

## Twitter Thread by Vibhu Vashisth ■■



**Vibhu Vashisth** ■■  
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### Do You Know?

The Baijnath Mahadev Temple in Agar Malwa,MP is the only Hindu Temple ever rebuilt & renovated by a British Couple in India. It was rebuilt in 1883. Britishers building Churches & converting Hindus is a universal truth.But this couple was different & how, let's see.



The story goes back to 1879 of British India where Lt Col Martin was posted in Agar Malwa area of central India. British Indian army was fighting an intense battle against the Afghans. He was also sent on the frontier in 1879. From there he used to regularly write to his wife.





He used to always keep his wife updated about his well being through his letters. The Battle got further intense and the menacing Afghans were giving a tough time to the Britishers. Soon, the frequency of letters decreased and the letters from Martin slowly stopped coming.

His wife got worried and she had no where to go. Loss of communication with her husband was taking a toll on her health too. One day, while riding a horse she passed by Baijnath Mahadev Temple. The sound of conch and mantras attracted her and she went inside the temple.



The priests of the temple were doing their 'Sandhya Vandan' when they saw this lady coming in all tensed and worried. The priests asked her that what is wrong with her and why is she so sad. Tears rolled down her eyes as she told the priests about her situation.



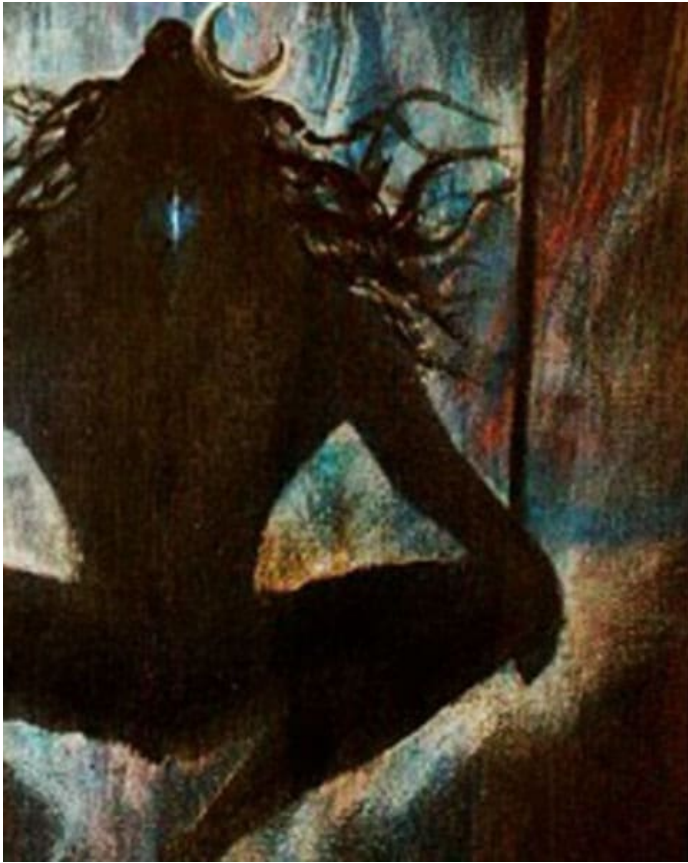
The priests told her not to worry and just pray to Bhagwan Shiv with true heart as he listens to the prayers of devotees and takes them out of their predicaments in no time. They also advised her to do the "Laghurudri Anushtthanam" of the Mantra "Om Namah Shivaye" for 11 days.

Lady Martin did as told & prayed to Bhagwan Shiv with all her heart that if her husband reaches home safely, then she would get the temple renovated and rebuilt. On 11th day of her 'Anushtthanam', she received a letter from her husband informing that he is fine & British won the war.

There was no end to her joy. As she continued to read the letter, she came to know the most fascinating incident that took place in Afghanistan that blew her mind.

Her husband narrated a story in his letter about how he was saved by a 'Yogi'.





Lt Col wrote in his letter that how Afghans had entrapped him and his men and it was death for certain. When a tall Yogi wearing lion skin and trident in his hand came and disrupted the hold the Afghans had on the British.



His attack forced Afghans to retreat and the certain defeat turned into a <https://t.co/RemCbFDNT0> Col Martin also wrote that the Yogi told him that he had to come to rescue him because he was moved by the devotion and prayers of his wife.

The slab inside the temple explains the whole story of the rescue that Lt Col had narrated in the letter. Tears of joy were falling down the eyes of Lady Martin while reading the letter. Her heart was overwhelmed with joy and reverence.





She fell beneath the Shiva Lingam of Bhagwan Shiv and burst into tears. Soon Lt Martin returned and the couple narrated each other's story. Later they both became devotees of Bhagwan Shiv and in 1883 donated Rs 15,000 to get the whole temple renovated.



Soon the couple went back to England with a promise that they would worship Bhagwan Shiv back in their house in England.

This is recorded in the book "Hidden Oracle of India" authored by Andrew and Angela Donovan.

