

# Assamese music on global net

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**L**OG ON TO WWW.NABAUSHA.COM AND YOU CAN TUNE into some refreshing Assamese music. Abhinaba Barthakur, son of Naba Kumar Barthakur and Usha Barthakur of Ulubari, Guwahati, Assam developed the first Assamese internet radio, *Markin Kalpataru* way back in 1997.

Since then, it has been providing quality Assamese music to over thousands of Assamese around the globe. With a relentless pursuit for perfection, *Markin Kalpataru* found its repository of songs capable of handling a real-time web radio station. On June 20, 1999 *Markin Kalpataru* started streaming audio real-time.

A chemical engineer by profession Abhinaba left for the US in 1993 and in 1994, he developed his first web page on SDSM&T server, when the new World Wide Web fever was just picking up. Since 1995, he has been a software consultant to few well-known companies, such as AT&T, Duetche Bank, etc, and finally at Dow Jones. When asked why he chose to develop the site Abhinaba said, "Like many of us Assamese, having been away from home for quite a few years, I felt it would be nice to have



**Abhinaba Borthakur...the man behind *Markin Kalpataru***

some relaxed moments with Assamese music on your desktop." An elated Abhinaba further said, "I take the pride in creating world's first Assamese Internet radio station back in 1997. I started *Markin Kalpataru*, along with my wife Alpana as its host, and started digitising Assamese music and publish it from my server at [www.NabaUsha.com](http://www.NabaUsha.com). In 2002, we also started another company called Monavi Inc and developed world's first set of Assamese ringtones for Nokia cell phones."

Presently, he lives with his wife Alpana and two daughters in New Jersey and is working for Factiva, a Dow Jones and Reuter's company. Adding another feather to its cap, *Markin Kalpataru* webcast live Assam Convention 2004, the biggest Assamese gathering in North America from Austin, US on July 3 and 4 last.



## ▲ RATH YATRA

Devotees pulling the Lord Jagannath chariot during the *rath yatra* of the Royal Palace in Imphal. This is the one of the main festivals of the people of Manipur.



## ▲ FRUIT DELIGHT

Villagers of Cherrapunjee carrying jackfruits to Shillong for sale. Jackfruits are grown in abandon in the world's wettest place.