

ROYAL WEDDING IN INDIA

Junadagh State celebrates the marriage of the eldest son of the Nawab with all the pomp and splendour of a princely wedding. Escorted by the royal guard the Bridegroom drives in State through the streets. Before him in the procession goes a costly profusion of wedding gifts, while the vast company of distinguished guests converges on the marriage bower.

Guests of honour wait in the bower wearing their jewelled ceremonial dress.

The marriage proceedings themselves are short and simple, but the bridegroom participates in many traditional ceremonies which go to round off the occasion. Part of the ancient ritual is the formal presentation and acceptance of the wedding gifts.

Breaking the stillness of the night, dancing and music bring the wedding to its close.

Gifts had been exchanged and the poor fed and clothed - we're still wondering what the bride looked like.