

BUDDHIST ARCHITECTURE IN ODISHA

DR SUSHANTA KUMAR PATRA

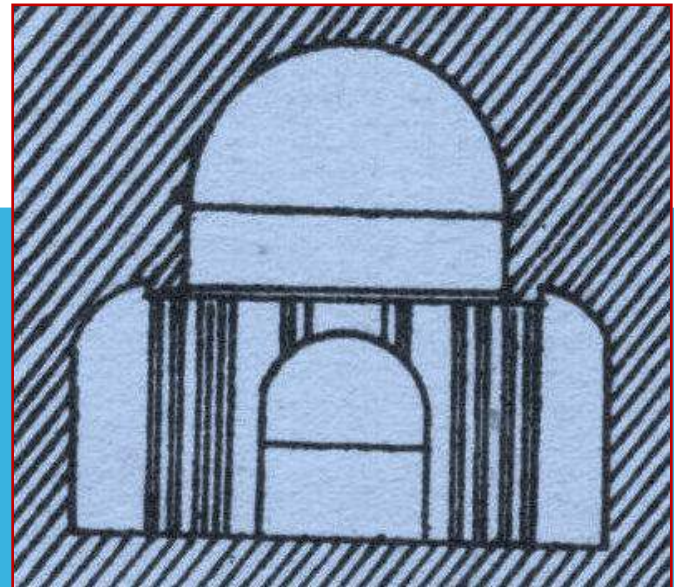
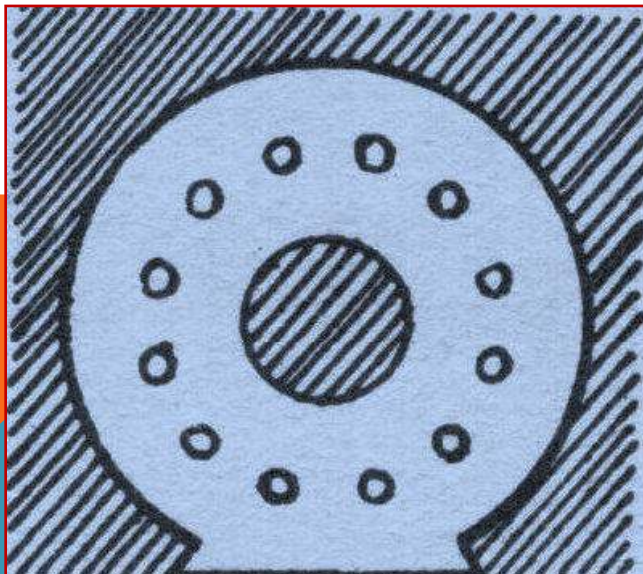
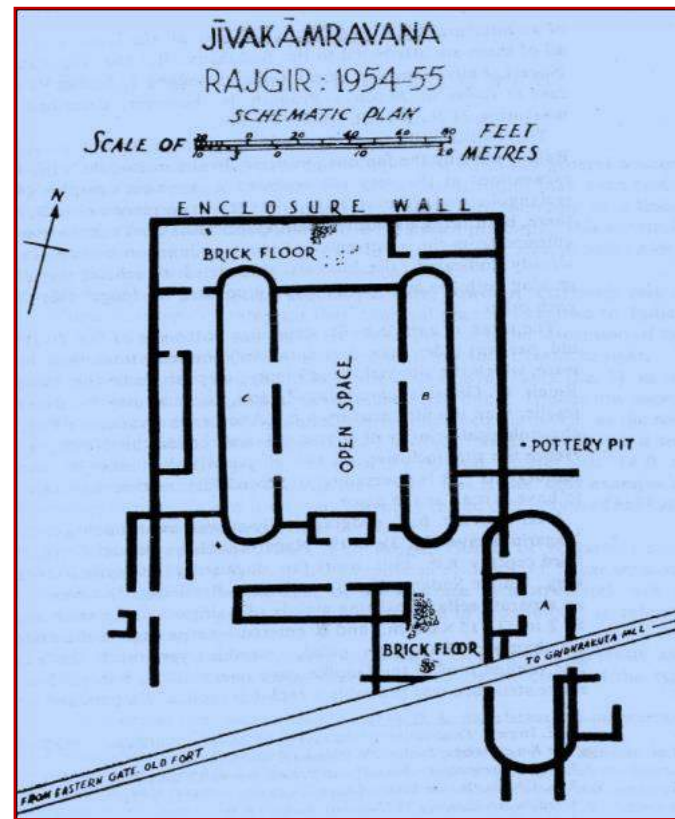
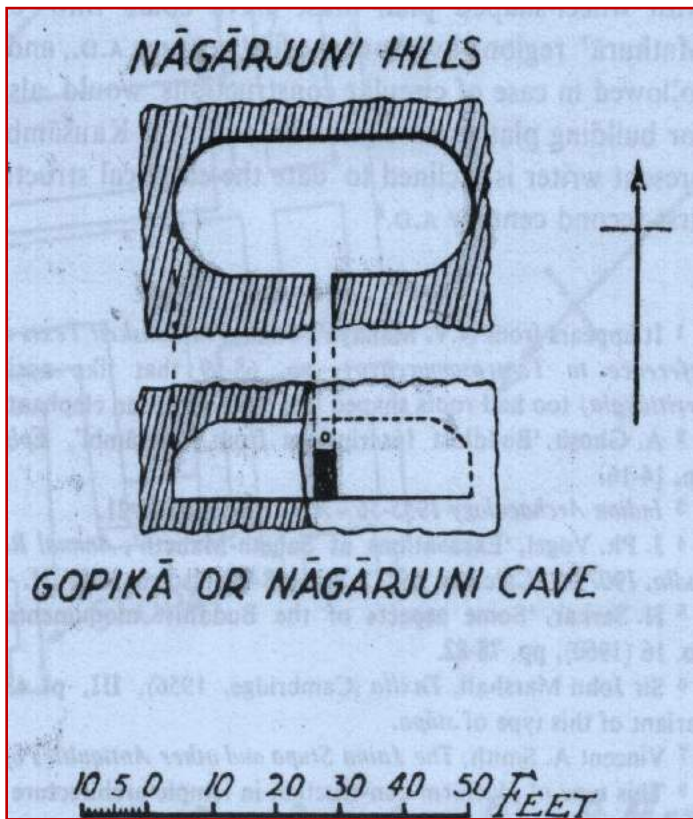
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CONCEPT OF BUDDHIST ART AND ARCHITECTURE

- Art and architecture owes much to Buddhism, especially to the Mauryan King Asoka who had initiated excavated caves out of rocks at Lomasarishi in the Barabara hill in Bihar.
- Same thing was also done by his grandson Dasaratha at Nagarjuna hill in the same province.
- The formation of new concept arises i.e. Rock cutting.
- Caves were primerly meant for the abode of the monks or bhikshus, earlier confined to buddhism but later on meant for the jainas or brahmanical sects.
- Buddhist architecture has a hory past right from the Asokan age to the medieval period.
- The epi centre of Buddhist art was western India, but that is a common practice all over the length and breadth of India.
- In art history – the school of art flourished i.e. Mauryan school, the Sunga-Satavahana school, the Kushana school etc.
- On the basis of the schools the art and architecture found in different pockets- Central India, western part, north-western part, north India and southern India



