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## Jagannātha Samrāṭ

Narahari Achar

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*Born* (India), circa 1657

*Died* (India), circa 1744

Jagannātha, the famous Guru of Savāi **Jai Singh**, hailed originally from Maharāṣṭra. His father was Ganeśa, and grandfather, Viṭṭhala. At the suggestion of Jai Singh, Jagannātha studied Arabic and Persian and became proficient in both. He translated works on astronomy and mathematics from Arabic into Sanskrit. His major work, *Samrāṭ Siddhānta* or *Siddhāntasārakaustubha*, is based on **Tūsi**'s version of the *Almagest* of **Ptolemy**; the first 13 chapters of *Samrāṭ Siddhānta* run parallel to the 13 books of the *Almagest*. Jagannātha also translated Euclid's *Elements* into Sanskrit in 1719, and the latter work is called *Rekhāgaṇita*. He compiled a glossary of technical terms in Sanskrit and composed a work on instrumentation called *Yantraprakāra*. Jagannātha was himself an observer and regarded observations as the *pramāṇa*, or deciding factor, whenever there were discrepancies between theory and observation. He admired **Ulugh Beg** and the advances in astronomy and mathematics in the Islamic world. Jagannātha did not use telescopes in his observations nor did he include telescopes in his work on astronomical instruments.

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