

Camera : V.PARKASH
 STORY : SOLAR ECLIPSE IN INDIA.
 Location : KURUKSHETRA 19th April 58
 Plus X. Daylight exteriors.

Eclipse is an astronomical phenomina which takes place at set intervals. In India, many still believe that when there are too many sins on this earth, the sun gets caught into the clutches of 'RAHU' & 'KAITOO', the two demons. The only way sun can be relived of his troubles is by giving away charity and doing good acts. For such believers Ealipse is a time when the clamities of evil can be out done by taking bath in a holy tank at Kurukshetra.

Kurukshetra is about 110 miles north of Delhi and is a well known historical and religous spot in India. For centuries Kurukshetra has remained the biggest battlefield of India. The greatest epic war of India ' The Mahabharta' was fought on this soil several thousand years ago. It was in 1192 that the Hindus lost their empire to Muslim invaders at this spot.

According to the Hindu belief Kurukshetra is associated with all three gods of Hindu trinity. It was here that Brahama, the creator was believed to have practiced penance and performed a number of sacrifices so that he might prove equal to the task of creation. Lord Vishnu the sustainer of the universe, prayed to have Lakshmi as his spouse. Shive, the god of destruction, was said to have acquired the power to destroy the demon Tripura, by bathing for six months in the river Saraswati flowing to the north of Kurukshetra.

The two tanks, the KURUKSHETRA and SANAHYET, are regarded as the very holy spots. The Sanahyet tank is said to be the source of the universe. The legend is that Lord Vishnu, formless, was in a trance at the site when lotus stalk sprouted from his navel. From the lotus came the four faced Brahama, chanting the vedas. It was out of the limbs of the Brahama that the four castes emnated. So the universe came into existance.

At the time of solar eclipse millions take refuge on the sacred tanks. Many bathe in the holy waters while many wait on the steps of the tanks. For pilgrims the only way of casting evil effects of a solar eclipse is a dip in the tanks at Kurukshetra. During the hours of eclipse, humanity keep on pouring towards tanks at Kurukshetra. The sadhus or the holy men also gather at Kurukshetra and the eclipse means good money for professional beggars who collect in large number, on the road that leads to the tanks.

This year the eclipse which lasted for 3 early hours of the morning was partially visible.

SORRY THERE ARE NO PRESS
 CLIPPINGS AVAILABLE AT THE
 TIME OF DESPATCH.

Continued.... next page

Roll. 1.

Big crowd rushing forward for going towards the sacred tanks. With baggages on their heads and with children on their shoulders, shots of the crowd moving towards the tanks at Kurukshetra. Top Angle Long shot of SANAHYET tank at Kurukshetra. Many believe, the universe started from here.

Several shots of bathing in the Sanahyet tank.

Standing in waist deep water of Sanahyet tank, shot of a sadhu praying to the sun. (Sadhu is a holy man)

Shot of a group of sadhus praying on the steps of the sacred tank.

Shot of a row of beggers squatting on the road leading to the tanks.

Shot of a sadhu standing on his head while pilgrims pass by.

The road to the very sacred spot is a hard one and many have to cross waters before they can reach the approach to the Sanahyet tank's sacred spot. Shot of a group of pilgrims passing through knee deep water.

Various shots of bathing in progress. Shots of men and women taking dips in the holy waters of sacred tanks at Kurukshetra. They believe this casts off the evil effects of an eclipse.

Shot of a sadhu offering water to the sun and thereby trying to relieve the sun from the troubles of eclipse.

Another shot of people pathing.

Roll. 2.

Shot of a large number of pilgrims crowding on the steps of the sacred tanks.

Several sadhus wash their head only once in a year or on an important occasion like solar eclipse. After a holy dip, a group of sadhus busy in the application of ash cosmetics on their body. Close ups of two or three sadhus after application of ash make up.

Shot of sadhu with rope like long hair about 10 feet long. The sadu was twisting the hair into a bun. Close up of a sadhu.

Shot of a sadhu applying sandal wood paste on his fore head. They keep this design according to the sect to which they belong.

Long shot of 'GITA TEMPLE' which is amidst the Kurukstra Tank. It is said the holy book of Hindus, Gita, which was sermon on the philosophy of life, by Lord Krishna to Arjun, was started here.

Shot of ~~XXXXX~~ eclipsed sun. This shot was spoiled due to strong glare.

Shot of a warrior sadhu ' NEHANG SINGH '. He carried all the weapons of war and defence. Pan from his weapons to his head gear where many items of defence were affixed.

Shot of two sadhus sitting and smoking. In handing over the earthen smoke pipe the sadhu shouted: Lets smoke and forget the worries: Let the world earn and let us enjoy.

Few more shots of sadhus. Shot of sadhus sitting near the holy fire... tilt up shot of two sadhus standing on one leg, a position which they keep on for several days.

Shot of a snake charmer holding a python asking for alms.

END.