TYPES OF ARCHITECTURE

Generally two type of architectures are found

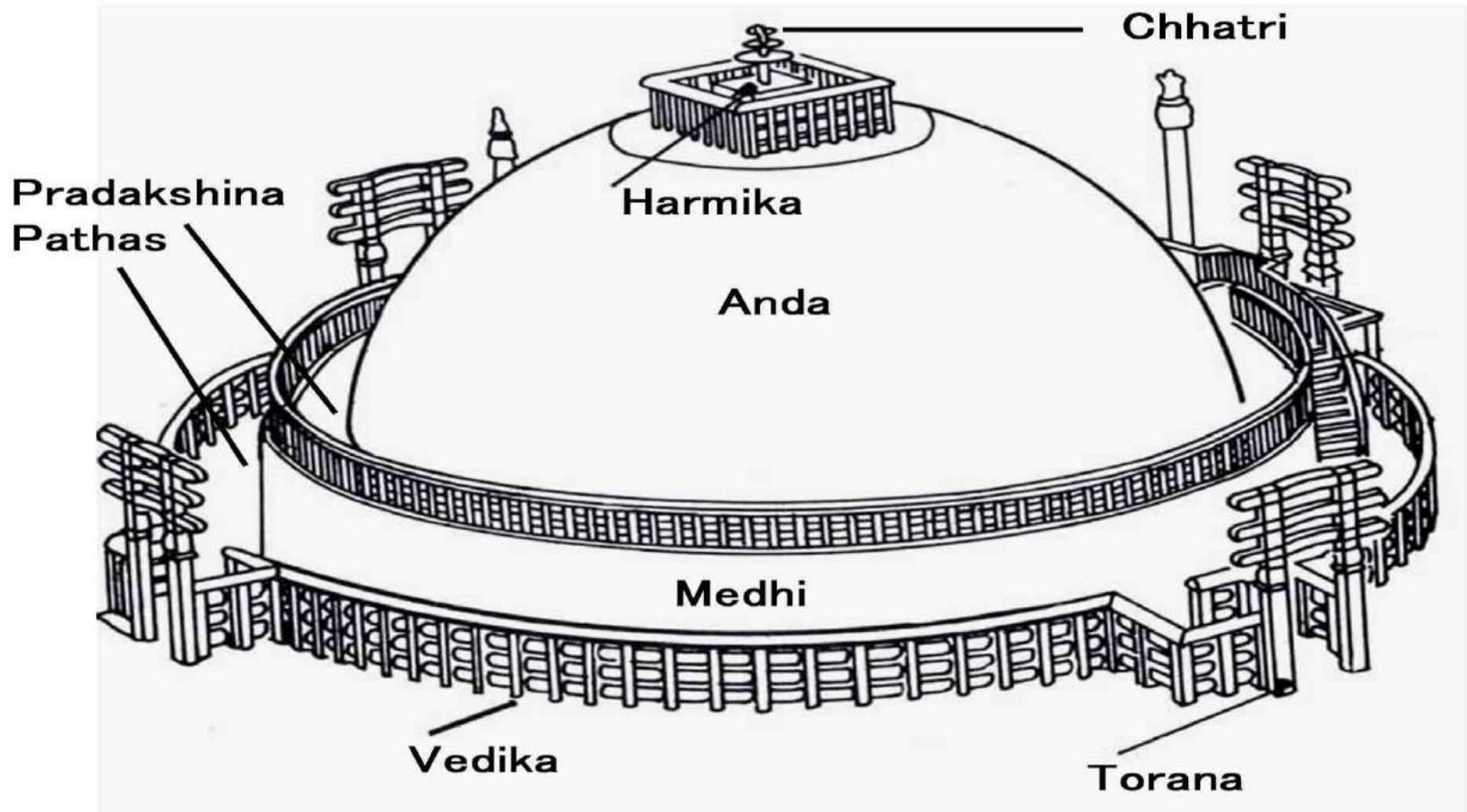
1. Rock cut: means cut out of the rocks/ excavated the hillock from top to the bottom.

2. Structural: means to pile up or built up.

- Three types of architectures: stupa, vihara and chaityagriha
- Stupa: the container of relics wheather it is saririka, paribhogika, uddesika , manasika or votive stupa.
- Chaityagriha is meant for the Buddhist Temple where we found votive chaitya or stupa at the rear end with a hall for congregation.
- Vihara is meant for barshabasa (4 months season), it's a temple, a residential complex along with a congregational hall for discussion.

STUPA ARCHITECTURE

Salient features



CHATTRA SPIRE

HARMIKA

ANDA

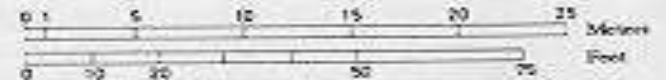
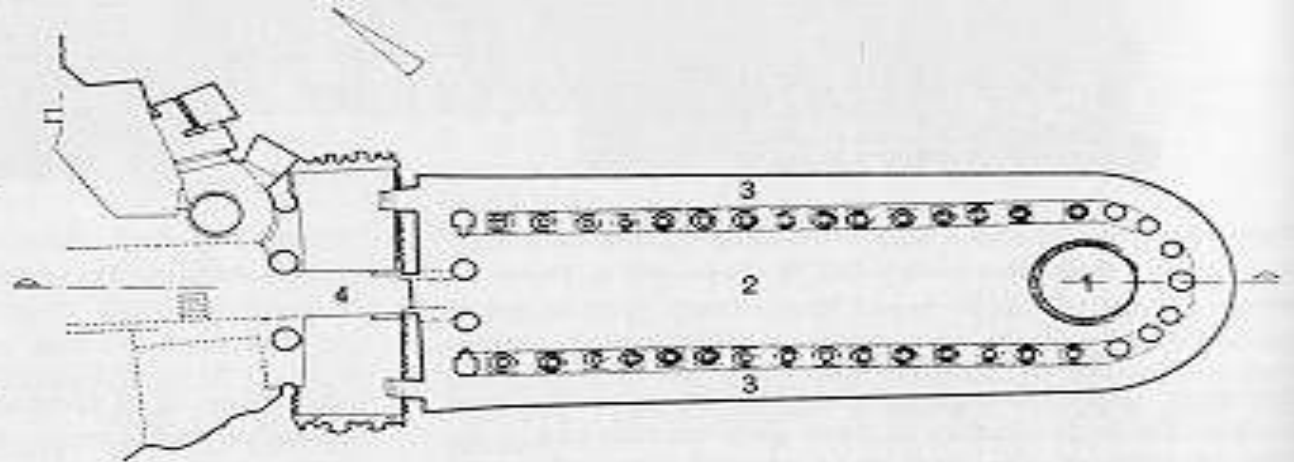
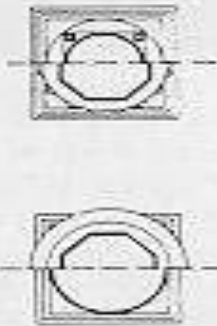
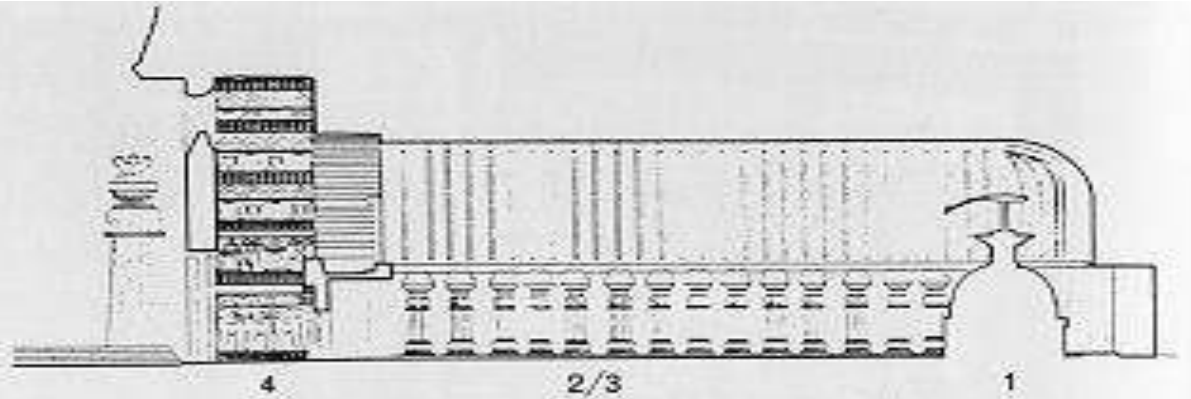
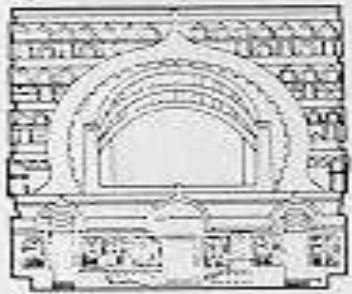
TORANA

