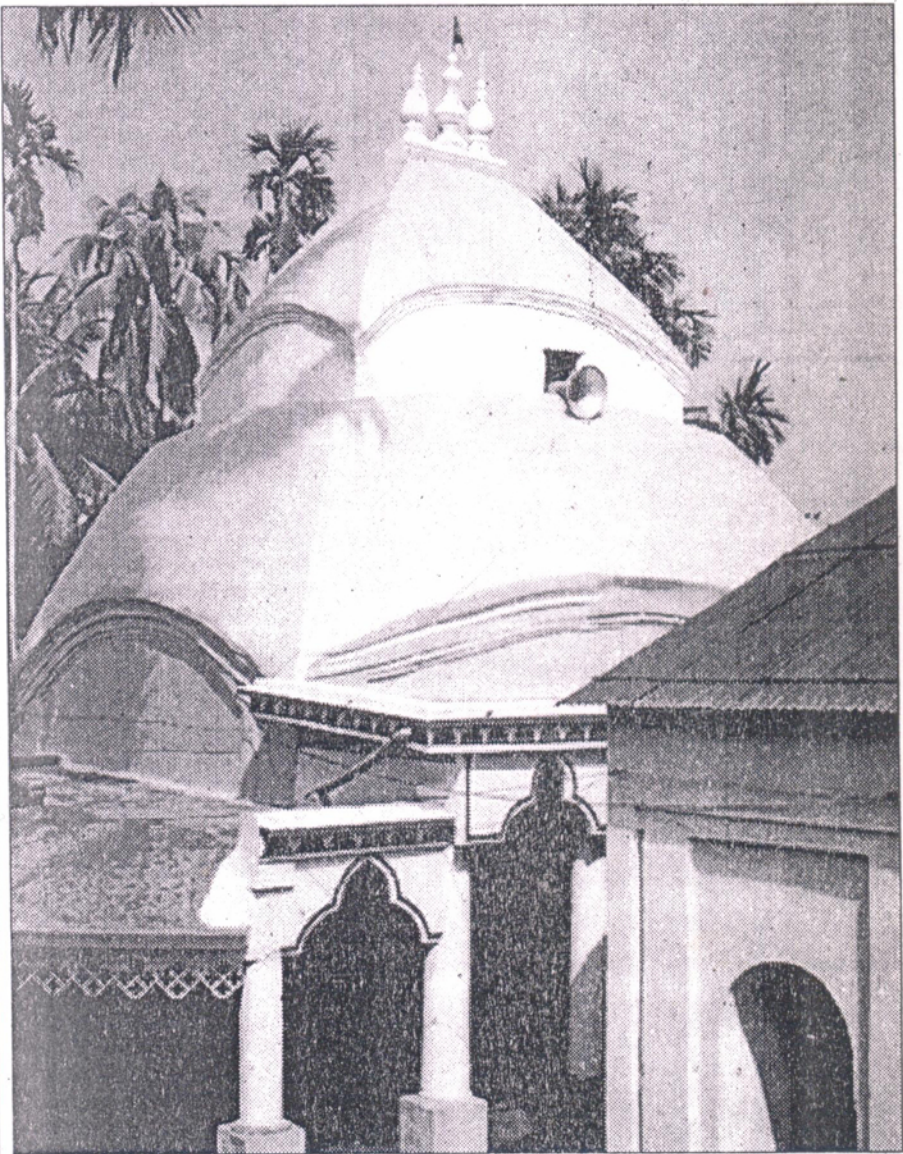


## THE ASIAN AGE

25 MAY 2003

# Town dons Vaishnav heritage look...



**J**ainagar — the name instantly reminds us of the mouth-watering moya, a popular Bengali delicacy in the winter months.

The history of Jainagar, however, has more in store than the sweet treat. Jainagar is known for being the abode of the Vaishnav cult.

Radhaballav temple of Jainagar has idols of Radha Krishna, which were broug-

ht to Jainagar by Maharaja Pratapditya of Jessore. But this temple was destroyed and a new temple was built by the Chowdhurys who belonged to the Royal family of Dakshin Barasat. The statue of Radha Krishna is still there in that temple which is built in the Aaatchala style, a typical example of the Bengali school of architecture.

On Poila Baishak, an

annual fair is organised there. Radhaballav image is placed in the center and all the significant images of Radha-Krishna from all the temples of south parganas are brought in the temple. This signifies that all the gods and goddess come together to pay respect to the oldest diety of the district.

□ Photograph and text by Soumen Sengupta