

# DEJI HOR- A SYMBOL OF SUHAGIN

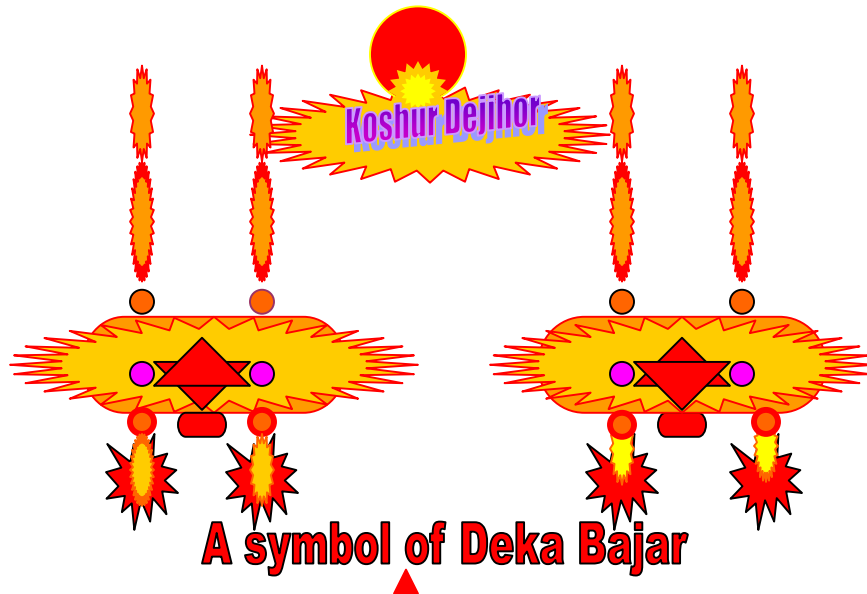
Dr Chaman Lal Raina  
Fellow Spirituality,  
C SS, FIU

Member International Advisory Board ,  
Encyclopedia of African Diaspora



**(Dedicated to the Motherhood of Kashmiri Pandit women)**

*Dejihor* is a golden *Abhushan*/ornament designed as the symbol of being a *Suhagin*/*Saubhagyawati*. It is not the *Mangla Sutra*, but a representation of being *Dvija*/twice-born according to the *Laughakshi Paddati*. In the early Aryan civilization, every woman was supposed to be invested with the sacred thread. Later *Mangla Sutra* took the place of the *Bhrahma Sutra-Upanayana* in the rest of *Bharat* except Kashmir. Kashmir evolved a new system, where the *Dijahor* took place of *Upanayana* at the time of *Devaguna Sanaskara* /initiation before the actual *Panigrihan Saptapadi*/ marriage ceremony of the girl.



**A symbol of Deka Bajar**

(Graphics and concept by Dr Chaman Lal Raina)

*Dejihor* is of gold and should be of the gold. Gold represents the *Hiranyagarbha* or the cosmic womb.

Why?

Gold is considered as the purest form of metal, which never gets stained. Shri Sharika is said to be the *Hiranyamayi* Devi. Design of the jewelry is also influenced by the religious ethos. Since Kashmir has remained a *Shakti Pitha* and the *Shaktivad* has been the main source of our spiritual insight and upbringing within the *Sanatana Dharma*, so it was natural that *Dejihor* should have taken the symbol of the *Shri Yantra*. At the *Anushthhana*/ invocation of *Devguna*, known as *Kanya Sanaskar* the *Dejihor* is sanctified by the Vedic and the Tantrik Mantras related to the *Shri Yantra*.

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## What is Shri Yantra?

Shri Yantra is the Chakreshvara, the King of the all Yantras, according to the Shaiva -Shakti Agamas. The hymn related to the formation of the Shri Yantra is:

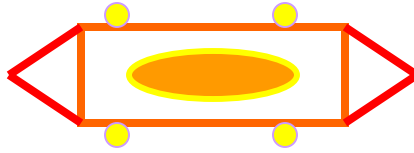
“Bindu-Trikona-Vasukona Dashaarmyugma  
Manvashra-Naagadala-Samyutashodaaram  
Vrtta Trayam Cha Dharni Sadana Trayam  
Shri Chakram etad Uditam Para devataayaah”

