

UNEXPLORED VALMIKI TEMPLE ATKOTSADA PAURI GARHWAL: A CASE STUDY

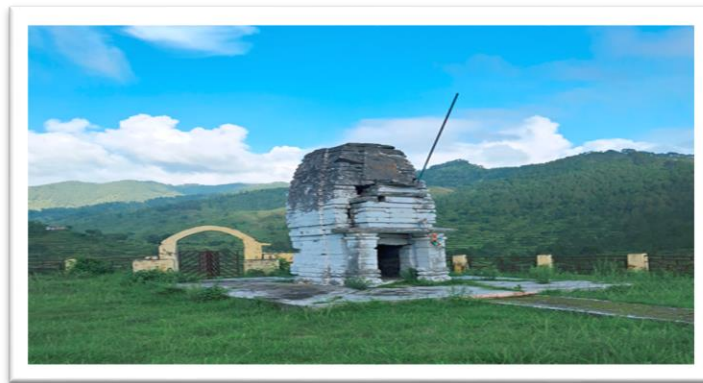
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ABSTRACT

Everyone talks about big temples, but some temples are on the verge of extinction today, their importance and uniqueness are much more important than any other temple. There is also a Valmiki temple in Kotsada village of Pauri. Estimate the probable date of the Gray Stone Temple, based on comparisons with similar monuments in the region and elsewhere, as concrete documentation has not yet been found. Describe this small but important monument, present its measured drawings, and tell about Valmiki Temple Kotsada Pauri Garhwal. Gardwal's poet and writer Bhajan Singh has described the Valmiki temple in his book but no detailed description or picture has been published yet. According to the book of Dr. Katoch in this paper, a large number of Nagara-style temples have been found in this area, which are of 12th and 13th century, among which the Deval Pida style built by Ruchak is prominent, which is similar to the Vishnu temple group Deval and this To Valmiki temple. Can be seen in. Studying it reveals that this temple is interesting, there is one, and the Ruchak temple is used for the same deity. Presently there is no idol in the temple because at that time the local people were careless and made a mistake in destroying this temple, which caused great damage to the importance of the temple. Looking at the temple it is clear that the condition of the temple is very bad and due to the archeology department not knowing about it or not knowing about this temple, this temple is now in a very dilapidated condition. Due to lack of archaeological importance, this temple is getting destroyed with time and it has become very important to work on it to save it from extinction so that the coming generations can know the importance of their culture and society.

Keywords: Kotsada, Pauri, Grey Stone, Nagara Style, Ruchak Temple, Folklore, Deval Pieta Style.

Introduction



Valmiki temple Pic by Author.

Uttarakhand is called Devbhoomi. Four Dhams, pilgrimage places, and the main river separates this state from other states. There are groups of temples and single temples, Shiva temples, Vishnu temples, and temples of other gods which are They have very different importance in themselves, the

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main ones are Kedarnath, Badrinath, Baijnath, Jageshwar Dham, and many others. Valmiki Temple Kotsada Pauri Garhwal is located in a village in Uttarakhand. According to Mr. Ranjan Rawat, an elder from Kotsada village, one of the ancient villages of the area, it was settled by his ancestors in the 11th century. Later, Bhatt Brahmin, Rawat, Lingwal, Rajput, and Scheduled Caste families of the Bisht caste settled here. (Prohit 2019) Valmiki temple is a small temple made of grey stone. The height of this temple is 13 to 14 feet. This temple is a wonderful piece of architecture. It is located in the foothills of the middle Himalayas. On the summit of this temple, there is bhomi Amalek all around and there must have been Amalek and kalas on top of the temple, but now it is not there in this temple, on two pillars, a stone roof, which becomes a porch, separates this temple from other temples. Talking about the present time, the condition of the temple is very bad and in some places, the temple has started to break down. There is a danger due to which our architectural art is being destroyed continuously, this temple has to be saved now, it is essential to preserve it. Dev Bhoomi is the best example of religious tolerance in the rural areas of Uttarakhand. From the places of worship of periodic deities to the Valmiki temple, it exists as a center of reverence for the common people. (Prohit 2019) The book states Ruchak this temple appears to have been influenced by the Deval Peetha style of architecture this is a Ruchak that may date back to the late 12th and early 13th centuries making it one of the earliest (Katoch 2003) Two temples missing from the map of Uttarakhand. The Kutumbari temple built in the 8th century on the high hill of Dwarahat in Almora, which was built by the Katuri dynasty, was one of the 7 temples under the ASI. It was consecrated on March 26, 1915, for the last time in 1957. Its origin was found in the records in 1964. Much of the work of the temple was found dry and gradually the temple disappeared due to excavation. The second temple was a pagoda, which is located near the Corbett National Reserve in Ramnagar, and the Veetapatna temple of Dikuli, which was a capital area in the 7th century. In May 2013, it was conserved by the Hindus. Both these temples are now included in the list of 50 lost monuments of the country. Have gone (UJJLA AMAR 5 JUNE 2023) There is another temple in the village Kotsada which is Shiva temple which is very famous in this area. (Prohit 2019) This temple has its history which is not older than Valmiki temple. According to ancient legend, there was a Valmiki Ashram in the middle of this area, where an ancient temple is still situated. In Ramayana, there is a description of Valmiki's labor on the banks of Bhagirathi. In Valmiki Ashram, Jahavi and Bhagirathi have been identified more than Ganga ji. The great poet Kalidas has identified Bhagirathi as Tapovani situated on the banks of Bhagirathi has also been confirmed in Raghuvans. Bhagirathi and Alaknanda rivers are only 4.5 miles away from this area of Sitavansho. The documentary evidence presented in support of our statement and ancient folk tales from ancient times related to Ram Laxman and Sita are sufficient to authenticate the historical reality of this area. (B. Singh 1968)



