷିପ୍ତା), Sandhya Smruti (ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ସ୍ମୃତି), Ekamra Jatra (ଏକମ୍ର ଯାତ୍ରା), Ajodhya Pathe (ଅଯୋଧ୍ୟା ପଥେ) and Anurakta (ଅନୁରକ୍ତ).

Surendranath Dwivedi

Born in Khandasahi, Cuttack, Surendranath Dwivedi wrote Mo Nija Kahani (ମୋ ନିଜ କାହାଣୀ), a translation of Jawaharlal Nehru's autobiography, Biswa Itihasa (Translation), Jayaprakashanka Jayajatra (ଜୟପ୍ରକାଶଙ୍କ ଜୟ ଯାତ୍ରା), August Biplaba (ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ବିପ୍ଳବ) and his autobiography—Mo Jiban Sangram (ମୋ ଜୀବନ ସଂଗ୍ରାମ).

Baikunthanath Brahmachari

Born in Tangi, Cuttack, Baikunthanath Brahmachari is the founder of the magazine 'Jalouka' and has some religious books like Bhajana Sataka (ଭଜନ ଶତକ), 1st and 2nd volume, Juga Dharma (ଯୁଗଧର୍ମ), Hitakatha (ହିତକଥା), Sarala Gitamruta (ସରଳ ଗୀତାମୃତ), Sarala Gitagobinda (ସରଳ ଗୀତଗୋବିନ୍ଦ) and Chhandasindhu (ଛାନ୍ଦ ସିନ୍ଧୁ) to his credit.

Pranabandhu Kar

Pranabandhu Kar was born at Damaparha in Cuttack district and is an eminent dramatist and story writer. He is credited with the authorship of highly successful dramatic works like Sweta Padma (ଶ୍ୱେତପଦ୍ମା), Ashanta (ଅଶାନ୍ତ), Dura Pahad (ଦୂର ପାହାଡ), etc. and has given dramatic shape to Fakir Mohan's novels : Mamun (ମାମୁ), and Chha Mana Atha Guntha (ଛମାଣ ଅଠଗୁଣ୍ଠ), and Kalindi Charan Panigrahi's Matira Manisha (ମାଟିର ମଣିଷ). His short stories are of a very high standard.

Gopinath Mohanty

Gopinath Mohanty was born at Nagabali in Cuttack district and is a celebrated Oriya novelist, short story writer and essayist. His deep study of Adivasi life has provided him with the unique opportunity of depicting their life in some of his novels with rare insight and broad human sympathy. He has evolved a unique prose style of his own. His famous novels are *Dadibudha* (ଦାଦିବୁଢ଼ା), *Paraja* (ପରଜା), *Amrutara Santana* (ଅମୃତର ସତାନ), *Danapani* (ଦାନାପାଣି), *Rahura Chhaya* (ରାହୁର ଛାୟା), *Mati Matala* (ମାଟି ମଟାଳ), *Anala Nala* (ଅନଳ ନଳ) and *Mana Gahirara Chasa* (ମନଗହୀରର ଚଷା). Some of his story collections are *Naba Badhu* (ନବ ବଧୂ), *Chhai Alua* (ଛାଇ ଆଲୁଆ), *Ghasara Fula* (ଘାସର ଫୁଲ) and *Poda Kapala* (ପୋଡ଼ା କପାଳ). He also wrote biography, essays and books on Adivasi life and culture like *Kubhikandha Bhasatattwa* (କୁବ୍ଧିକନ୍ଧା ବ୍ଧାତତ୍ତ୍ୱ), *Gadaba Bhasa* (ଗଡ଼ବା ଭଷା) and *Kandhas Paraja Stotra O' Sangita* (କନ୍ଧ ପରଜା ଷ୍ଟୋତ୍ର ଓ ସଙ୍ଗୀତ). He was honoured with Central Sahitya Akademi and Jnanpitha awards. He is the younger brother of the famous novelist Kahnua Charan Mohanty.

Bamacharan Mitra (1915—1976)

Bamacharan Mitra is an eminent story writer and has to his credit story collections like *Bata Mahapurusa* (ବତା ମହାପୁରୁଷ), *Asima* (ଅସିମା), *Pasanara Prana* (ପାସନାର ପ୍ରାଣ), *Swapna Siddha* (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ ସିଦ୍ଧ), *Nara Chhanchana* (ନର ଛଚ୍ଚାଣ), *Kirtirajasya* (କୀର୍ତ୍ତିରାଜ୍ୟ), and *Enuscha Tenuscha* (ଏନୁସ୍କା ଡେନୁସ୍କା). *Chandra O' Champa* (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଓ ଚମ୍ପା) is a historical novel written by him.

Harapriya Devi

Harapriya Devi was born at Karilo village near Jagatsinghapur and is a well-known poetess. *Sarad* (ଶାରଦ), *Jagarani* (ଜାଗରଣୀ), *Malaya Kumari* (ମଳୟା କୁମାରୀ), *Kuhukakali* (କୁହୁକାକଳି) are some of her important poetic works. Besides, she has translated the *Bhagabat Gita* and Kalidasa's *Rutusamhara* into Oriya and has written many devotional songs.

Faturananda

Rama Chandra Mishra of Cuttack, better known as Faturananda is a comic and humorous writer and poet. His humorous and satirical stories have earned him immense popularity. *Bidusaka*

(ବିଦୁଷକ), Sahitya Beusana (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ବେଉଷଣ), Hasakura (ହସକୂର), Mangalabaria Sahitya Sansada (ମଙ୍ଗଳବାରୀଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସଂସଦ), Heresa (ହେରେସା) and Sahitya Chasa (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଗୃହ) are some of his well-known works. His Nakata Chitrakara (ନାକତା ଚିତ୍ରକର) is a highly enjoyable novel. His poetical works include Nilatha Kavi (ନିଳତା କବି) and Sahi Mahabharata (ସାହି ମହାଭାରତ).

Manamohan Choudhury

Manamohan Choudhury, Cuttack has written a number of books, important among them being Satyagrah (ସତ୍ୟାଗ୍ରହ), Europe Jatrira Diary (ଯୁରୋପ ଯାତ୍ରୀର ତାସରି), Hata Bazarara Brahmagyana (ହାତ ବଜାରର ବ୍ରହ୍ମଜ୍ଞାନ) and Ajira Sankata (ଅଜିର ସଙ୍କଟ). He is a social worker of repute and has translated some works of Binoba Bhave into Oriya.

Golak Chandra Mohanty

Born in Khannagar, Cuttack, Golak Chandra Mohanty is a dramatist and has written a number of plays among which Parajaya (ପରଜୟ), Shilpi (ଶିଳ୍ପୀ), Bhakta Kabira (ଭକ୍ତ କବୀର), Sesa Bichara (ସେଷ ବିଚାର), Sangram (ସଂଗ୍ରାମ), Mohan Banshi (ମୋହନ ବଂଶୀ) deserve mention.

Gopal Chandra Chhotray

Gopal Chandra Chhotray was born at Purunagada near Jagat-singhapur and is an eminent dramatist. He was given Central Sahitya Akademi award for his book Hasya Rasara Nataka (ହାସ୍ୟରସର ନାଟକ). He is the author of about 33 dramas among which Nasta Urvashi (ନଷ୍ଟ ଉର୍ବଶୀ), Nua Bou (ନୁଆ ବୋଉ), Sadhana (ସାଧନା), Bharasa (ଭରସା), Parakalam (ପରକଳମ), Sankha Sindura (ଶଙ୍ଖା ସିନ୍ଦୂର), Pheria (ଫେରିଆ) deserve special mention. Besides writing original plays, he has given dramatic form to novels like Jhanja (ଝଞ୍ଜା), Amadabata (ଅମଡାବତା), Malajanha (ମଲ୍ଲ ଜହ୍ନ), etc. and has written Sakha Prasakha (ଶାଖା ପ୍ରଶାଖା), a collection of nine short plays. He is also a popular writer of Geeti Natyas and has been instrumental in reviving the popularity of Baishnab Pani's Geeti Natya tradition.

Gyanindra Varma

Born in Kushupur village in Cuttack district, Gyanindra Varma is a noted poet, novelist and translator. *Eka Ratri* (ଏକ ରାତ୍ରି), *Uttarakranti* (ଉତ୍ତର କ୍ରାନ୍ତି), *Nila Bihanga* (ନୀଳ ବିହଙ୍ଗ), *Durbadala* (ଦୁର୍ଭାବଳ), *Kalarei Phula* (କଲରେଇ ଫୁଲ), *Bole Hun'ti* (ବୋଲେହୁଁତି) are some of his important works. *Elorara Chhayabithi* (ଏଲେରର ଛାୟା ବୀଥୀ) is one of his popular novels. He translated a collection of his works, some poems of Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot. *Gyanindra Granthabali* has also been published.