- 1 Dot/ Bindu is *Ananda* -- All Bliss.
- 2 The inverted triangle is *Sarva Siddhi Pradaa Shakti*, the Giver of all prosperity.
- 3 Eight Triangles are the *Sarva Rogahara Chakra*-the Destroyer of all diseases.
- 4 Ten Triangles are the *Sarva Rakshaakara Chakra*- the All Savior.
- 5 Next ten Triangles are the *Sarvartha Saadhaka Chakra*-the Giver of the all fortune.
- 6 Fourteen Triangles are the *Sarva Saubhagya Daayaka Chakra*- Giver of all types of auspiciousness.
- 7 Eight Lotus Petals are the *Sarva Sankshobhana Chakra*, the giver of the Eight perfections, by removing all the obstructions.
- 8 Sixteen Lotus Petals are the *Sarva Pari Puraka Chakra*, the Giver of all accomplishments.
- 9 Square of three lines with four portals is the *Trailokya Mohan Chakra*, which is all potent in making the triple world in the command of the bride with purity and austerity.

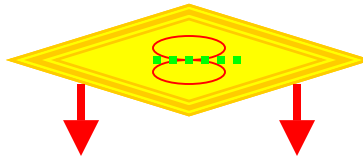
The Nine *Chakras* are represent by the *Shatkona*, two holes and one *Chuni*.

Mantras are powerful and produce the positive energy. Thus the *Dejihor* was designed by the great Kashmiri Acharyas to infuse the divine strength within the married woman. The designs are changing, but the *Shatkona* with circular dot at the extremities have remained the same. The size of the *Dejihor* has changed and is still changing.

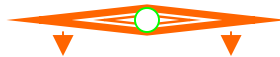
## designs of dejihor



(Early 20th century)



( Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century)



Late 20<sup>th</sup> century

This *Dejihor* is the Section of the *Chakreshvara*, which we revere at the *Hari Parbhat*. The two holes of the *Dejihor* represent the *Jaya* and *Vijaya* Shaktis within the *Shatkona Yantra*. The *Atahor* is given by the in-laws to represent the invocation and blessings from the *Maha Lakshmi*, when the bride is received for the first time by the *Wai'ryuw/* in-laws after the marriage ceremony is over. At the *Sata Raath* the bride/ married woman gets the *Attahor* from the *Maalyun/* parental house, and the tradition continues for the rest of her life. I think, it is more of affection, reverence for the married daughter from her parents. The *Atta* is the name of Shiva, and *Attahor* is *Shiva Shakti Eka Roopini*, the Oneness of Shiva and Shakti.

The *Shatkona* is the *Shiva* and *Shakti* in Unison and is represented in the figure below:




The inverted triangle is revered as being the *Primal Prakriti*. The upward triangle is termed as the *Purusha*. The *Bindu* at the center of the *Shatkone* is represented by a *Chu'ni/* precious stone in Kashmiri language.

It represents the *Priya Bindu* of the *Shri Raj Rajeshvari Shri Chakra*.

The Mantra runs as:

*Shri- Chakra- Priya- Bindu-Tarpana- Para -Shri Raja-Rajeshvari*

The central dot  of the *Shri Chakra* is the transcendental stage of the *Shri Rajarajeshvari*. Kashmiri Pandits bless the *Mahaaryen/*bride to be the *Raja Rajeshvari*. She is said to be the *Raaj'u Reyen*, after *Mahaaryen*.

## Glossary:

- *Atahor*/ tassel is made of silver thread/ *soulma*. Now a days golden *Atahor* is replaced with *soulma atahor*. *Atahor* is being hanged with the *Atha/ Latkan/* hanging chain through the pierced ears in the center of the ear. Wearing of a new *atahor* is a *shagun* in Kshmiri Pandit religious ethos.
- *Chu'ni* is a semi precious stone/ jewel, which is fixed in the center of the Shatkone. It represents the nucleolus of the Shri Yantra, which is very dear to *Raj Rajeshvari*, whose abode is *Shri Yantra/ Chakra*.
- *Dvija* has turned into *Deji*, as *Danda* has become *danda*. *Hor* means the *jur'i*, two in number. *Dejihor* is not a single ornament, but must be two .
- *Hor* means two put in together, just lake *Dand Hor, wa'ink Hor*.
- *Jaya* and *Vijaya* are the main associates of *Shri Raj Rajeshvari*.
- *Purusha* is the Static form of the Absolute *Brahman* and *Prakriti* is the Total manifestation.
- *Hari Parbat* is the Divine Abode of *Shri Sharika*, the Presiding mother of the *Chakreshvara Yantra*
- *Shatkona* is the hexagonal figure representing *Shiva* and *Shakti*.

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