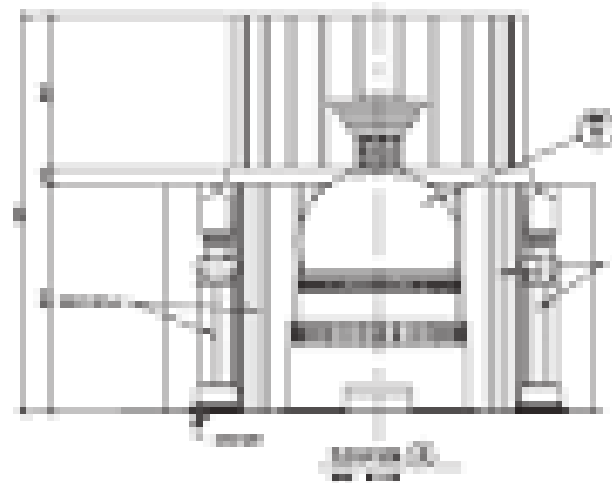
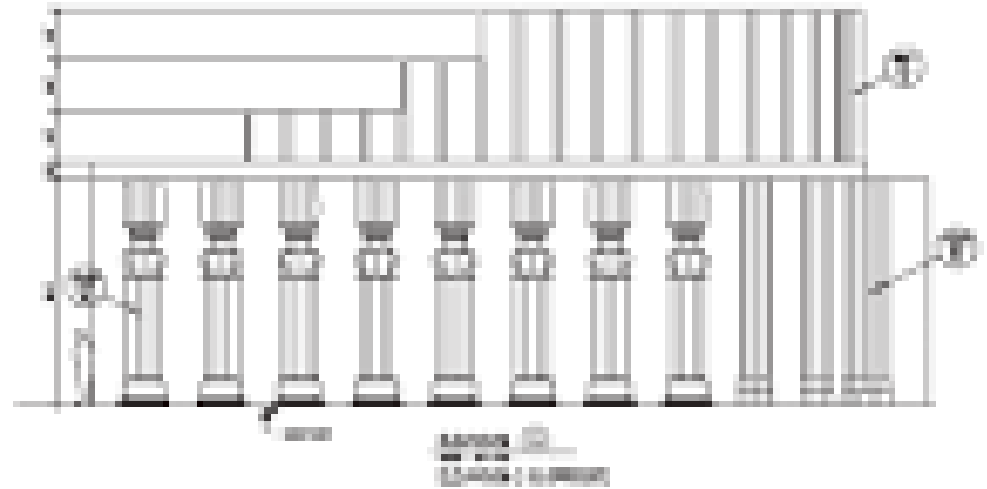
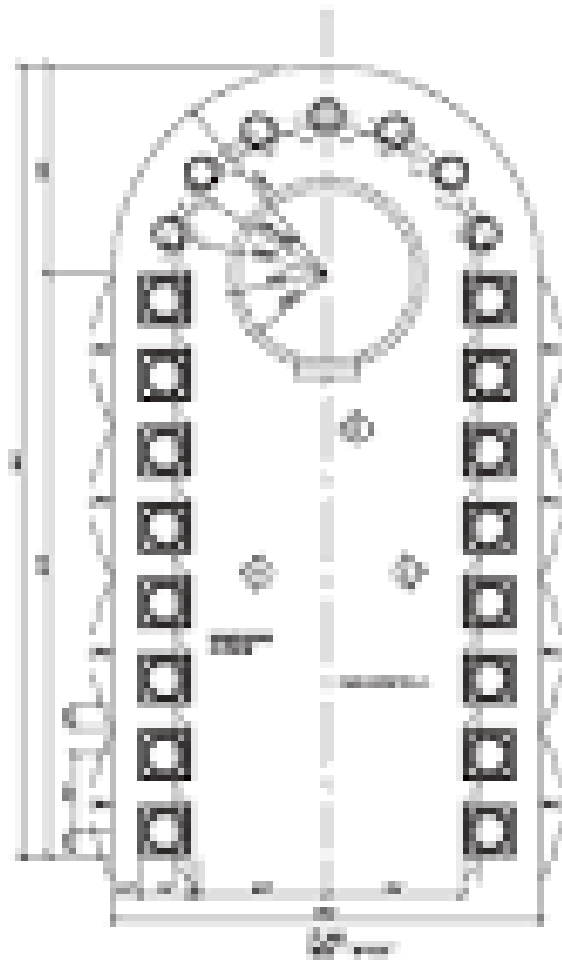
ENCLOSURE WALL

