GLOSSARIAL INDEX

Adhikāra : The head of a sattra
Asaraṇijīya : Who has not yet come under the fold of a Vaiṣṇavite sect
Āriā : A special torch used in Bhāonā
Ātā : a designation of a Vaiṣṇavite saints, an elder, father, head of the Narowā sattra
Ātoi : a venerable person, a devotee attached to a sattra
Ācārya : Heads of the sattra or elderly monk of a sattra
Āl-dhara : Personal attendant of a Sattrādhiķāra
Bāhar : a temporary huts to accommodate sattra heads and disciples on tour.
Bāyana : a skilled leader of the sattra orchestra
Bāp : address applied to Brahmanical sattra heads
Bāpu : Brahmanā disciple of a sattra
Bāṭcarā or Karāpāṭ : a gate-house of a sattra or nām-ghar
Basti : high land
Bheṭi : Foundation or plinth
Bhakat : a devotee
Bhāonā : a religious dramatic show of sattra
Bhāgatī : an expositor of the Bhāgavata Purāṇa (Sk. Bhāgavatī)
Bhāṭimā : a laudatory ode employed in the Ankīyā or neo-Vaiṣṇavite drama.
Bil : Small natural water body
Brahmottara : a gift of land made to Brahman
Carita-putṭi : a biography of Vaiṣṇava Saints
Cārī-vastu : Four fundamental principles of Śaṅkarite religion: Deva (refuge in Lord Kṛṣṇa), Nāma (glorification of the Name of god), Guru (acceptance of a preceptor), and bhakat (the company of devotees or satsanga).
Cahar phūrā : Official tours of the Adhikāra

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**Cho** : Mask

**Cāri-hāti** : Cloisters for *bhakats*

**Daśama** : Book X of the *Śrimadbhāgavata Purāṇa*

**Dāmodariyā** : Followers of Dāmodara Deva who established the Brahma-Sainhāti.

**Dekā Aḍhikāra** : Vice-pontiff of Sattra.

**Deuri** : Distributor of sacred offerings in religious gathering

**Devottara** : An endowment made in the name of God; rent free land given to a temple

**Dhemāli** : A preliminary orchestral music in a Bhāona performance

**Dhop** : A garland of Basil leaves

**Eka śaraṇa** : The supreme surrender to one God

**Gāyān** : Officer-in-charge of music and singing.

**Gachā** : A stand for a native lamp

**Gāmochā** : Assamese handmade towel

**Ghoṣā** : Refrain (Sk. ghus = to sing aloud)

**Ghaṭi** : An hour

**Ghar** : Family

**Gosāin** : Head priest of the sattra in Narowā is also known as *gosāin*

**Guru** : Preceptor

**Guru-āsana** : Holy pedestal representing the guru

**Guru-kar** : Tithe: religious tax or contribution

**Guru-Bhaṭīmā** : Panegyric

**Hāṭīs** : Rows of huts to accommodate devotees or *bhakats*

**Khār-bārod** : *gun*—powder

**Hatimātā** : The leader of a particular Hāṭī

**Kala Sainhāti** : A sub sect of the Mahāpuruṣīyā cult

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition/Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kāyastha</td>
<td>Kāyastha (satśudra) caste persons belonging to this caste. Some say they are Sudra, others say they are Khatriyas. They are known as a scribe-class, mostly associated with penmanship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kāṭheli Vidyā</td>
<td>Knowledge to be learnt by Kāyasīhas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevaliyā</td>
<td>Celibate monk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khāṭulā</td>
<td>Holy seat or litter used by Tiwas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kīrtana</td>
<td>The act of chanting prayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kīrtana-ghar</td>
<td>Prayer-hall of sattra or nām-ghar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Krishna-nāc</td>
<td>Form of dance by Kṛṣṇa; a genre of satrīyā dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahanta</td>
<td>Non-Brahman heads of sattras</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mahāpurūṣṭyā</td>
<td>Śaṅkara-deva’s sect</td>
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<tr>
<td>Māh-prasād</td>
<td>Sacred offerings consisting of pulse, uncooked rice and fruit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manikut</td>
<td>Sanctum, where sacred text or idol is installed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medhi</td>
<td>A functionary who periodically supervise the religious life of the disciples.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nām-ghar</td>
<td>A Prayer-hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nām (Nama)</td>
<td>Names and attributes of God</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nām-kīrtan</td>
<td>Community singing of the Name of God.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nām-lagowā</td>
<td>Leader of the congregational prayer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nānkar</td>
<td>Rent free land grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nirmālī</td>
<td>Garland or flower petals offered by a Guru with blessing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nāc</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pācani</td>
<td>An officer who collects tithes and contributions from disciples</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pācati</td>
<td>A festival celebrated on the fifth day of the birth anniversary of Kṛṣṇa (Sk. Pancatika)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padaśilā</td>
<td>Footmark of guru cut on slabs of stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pāṭhak</td>
<td>Reciter of religious texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prasānga</td>
<td>Religious service; matins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prasād</td>
<td>Sacred offering.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Puruṣa Samhāti: The sub-sect organized by Puroṣottama Ṭhākur and Caturbhuj Ṭhākur

Pukhuri: Small tank

Sāj-tolā: Officer who collects contributions from disciples.

Sācipāt: agar bark manuscripts

Sanhāti: Association (Sub) Sect. The four principal Sanhātis are viz., Brahma- Kāla- Nikā- and Puruṣa

Śaraṇa: Initiation.

Śarai: a brass tray having artistically carved stand

Sattra: Vaiṣṇavite Monastery

Sattradhikāra: Head of sattra; pontiff

Śisya or Śic: Laity.

Śiromoni Bhūyān: Śiromoni Bara-Bhūyān or Bar Bhūyān or pradhāna Bāra-Bhūyān or Gomosthā

Sutradhāra: Director or stage master of a Vaiṣṇavite drama

or guru-āsana: a wooden artistically built throne standing on four carved lions; sacred scripture is placed on it for worship.

Śravani: devotees especially appointed to listen to reading and expounding of sacred texts at services.

Tithi: it denotes birth and death anniversaries of Vaiṣṇavite saints.

Thāān: Sacred place; Sattra.

Thāpanā: altar; place set up for worship.

Thul: Group, i.e., Bardowā thul

Tuploā: a kind of offering

Tulāpāt: Cotton made paper

Tolā: a measurement of weight equivalent to 175 grain

Udāsin: Unmarried; celibate monk.

Varhāvalī: Genealogical account of neo-Vaiṣṇavite Adhikāra or apostles