Rajkishore Patnaik

Rajkishore Patnaik, Cuttack is a novelist, short story writer and wrote *Panjuri Pakshi* (ପଞ୍ଜୁରୀ ପକ୍ଷୀ), *Premara Niyati* (ପ୍ରେମର ନିୟତି), *Sindura Gara* (ସିନ୍ଦୂର ଗାର), *Asaranti* (ଅସରନ୍ତି), *Tutha Pathara* (ତୁଥ ପଥର), *Hrudaya Bandhana* (ହୃଦୟ ବନ୍ଧନ), *Birahini* (ବିରହିଣୀ), *Sanjabati* (ସଞ୍ଜବତୀ), *Chalabata* (ଚଲବାତ), *Sakala Kuhudi* (ସକାଳ କୁହୁଡ଼ି), *Lekhaka O' Pathaka* (ଲେଖକ ଓ ପାଠକ), *Oriya Sahityara Aga Pachha* (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ଆଗ ପଛ) and many other books. Though one of the powerful pioneer novelists of Orissa, he has not yet been given his due recognition.

Rajanikanta Das

Rajanikanta Das, born at Tigiria in Cuttack district, is a poet, novelist, short story writer, critic and journalist. Some of his works are *Sangharsa* (ସଂଘର୍ଷ), *Raghu Mohanty* (ରଘୁ ମହାନ୍ତି), poetry, *Dipali Sangha* (ଦୀପାଳୀ ସଂଘ), short story, *Charitrahina* (ଚରିତ୍ର ହୀନା), *Matira Mukuta* (ମାଟିର ମୁକୁଟ) novel; a translation work named *Binsa Satabdira Preta* (ବିଂଶ ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ପ୍ରେତ), and *Jibanadharmi Sahityara Bhumika* (ଜୀବନଧର୍ମୀ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ଭୂମିକା), a literary criticism.

Balaram Mohanty

Born at Jagatsinghapur, Cuttack, Balaram Mohanty is the author of a number of books, important among them being *Biplabi* (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନାବଳୀ) (ବିପ୍ଳବୀ ସ୍ୱପ୍ନାବଳୀ), *August Biplab* (ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ବିପ୍ଳବ), *Jugajyoti Jawaharlal* (ଯୁଗଜ୍ୟୋତି ଜବାହରଲାଲ), ten volumes of *Gandhi Bichara Grantha Mala* (ଗାନ୍ଧୀ ବିଚାର ଗ୍ରନ୍ଥମାଳା), *Odissa Parichaya* (ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପରିଚୟ) and *Odissa Sasana* (ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଶାସନ).

Sarbeshwar Das

Sarbeshwar Das of Cuttack is an eminent essayist and critic. His important works are Bharatiya Siksha (ଭାରତୀୟ ଶିକ୍ଷା), Nataka Bichara (ନାଟକ ବିଚାର), Kavya Bichara (କାବ୍ୟ ବିଚାର), Sahitya Sandarshana (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସନ୍ଦର୍ଶନ), Yugasrasta Fakirmohan (ଯୁଗସ୍ରସ୍ତା ଫକୀରମୋହନ), Mahakavi Sarala Das (ମହାକବି ସାରଳା ଦାସ), Mahapurusa Jagannath Das (ମହାପୁରୁଷ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଦାସ), etc.

Chandramani Das

Chandramani Das, born at Cuttack, is one of the pioneer novelists of Orissa. Ama Deshara Gapa (ଆମ ଦେଶର ଗପ), Malika Jhia Gouri (ମଲିକା ଝିଅ ଗଉରୀ), Juara Bhatta (ଜୁଆର ଭଟ୍ଟା), Narabali (ନରବଳି) in four parts, Purnachheda (ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣଚ୍ଛେଦ), Pantha Nibas (ପାନ୍ଥାନିବାସ), Hyphen (ହାଇଫେନ), Anathashrama (ଆନାଥାଶ୍ରମ), Bisamalita (ବିଷମ ଛିତା), Se O' Mun (ସେ ଓ ମୁଁ), Bhul Kahara (ଭୁଲ କାହାର), Palli Renu (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ରେଣୁ), etc. are some of his novels which were very popular in his time.

Surendra Mohanty

Surendra Mohanty, born at Purusottampur village of Salepur in Cuttack district, was a versatile talent in Oriya literature. He was a novelist, short story writer, literary critic, journalist and parliamentarian of repute. His literary works include novels, short stories, history of literature, literary criticism, travelogue, biography and autobiography. He was given Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his famous novel Nilashaila (ନୀଳଶୈଳ) and was the recipient of Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award and the Sarala Award. His important works are Andha Diganta (ଅନ୍ଧ ଦିଗନ୍ତ), Nilasaila (ନୀଳଶୈଳ), Niladri Bijaya (ନୀଳାଦ୍ରି ବିଜୟ), Krushnabenire Sandhya (କୃଷ୍ଣାବେଣିରେ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା), Hansageeti (ହଂସ ଗୀତା) and Kalantara (କାଳାନ୍ତର), all novels; Satabdira Surya (ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ସୂର୍ଯ୍ୟ) and Kula Bruddha (କୁଳବୃଦ୍ଧ), character-novels; Sabuja Patra O' Dhusara Golapa (ସବୁଜ ପତ୍ର ଓ ଧୂସର ଗୋଲପା), Krushnachuda (କୃଷ୍ଣଚୂଡ଼ା), Ruti O' Chandra (ରୁଟି ଓ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର), Maralara Mrutyu (ମରଳାର ମୃତ୍ୟୁ), Mahanirvana (ମହାନିର୍ବାଣ), Dui Simanta (ଦୁଇ ସୀମାନ୍ତ), Kavi O' Narttiki (କବି ଓ ନର୍ତ୍ତକୀ), short story collections; Patha O' Pruthivi (ପଥ ଓ ପୃଥିବୀ), autobiography; Odia Sahityara Adiparva (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ଆଦିପର୍ବ), Odia Sahityara Madhya Parva (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ମଧ୍ୟ ପର୍ବ), and Odia Sahityara Kramavikas (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର କ୍ରମବିକାଶ), history of Oriya literature and Fakir Mohan Samiksha (ଫକୀରମୋହନ ସମୀକ୍ଷା), literary criticism.

Manoranjan Das

Manoranjan Das, born in Jharakata Patana in Cuttack district, is an eminent dramatist and has written about twenty dramas and one-act plays. He received Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his drama Aranya Fasala (ଅରଣ୍ୟ ଫସଲ), Buxi Jagabandhu (ବୁଦ୍ଧି ଜଗବନ୍ଧୁ), August Naa (ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ନାଆ) Katha Ghoda (କାଠ ଘୋଡ଼ା), Bana Hansi (ବନ ହାଂସୀ), Abarodha (ଅବରୋଧ) and Agami (ଆଗମୀ) are some of his popular dramas. Some of his plays have been translated into Bengali, Hindi and English.

Kamalalochana Mohanty

Kamalalochana Mohanty, born at Ganai village in Cuttack district, is an eminent dramatist. Some of his popular dramas are Kirani (କିରଣୀ), Dakabangala (ଡାକବଂଗଳା), Bhai Bhauni (ଭାଇ ଭଉଣୀ), Swami-Stree (ସ୍ବାମୀ-ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ), Manisa (ମନିଷା), Gan Mati (ଗଣ ମାଟି), Santana (ସନ୍ତାନ), Mani Kanchana (ମଣିକାଞ୍ଚନ), Ram Rahim (ରାମ ରହିମ), Miss Mullick (ମିସ୍ ମଲିକ), Ghara Bahuda (ଘର ବାହୁଡ଼ା), Papa Punya (ପାପ ପୁଣ୍ୟ), Ajadi (ଆଜାଦୀ), etc. Besides, he has also written some short stories and novels. He has to his credit 30 dramas, 3 short story collections and 14 novels.

He is also the author of many books on adult education and agriculture. His work Bharat Abiskara (ଭାରତ ଆବିଷ୍କାର) is a book of criticism. He is the founder of Ekamra Theatre, Bhubaneswar. Some of his plays and the poetic-drama Shrikrushna Rasa Lila (ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣ ରାସ ଲୀଳା) have been screened.

Dolagobinda Sastri

Dolagobinda Sastri, Narasinghapur, Cuttack district, is a scholar, essayist and has written many books on philosophy and literature. Jataka Katha (ଜାତକ କଥା), Sanskruta Bodha (ସଂସ୍କୃତ ବୋଧ), Natha Dharma O' Darshana (ନାଥଧର୍ମ ଓ ଦର୍ଶନ), Nathadharmara Krama Vikasha (ନାଥଧର୍ମର ଜନବିକାଶ), Darshana O' Sahitya (ଦର୍ଶନ ଓ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Sambadikata Prabesika (ସାମ୍ବାଦିକତା ପ୍ରବେଶିକା) and Kharavela Silalekha (ଖାରବେଳ ଶିଳାଲେଖ) are some of his publications.

Chittaranjan Das

Chittaranjan Das was born in Bagalpur village in Cuttack district and is an eminent essayist and research scholar. He has written many books among which Samaja (ସମାଜ), Ganjam Malare Sata Dina

(ଗନ୍ଧାମ ମାଳରେ ସାତଦଳ), Sila O' Salagrama (ଶିଳା ଓ ଶାଳଗ୍ରାମ), Achyutananda O' Panchasakha (ଅଚ୍ୟୁତାନନ୍ଦ ଓ ପଞ୍ଚସଖା), Odisara Mahima Dharma (ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ମହିମାଧର୍ମ), Nepala Pathe (ନେପାଳ ପଥେ), Silatirtha (ଶିଳାତୀର୍ଥ), Jibana Bidyalaya (ଜୀବନ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ) and a translation of Dr. Radhakrishna's speech, Bharata O' Germanyra Manasa Sambandha (ଭାରତ ଓ ଜର୍ମାନୀର ମାନସ ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧ) are important.