MEDHI



CHAITYAGRIHA: GROUND PLAN



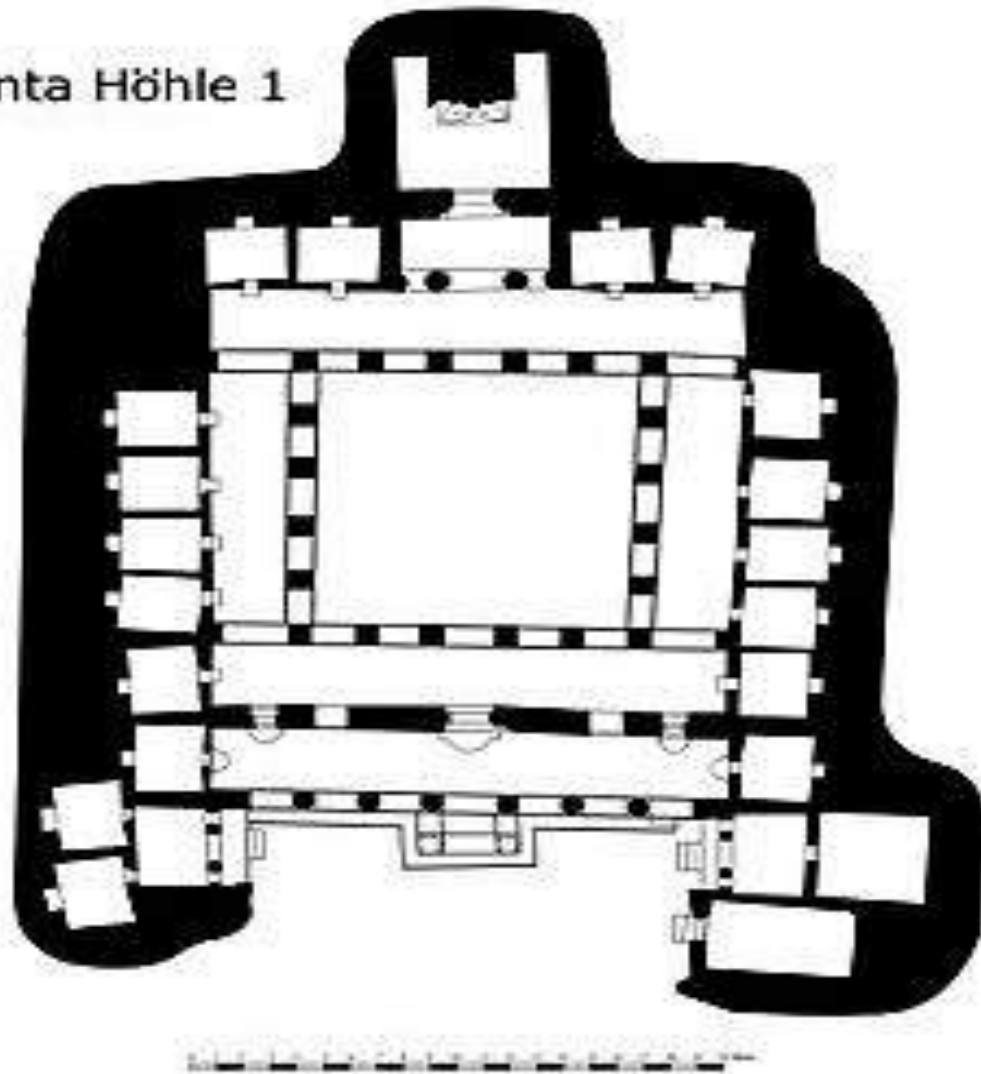


1/4" SCALE PLAN &
ELEVATIONS OF CHATYA HALL
SHEET 1 OF 15 SHEETS

DATE	2023-07-01
PROJECT	CHATYA HALL
DESIGNER	ARCHITECT
CLIENT	CHATYA HALL
LOCATION	CHATYA HALL
SCALE	1/4" SCALE
SHEET	1 OF 15

VIHARA/ SANGHARAM

Ajanta Höhle 1



ODISHAN CONTEXT.....

Odisha is considered as a storehouse of Buddhist remnants scattered all over the State

The Buddhist sites of Odisha belong to all the three sects, viz. *Hinayana* (Lower Vehicle), *Mahayana* (Greater Vehicle) and *Vajrayana* (*Tantric* form) .

Till date more than 200 Buddhist and Buddhist affiliated sites have come to limelight.

There are seven major pockets of Buddhist sites in Odisha:

- **Bhubaneswar-Dhauli- Kapileswar- Aragada- Banapur- Baranga.**
- **Dharmasala Buddhist culture complex comprising Radhanagar-Kayama-Tarapur-Deuli-Langudi-Lalitagiri-Vajragiri-Ratnagiri.**
- **Konark- Kuruma- Chitreswari- Marichipur.**
- **Jaugada-Budhakhola-Tara- Tarini- Gudiali- Purushottampur.**
- **Baneswarinasi- Athagada-Dumudumani-Talagada-Badamba-Narsingpur.**
- Ayodhya, Khiching, Sitabanji and other Buddhist related sites in the northern part of Odisha comprising the districts of Bhadrak, Balasore, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts .**
- **Boudh-Syamsundarpur-Pragalpur Buddhist enclave.**

ODISHAN CONTEXT

- Very nearer to the capital city, on the right bank of river Daya is the bet known for the first specimen of Buddhist art/ Asokan art i.e. Asokan Elephant as well as the Asokan Rock Edict.
- The rock-cut elephant represents, the forepart exhibits the plastic art form, the dignified movement natural to that animal.
- Evidence also shows large no's of caves at Dhauli- leads to early historic period.
- Most of the caves are crumbled down due to shrinking of hills in later time.
- Caves are crudely in design with out any varandah.
- One of the cave inscription contains Santikaradeva, one of the Bhauma king- who was a Buddhist by faith.
- The two special edict one is at Toshali and other at Somapa represents Dharmavijaya, Mohamatras, state craft, religion indicates Buddhism was a state religion in ancient times.

Recent Explored and excavated Buddhist sites of Odisha

In the recent years several Buddhist sites have brought to light in entire Odisha.

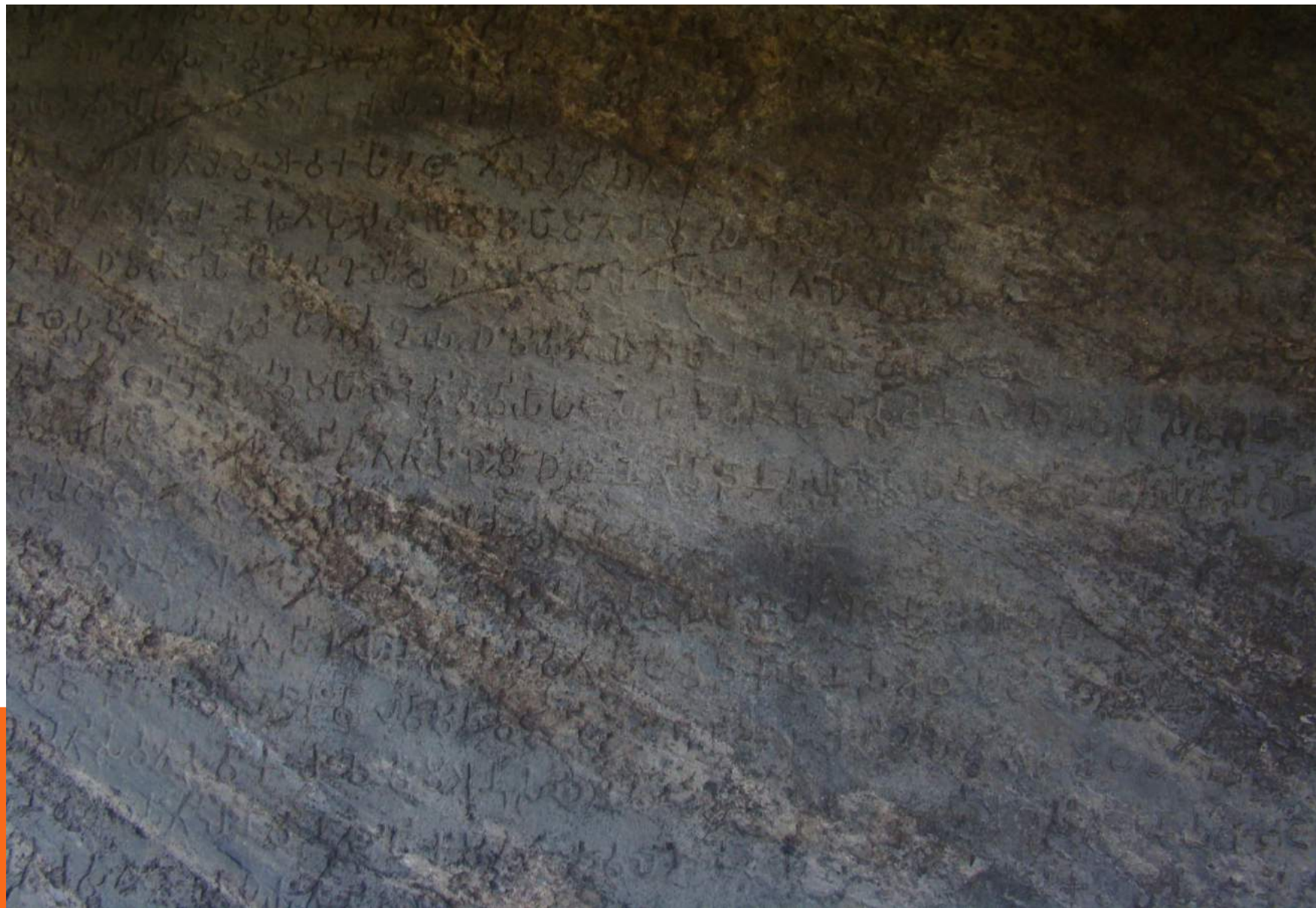
The district of Jajpur contains majority of the sites ranging from Hinayana to Vajrayana pantheons.

