



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

## STUDY OF NOMENCLATURE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO GANGADHAR GRANTHABALI

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### ABSTRACT

In India very little work has been done in the area of place names research. However there are some useful works done by scholar like H.D sankalia , D.C Sircar, S.J. mangalam, S.K. Chatterji, A.K Chhudhury, B.D Chattopadhyya, and other have traced the different cultural aspect of different states in India . No attempt has been made by the scholars to make an exclusive study on Granthabali place names in Odisha and India so far. In the present work, sincere attempts have been made to analyse the place names found in the Granthabali with the help of Sanskrit English Dictionary, Encyclopedia, Britannica and Purnachandra Odia Bhsakosha to find actual meaning of place names. Moreover place names collected from the Granthabali are divided here on the basis of suffixes and prefixes. It may be significant that the place names mentioned by Kabi Gangadhar in his works reveals on the cultural, religious, social and natural aspect of the region. They may provide insight into cultural, linguistic, historical habits and spatial, environmental perception.

**KEYWORD : Granthabali, Literature, Place names, Nomenclature.**

The study of Places-names with a distinguished Past plays an important role in linguisticarchaeological and historical research. As an interdisciplinary study of places-names, research takes into account historical folkloristic, linguistic, geographical and ethnological data. Places-names thus reflect not only physical characteristics of the place, but also characteristics of the people who live there by; they may provide insight into cultural, linguistic, historical habits and spatial, environmental perception.

There are works like “Dynasties of medieval Orissa (Calcutta, 1933) by B. Mishra, The Bhoumakara and their times (Delhi, 1978) by Biswarupa Das, Cultural History of Orissa ( Delhi,1983), Historical Geography and political History of Orissa ( Calcutta, 1975) by Dilip kumar Ganguly have devoted some portions works. Valuable PhD works like Historical Geography of Orissa ( upto 11 century A.D) Sambalpur university ( 1983) by B.C Jena, Inscriptional place names of Orissa, A.D 738- 1568 [ Calcutta, 1917] by Dr. Nakul Seth also contributed on the foregoing subject.

For the preparation of present work, materialshave been collected from different Journal books and literary works of western Odisha. Beside this, I have referred to original works of Kabi Gangdhar Meher. There are some personal interviews with old people for collection of data for

preparation of this paper. Moreover I have gone through the books like Sanskrit English Dictionary and Puranchandara Odia Bhasakosa, District Census. In the present work place names have been classified into different groups like place names denoting politics, place names denoting religious, place names denoting geographical features, place names denoting flora and place names denoting fauna. Last it may be mentioned here that place names suffixes will be discussed and analysis separately.

## **LITERARY CONTRIBUTION**

Gangadhar Meher is regared as a rarest gem in Oriya literature. He was very fondly known as “ Swabhab Kabi” and “Prakruti Kabi” . Meherian liteture also reveals the poet sympathy for the poorer sections of the society. That the poet vision and imagination touch all aspects of life, such as: God, nature, patriotism, language, education, ideal love, actualities of social life, traditional ideas, hospitality, devotion, morality, cultural values etc.

It was the 19th century India was still under British administration struggling for freedom. During that time there was another struggle going on in Odisha, the effort to save Odia language. On 9th of Aug 1862, Swabhaba Kabi Gangadhar Meher took birth in Barapali village of Bargarh, Odisha. He went on to become one of the most creative fundamental contributors to Odia literature.

His numerous literary creations, such as:( “Rasa- Ratanakara”) first kavya, “Indhu Mati”,(1894) “Utkal- Laksmi”(1914) “Balarama- Deba”, “Kichaka Badha”,(1903) “Ayodhya Drusya”,(1914) “Tapaswini”(1914) “Pranya Ballari”,(1915) “Padmini”, “Krusak Sangita”,(1921) “Kabitamala”, “Arghyathali”(1918) etc.

