

Bishnoi community

April 13, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About the Bishnoi community:

- The Bishnois belong to a Hindu religious sect found in the **Western Thar Desert** and some northern states of India.
- They trace their origins to the teachings of **Guru Jambhesvara** who was born to a Panwar Rajput family in 1451 AD at Peepasar village of Nagore district in Western Rajasthan.
- They strictly forbid the harming of **trees and animals**.
- They believe in protecting the environment and can die doing it so.
- The person of this community are inspired and gets inspiration **from Amrita Devi**, a Bishnoi woman who was killed in 1730 while trying to protect a grove of **khejri trees**.

Key facts about the Khejri tree

- It is considered a sacred tree in **Rajasthan**.
- It is **also called jant or janti** in areas like Alwar, Sikar, Jhunjhunu,
- **Significance:**
 - It is a **nitrogen-fixing tree** which enhances the fertility of the soil.
 - The fruit is used to make the very popular **local dish 'Sangri'**
 - The bark of this tree is used **medicinally** for a range of ailments.

- It plays a vital role in preserving the ecosystem of arid and semi-arid areas, mainly in the Thar Desert.
 - The leaves have high nutritive value and are locally called 'loong'
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Q1) What is Nitrogen fixation?

Nitrogen fixation is the process by which atmospheric nitrogen gas (N₂) is converted into a form that can be used by living organisms, such as plants, as a nutrient.

Source: [Bishnois raise concern over felling of Khejri trees](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/bishnoi-community/>

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