Some of the sites like Radhanagar, Vajragiri, Kantigadia, Panturi, Kayama, Neulpur have been excavated partially and remains throws welcome light on the growth and spread of Buddhism in Odisha.

On the basis of epigraphic records pertaining to Buddhism and the excavations proved that Buddhism was the major practicing religion of the people in pre-Christian era and continued for a long time (up to 3rd-4th century A.D.).

The sporadic explorations conducted at several Buddhist pockets have resulted in the discovery of monastic establishments, Viharas, Stupas, Chaityas etc.







Next to Dhauli:

- The ancient rock-cut Buddhist architectural remains in the capital city excavated on the left over creeks of the laterite quarries associated with the Mahabharata heros Pandavas, known as Pandavagumpha.
- The roof and the floor are uniformly plain and flat- standard ht.5ft. 8 inches having cells, varandah and steps.
- Caves are simple, plain and devoid of any decorations- meant for the Buddhist Monks.

Rock-cut caves at Choudwar:

- Found on a low hillock called Indrani pahada
- Out of three caves two faces west and one faces south
- Walls are plain plastered with lime, roofs are slanting unlike Khandagiri and Udayagiri.

Tapanga Hill:

- Near village Naranagarh , the rock-cut caves with inscription along with some crude images are found.

Aragarh:

- on the hill top we found base of a large stupa, railing pillars, cross bars, shockets found which is dateble to 3rd /2nd century BCE.



CHLOUDWAR (2004-2005)





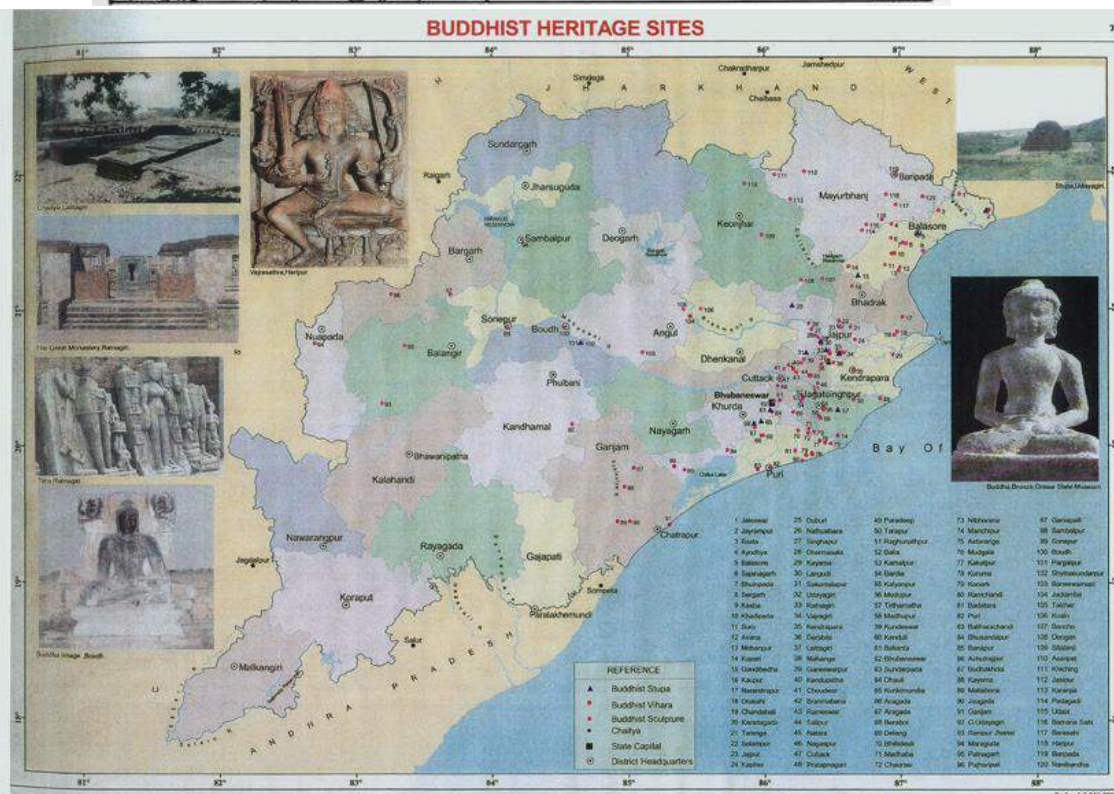
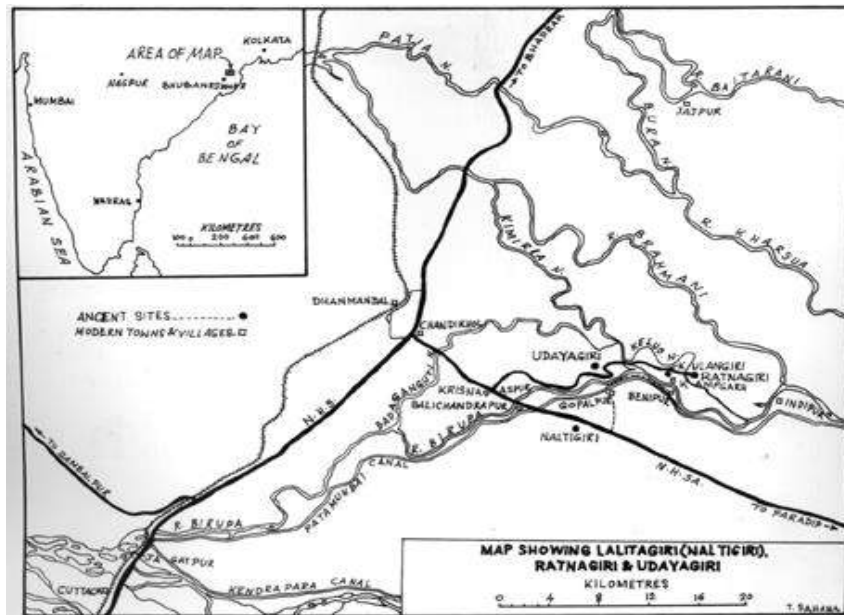




Other rock cut caves are found

- At Phasika (krishnagiri vishaya) as referred by the Ganjam grant of Madhavaraja .
- Buddhakhol near Buguda- on the hill slope early buddhist sculptural remains are found.