Kanhu Charan Mishra

Kanhu Charan Mishra, born in Pattamundai of Cuttack district, is a scholar of eminence and has made valuable contributions to Oriya literature and culture. Some of his valuable works are Oriya Sahityare Dharmadhara (ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସାହିତ୍ୟରେ ଧର୍ମଧାରା), Odissi Vaishnaba Dharma (ଓଡ଼ିଶୀ ବୈଷ୍ଣବ ଧର୍ମ), Sahitya Samiksha (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସମୀକ୍ଷା), Drusti O' Srusti (ଦୃଷ୍ଟି ଓ ସୃଷ୍ଟି), Alochana Mala (ଆଲୋଚନା ମାଳା), Katha O' Kahani (କଥା ଓ କାହାଣୀ) and Biswa Manava Pathe (ବିଶ୍ୱ ମାନବ ପଥେ). He has written many essays and his Cult of Jagannath, written in English, is a unique work of its kind.

Bhanja Kishore Patnaik

Bhanja Kishore Patnaik is a reputed dramatist and has written a large number of dramas and one-act plays. He was born in Chhanipur village in Cuttack district. His popular plays are Gariba (ଗରିବ), Agni Pariksha (ଅଗ୍ନି ପରୀକ୍ଷା), Manika Jodi (ମାଣିକ ଯୋଡ଼ି), Prataparudra (ପ୍ରତାପରୁଦ୍ର), Atithi (ଅତିଥି), Benami (ବେନାମୀ), Aloka (ଆଲୋକ), Jagarana (ଜାଗରଣ), Jayamalya (ଜୟମାଲ୍ୟା), Pahili Raja (ପହିଲି ରାଜ), etc.

Labangalata Devi

Bidusi Labangalata Devi was born in village Haladibasanta in Cuttack district. She is the author of about 30 books which include novel, short story, biography, criticism and translation. Some of her novels are Manara Manisa (ମନର ମଣିଷ), Hasa Hasa Mora Priya (ହସ ହସ ମୋର ପ୍ରିୟା), Swapnara Suravi (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନର ସୁରଭି) and Patana O' Abhyudaya (ପତନ ଓ ଅଭ୍ୟୁଦୟ). The biographies written by her are Birangana (ବିରାଜନୀ), Bidusi Nari (ବିଦୁଷୀ ନାରୀ), Rushi Patni (ରୁଷି ପତ୍ନୀ), Bharatiya Nari (ଭାରତୀୟା ନାରୀ), etc. Her two short story collections are Galpa Chayana (ଗଳ୍ପଚୟନ) and Sanchayita (ସଂକଳିତା). She has also translated Kadambari, Raghuvamsa and Harsacharita into Oriya.

Banchhanidhi Dasa

Born in Bainsiria village of Cuttack district, Banchhanidhi Dasa is a poet known for his patriotic poems. Palli Chhabi (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ଛାବି), Jayabheri (ଜୟଭେରୀ), Sanjivani (ସଞ୍ଜୀବନୀ), Kalpabasi (କଳ୍ପବାସୀ), Kabira Swapna (କବିର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ), Bhakti Arghya (ଭକ୍ତି ଅର୍ଘ୍ୟ) and Gitamruta (ଗୀତାମୃତ) are some of his popular works.

Narsingha Charan Sahu

Narsingha Charan Sahu, born in Jagatpur, is a novelist. He has written twenty novels which include Minati (ମିନତି), Abhijoga (ଅଭିଯୋଗ), Badagharara Jhia (ବଡ଼ଘରର ଜିଅ), Biplaba (ବିପ୍ଳବ), Andhara Ghara (ଅନ୍ଧାର ଘର), Seba Sadan (ସେବା ସଦନ), Meghamala (ମେଘମାଳା), Pagala (ପାଗଡ଼), Athakathi (ଅଥାକାଠି), Jalanta Jui (ଜଳନ୍ତା ଯୁଇ), etc.

Banshidhar Mohanty

Banshidhar Mohanty was born at Bagh Sahi, Jagtsinghapur. He was an eminent essayist and scholar. Some of his works are Odissare Bouddha Dharma (ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ବୌଦ୍ଧ ଧର୍ମ), Odissara Natha Sampradaya O' Natha Sahitya (ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ନାଥ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାୟ ଓ ନାଥ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Sahitya O' Sanskruti (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି), Adivasi Sanskruti (ଆଦିବାସୀ ସଂସ୍କୃତି), Odia Sahityara Itihas (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ଇତିହାସ), Odia Bhasara Itihas (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାର ଇତିହାସ), etc.

Guruprasad Mohanty

Guruprasad Mohanty was born in Nagabali, Cuttack. He was a poet and won the Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his poetry collection, Samudra Snana (ସମୁଦ୍ର ସ୍ନାନ). He has also another collection of poetry entitled, Nutana Kavita (ନୂତନ କବିତା).

Kishori Charan Das

Kishori Charan Das, born in Cuttack, is an eminent short story writer. Bhanga Khelana (ଭଙ୍ଗା ଖେଳନା), Lakhya Bihanga (ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ବିହଙ୍ଗ), Ghara Bahuda (ଘର ବାହୁଡ଼ା), Thakura Ghara (ଠାକୁର ଘର) and Manihara (ମଣିହାର) are some of his popular story collections. He has also written a number of stories in English. He has been awarded by the Central Sahitya Akademi.

Gopinath Behera

Born in Sasana village in Cuttack district, Gopinath Behera is a poet and novelist. Sagara Taranga (ସାଗର ତରଙ୍ଗ) and Pallipratibha (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ପ୍ରତିଭା) are his two poetry collections. His novels include Sabuja Swapna (ସବୁଜ ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ), Apabada (ଅପବିତ୍ର), Pachhakatha (ପଚକଥା), Bhuli Huena (ଭୁଲି ହୁଏନା) and Bhai Bhauja (ଭାଇ ଭଉଜା).

Durga Charan Kuanr

Durga Charan Kuanr, born at Kuanr Sahi in Jajpur subdivision of the district, is a poet, critic, essayist and writer of historical short stories. His works include poetry-Bhinna Swara (ଭିନ୍ନସ୍ୱର), Indradhanu (ଇନ୍ଦ୍ରଧନୁ) and Mane Achhi (ମନେ ଅଛି) and critical works-Kavi Baikunthanath Patnaik (କବି ବୈକୁଣ୍ଠନାଥ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ) & Fakir Mohan Senapati (ଫକୀର ମୋହନ ସେନାପତି). He has also written a drama, Priyadarshi Ashoka (ପ୍ରିୟଦର୍ଶି ଅଶୋକ), the biography of Bharataratna Baba Saheb Ambedkar and a book on dance, Mayurbhanja Chhau Nritya (ମୟୂରଭଞ୍ଜ ଛଉ ନୃତ୍ୟ).

He also edited a literary magazine 'Panchajanya' (ପାଞ୍ଚଜନ୍ୟ).

Bidyutprava Devi

Bidyutprava Devi is a well-known poetess. Her anthologies of poetry are Swetapadma (ସ୍ୱେତପଦ୍ମା), Marichika (ମରିଚିକା), Bihayasi (ବିହାୟାସୀ), Bandanika (ବନ୍ଦନିକା), Swapna Dwipa (ସ୍ୱପ୍ନା ଦ୍ୱୀପ), Jhara Siuli (ଝରା ଶିଉଳି), Nutana Swakshar (ନୂତନ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର) and Jahaku Jie (ଯାହାକୁ ଯିଏ). Her Granthabali has also been published.

Kulamani Mohapatra

Kulamani Mohapatra was born in Balichandrapur village in Cuttack district and is known for his humorous writings. Nare Banare Ba (ନରେ ବାନରେ ବା), Ekankika Hasa O' Kandara (ଏକାଙ୍କିକା ହସ ଓ କାନ୍ଦରା), Rupantara (ରୂପାନ୍ତର), Byangokti (ବ୍ୟଙ୍ଗୋକ୍ତି), and a novel entitled Alia Hisabare Balia Bandhu (ଆଳିଆ ହିସାବରେ ବାଳିଆ ବନ୍ଧୁ), etc. are written by him.

Mohapatra Nilamani Sahu

Mohapatra Nilamani Sahu was born at Niali and is an eminent short story writer and novelist. Many of his short stories have a subtle sense of humour and pathos. He was awarded by the Central Sahitya Akademy for his story collection, Abhisapta Gandharba (ଅବିଷାପ୍ତ ଗନ୍ଧର୍ବ). He is also a recipient of the State Akademi award and the Sarala award. His short story collections are Prema

O' Tribhuja (ପ୍ରେମ୍ ଓ ତ୍ରିଭୁଜ), Sumitrara Hasa (ସୁମିତ୍ରାର ହସ), Ganjei O' Gabesana (ଗଞ୍ଜେଇ ଓ ଗବେଷଣା), Michha Bagha (ମିଛ ବାଘ), Srunwantu Sarbe Amrutasya Putrah (ଶ୍ରୁଣ୍ଠ ସର୍ବେ ଅମୃତସ୍ୟ ପୁତ୍ରଃ), Yakubi Kabita Kahe (ଯାକୁବି କବିତା କହେ), Akasha Patala (ଆକାଶ ପାତାଳ), Sekala Pakhala (ସେକାଳ ପଖାଳ), Dhvani Dhvani Pratidhwani (ଧ୍ବନି ଧ୍ବନି ପ୍ରତିଧ୍ବନି), Ranuapa Tharu Pushi Parjyanta (ରନୁ ଅପାଠାଳ ପୁଷି ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ), Ja Nisha Sarba Bhutesu (ଯା ନିଶା ସର୍ବ ଭୂତେଷୁ) and Brundabanara Sesa Dhupa (ବ୍ରହ୍ମାବନର ଶେଷ ଧୂପ) . He has written a novel entitled Tamashi Radha (ତାମସୀରାଧା) .

