



Glory of Bharath » Bharath Darshan

This month our sojourn is to the ancient city Ossian in Rajasthan which houses a temple of Sun God.

Ossian Surya Temple



Ancient city of Ossian in Rajasthan is famous for its architectural temples which date back to medieval age. The Ossian temple is located at the verge of the Thar Desert. Ossian can be also easily reached from anywhere in Rajasthan. Ossian City from Jodhpur can be reached at a distance of 65 kms in the north-west. The city of Ossian is said to have been founded by Utpaladeva, who was the Rajput Prince belonging to Pratihara Dynasty. In those times only the city was named as Ukeshha or Upkeshapur. During the reign of Pratihara dynasty it is believed to be the major religious and cultural centre of the Mewar kingdom. A major number of shrines are embedded with the ravages of this time, however 18 shrines are still there unfolding the royal legacy of past.

Ossian Temples

Amongst these temples, Surya (Sun) Temple, Harihara Temple, Sachiya Mata Temple and a Jain temple dedicated to Lord Mahavira get the prime importance. Ossian is regarded as a prominent pilgrimage especially for Osswal Jain community. Ravages of the time have destroyed these temples to an extent, but still their charm attracts people to visit the ancient city of Ossian. The temples in the Ossian City of Rajasthan are among the earliest of all medieval temples in the country. All the temples are carved with red sandstone edifices, three of them are dedicated to Harihara- or the union of Vishnu and Shiva.

Surya Temple

Ossian Surya Temple had traced its origin in the 10th century. The structure of this Ossian temple is often compared with the Sun Temple at Ranakpur. As according to the name it suggests, this temple is dedicated to Lord Surya or Sun God. The sanctum of the temple inside comprises the striking idol of Lord Surya. The main hall of the temple even has the idols of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Durga. The ceiling is decorated with the images of serpents coiled around lotus flowers. The life-stories here are depicted here in the form of murals and scriptures. The initial Surya Temple dates back to the 8th century and it was later merged into the complex of Sachiya Mata Temple.

Our sojourn continues next month...Till then Sai Ram

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