LALITGIRI (1985 – 1989)

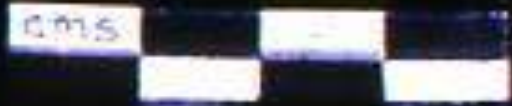








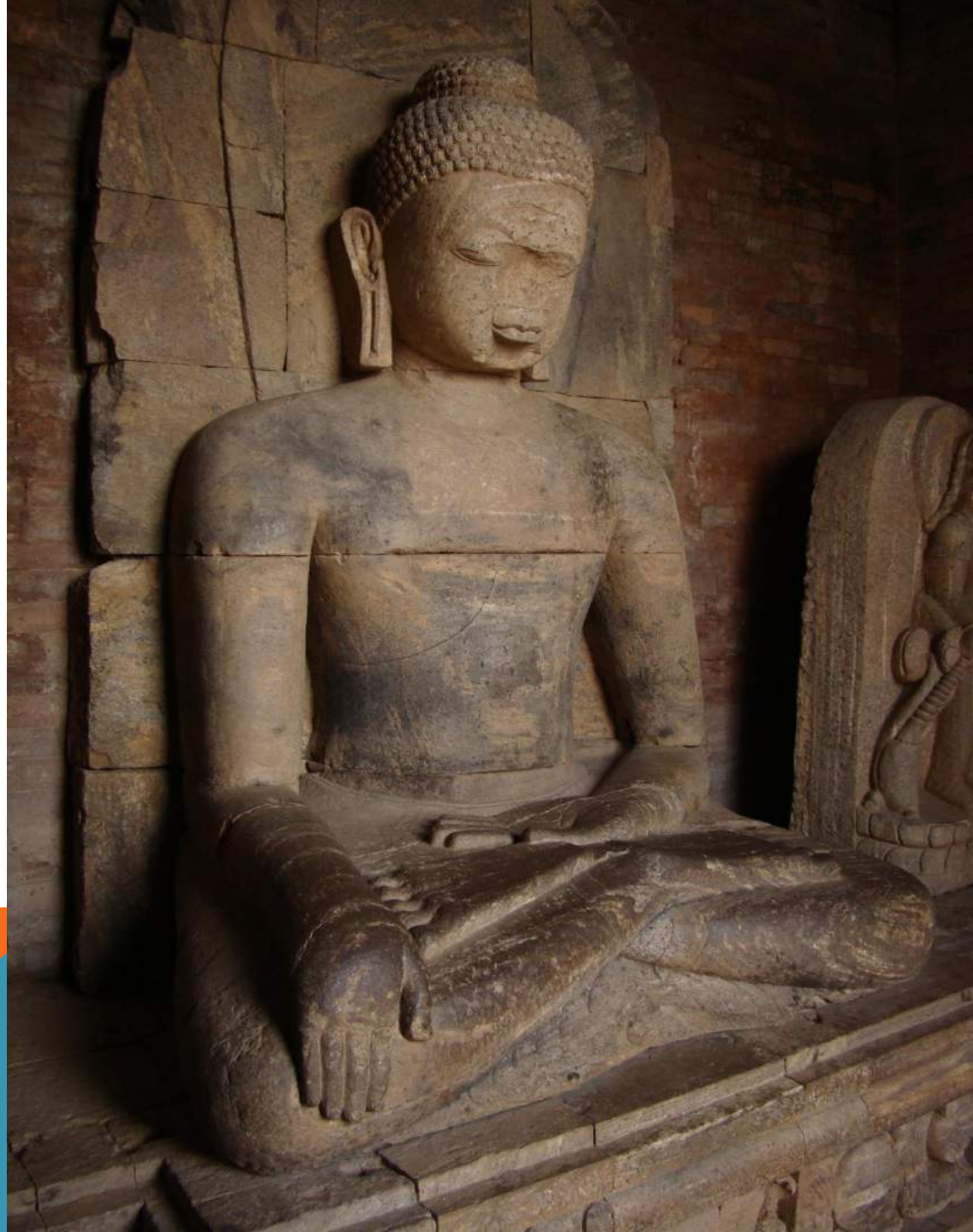












LANGUDI HILL







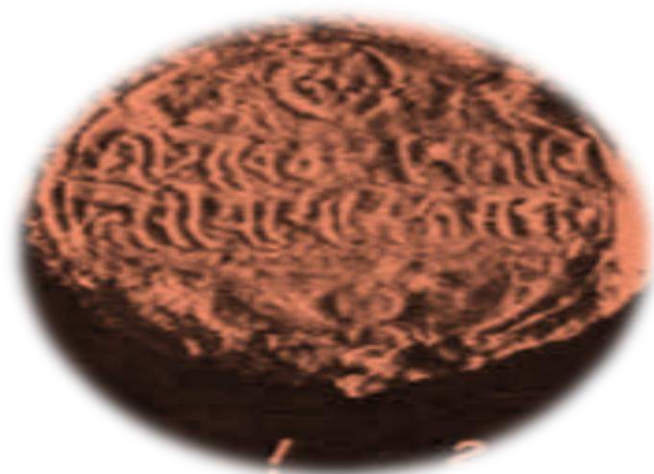








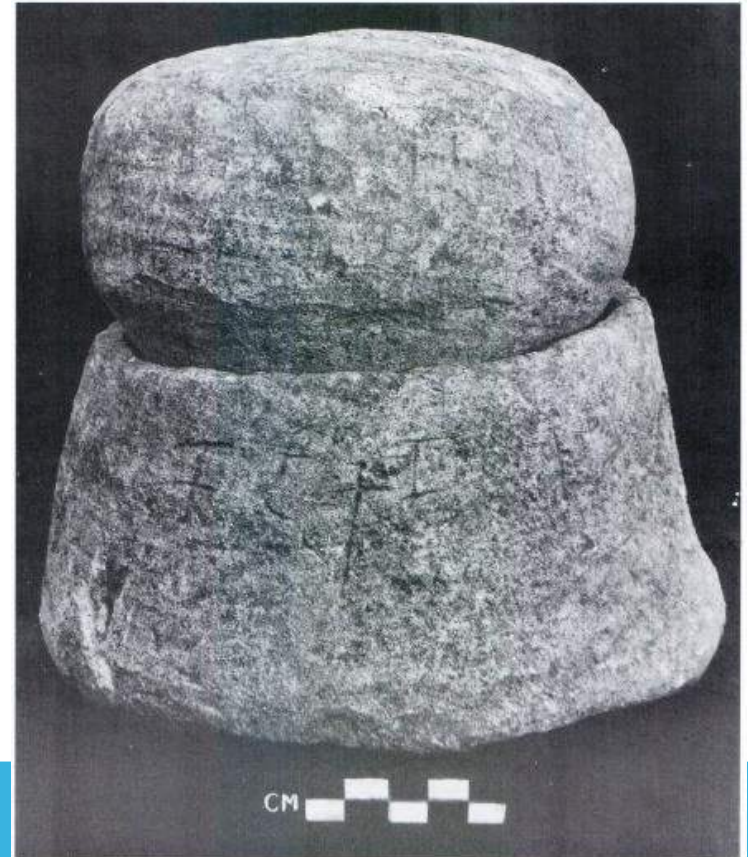
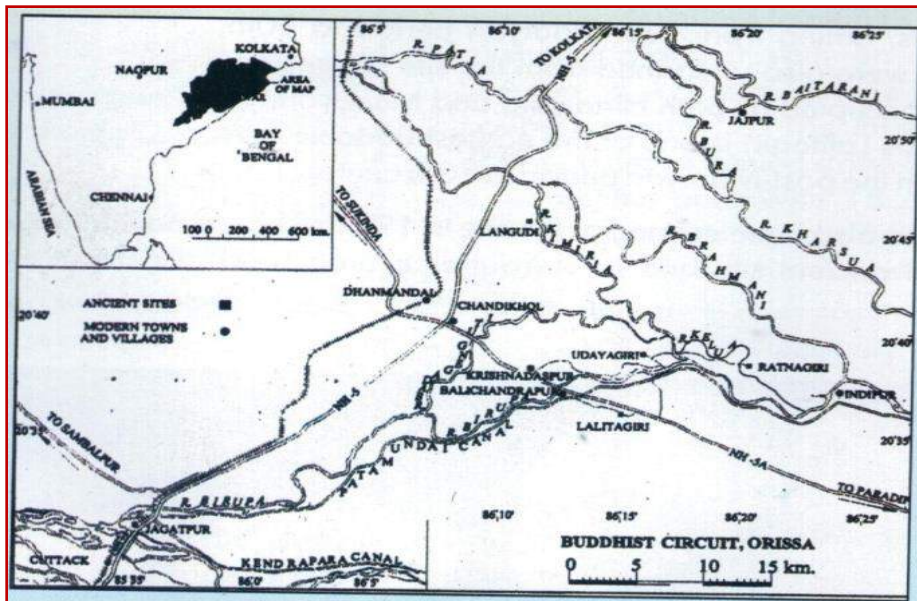
UDAYAGIRI 1 (1985-1989)
&
UDAYAGIRI 2 (1997-2003)



Udayagiri (Lat. 20° 39' N. ; Long. 86°16' E.) lies in tehsil Darapana of district-Jajpur in Odisha. Situated on the right bank of river Birupa, a branch of Mahanadi, it is 88km away from Bhubaneswar via Chandikhol on the way to Ratnagiri,

The northern half of the valley named as Udayagiri-1 and Southern half of the valley is known as Udayagiri-2

- Large scale excavation at Udayagiri,(1985-1989 and 1997-2003) District-Jajpur, Odisha, conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India, which explicitly shows the doctrinal changes in the largest monastic establishment. Udayagiri brought to light two simultaneous sectarian development of monastic establishments of “*Sri-Madhavapur mahavihara-aryabhikshu-sanghasya*” and “*Sri-Simhaprastha-mahavihara-aryabhiksu-sanghasya*”.
- Three types of *chaitya-griha* i.e. circular, apsidal and rectangular dimensions unearthed stratigraphically in succession at Udayagiri-2. Perhaps this is the only Buddhist site where we can date and study the evolution of *chaitya-grihas* stratigraphically.