Achyutananda Pati

Achyutananda Pati was born in Narasinghapur village in Jajpur subdivision and is a story writer. His story collections are Ashubha Putrara Kahani (ଅଶୁଭ ପୁତ୍ରର କାହାଣୀ), Ugrasena Ubacha (ଉଗ୍ରସେନ ଭବାତ), Snayu O' Sanyasi (ସ୍ନାୟୁ ଓ ସନ୍ୟାସୀ) and Trishanku (ତ୍ରିଶଙ୍କୁ) . He is the editor of the Durmukha, a magazine of satire.

Gobinda Das

Gobinda Das, a lawyer by profession, is also a novelist. Amabasyara Chandra (ଅମାବାସ୍ୟାର ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର) is his well-known novel. He is also the author of a story collection, Bhagnansha (ଭଗ୍ନାଂଶ) and a travelogue entitled Dese Dese (ଦେଶେ ଦେଶେ) .

Sukadeva Sahu

Sukadeva Sahu of Dhumat in Cuttack district is a novelist and has written Naba Janma (ନବଜନ୍ମ), Manara Jete Asha (ମନର ଯେତେ ଆଶା), Prabasi (ପ୍ରବାସୀ), Bidesha Bahuda (ବିଦେଶ ବାହୁଡ଼ା), Mana Harini Kande (ମନ ହରିଣୀ କାନ୍ଦେ) and a poetry collection entitled Premaraga (ପ୍ରେମରାଗ) .

Basanta Kumari Patnaik

Born in Cuttack, Basanta Kumari Patnaik is a talented novelist. Her novels include Amada Bata (ଅମଡ଼ା ବାଟ), Chora Bali (ଚୋର ବାଲି), Palata Dheu (ପାଲଟା ଦେଉ) and Juara Bhatta (ଜୁଆର ଭଟ୍ଟା) .

Sunanda Kar

Sunanda Kar is the author of Agami Kalira Lekhaka (ଆଗାମୀ କାଲିର ଲେଖକ), A Dunian (ଏ ଦୁନିଆଁ), Sangram (ସଙ୍ଗ୍ରାମ), a story collection) and a poetry collection, Udayana (ଉଦୟନ). He has translated Maxim Gorky's famous novel Mother into Oriya.

Jatindra Kumar Das

Born in Bagalpur in Cuttack district, Jatindra Kumar Das is a novelist and short story writer and has written *Jibana Jale Manasi* (ଜୀବନ ଜଳେ ମାନସୀ), *Parajita Samrat* (ପରାଜିତ ସମ୍ରାଟ), *Manara Mayura* (ମନର ମୟୂର) and two story collections entitled *He Pruthivira Nagarika* (ହେ ପୃଥିବୀର ନାଗରିକ) and *E Janmara Itihasa* (ଏ ଜନ୍ମର ଇତିହାସ).

Nishamani Padhi Sharma

Nishamani Padhi Sharma was born in Marshaghai in Cuttack district. He is a dramatist and has written about thirty dramas which include *Mahatirtha* (ମହାତୀର୍ଥ), *Ghatapuja* (ଘଟପୂଜା), *Nagajagyan* (ନାଗଯଜ୍ଞ), *Guru Dakshina* (ଗୁରୁ ଦକ୍ଷିଣା), *Balyasakha* (ବାଲ୍ୟସଖା), etc.

Jayanta Mahapatra

Jayanta Mahapatra is a well-known Indian English poet and has received acclaim inside and outside the country. His books of poems include *A Rain of Rites*, *The False Start*, *Life Signs*, *Temple*, etc. In 1981, he was the first Indian poet in English to receive Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his long poem, *Relationship*. He has widely translated Oriya poetry into English.

Kulamani Samal

Kulamani Samal was born in village Nrutanga in Cuttack district and as a scientist, he has written a number of books relating to science. *Mahasunyare Manusya* (ମହାଶୂନ୍ୟରେ ମନୁଷ୍ୟ), *Sabhyatara Tinoti Sopana* (ସଭ୍ୟତାର ତିନୋଟି ସୋପାନ), *Mahakashara Ahwana* (ମହାକାଶର ଆହ୍ୱାନ), *Bigyana Bichara* (ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ବିଚାର), *Baigyanika Jibani* (ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ଜୀବନୀ), *Padartha Bigyana* (ପଦାର୍ଥ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ), *Katha Taranga* (କଥା ତରଙ୍ଗ), *Sunila Lokaku Michha* (ଶୁଣିଲୁ ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ମିଛ), *Akha Dhillaku Chaka Dhila* (ଅଖ ଢିଲକୁ ଚକ ଢିଲ) and *Anka Kautuka* (ଅଙ୍କ କଉତୁକ) are some of his popular books on science. He is the editor of a magazine *Bigyana Prabha* (ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ପ୍ରଭା).

Kanduri Charan Das

Kanduri Charan Das was born in Kharianta village and is a novelist. He is known for his popular detective novels. *Janmamati* (ଜନ୍ମମତି), *Dunia Gol* (ଦୁନିଆ ଗୋଲ), *Dine Ratire* (ଦିନେ ରାତିରେ), *Bali Jhada* (ବାଲିଜହଡ଼), *Rakta Tandaba* (ରକ୍ତ ତାଣ୍ଡବ), *Kalaratrira Saitan* (କାଳରାତ୍ରୀର ସୈତାନ), *303 Revolver*, *Lal Mohar* (ଲଲ ମୋହର), *Lal Fita* (ଲଲଫିତା) and *Dhulira Dharani* (ଧୂଳିର ଧରଣୀ) are some of the novels written by him.

Narahari Upadhyaya

Born in Jaguleipada near Aul, Narahari Upadhyaya is a poet, dramatist and essayist. He has written the Ramayana in dramatic form in seven volumes under the title Sri Ramalila Natya Prakalpa (ଶ୍ରୀ ରାମଲୀଳା ନାଟ୍ୟ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ), seven volumes of Rama Sangeeta Samahara (ରାମ ସଙ୍ଗୀତ ସମାହାର) and a book entitled Bhutakeli (ଭୂତକେଳି).

Bichitrnananda Kar

Bichitrnananda Kar is an eminent journalist and was the editor of the daily Matrubbhumi . His Bhinna Drusti (ଭିନ୍ନ ଦୃଷ୍ଟି) is a collection of critical essays. He has also compiled Brajasundar Smaranika (ବ୍ରଜସୁନ୍ଦର ସ୍ମରଣିକା).

Pitambara Pradhan

Pitambara Pradhan was born in Dihabalarampur village in Cuttack district and has written many novels, short stories and dramas. Akasara Ahwana (ଆକାଶର ଆହ୍ୱାନ), Palli Pathe (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ପଥେ), Kalinga Kabi (କଳିଙ୍ଗ କବି), Chilika Parikrama (ଚିଲିକା ପରିକ୍ରମା), Kathakara Surendra Mohanty (କଥାକାର ସୁରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମହାନ୍ତି) and Adhunika Oupanyasika (ଆଧୁନିକ ଔପନ୍ୟାସିକ) are some of his publications.

Binod Routray

Binod Routray of Kalikapur, Cuttack is an essayist and an authority on fine arts. His writings include Silalipi (ଶିଳାଲିପି), Nirmala (ନିର୍ମଳା), Odisi Chitra (ଓଡ଼ିଶୀ ଚିତ୍ର), Mousumi (ମୌସୁମୀ), Katha Kusuma (କଥା କୁସୁମ), Chitralkha (ଚିତ୍ରଲେଖା), Tarunya (ତାରୁଣ୍ୟ), Chhuti (ଛୁଟି) and Nua Duniara Katha (ନୂଆ ଦୁନିଆର କଥା). He has also written books on wooden handicrafts and traditional Oriya art like Odisara Paramparika Kala O' Lokakala (ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ପାରମ୍ପରିକ କଳା ଓ ଲୋକକଳା) and graphics.

Hrudananda Ray

Hrudananda Ray of Gobinda Tota, Cuttack district is a philosopher and essayist. He has written books on religion and philosophy like Adwaita Vedanta Parichaya (ଅଦୈତ ବେଦାନ୍ତ ପରିଚୟ), Bhanja Bhagabata (ଭଞ୍ଜ ଭାଗବତ), Nabajatak Tattwarthakhanda (ନବଜାତକ ତତ୍ତ୍ୱାର୍ଥ ଖଣ୍ଡ) and is the co-author of the book Paschatya Darshanara Itihasa (ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟ ଦର୍ଶନର ଇତିହାସ).