Gangadhar is widely known as a poet of nature ( prakruti Kabi). He is regarded as a great illustrious poet and maker of Indian literature for his value based writing on Indian culture. His poetry can be classfied in to lyrics, devotional, Patriotic, reformative, ethical, and agricultural narration of nature.

### **Places names reflected in the Granthabali**

#### **Place name reflected in Utkala- Laxmi:**

1. Bamanda
2. Barpali
3. Bhubaneswar
4. Dhawalgiri
5. Jajpur
6. Konark
7. Khandagiri
8. Kedharnath(Amabhana)
9. Mayurbhanja
10. Patanagarh
11. Padampur
12. Puri
13. Sambalpur

#### **Place name reflected in Padmini:**

1. Bijepur
2. Padampur
3. Sambalpur

**Place name reflected in Balaram Deva:**

- 1.Sambalpur

**Place name reflected in Kichaka-Badha:**

1. Bijepur

**Place name reflected in Tapaswini:**

1. Bijepur
2. Sambalpur

**Place name reflected in Kabitha Mala:**

1. Barpali
2. Sambalpur

**Place name reflected in Pranaya – Ballari:**

1. Padampur
2. Sambalpur

**Place name reflected in Argyathali:**

1. Patangarh

**Place name reflected in Ayodha-Drusya:**

1. Sambalpur

**ANALYSIS OF PLACE NAMES:**

Analysis of place names is indeed a difficult task for scholars very often. A name has more than one meaning, and what is exact connotation can be understood only by a personal visit to the place. We have made an attempt to visit some place to collect exact connotation of place names. But there are some controversy regarding the naming and meaning of place names among the Scholars. Therefore, scholars have been facing problem to analyse the place names properly or satisfactorily. So the interpretation suggested here are to be understood as provisional and not final. We have made an attempt to classify and explain the place names according to their meaning and etymology. A detailed classification of place names of meherinas literature would help us understand their origin and cultural significance to a great extent.

The place names normally consist of two unit prefixes and suffixes, The prefixes stand for the proper name of the place or we can say stem portion of the place names which denote origin of the place names as well as physical features, fauna, flora, topographical features title names are found as the basis of stem portion of the place names. Here, we will discuss the prefixes place names and the suffix can be taken letter. As the suffix taken in a very loose way to suggest the type of settlement which is very useful for the classification of pattern of the villages.

**Political place names: Bijepur, Patangarh, Jajpur, Bhubaneswer****Bijepur:**

The place names of Bijepur, Patanagarh, Jajpur and Bhubaneswar mentioned in the literary works of Swabhaba Kabi Gangadhar Meher. The first place name Bijepur reflected in Padamini, Kichaka Badha and Tapaswini. The village Bijepur may be named after victory or vijaya, So place Bijepur is a victorious place in Western Odisha.

**Patanagarh:**

The second place names Patanagarh reflected in the Utkala – laxmi and Arghyathali. The place had historical significance as it was the epic centre of power in middle age. Patanagarh was the capital of 18 Garh that come under South Koshal. In the 12th century AD the progenies of

the famous king of Delhi, Prithwiraj Chouhan came and settled down in Patangarh. The ruling king was Ramai Deo.

### **Jaipur :**

The third place names was Jaipur is also mentioned in the Uttkala laxmi of Gangadhar Meher. The town Jaipur was made by king Jajati Keshari” the Somavanshi king of early 10th Century AD. Mahasivagupt Yayati shifted his capital from Vinitipura to Yayatinagar. Probably the place was named after king Yaysti. It was a historical city mentioned in the Uttkala laxmi.

