

Ambubachi Mela

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Ambubachi Mela Latest News

The annual Ambubachi Mela which is one of the largest and most significant religious gatherings in eastern India started at the revered Kamakhya Temple.

About Ambubachi Mela

- The Ambubachi festival is **held during the monsoon**, generally in June **at the Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, Assam**.
- It is a shrine to the Goddess Kamakhya and one of the **most important centres of Tantrik Shaktism**.
- The period of Ambubachi is believed to be the period of the **goddess's annual menstruation, and the shrine is closed for this**.
- The **festival is associated with fertility**, with the onset of monsoon, and the common historical association across cultures of the Earth as a fertile woman. The name '**Ambubachi**' **itself translates to water flowing**.

Key Facts about the Kamakhya Temple

- **Location:** It is situated on **Nilachal Hill** and adjoining the southern **bank of the Brahmaputra River**.
- It is one of the most revered **centres of Tantric practices**. It is regarded as one of the **oldest of the 51 Shakti Peethas in India**.
- **Temple Architecture of Kamakhya Temple**
 - It had been modelled out of a combination of two different styles namely, the **traditional nagara and Saracenic or Mughal style of architecture**.
 - This unusual combination has been named the **Nilachala Style of Architecture**.
 - This is the only temple of Assam having a **fully developed ground plan**.
 - It consists of five chambers, **garbhagriha, antarala, Jagan Mohan, bhogmandir and natmandir** or opera hall for performing traditional dance and music associated with sukti temples.
 - The superstructure of each of the above chambers **exhibits different architectural features**.
 - The main temple contains a modified **Saracenic dome**, the **antarala** carries a two-roofed design, the **bhogmandir** with five domes similar in appearance to the main temple and the natmandir having a shell-roof with apsidal end similar to some of the impermanent namghars or prayer halls found in Assam.

Source: DD News

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-ambubachi-mela/>

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