
Field Visit Report: Rangsapara Village and Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves

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Prepared By: TTM 1st Year Students

Introduction

This report documents the observations and insights gained during a field visit to Rangsapara Village in Goalpara and the historic Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves in Bongaigaon. Organized by the Travel and Tourism Management Department of B.H. College, Howly, the trip aimed to deepen students' understanding of rural tourism, cultural heritage, and sustainable development. It provided a unique opportunity to explore the cultural practices, community initiatives, and architectural significance of these locations, bridging classroom theories with real-world experiences.

Journey Overview

- **Departure:** 7:48 a.m., B.H. College
- **Arrival:**
 - **Rangsapara Village:** 10:00 a.m.
 - **Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves:** Afternoon visit



Rangsapara Village Visit

Tour Highlights

1. Bamboo Park Exploration:

- Entered at 10:35 a.m.; observed creative use of bamboo in landscaping.

2. Interaction with Village Leadership:

- Engaged with Robert John Momin, the ex-president of the village, who shared valuable insights into community management and development.

3. Cleanliness Practices:

- The village operates a rotational cleaning system where:
 - **Women:** Clean every Saturday
 - **Men:** Clean every Wednesday
 - **Students:** Participate every Friday
- These efforts earned Rangsapara the title of Assam's Cleanest Village in February 2017.

4. Community Profile and Infrastructure:

- Predominantly inhabited by Garo Christians, the village spans 1.5 km with a total population of 520 residents across 62 households.
- Infrastructure developments include government-constructed roads and sanitation facilities.

5. Economic and Tourism Potential:

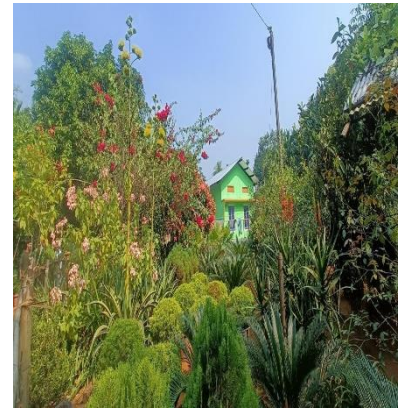
- Rubber plantations form a key livelihood.
- Discussions about homestay initiatives, such as those in Nishangram, revealed untapped potential for tourism growth.

6. Challenges Identified:

- **Healthcare:** No health center within the village, necessitating long-distance travel for medical needs.
- **Education:** Educational facilities are limited to the 8th standard, restricting students' access to higher education and career opportunities.

Key Learnings from Rangsapara Village

- The importance of collective community responsibility in cleanliness and sustainability.
- Opportunities for rural tourism development through homestay programs.
- The need for targeted interventions in healthcare and education to improve residents' quality of life.





Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves Visit



Overview of the Site

Located on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Bongaigaon district, the Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves date back to the Mlechchha dynasty and are remarkable examples of rock-cut architecture. The site features five caves with platforms made of brick and mud masonry.

Observations and Findings

1. Architectural Features:

- Ingeniously designed ledges direct rainwater away from the facade.
- Stairs provide access to the hilltop, offering panoramic views of the Brahmaputra River.

2. Cultural Significance:

- The caves are a site of worship for locals and hold historical and spiritual value.

3. Interaction with an Expert:

- Niranjan Das, a local expert with 39 years of experience, shared in-depth knowledge about the site's history, significance, and preservation challenges.

4. Challenges Identified:

- Lack of tourist infrastructure, such as accommodations and visitor amenities.
 - Limited awareness and promotion of the site's historical value.
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Key Learnings from Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves

- A greater appreciation of India's rich cultural and architectural heritage.
- Recognition of the potential for developing Jogighopa as a sustainable tourism destination.
- The importance of preserving historic sites for future generations.





Conclusion

The field trip to Rangsapara Village and Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves was a transformative experience that blended academic learning with practical exposure.

- **Rangsapara Village:** Inspired us with its exemplary cleanliness practices, vibrant community initiatives, and untapped tourism potential.
- **Jogighopa Rock-Cut Caves:** Provided insights into ancient architectural ingenuity and the need for heritage preservation.

This journey highlighted the importance of sustainable development, cultural conservation, and experiential learning. It also instilled a deeper appreciation for the beauty, resilience, and diversity of rural India.

Acknowledgments

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the local communities for their hospitality and generosity. We also thank the faculty of the Travel and Tourism Management Department for organizing this enriching experience.

Thank You