### **Bhubaneswar :**

The place name Bhubaneswar reflected in the poetic work of Uttkala laxmi is present capital city of Odisha. The historical, cultural and heritage city Bhubaneswar differently known as Ekamra khetra , temple city of Odisha with the diverse ranged of heritage resources. It shows significant sacred cultural landscape components which have evolved with the support of available natural base and cultural trigger. The place Bhubaneswar has two units or segments, the first unit or segment Bhubana may be Bhuvan and second unit Swara denoting swarga. The word “Bhuvan” means in Odia a big planned home and second word swarga speaking on the plenty of bhuvan or planned home. Thus the place Bhubaneswar denotes an area having a large number of big planned homes.

### **Religious place names: (Sambalpur , Kedarnath, Konark , Puri)**

#### **Sambalpur :**

Place names Sambalpur, Konark, Puri, and Kedarnath are the religious places mentioned in the literary works of Kabi Gangadhar. Reference to the place name Sambalpur has been mentioned seven times in the Granthabali. The place Sambalpur named after Goddess Maa Samleswari the tribal deities, recognized by Chohuns rulers of Sambalpur. The ancient town Sambalpur was the capital city of Chouhan dynasty. Sambalpur is a hub of education, culture, literary, heritage, health, engineering of modern as well as in early medieval Odisha. Probably for this reason the place Sambalpur has occupied in the literary works of Kabi .

#### **Kedarnath:**

The place Kedarnath is named after Kedarnath temple one among the Astha Sambhu temples of western Odisha. This temple was built by Chahuchan king of Sambalpur named Baliyara Singh. All Astha Sambhu Siva temples of Western Odisha constructed by Dakshin Rai, the Dewan of Raja Ajit Singh of Chouhans dynasty.

#### **Konark:**

The religious place name Konark mentioned in the Uttkala Laxmi work of Kabi Gangadhar Meher. The place Konark named after the Konark temple which is a holy place situated in Puri district built by Langula Narasimhadeva of Ganga Dynasty. Numerous poems and novels have been written about Konark most of which explore or reinterpret inherent in the legends and stories around the temple. Following notable Odia writers were written poems and novels based on or inspired by Konark i.e Sachidananda Routh Ray, Goupabandhu Das, Mayadharmasingh, Monoj Das, Pratiba Ray. Kabi Gangadhar also could not forget to mention the names of Konark in his work. Gangadhar truly realized cultural, architectural, historical and political relevance of the Konark. Probably for this reason he has mentioned this place name in his poem Uttkala Laxmi. The magnificent Sun temple Konark bears excellence in the field of art, architecture and sculpture. Today in its ruined conditions the Konark temple or the Sun temple appears as an architectural wonder. There is no monument in Hinduism that is at once so stupendous and so perfectly proportioned as the Black Pagoda and none which leaves so deep an impression on the memory. This place regarded as a holy place of Hindu religions where God Sun was worshipped.

**Puri:**

The place Puri may be named after “pura” which means city or fortified city. The place Puri is mentioned in the Uttkal Laxmi work of Kabi Gangadhara. Puri is so famous for Jaganath temple, which is a sacred temple devoted to lord Jaganath along with his brother Balabhadra and sister Devi Suvatra. Lord Jagannath is considered to be a form of lord Vishnu by Hindus. This place is one of the four pilgrimages site of Char Dham of Hindus. Above mentioned fact justifying the idea of religious significances conceived in poet mind on Puri.

**Social place names: Bamanda****Bamanda:**

Reference to above place name Bamanda or Bamra has been reflected in the “Uttkala Laxmi” work of Kabi Gangadhar. It was a princely State under the British Raj located in a hilly area between the Mahanadi Valley and the Chotnagpur plate. Its capital was present Deogarh District of Odisha. The place probably named after the Bamapada or Bamara [left foot] most of its territories was forest producing timber and lac and rich in iron. Many important rulers of Bamanda belong to Eastern Ganga dynasty. So the place Bamra was an important place having historical, cultural achievement for this Prkruthi Kabi Gangadhar has given place in his Kabya Uttakla Laxmi.

