**REDX MITAOE**

**Team Name:Decoders**

“Wari”

[**Pandharpur Wari**](http://www.deshmukhdindi.in/) or **Wari** (**Vari**) is an annual pilgrimage ([yatra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yatra)) to [Pandharpur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur) - the seat of the [Hindu god](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_god) [Vithoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vithoba) in the Indian state of [Maharashtra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra), in honour of the deity. [Palakhis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport_in_India#Palanquin)(palanquin processions) carrying the [paduka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paduka) (foot prints) of various saints - most notably [Dnyaneshwar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dnyaneshwar) and [Tukaram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tukaram) - from the [Varkari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Varkari) (Warkari, "one who performs the Wari") sect (which venerates Vithoba), are taken from their respective [shrines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samadhi_(shrine)) to Pandharpur. The tradition is more than 700 to 800 years old.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-1)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-3) Dnyaneshwar's palakhi leaves from [Alandi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alandi), while Tukaram's begins at [Dehu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dehu); both in [Pune district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pune_district) of Maharashtra. This March on foot from various locations in Maharashtra to [Vithoba temple, Pandharpur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vithoba_temple,_Pandharpur), attracts a total of over a million pilgrims. The journey takes 21 days.Numerous palakhis join the main Tukaram and Dnyaneshwar palkhis that starts from Dehu and Alandi respectively. The wari culminates at the Vithoba temple on [Ashadhi Ekadashi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashadhi_Ekadashi).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-4) Devotees from Maharashtra and nearby areas set out for Pandharpur, wearing [holy basil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tulsi) beads and singing the glories of Vithoba and songs like "Gyanba Tukaram", commemorating the saints.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-5) Upon reaching Pandharpur on Ashadi Ekadashi, these devotees take a holy dip in the sacred [Chandrabhaga River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrabhaga_River)/[Bhima River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhima_River) before proceeding to visit the Vitthal temple.

Management in Wari:

The Dnyaneshwar Palkhi is managed by the descendents of Haibatraobua Arphalkar who started the palkhi in Modern times, the hereditary Chopdars, and Alandi Devasthan trust.The whole procession divided into sub groups called Dindi. Most dindis are registered with the Palkhi organizers.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-OlsenTrono2018-18) There are more than 200 Dindi on each route. Each dindi has between 100 and 500 members. The palkhi is at the centre of the Wari procession and around half the number of Dindi are ahead of the palkhi and the other half are behind. All Dindis are assigned their number and position in the procession and the sequence is strictly followed. The numbers are mentioned as follows: e.g. 5th Dindi ahead of palkhi. There are many unregistered dindis also who walk well ahead or extreme back of the official Wari procession.

The timetable of Wari route is published well in advance and is strictly followed. It is well defined and minute details are made available including starting location, the location of breaks including lunch, rest, night stay location. Every morning, early dawn, after worshiping the Saint's footwear, the palkhi sets out at 6am. A Tutari (wind instrument) is blown thrice to alert all Warkaris. At the first signal, all Warkaris get ready to leave. At the second signal, the dindis stand in the queue as per designated sequence and at the third signal, they starts walking. After 4 to 5 km, they take a quick break for breakfast. They take break for lunch as per the given schedule.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandharpur_Wari#cite_note-19)

Every dindi has one truck or a similar vehicle where the luggage and food material is kept. This is used at the night stay location everyday. The Warkari just carry the emergency material, Tal, Abhang book etc. during walk. The management ensures that the tents are set up and the food is prepared before the respective dindi arrives at the location. The dindis also decide the sequence in which the Abhang to be sung. Most of the dindi members know all the abhang but the newcomers carry the small book while walking. At any point of time, only one Abhnag is sung in while dindi. The varkari who adorns the garland of Tulsi is called as Malkari. The person who carries Veen in the entire journey is called the Veenekari. These persons have a special status in the dindi and whole management is driven by them. Any dispute during travel between the dindis is resolved by then at the stay.