Ganesh Prasad Parija

Ganesh Prasad Parija was born in Tentuliapada near Jhankada in Cuttack district and is an essayist and a scholar on Tantra. He has written a number of books among which mention may be made of Sarala Dasanka Janma (ଶାରଳା ଦାସଙ୍କ ଜନ୍ମ), Bishnu Kuta (ବିଷ୍ଣୁ କୁଟ), Juge Juge Bouddha Galpa (ଯୁଗେ ଯୁଗେ ବୌଦ୍ଧ ଗଳ୍ପ), Marana Pare (ମରଣ ପରେ), Juge Juge Jagannath (ଯୁଗେ ଯୁଗେ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ), Saktibada (ଶକ୍ତିବାଦ), Jagabalia (ଜଗାବଳୀଆ), Bidehi Atma (ବିଦେହି ଆତ୍ମା), Ja Devi Shakti Rupena (ଯା ଦେବୀ ଶକ୍ତିରୂପେଣ), etc.

Debiprasanna Patnaik

Born in Tigiria ex-state, Debiprasanna Patnaik is a critic and linguist. He is the author of books like Kabilipi (କବିଲିପି), Sahitya Diksha (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଦୀକ୍ଷା), Odia Bhasa O Bhasa Bigyana (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ଓ ଭାଷା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ). He has also written some books and articles in English relating to the development of Oriya, Assamese, Bengali and Hindi languages.

Bhagabata Prasad Mohanty

Bhagabata Prasad Mohanty was born at Binjharpur, Cuttack. He is a novelist. He is the author of books like Simanta Prahari (ସୀମାନ୍ତ ପ୍ରହରୀ), Charu Chilika Kule (ଚରୁ ଚିଲିକା କୁଳେ), Nihata Nayika (ନିହତ ନାୟିକା), etc. He is the editor of a magazine entitled Palli Swapna (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ).

Rabindra Nath Singh

Rabindra Nath Singh, more known as Rabi Singh, was born in Nabapatana village in Cuttack district. He is a talented poet and is well-known for his revolutionary poems. He is popularly known as the Kazi Nazrul of Orissa. Charam Patra (ଚରଣ ପତ୍ର), Patha Prantara Kabita (ପଥ ପ୍ରାନ୍ତର କବିତା), Jwalara Mala (ଜ୍ୱାଳାର ମାଳା), Tara kara Luha (ତାରକାର ଲୁହ), Agnibeda (ଅଗ୍ନିବେଦ), Lal Pagodara Preta (ଲଲ ପାଗୋଡ଼ାର ପ୍ରେତ), Bhrukuti (ଭୃକୁଟି), Bidirna (ବିଦୀର୍ଣ୍ଣ) are some of his poetry collections. Besides, he has to his credit two story collections entitled Parasta Sainika (ପରସ୍ତ ସୈନିକ) and Chalantika (ଚଳନ୍ତିକା), a translation work Purbakshana (ପୂର୍ବକ୍ଷଣ) and a travelogue Goa Jatri (ଗୋଆ ଯାତ୍ରୀ).

Jatindra Mohan Mohanty

Born in Shyamsundarpur village in Cuttack district, Jatindra Mohan Mohanty is a distinguished critic. He has written a number of books which include Itihasa Chakra (ଇତିହାସ ଚକ୍ର), Kabyatattwa (କାବ୍ୟତତ୍ତ୍ୱ) and Bhasatattwa (ଭାଷାତତ୍ତ୍ୱ). He has also compiled a book on modern Oriya poems under the title Adhunika Odia Kabita (ଆଧୁନିକ ଓଡ଼ିଆ କବିତା).

Paramananda Adhikari

Paramananda Adhikari of Kujang, Cuttack, is a novelist and has written novels like Byakula Basanta (ବ୍ୟାକୁଳ ବସନ୍ତ), Udaya Asta (ଉଦୟ ଅସ୍ତ) and Nandighosa (ନନ୍ଦିଘୋଷ). He has compiled Ama Jagannath Ama Sahitya (ଆମ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଆମ ସାହିତ୍ୟ) and has written a number of children's literature entitled Gobara Ganesa (ଗୋବର ଗଣେଶ), Mani Manika Galpamala (ମଣି ମାଣିକ ଗଳ୍ପମାଳା) and Tuan Tuinka Galpa (ତୁଆଁ ତୁଇଁଙ୍କ ଗଳ୍ପ).

Bishnu Prasad Bahalia

Bishnu Prasad Bahalia, a poet and novelist, was born in Mahakalparha village in Cuttack district. He is the author of novels like Dharama Pua (ଧରମ ପୁଅ), Satabdira Ahwana (ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ଆହ୍ୱାନ), Basundhara (ବସୁନ୍ଧରା), Milana Pathe (ମିଳନ ପଥେ), Batikhunta (ବତୀଖୁଣ୍ଟ) and Rupayana (ରୂପାୟନ). He has also to his credit some poetry collections like Megha Malhara (ମେଘ ମଲ୍ଲାର), Indumati (ଇନ୍ଦୁମତୀ), Panchabati (ପଞ୍ଚବଟୀ) and two dramas Kalki (କଲ୍କୀ) and Prabhasa Milana (ପ୍ରଭାସ ମିଳନ).

Birakishore Das

Birakishore Das, born in Alanahata in Cuttack district, is a critic and has written Samalochana Sahitya (ସମାଲୋଚନା ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Saraswata Samiksha (ସାରସ୍ୱତ ସମୀକ୍ଷା), Ganakabi Baishnaba Pani (ଗଣକବି ବୈଷ୍ଣବ ପାଣି), Mahimadharma O' Dibyadrasta (ମହିମା ଧର୍ମ ଓ ଦିବ୍ୟଦ୍ରଷ୍ଟା), Bhima Bhoi (ଭୀମ ଭୋଇ), Sahitya Swarupa (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସ୍ୱରୂପ), Swabhaba Kabi Gangadhara (ସ୍ୱଭାବ କବି ଗଙ୍ଗାଧର), Juge Juge Natya Sahitya (ଯୁଗେ ଯୁଗେ ନାଟ୍ୟ ସାହିତ୍ୟ) and some children's literature, literature for adults, biography and devotional songs.

Jameswara Tripathy

Born in Radhanathpur village in Cuttack district, Jameswara Tripathy is a novelist and writer of children's literature. His novels are *Sekale Ekale Anyakale* (ସେକାଲେ ଏକାଲେ ଅନ୍ୟକାଲେ), *Kahani Ahata Atmara* (କାହାଣୀ ଆହତ ଆତ୍ମାର), *Basanta Batasa* (ବସନ୍ତ ବତାସ) and *Malabikara Swapna* (ମାଳବିକାର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ). He has also written *Bigyana Pratiba* (ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ପ୍ରତିଭା) in five volumes and books like *Baigyanika Parija* (ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ପରିଜା), *Santha Binova* (ସନ୍ଥ ବିନୋବା) and *Madhubabu* (ମଧୁବାବୁ) for children.

Santanu Kumar Acharya

Santanu Kumar Acharya was born at Siddheswarapur in Cuttack district. He is an eminent Oriya novelist and short story writer. He is the author of many novels among which *Nara Kinnara* (ନର କିନର), *Dakhinabartta* (ଦକ୍ଷିଣବର୍ତ୍ତ), *Tinoti Ratira Sakala* (ତିନୋଟି ଗୁଡିର ସକାଳ), *Satabdira Nachiketa* (ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ନଚିକେତା) and *Shakuntala* (ଶକୁନ୍ତଳା) need special mention. *Durbara* (ଦୁର୍ବାର) is one of his most successful story collections. He has also written some children's literature. He is the recipient of many literary awards including the award by the Central Sahitya Akademi.

Khageswar Mahapatra

Khageswar Mahapatra was born at Balda in Jajpur subdivision of Cuttack district and is an eminent scholar, critic and linguist. He is credited with the authorship of books like *Samalochanara Digadiganta* (ସମାଲୋଚନାର ଦିଗ ଦିଗନ୍ତ), *Charya Gitika* (ଚର୍ଯାଗୀତିକା), *Odia Lipi O' Bhasa* (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଲିପି ଓ ଭାଷା), *Dakshinanchaliya Odia* (ଦକ୍ଷିଣାଞ୍ଚଳୀୟ ଓଡ଼ିଆ), etc. He has translated *Ragadarabari* (ରାଗଦରବାରୀ) into Oriya. His other works are *Banda Parbatara Adhibasi* (ବଣ ପର୍ବତର ଅଧିବାସୀ) and two volumes of essay collections.

Abhinna Chandra Dash

Born in Mauda village in Cuttack district, Abhinna Chandra Dash is an essayist and translator. Some of his works are *Baidika Sahitya O' Sanskruti* (ବୈଦିକ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି), *Sanskruta Sahityara Ruparekha* (ସଂସ୍କୃତ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ରୂପରେଖ), *Baidika Kahani* (ବୈଦିକ କାହାଣୀ), *Malabika* (ମାଳବିକା), *Kabi Bilapa* (କବି ବିଳାପ), *Sura Sundari* (ସୁର ସୁନ୍ଦରୀ), and *Rutu Samhara*, translation. He is also the author of books like *Katha Sarita Sagar* (କଥା ସରିତ ସାଗର) and *Shri Sankaracharya*.

Murari Mohan Jena

Born in Bhagatpur, Cuttack, **Murari Mohan Jena** is a prolific poet and essayist. He has written many poems and essays which include *Khara O' Chhai* (ଖରା ଓ ଛାଇ), *Srama O' Sramika* (ଶ୍ରମ ଓ ଶ୍ରମିକ), *Odia Sahityara Sabuja Juga* (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ସବୁଜ ଯୁଗ), etc. He has compiled the volume '*Kabi Kanthe Sri Jagannatha*' (କବି କଣ୍ଠେ ଶ୍ରୀ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ).