**Place names denoting Physical features: Khandagiri****Khandagiri:**

The poem “Uttkala Laxmi” of Kabi Gangadhar Meher reflected the place name Khandagiri. The place was two segments: Khanda and giri. Khanda denoting a portion of hills and giri denoting hills. So the name Khandagiri means an area of great giri or hills. Khandagiri is situated near the present capital city of Odisha Bhubaneswar. Probably the place Khandagiri named after hill. Near to the Khandagiri another hill Udayagiri is situated. Both Khandagiri and Udayagiri have archaeological, historical, religious importance in Odisha. Taking into account the importance of those places Kabi Gangadhar has mentioned. Poet included so many different significant places of Odisha and it not only expresses literary works but also speaks the different geography, historical, cultural heritage aspect of Odisha.

**Place Names Denoting Flora Barpali, Padampur****Barpali:**

Reference to above mentioned place names Barpali reflected in Kabitha Mala and Uttkala Laxmi. Barpali is the birth place of Kabi is a place of flora name has two segment prefix Bara and suffixes Pali of those prefix Bara denoting an Banyan tree and suffixes pali denoting a small village or tiny land area. So the place Barpali means a tiny land where abandoned of Banyan tree so place Barpali named after Banyan tree.

**Padampur :**

Padampur occurred three times in the poetries, Padmini, Pranaya ballari and Uttkala Laxmi of Kabi Gangadhara. The place Padampur has also two segments one is Padam means Lotus flower and Pur or pura denoting a big fertility city. It means the place Padampur is a big city and named after Lotus flower. It may be mentioned that there was plenty of Lotus flower available on Padampur.

## Place Names Denoting Fauna Mayurbhanj

### Mayurbhanj :

The fauna and flora place Mayurbhanja has been reflected once in the Uttkala laxmi poem of Prakuthi Kabi Gangadhar Meher. The natural atmosphere of Mayurbhanja has impress Kabi for which he has mentioned in his poem Uttkala Laxmi. The Mayurbhanja has two segment, one is prefix mayur and second is suffix bhanj of the one mayur denoting peacock and bhanj denoting the name of the ruling dynasty (Bhanja of Khijjing Kotta) they have rulled in that runling for a long period . Further it can be mentioned here that the bhanja means may be fauna or forest as Mayurbhanj area is full of forest and largest in Odisha . So the place Mayurbhanj denoting locality where plenty of peacock and forest are there. In present time Similipal National Park in Mayurbhanja found plenty of peacock its implied ours stand.

## Place Names Denoting Economics: Subarnapura

### Subarnapura:

The place names Sonepur or Subarnapur reflected in the poetry Uttkala Laxmi of Gangadhara. The place Sonepur or Subarnapur was the capital city of Somavansi dynasty of Odisha. That apart many dynasty ruled Subarnapur in different period so it was a special place on the political and cultural map of India. The place has two segment, prefix Subarna and suffix pura, the word subarna denoting gold and place pura denoting on city or town. This place subarnapura probably named after gold because plenty of gold located in the locality. According to some other sources plenty of gold and diamond found there.

### **PREFIX AND SUFFIX PLACE NAMES:**

As I have mentioned earlier the place names consist of two units prefix and suffix. The prefix stand for proper names of the place or we can say steam portion of the place names which denote origin of the place names as well as physical features fauna, flora, Topographical features, personal and titles names are found as the basis of steam portion of the place names .But the suffixes may be taken in a very lose way to suggest the type of settlement which very useful for the classification of pattern of the villages. In the below mention table column no,three indicate about the suffix place names mentioned in Granthabali of Kabi.

