



OGOH-OGOH

A scary gigantic doll - this is what it may appear to be. However, *ogoh-ogoh* is more than just a doll for the Hindu people. It has religious and cultural values and represents the Bhuta Kala - the cosmic and time power. As a form of art, *ogoh-ogoh* doesn't have a fixed pattern to follow. Artists usually make ones that look scary and resemble the villains in the Mahabharata or Ramayana epic story.

The making of *ogoh-ogoh* usually takes approximately a month prior to the Nyepi - the Hindu New Year. The villagers raise some fund to build *ogoh-ogohs* of the neighbourhood. They work together at the community hall.

Once it completes, they take the *ogoh-ogoh* out for a parade around the area at dusk one day before the Nyepi day. After the parade, they burn the *ogoh-*

ogohs to represent the victory of goodness over the badness. If they are not burnt, people believe that the *ogoh-ogohs* are inhibited by spirits that can come and disturb the peace of the neighbourhood. They may make noises on their own, haunt people, and so forth.