Abani Kumar Baral

Abani Kumar Baral of Jagatsinghapur, Cuttack is a novelist and essayist. He has ten novels and story collections to his credit. His works include *Premara Anwesana* *Gotie Taruni* (ପ୍ରେମର ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ଗୋଟିଏ ତରୁଣୀ), *Aparanhara Chhaya* (ଅପରାହ୍ନ ଛାୟା), *Sanlapa Nirjanatara* (ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ନିର୍ଜନତାର), all novels, and story collections like *Jaraja* (ଜାରଜ), *Uttara Basanta* (ଉତ୍ତର ବସନ୍ତ), *Bhinna Swadara Galpa* (ଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ବାଦର ଗଳ୍ପ), etc.

Ramachandra Tripathy

Ramachandra Tripathy, born in village Pandara, Cuttack is an essayist and compiler. He has to his credit a number of books which include *Palli Jataka* (ପଲ୍ଲୀ ଜାତକ), *Raghuvamsa*, *Kumara Sambhaba*, *Swapnabasabadutta*, *Betala Pancha Binsati*, rendered into Oriya, and essay collection entitled *Sanskrutira Dhara* (ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଧାରା) and has compiled books like *Gorekhnath Smaranika* (ଗୋରେଖନାଥ ସ୍ମରଣିକା) and *Sri Ramachandra Bhanjadeo*.

Bichitranda Mohanty

Bichitranda Mohanty of Kendupatna, Cuttack is a critic and essayist. He has written many books which include *Pallikavi Parichaya* (ପଲ୍ଲୀକବି ପରିଚୟ), *Bhanjakavi Parichaya* (ଭଞ୍ଜକବି ପରିଚୟ), *Bhaktakavi Parichaya* (ଭକ୍ତକବି ପରିଚୟ), *Meher Bharati* (ମେହେର ଭାରତୀ), *Kavi Kartik Das O' Rukmini Bibha* (କବି କାର୍ତ୍ତିକ ଦାସ ଓ ରୁକ୍ମିଣୀ ବିଭା). Besides, he has written some dramas and short stories.

Manorama Mohapatra

Born in Radhanathpur village of Cuttack district, **Manorama Mohapatra** is a poetess, short story writer, essayist and critic. She has written *Juara Jeunthi Uthe* (ଯୁଆର ଯେଉଁଠି ଭେଠେ), *Biradimananka Anashana* (ବିରାଡ଼ିମାନଙ୍କ ଅନଶନ), *Ratnadwipa* (ରତ୍ନଦ୍ୱୀପ), *Banda Gharara Kabat* (ବନ୍ଦା ଘରର କବାଟ). She has also written *Bana Raija Katha* (ବନା ରାଜା କଥା), a story collection for children.

Debendra Mohanty

Debendra Mohanty of Rahama, Cuttack has written a number of books which include Prachina Odia Sahitya (ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Adhunika Sahitya Darshana (ଆଧୁନିକ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଦର୍ଶନ), Panchasakha Odia Sahitya (ପଞ୍ଚସଖା ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Odia Sahityara Sthiti O' Prakruti (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ସ୍ଥିତି ଓ ପ୍ରକୃତି), Jugajyoti Radhanath (ଯୁଗଜ୍ୟୋତି ରାଧାନାଥ), Chandrabhaga Adhyayana (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରଭାଗା ଅଧ୍ୟୟନ), Chilika Adhyayana (ଚିଲିକା ଅଧ୍ୟୟନ), Chandrabimba (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରବିମ୍ବ), etc.

Rajat Kumar Kar

Rajat Kumar Kar of Cuttack is a well-known dramatist and wrote a number of dramas such as Kabi Samrat (କବି ସମ୍ରାଟ), Chandan Hazuri (ଚନ୍ଦନ ହଜୁରୀ), Salita (ସଳିତା), Andhaputuli (ଅନ୍ଧ ପୁତୁଳି), Biplabi Surendra Sai (ବିପ୍ଳବୀ ସୁରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସାଏ), etc. He is also the author of a critical work, Bhanja Prabha (ଭଞ୍ଜ ପ୍ରଭା).

Dasaratha Samal

Dasaratha Samal of village Mallikapur in the Jajpur subdivision of the district is a prominent novelist and literary critic. His popular novels are Badhubarana (ବଧୂ ବରଣ), Samantara (ସମାନ୍ତର), Manara Tale Tale (ମନର ତାଳେ ତାଳେ), Baisakhi Ghurni (ବୈଶାଖୀ ଘୁର୍ଣି), Se Nari Bandaniya (ସେ ନାରୀ ବନ୍ଦନୀୟା), Nila Sindhura Upakanthe (ନିଳ ସିନ୍ଧୁର ଉପକଣ୍ଠେ), Basanta Asichhi Pheri (ବସନ୍ତ ଆସିଛି ଫେରି), Ratri Hela Sesa (ରାତ୍ରି ହେଲା ଶେଷ) and Phuta Phaguna (ଫୁଟା ଫାଗୁଣ). He edited the co-operative journal "Kalyani" and "Samabaya Samachar" for a long time.

Prafulla Mohanty

Prafulla Mohanty was born at Nanpur, Cuttack and has written some books in English entitled Indian Village Tales, My Village My Life and Through Brow's Eyes, all published in United Kingdom. He lives in London.

Biswajit Das

Biswajit Das, born in Jajpur subdivision of Cuttack district, is a well-known dramatist. He is the author of dramas like Nalipan Rani Kalapan Tika (ନାଲିପାନ ରାଣୀ କଳାପାନ ଚିକା), Nishipadma (ନିଶିପଦ୍ମ), Ama Pratinidhinkatharu (ଆମ ପ୍ରତିନିଧିକଥା), Mrugaya (ମୃଗୟା) and Suna Sujane (ସୁନା ସୁଜନେ).

Prasanna Kumar Mohapatra

Born in Chatara Village in Cuttack district, Prasanna Kumar Mohapatra is a novelist and is the author of novels like Stree (ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ), Mauna Minati (ମଉନ ମିନତି), Manasira Ashru (ମାନସୀର ଅଶ୍ରୁ), Madhu Malati (ମଧୁ ମାଳତୀ), Nari O' Purusa (ନାରୀ ଓ ପୁରୁଷ), Gare Kunkuma Dhare Luha (ଗାରେ କୁକୁମ ଧାରେ ଲୁହ), Aloka Andhara (ଆଲୋକ ଅନ୍ଧାର) and Pritira Pujarini (ପ୍ରିତିର ପୂଜାରିଣୀ).

Dasarathi Das

Born in Ayatapur village in Cuttack district, Dasarathi Das is a reputed scholar and literary critic. His works include Kabya Sambad (କାବ୍ୟ ସମ୍ବାଦ), Chitra Kalpa (ଚିତ୍ର କଳ୍ପ), Sahitya Sandhana (ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସନ୍ଧାନ), Adhunik Kabya Jigyansa (ଅଧୁନିକ କାବ୍ୟ ଜିଜ୍ଞାସା), Kabisurya Kabyabibhaba (କବିସୂର୍ଯ୍ୟ କାବ୍ୟ ବିଭବ), etc.

Binapani Mohanty

Binapani Mohanty of Kendraparha, Cuttack is a well-known short story writer. Nabataranga (ନବ ତରଙ୍ଗ), Kasturimruga O' Sabuja Aranya (କସ୍ତୁରୀ ମୃଗ ଓ ସବୁଜ ଅରଣ୍ୟ), Tatinira Trusna (ତଟିନୀର ତୃଷ୍ଣା) and Anya Aranya (ଅନ୍ୟ ଅରଣ୍ୟ) are some of her story collections. She is being awarded by the Central Sahitya Akademi.

Hemanta Kumar Das

Hemanta Kumar Das of Bodhpur in Cuttack district is a distinguished literary critic, dramatist and short story writer. His works include Odia Natakara Bikasadhara (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନାଟକର ବିକାଶ ଧାରା) (in four volumes), Odia Natakara Rupabibhava (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନାଟକର ରୂପବିଭବ), Kavicharita Gangadhar (କବି ଚରିତ ଗଙ୍ଗାଧର), Ashru Nuhen Anala (ଅଶ୍ରୁ ନୁହେଁ ଅନଳ), short story collections like Marutirtha (ମରୁତୀର୍ଥ), Nachiketa Sambad (ନଚିକେତା ସମ୍ବାଦ), Maranottara (ମରଣୋତ୍ତର) and dramas : Dunia (ଦୁନିଆ) and Charoti Chhota Nataka (ଚାରୋଟି ଛୋଟ ନାଟକ). He has also written some books for children.

Sitakanta Mohapatra

Born in Mahanga of Cuttack district, Sitakanta Mohapatra is an I. A. S. officer of Orissa cadre and is an eminent poet and essayist. His major poetical works are : Dipti O' Dyuti (ଦୀପ୍ତି ଓ ଦ୍ୟୁତି), Astapadi (ଅଷ୍ଟପଦୀ), Samudra (ସମୁଦ୍ର), Sabdara Akasha (ଶବ୍ଦର ଆକାଶ)

and Chitranadi (ଚିତ୍ରନଦୀ). His other works include Nisanga Manisa (ନିଷଙ୍ଗ ମନିଷ), a collection of essays and Aneka Sarata (ଅନେକ ଶରତ), a travelogue. Many of his poems have been translated into other Indian and foreign languages. He is the recipient of Gyanapitha Award, Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award, Central Sahitya Akademi Award and the Sarala Award.