Place names	Prefix	Suffix	Literacy Work
Bamanda	Baman	Da	Uttkala laxmi
Mayurbhanja	Mayur	Bhanja	Uttkala laxmi
Barpali	Bara	Pali	Uttkala laxmi, kabitha mala
Patanagarh	Patna	Garh	Uttakala laxmi,
Bhubaneswer	Bhuban	Sawra	Uttakalal laxmi
Padampur	Padam	Pura	Uttakala laxmi, padamini, pranya bhallari
Sambalpur	Sambal	Pura	Uttakal laxmi, padmini, Balaram deva, Tapaswani, pranyabhall ari, ayodha dursa, Kabitha mala
Jajpur	Jaj	Pura	Uttakal laxmi
Sonepur	Sone	Pura	Uttakal laxmi
Konark	Konark		Uttakal laxmi
Bijepur	BIje	Pura	Padamini, Kichakabadha, Tapaswini
Khandagiri	Khanda	Giri	Uttakal laxmi
Puri	Puri		Uttakal laxmi
Kedarnath	Kedar	nath	Uttakal laxmi

**Place names suffixes:****Bhanja :**

The suffix place Bhanja was found with the place names Mayurbhanja in the poetry work of Uttkala Laxmi of Gangadhar Granthabali . The word bhanja denotes the name of ruling dynasty Bhanja of Kijjina Kotta. This dynasty was ruling in that locality for long times having their capital Khijinga Kotha was identified with Khiching near Baripada.

**Pali :**

The suffix pali found with the place names Barpali in the Uttakal Laxmi and Kabitha Mala poetry of Kabi Gangadhar Meher Granthabali. Barpali is the birth place of Kabi. The suffix place means a small settlement or hamlet. The suffix pali is used as a general term indicate a village in most of the cases, usually its denoting small village or hamlet.

**Pura:**

The place names suffix pura is Sanskrit word and it has wide use not only Odisha but all over India. The suffix place occurs more than five times in the poetic works of Kabi Gangadhar Meher. The suffix place means a city a fortified city and in the latter meaning it is found in every Sanskrit literature. The Padampur, Sambalpur, Jajpur, Sonapur, Bijepur are the place names having suffix 'Pura' found in the Gangadhar Granthabali.

**CONCLUSION**

Total 15 number of different place names are found in the "Gangadhar Granthabali" of Meher. The place names like Sambalpur is mentioned seven times, village Bijepur three times, Padampur also reflected three times as well as place names Barapali and Patangarh has been reflected twice in the Granthabali and rest of the place names have been reflected once in the literary works of Kabi Granthabali.

It is a great significance to mention here that place Sambalpur has been seen more than seven times in the different works of Gangadhar Meher would indicate the importance of Sambalpur in the life time of Kabi, provide insight into cultural, linguistic, historical habits and spatial, environmental perception. It indicated Sambalpur was a centre point of academic, Political, and cultural hub of the Western Odisha .

The place Bijepur also a working place and neighbour village of Barpali. The birth place of Kabi Gangadhar Meher, Kabi wrote his greatest literary works like Padamini, Kichaka- Badha, and Tapaswini during his stay at Bijepur. It speaks position of women in Bijepur and its neighbor area.

Another place name Padampur also occupied three times in the work of kabi. Padampur is also known as Rajborasambar is a topographical significant place in Western Odisha, Padampur also famous for its flora and fauna and the Nursingnath temple of Lord Visnu .

Barpali, the birth place of Kabi where his literary work started, the poet has mentioned Barpali in Kabitha Mala and Uttakal- laxmi. The place Barpali is famous nationally and internationally because of the indigenous Sambalpur saree weaving, bandha art, earthen pottery handicrafts and famous for cultivation of rice.

The place names Patanagarh also reflected twice in the works Arghathali and Utakal laxmi. It is under Balangir district of Odisha. Other place names like Bamnda, Bhubaneswar, Jajapur, Konark, Puri have been found once in the work of poet. It may be mentioned here that the poetry Utakala laxmi of Kabi included all the village under our review . It means Kabi loves the united Odisha and for this, he has mentioned many village names of undivided modern Odisha, Thus the above place names revealed in the Meherian literature truly provides insight into cultural, linguistic, historical habits and spatial, environmental perception of the region.

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