- Further, it is not certain that how the innovative ideas and concepts introduced in the construction of apsidal shrine i.e. ritualistic place of worship related to Buddhism.



Udayagiri-2: relic container inscribed in Brahmi character

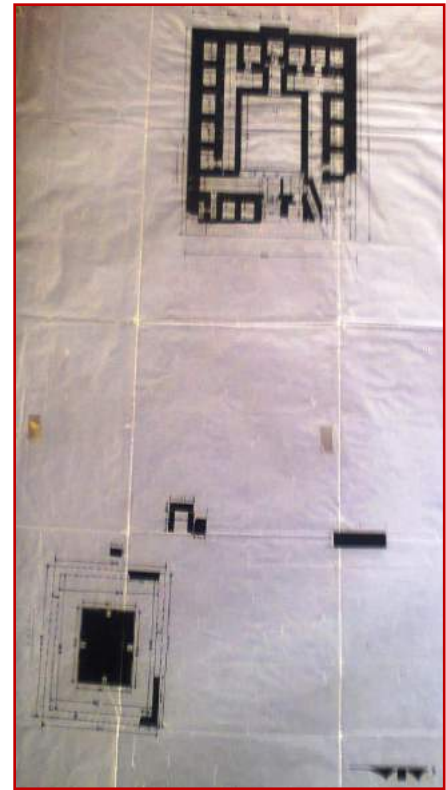
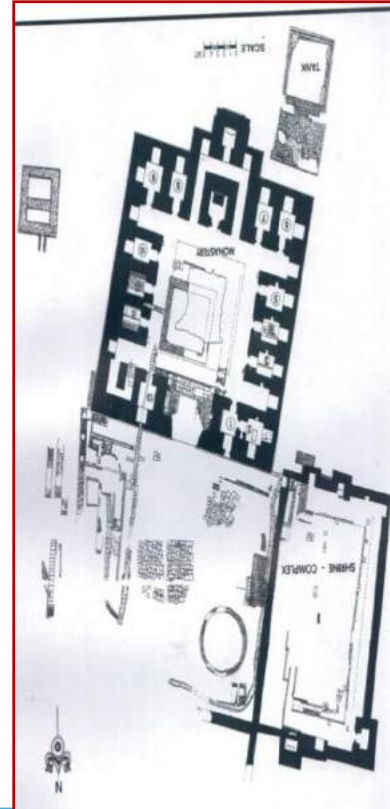
Excavation of Udayagiri-2 (1997-2003) revealed one impressive brick-built double storied monastery having its sanctum provided with an ambulatory passage, shrine complex, tank, a large stone platform with a circular *chaitya* facing north in centre, a brick-built rectangular *chaitya-griha* raised over an earlier apsidal stone *chaitya-griha* and other brick and stone stupas within an enclosure wall, stone path way, drain etc were brought to light.

On the basis of findings of the apsidal *chaitya-griha* and an inscribed relic container belonging to *circa* 1st century A.D., a number of sealings and imageries bearing the Buddhist creed assignable to the 7th to 9th century A.D., a rock -cut stepped well inscribed with a record ascribed to *circa* 9th – 10th century and typical pottery assemblage, the site was under occupation right from the beginning of the 1st century A.D. to the 13th century A.D.

However the date of the site could also be pushed back to the 3rd century B.C. on the basis of stratified material remains of the *chaitya-griha* area.