Bibhuti Bhusan Patnaik

Bibhuti Bhusan Patnaik was born in Dingeswara village in Cuttack district and is an eminent novelist, short story writer and critic. He is a prolific writer and has many novels and short story collections to his credit which include Sesa Basanta (ଶେଷ ବସନ୍ତ), Bhitamati (ଭିତା ମାଟି), Prema O' Pruthibi (ପ୍ରେମ ଓ ପୃଥିବୀ), Prathama Sakala (ପ୍ରଥମ ସକାଳ), Keshabati Kanya (କେଶବତୀ କନ୍ୟା), Nayikara Nama Srabanj (ନାୟିକାର ନାମ ସ୍ରାବଣୀ), Dagdha Fulabana (ଦଗ୍ଧ ଫୁଲବନ), Badhu Nirupama (ବଧୂ ନିରୂପମା), Sultana (ସୁଲତାନା), etc.

Nityananda Satpathy

Born at Garei Sasan, Tirtol, Nityananda Satpathy is a scholar, critic, compiler and editor. Sabujaru Sampratika (ସବୁଜରୁ ସାମ୍ପ୍ରତିକ) is one of his well-known critical works. He compiled Madhu Smaranika (ମଧୁ ସ୍ମରଣିକା), Nilakantha Parikrama (ନୀଳକଣ୍ଠ ପରିକ୍ରମା), Acharya Parikrama and Atibadi Parikrama (ଅତିବଡ଼ି ପରିକ୍ରମା). He edits the literary magazine 'Istahar'.

Bholanath Rout

Bholanath Rout, Jagatsinghapur, Cuttack is a writer and critic. His works include Satabdira Swapna (ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ), Sahityika Samalochana (ସାହିତ୍ୟିକ ସମାଲୋଚନା), Odia Upanyasa Sahityara Parichaya (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଉପନ୍ୟାସ ସାହିତ୍ୟର ପରିଚୟ), Gangadhar Smaranika (ଗଙ୍ଗାଧର ସ୍ମରଣିକା), Meher Aloka (ମେହେର ଆଲୋକ) and Sahityare Rahasyabada (ସାହିତ୍ୟରେ ରହସ୍ୟବାଦ), etc.

Brajmohan Mohanty

Brajmohan Mohanty, born at Gopalpur in Cuttack district, is a novelist and dramatist. He has written novels like Nisabda Akasha (ନିଶବ୍ଦ ଆକାଶ), Andha Pruthibi (ଅନ୍ଧ ପୃଥିବୀ), Bindue Nian (ବିନ୍ଦୁ ଯିଆଁ),

Kahani Tinibandhura (କାହାଣୀ ତିନି ବନ୍ଧୁର), Anyanya Paridhira Ranga (ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ପରିଧିର ରଙ୍ଗ) and Swarga O' Naraka (ସ୍ୱର୍ଗ ଓ ନରକ), Ama Palli (ଆମ ପଲ୍ଲୀ) and Chandra Chakori (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଚକୋରୀ) are his two plays.

Prabodh Kumar Mishra

Born in village Khandasahi in Cuttack district, Prabodh Kumar Mishra has written books both in Oriya and Sanskrit with great authority. Maralara Kabya (ମରାଳର କାବ୍ୟ), Malinira Nidrabhanga (ମାଳିନୀର ନିଦ୍ରାଭଙ୍ଗ), Naati Kabita (ନାଟି କବିତା) and Naati Galpa (ନାଟି ଗଳ୍ପ) are the books he has written in Oriya. His Sanskrit works include Koumudi (କୌମୁଦୀ), Santiduta (ଶାନ୍ତିଦୂତ), Swapnadutam (ସ୍ୱପନଦୂତ), etc.

Baishnaba Charan Samal

Baishnaba Charan Samal of Charigan, Cuttack is a poet and eminent critic. He is the author of a number of books including Adhunika Odia Kavi Eka Antardrusti (ଆଧୁନିକ ଓଡ଼ିଆ କବି ଏକ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଦ୍ରଷ୍ଟି), Samayara Lipi (ସମୟର ଲିପି), Kala, Sanskruti O' Sahitya (କଳା, ସଂସ୍କୃତି ଓ ସାହିତ୍ୟ), Odia Galpa Gati O' Prakruti (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଗଳ୍ପ ଗତି ଓ ପ୍ରକୃତି) and Kshudra Galpa Srasta Manasa (କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଗଳ୍ପ ସ୍ରଷ୍ଟା ମାନସ).

Deepak Mishra

Deepak Mishra of Kamarkhandi in Kendraparha subdivision of the Cuttack district is a distinguished poet and critic. His works include Asamapika (ଅସମାପିକା), Anustupa (ଅନୁସ୍ତୁପ), Saptama Pruthivi (ସପ୍ତମ ପୃଥିବୀ), Brutta (ବ୍ରତ), Nirjana Nakshatra (ନିର୍ଜନ ନକ୍ଷତ୍ର) and Kavi, Kavita O' Tara Prusthabhumi (କବି କବିତା ଓ ତାରା ପୃଷ୍ଠଭୂମି).

Prasanna Kumar Mishra

Prasanna Kumar Mishra was born in Jajpur and is a poet, dramatist and novelist. His works include 'Ratnadwipara Majhi (ରତ୍ନଦ୍ୱୀପର ମାଝି), Basantara Sketch (ବସନ୍ତର ସ୍କେଚ), Adrushya Sangam (ଅଦୃଶ୍ୟ ସଙ୍ଗମ), Asura (ଅସୁର), Badhipanira Danta (ବଦିପାନିର ଦାନ୍ତ), Prema Khela (ପ୍ରେମ ଖେଳ), Chhana Murti (ଛଣ ମୂର୍ତ୍ତି), Subarna Basudha (ସୁବର୍ଣ୍ଣ ବସୁଧା), Nijaku Radha Manekari (ନିଜକୁ ରାଧା ମନେକରି), etc.

Sahadeba Sahu

Born in Kabirpur village in Cuttack district, Sahadeba Sahu, an I. A. S. officer of Orissa Cadre, is an essayist, short story writer and philatelist. His works include *A Diga Se Diga* (ଏ ଦିଗ ସେ ଦିଗ), *Samasya Aji O' Kalira* (ସମସ୍ୟା ଆଜି ଓ କାଲିର), *Dakatikata Parichaya* (ଡାକଟିକଟ ପରିଚୟ), etc. He has written a number of essays on scientific subjects.

Barendra Krushna Dhal

Barendra Krushna Dhal, born in Banki, is a short story writer and novelist. His works include *Panigara* (ପାଣିଗାର), *Kabacha* (କବଚ), *Sandhyara Mukura* (ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାର ମୁକୁର), *Bidagdha Bhanggi* (ବିଦଗ୍ଧ ବିହଙ୍ଗୀ), *Nayika* (ନାୟିକା), etc. He is also famous as an investigative journalist.

Gagana Bihari Biswal

Born in Palasola, Cuttack, Gagan Bihari Biswal is a novelist and dramatist. His works include *Sabhyatara Ratha Chakra Tale* (ସଭ୍ୟତାର ରଥ ଚକ୍ର ତଳେ), *Sesa Paraga* (ଶେଷ ପରଗ), *Galpa Mora Alpa Nuhen* (ଗଳ୍ପ ମୋର ଅଳ୍ପ ନୁହେଁ), *Jala Danaba* (ଜଳ ଦାନବ), *Taapvi* (ତପସ୍ବି) and *Mahalakshmi* (ମହାଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ).

Ratnakar Chaini

Ratnakar Chaini was born in Arei, Cuttack and is a dramatist, essayist and critic. Noted amongst his dramas are *Apadebata* (ଅପଦେବତା), *Rajadarabara* (ରାଜଦରବାର), *Mancha Nayika* (ମଞ୍ଚ ନାୟିକା), *Punascha Pruthibi* (ପୁନଶ୍ଚ ପୃଥିବୀ), *Kalankita Surya* (କଳଙ୍କିତ ସୂର୍ଯ୍ୟ), *Rajahansa* (ରାଜହଂସ), *Sesa Ashru* (ଶେଷ ଅଶ୍ରୁ), *Astaragara Chandra* (ଅସ୍ତରଗର ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର), *Athacha Chanakya* (ଅଥଚ ଚାନ୍କ୍ୟ) and *Sunyatara Sidhi* (ଶୂନ୍ୟତାର ସିଦ୍ଧି). He has also written novels like *Phulara Phaguna* (ଫୁଲର ଫଗୁନ), *Ratira Rajanigandha* (ରତିର ରଜନୀଗନ୍ଧା) and *Abyakta Godhuli* (ଅବ୍ୟକ୍ତ ଗୋଧୂଳି). His other works are a collection of short stories entitled *Muthae Sunyata* (ମୂତାଏ ଶୂନ୍ୟତା) and a book titled *Udbhata Natya Parampara* (ଉଦ୍ଭଟ ନାଟ୍ୟ ପରମ୍ପରା).

