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## Bastar Dussehra Begins with Pat Jatra | Chhattisgarh | 09 Aug 2021

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### Why in News

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On August 08, 2021, the world famous **75-day Bastar Dussehra** festival started with **Pat Jatra Puja Vidhi in Chhattisgarh**.

### Key Points

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- Like every year in Bastar, this year also Dussehra started with the first ritual of Patjatra on Hareli Amavasya.
- Patjatra Bastar is the first important ritual of Dussehra, in which the **sal tree wood (Thurlu Khotla)** brought from the Machakos forest is traditionally worshipped in front of the Danteshwari temple.
- The first wood of Bastar Dussehra occasion is called Thurlu Khotla and Tika Pata in the local dialect.
- According to the tradition of Bastar Dussehra, in the worship of Patjatra, the Majhi-Mukhiya reaches Sirhasar with the worship material on behalf of Bastar Maharaj and performs Patjatra and other worship rituals.
- It is noteworthy that **Bastar Dussehra was started by King Purushottam Dev in 1408 AD**. He dedicated the **four wheels of the chariot to Lord Jagannath** and **remaining 12 wheels to Mother Danteshwari** while dividing the **chariot of sixteen wheels** he got as a boon from Jagannath Puri.

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## First festival of Chhattisgarh: Hareli | Chhattisgarh | 09 Aug 2021

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### Why in News

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On August 08, 2021 the **first festival of Chhattisgarh region 'Hareli'** was celebrated with gaiety.

### Key Points

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- Hareli festival is considered to be the first festival of Chhattisgarh, which is celebrated every year on **Hareli Amavasya in the month of Sawan**.
- This festival has a **special significance for the farmers of Chhattisgarh**. After the sowing of paddy, **all agricultural and iron tools are worshiped** by the farmers on the day of Hareli.
- On the day of Hareli festival, a **special dish of this festival 'Cheela'** is prepared in homes. Tools are worshiped by offering 'Cheela' in it, after which it is given to the members of the house as prasad.
- On the day of Hareli, men make a **Gedi (made of bamboo)** and climb on it. In some places, horse races are also organized.