Twitter Thread by Dr. Mamata R. Singh

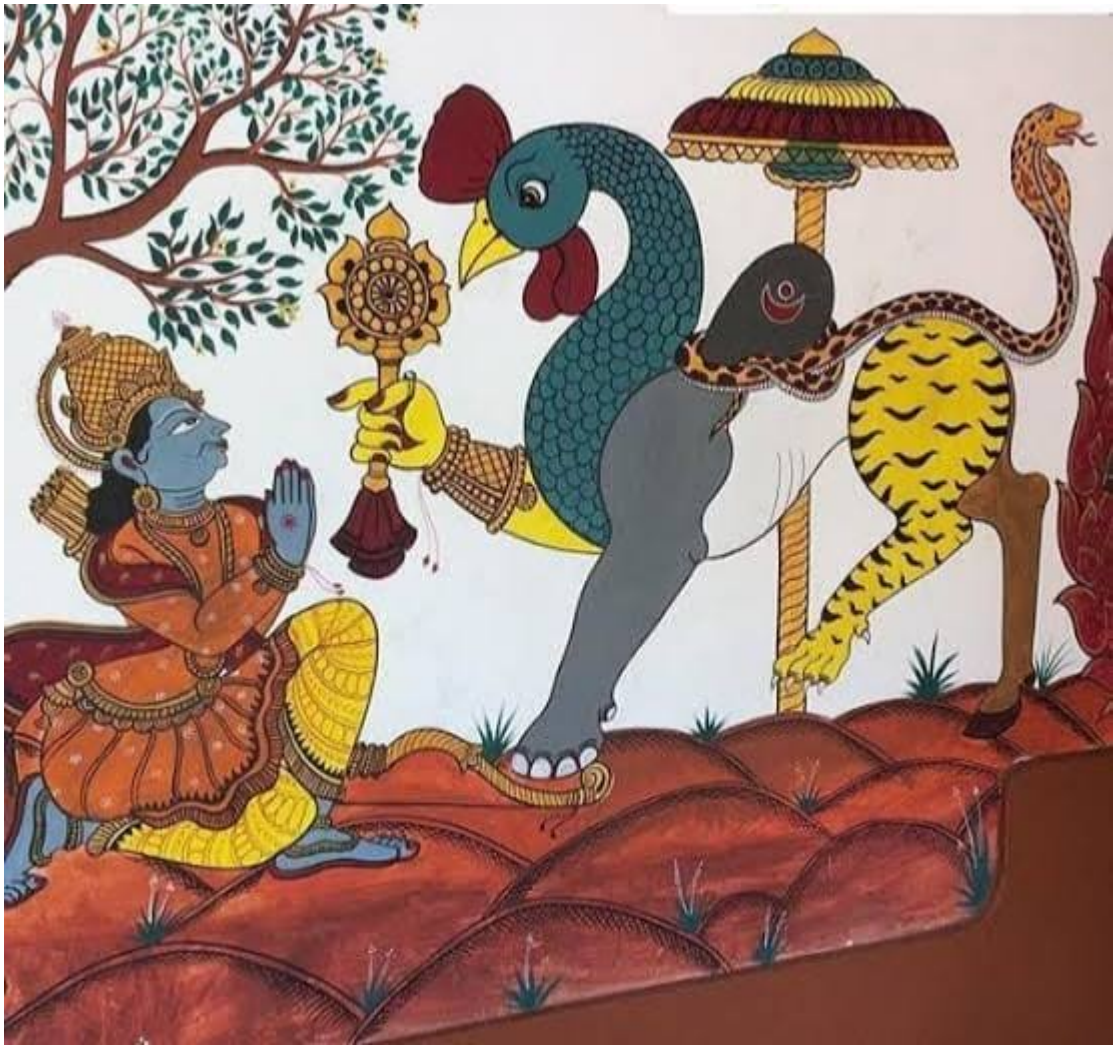


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LESSER KNOWN
#Navagunjara
ANOTHER VIRAT-ROOP OF SHRI KRISHNA

A strange but auspicious creature composed of 9 different animals, a common motif in pat-chitra style of painting of Odisha

8 numbers of this creature can be seen on outer circumference of Neel Chakra all facing..
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towards flag.

It is considered a variant of the virat-rupa form of God Krishna in a different version of Mahabharata, written by the Odia poet Sarala Dasa.

God Krishna appeared to Arjun as Nabagunjara while Arjun was doing penance on a hill. Nabagunjara had the head..



of a rooster standing on 3 feet, those of an elephant, tiger & deer/horse; the 4th limb was a raised human arm carrying lotus/wheel.
The beast had the neck of a peacock, the hump of a bull & the waist of a lion; the tail of a serpent. Initially, Arjun got terrified but also..
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mesmerized by d strange creature & raised his bow to shoot. Eventually, Arjun realized that Nabagunjara is a manifestation of God Vishnu & dropped his weapons, bowing before Nabagunjara.

The Nabagunjara-Arjuna scene is also sculpted at northern side of Jagannath Temple, Puri
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