Pratibha Ray

Pratibha Ray of Balikuda, Cuttack is a reputed novelist and short story writer. She has written a number of novels noted among which are *Upanayika* (ଉପନାୟିକା), *Silapadma* (ଶିଳାପଦ୍ମ), *Jagyanseni* (ଯାଜ୍ଞସେନୀ), *Aranya* (ଅରଣ୍ୟ), *Gangasiuli* (ଗଙ୍ଗଶିଉଳୀ), *Kainchara*

Sapana (କାଳ୍ପିତର ସପନ), Aparichita (ଅପରିଚିତା), Parichaya (ପରିଚୟ), Nisiddha Pruthibi (ନିଷିଦ୍ଧ ପୃଥିବୀ), Nilatrushna (ନୀଳତ୍ରଷ୍ଣା), etc. Megha Madura (ମେଘ ମେଦୁର) and Aikyatana (ଏକତାନ) are two of her short story collections. She is the recipient of 'Murti Devi' Award and Central Sahitya Akademi Award for her novel Jainaseni (ଜୀନାସେନୀ).

Pratibha Satpathy

Born in Satyabhamapur, Cuttack, Pratibha Satpathy is a reputed poetess and was honoured with Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award and Sarala Award. She has to her credit a number of poetry collections which include Sesa Janha (ସେଷ ଜହ୍ନ), Asta Janhara Eligi (ଅସ୍ତ ଜହ୍ନର ଏଲିଗି), Gasta Samaya (ଗସ୍ତ ସମୟ), and has translated a novel entitled Nila Nisithara Tara (ନୀଳ ନିଶିଥର ତାର).

Jayanta Kumar Das

Born at Bodhpur in the district of Cuttack, Jayanta Kumar Das is an essayist, critic, short story writer and dramatist. His works include Rahasya Ratnakar (ରହସ୍ୟ ରତ୍ନାକର), a collection of popular essays in science; Odia Betar Natak (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ବେତାର ନାଟକ), a criticism; Tilaru Tala (ତିଳରୁ ତାଳ), a short story collection; Ashara Nama Devayani (ଅଶାର ନାମ ଦେବୟାନୀ), a drama. Ashara Nama Devayani was broadcast in all major regional languages of the country by the All India Radio.

Sachidananda Mishra

Born in Sukinda, Sachidananda Mishra is a critic and essayist. He is credited with the authorship of a number of books which include Odia Bhasatattwa Samiksha (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ସମୀକ୍ଷା), Purana O' Nataka (ପୁରାଣ ଓ ନାଟକ), Odia Sahitya O' Samalochana (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସମୀକ୍ଷା), Bhanja Sahitya Samaja O' Sanskruti (ଭଞ୍ଜ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସମାଜ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି).

Besides, there are a number of other writers, novelists, poets critics and essayists of the district whose contribution to the growth of Oriya literature and language is no small.

APPENDIX I

List of Colleges with year of establishment*

Government Colleges:

1. Ravenshaw College, Cuttack (1868)
2. Ravenshaw Evening College, Cuttack (1962)
3. Sailabala Women's College, Cuttack (1946)
4. J. K. B. K. College, Cuttack (1972)
5. N. C. College, Jajpur (1945)

Non-Government Colleges:

1. Stewart Science College, Cuttack (1944)
2. Vyasagar College, Cuttack (1966)
3. Christ College, Cuttack (1944)
4. Salepur College, Salepur (1964)
5. Kandarpur College, Kandarpur
6. Chaudwar College, Chaudwar
7. Niali College, Niali (1977)
8. Prahalad Panchayat College, Nischintkoili (1979)
9. Subhadra Mahtab Mahavidyalaya, Asureswar (1979)
10. Sri Jagannath Mahavidyalaya, Nayahat
11. Dolagobinda Brajakishore College, Kasarda
12. Indira Gandhi Women's College, Cuttack
13. Emerti Devi Women's College, Cuttack
14. Cuttack College, Cuttack
15. Mahanga Puspagiri Mahavidyalaya, Mahanga
16. Tangi Mahavidyalaya, Kotasahi
17. Cuttack City College, Cuttack
18. L. N. Sahu College, Jagtपुर
19. S.S. Mahavidyalaya, Bayalish Mouza
20. Mahanga Women's College, Pallisahi
21. Jhadeswar College, Cuttack
22. Udayanath College, Adaspur
23. Bahugram College, Bahugram
24. City Women's College, Cuttack
25. Raghunath Jew College, Cuttack

*Figures in the bracket indicate the year of establishment.

26. Dasarathpur H.S.School, Dasarathpur
27. Brahmana Jharilo College, Brahmana Jharilo
28. Sadhu Goureswar College, Kanikapada (1975)
29. U.N.S.Mahavidyalaya, Khairabad (1975)
30. Baba Bhairabananda College, Chandikhole (1976)
31. Kharasrota Mahavidyalaya, Singhpur (1976)
32. Dharmasala Mahavidyalaya, Dharmasala (1978)
33. Shahashpur College, Balichandrapur (1978)
34. Mahapurusa Hadi Das Mahavidyalaya, Chhatia
35. Sukinda Mahavidyalaya, Sukinda (1979)
36. Junabhadra College, Pritipur
37. Anchalika Panchayat College, Sujanpur (1979)
38. Bharati Vihar Mahavidyalaya, Sukinda
39. Biraja Women's College, Jajpur (1980)
40. Laxmi Baraha College, Bhuinpur (1981)
41. B. S. College, Arakhapur
42. Jenapur College, Jenapur
43. Barapada College, Barapada
44. Indira Gandhi Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Jajpur Road
45. Kusumdev Satsanga Women's College, Darakhapatana
46. Regional College, Rambag
47. Mangalpur Women's College, Mangalpur
48. Brahmani College, Saraswatnagar, Dandisahi
49. L. B. College, Angalo
50. Panchayat Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Balia
51. Madhupur College, Kalan (1982)
52. Brajagiri College, Kotapur
53. Madhuban Mahavidyalaya, Madhubanhat
54. Devikandala Nityananda College, Kandala (1981)
55. Pranakrushna College, Baitarani Road

56. Kendraparha College, Kendraparha
57. Pattamundai College, Pattamundai
58. Olaver College, Olaver
59. S. A. College, Rajkanika
60. L. M. Mahavidyalaya, Patkura (1976)
61. Aul College, Aul (1975)
62. S.N.College, Rajkanika (1975)
63. Sri Sri Bayababa College, Mahakalparha (1978)
64. Marshaghai College, Marshaghai
65. Tulasi Women's College, Kendraparha
66. Chandol College, Chandol (1979)
67. Baruneswar Mahavidyalaya, Aret(1980)
68. Birupa College, Indupur
69. Sri Sri Jagannath Mahavidyalaya, Rajnagar
70. Derabis College, Derabis (1981)
71. Kendraparha Evening College, Kendraparha
72. Pattamundai Women's College, Pattamundai
73. Manab Sambal Vikas Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Govindapur
74. Vir Hanuman Jew College, Nikirei
75. Biju Patnaik College, Antei (1981)
76. Karilopatna College, Karilopatna (1960)
77. Anchalika Mahavidyalaya, Hatsahi
78. Baraha Regional Science College, Hatasahi Kacheri
79. Gopabandhu Science College, Athagarh (1963)
80. M.S.College, Badamba(1963)
81. Narasinghapur College, Narasinghapur (1978)
82. Kanpur Anchalika Mahavidyalaya, Kanpur (1978)
83. Sri Sri Dhabaleswar Mahavidyalaya, Gurudijhatia (1980)
84. P. P. Dev Mahavidyalaya, Tigiria (1981)
85. Ansupa College of Education and Technology. Athagarh

86. Gopabandhu Women's College, Athagarh
87. S. V. M. College, Jagatsinghapur (1963)
88. Paradeep College, Paradeep(1975)
89. Adikabi Sarala Das Mahavidyalaya, Tirtol
90. Kujang College, Kujang
91. Balikuda College, Balikuda (1939)
92. Sri Sri Jagannath Mahavidyalaya, Erasama (1980)
93. Anchalika Baladevjew Women's College, Nuagan
94. Karua Women's College, Karua
95. D.C.College, Redhua
96. Kaduapada H. S. School, Kaduapada
97. Baya Abadhut College, Kanimal
98. Sarala Mahavidyalaya, Rahama
99. Banki College, Banki (1961)
100. Kalapathara Dhalapathara Anchalika Mahavidyalaya, Tolkani
101. G. C. College, Ramachandrapur, Cuttack
102. Brahmani College, Saraswatinagar, Dandisahi
103. Alaka Mahavidyalaya, Anakhia
104. Jawaharlal Nehru College, Kuanpal
105. U. S. Mahavir College, Madanpur
106. Sahadeswar College, Cuttack
107. Thakurani Nigamananda Mahavidyalaya, Nagarihar
108. Brajasundar College, Sahapur
109. Abhimanyu Samanta Singhar College, Abhimanyu Batia
110. Chitrotpala College, Akhua
111. Ushadevi Women's College, Audhara
112. Kamaladevi Women's College, Rankapal
113. Jagannath Jew Mahavidyalaya, Chadidhar
114. Women's College, Japakud
115. Prava Routray Mahavidyalaya, Godisahi
116. Kasinath Mahavidyalaya, Kaipara
117. Kapileswar College, Kotama