Valmiki temple Pic by Author



Valmiki temple Pic by Author

Objectives

- To study the historical presence of the Valmiki temple
- To study the important role of the temple
- The Unseen Valmiki Temple Attractions
- To Suggest Solutions To Overcome Such Problems

Research Methodology

The present study is descriptive of the Valmiki Temple in which an attempt has been made to cover the importance of the Valmiki Temple and its location in the Pauri district. The present study is based on the information collected from both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data collection are the study and local visits, observations, interviews, the Internet, newspapers, books, etc.

Discussion



Valmiki Temple Pic by Author

Pradeep Rauthan (Shiv temple priest) tells about Kotsada Valmiki Ashram that this ashram is very old and its belief is very ancient and the Mansar Mela Sita Mata held near it is first one year in Polsadi village and one year in Kot village. What used to happen gradually changed over time and the old parts also became extinct.

Jaswant Shing Bisht (Postmaster) Mr. Bashit is a native of Kotsara and says that our elders had told us that once upon a time, Luv and Kus used to live in the Valmiki Ashrams of Mother Sita and used to come to the village and take bath in the water pond. Evidence of this was seen some time ago in a field in the village, which has now been destroyed in a natural disaster, but there is no written version of it, it is in the form of a legend.

Subodh Bhatt, a resident of Deval, who is working in the Collectorate of Pauri, says that the Valmiki temple has great importance because there is also a Laxman temple in the village of Deval, which is somehow related to the Valmiki temple and its proofs can be seen even today. and found in some legends

Utkarsh Bhatt (English Teacher Government School) Mr. Bhatt currently lives in Pauri and is an English teacher and says on Valmiki Ashram that it is very difficult to find its destination but some history can be found in the books of Garhwal poet and writer Shri Bhajan Singh. The rest of this temple is alive only in folk tales and legends. It is very important to work on this temple.



Valmiki Temple Pic by Author

Conclusion

According to ancient legend, there is Valmiki Ashram in the middle of Koutsada village, Sitavanshu Pauri Garhwal area, where an ancient temple is still located. Even in Ramayana, there is a description of Valmiki Ashram on the banks of Bhagirathi and it is said that in Valmiki temple, there is more Alaknanda than Ganga ji. And Bhagirathi has been mentioned which is at a distance of 4 to 5 miles from Valmiki Ashram, Kotsada, Sitavanshu, Pauri Garhwal, about 8 kilometers. This is confirmed by the ancient folklore, paper documents, and Ram Laxman, which is enough to authenticate the reality of this area related to Sita. Sita Mata has a very ancient importance in this area, with which Valmiki ji and Laxman ji are related, hence this temple is very important and revered by the local people.

There are many important and mysterious scenes in this temple which are not visible even today due to lack of knowledge of this subject. The art, objects, and construction materials of the temple are very worth seeing. The situation is bad, the building of the temple has also become very bad, which has not been repaired, but white paint has been painted all over it, due to which another cultural heritage of ours is on the verge of being destroyed. Keeping the temple in mind, this should be avoided. For this, the Archaeological Unit of Garhwal Mandal Pauri should restore the temple building under the supervision of archaeologists by taking proper measures so that the cultural identity of the temple is maintained. Lest it happen that this temple also gets named among the two temples of Uttarakhand which have just been included in the list of fifty extinct heritages, hence it is very important to pay attention to the temples in poor condition in Uttarakhand so that our cultural heritage can be preserved. can be saved for future generations

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