


# Dance On Red Hot Cinders





*Disciples of Naath sect  
dancing on the bed of  
burning charcoals.*

**I**n ancient India, sages and monks possessed divine and miraculous powers and they could walk on beds of burning red hot cinders. Such acts of bravery which can not only astonish but make you bite your fingernails, still exist.

Practically, one will cry with pain if his fingertips come in contact with fire, skin gets burnt and abscess will form there leaving a scar for the rest of his life. But the Show of Fire Dance presented by the devotees of 'Jasnath Sect' somehow prove that spiritual powers do exist. They dance merrily on the bed of burning charcoals reciting *mantras*.

In the Pushkar Fair, disciples of Guru *Jasnath* display Fire Dance bare footed and the spectators are forced to believe that a world of miracles certainly does exist.



Prior to the performance, these disciples wake up early in the morning and after ablutions (holy bath) in the Pushkar Lake, recite '*tantric mantras*' throughout the day in order to make them spiritually stimulated and sanctified. Thus acquiring spiritual powers through the *mantras*, a pyre is prepared after sprinkling holy water over a leveled bed of sand in the evening. Logs of dry wood and leaves are burnt to make a fire. It takes some time to turn them into red hot charcoals. Holy water is sprinkled and aroma of incense sticks fill the atmosphere, loud recital of mantras seem to arouse the divine powers and then starts the chanting of couplets.....

“ओम बड़ौत शिम्भू सिरजणहार ! सर्वे रूप तियो विस्तार, पाए धरती सीस गेणार, ता शिम्भू नेनिमस्कार!

(OM BADOT SHIMBHU SIRJANHAR! SARVE ROOP TIYO VISTAR, PAAYE DHARTI SEES GENAR, TAA SHIMBHU NE NIMASKAR)

(The mantras are recited in the 'Omkar Raaga')

Translation :

“O Creator of the Universe! You are omni present, the Earth is just a pedestal for your huge form and the Sun, the Moon and the Planets are your head; while praying whole heartedly we begin our '*havan*' (the holy performance).”



*Preparations  
being made  
before lighting  
the logs for the  
bed of burning  
charcoals.*

With the loud beats of '*dholak*' (as kind of drum) and clattering of '*manjire*' (the musical instruments), simultaneous recital of *mantras* the devotees of '*Jasnaath Sect*' walk bare-footed over the burning charcoals, sometimes kicking the lumps of fire and dancing merrily. This thrilling sight certainly makes the spectators dumbfounded. In normal course a man shuns the scorching heat of flames but these devotees dance over the fire unhesitatingly and cross the fire bed with ease many times.

Such displays- a combination of spiritual and divine powers, sprout faith in the minds about godly powers.



*A disciple of the Naath sect  
standing bare footed on the  
burning charcoals.*

“ओम बड़ौत शिम्भू सिरजणहार !  
सर्वे रूप तियो विस्तार, पाए धरती सीस गेणार,  
ता शिम्भू नेनिमस्कार!”

*(Om Badot Shimbhu Sirjanhar! Sarve Roop Tiyo Vistar,  
Paaye Dharti Sees Genar, Taa Shimbhu Ne Nimaskar)*