Rock-cut sculptures



Rock-cut and structural well

PLAN OF UDAYAGIRI











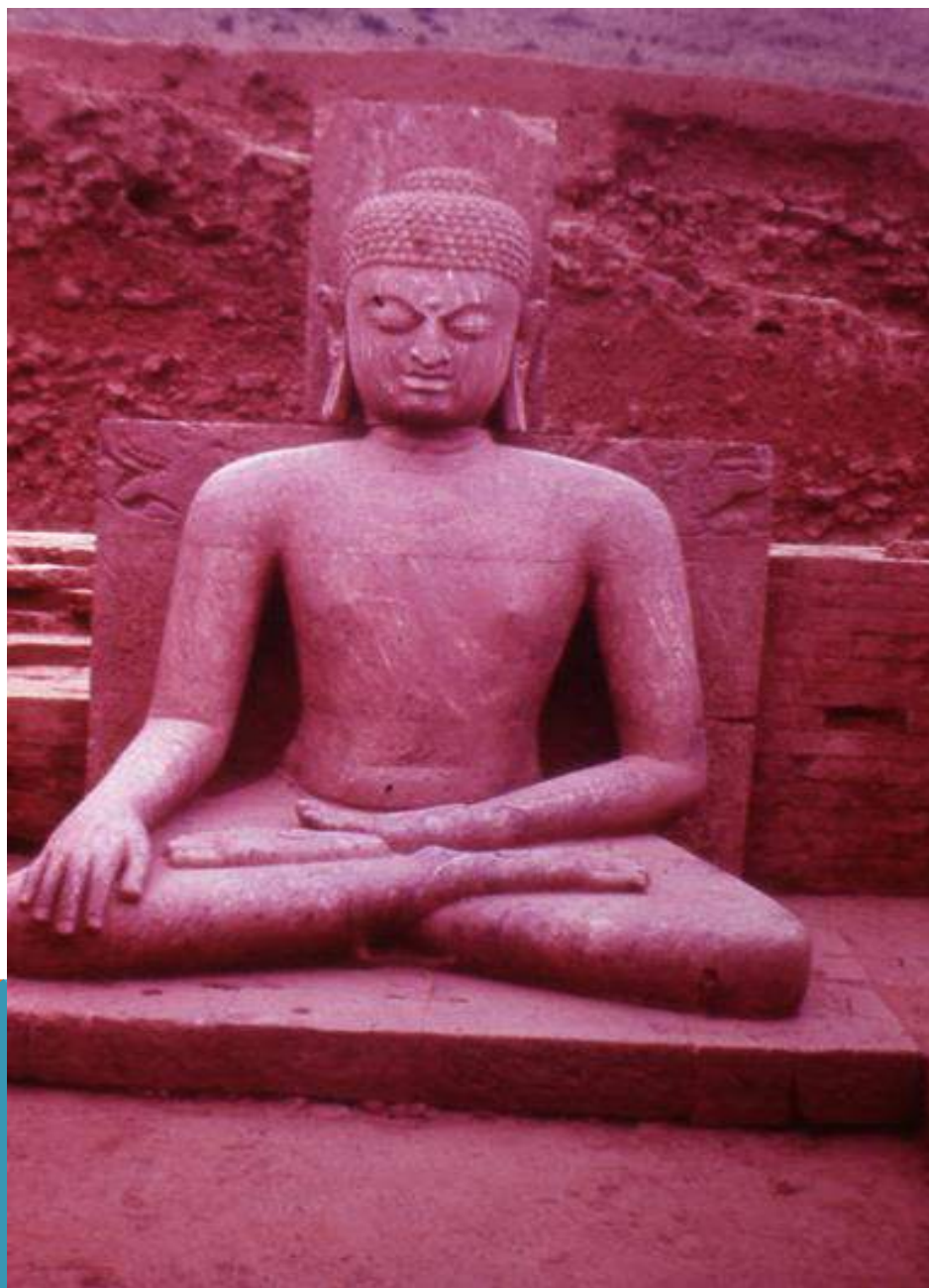




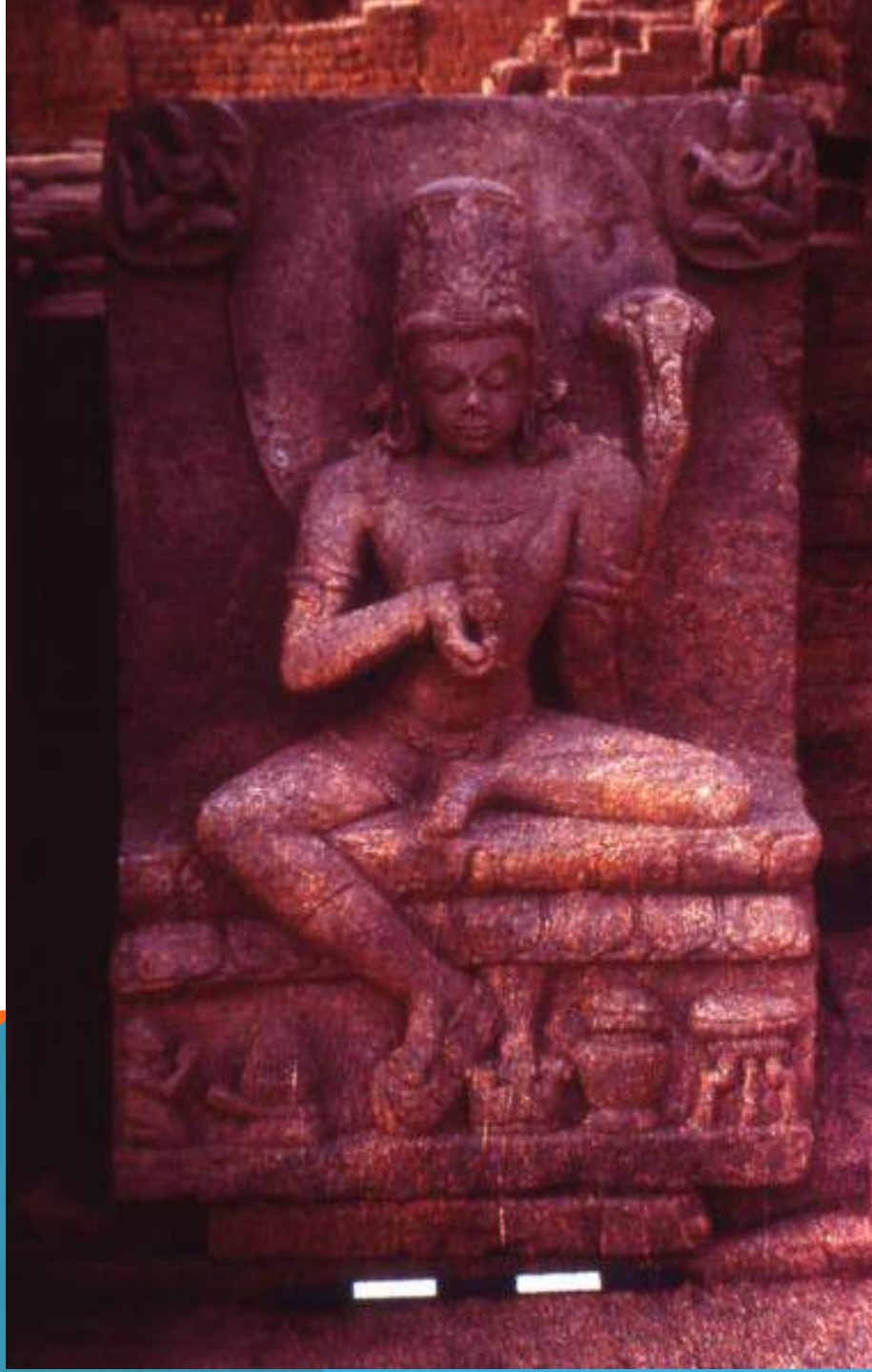




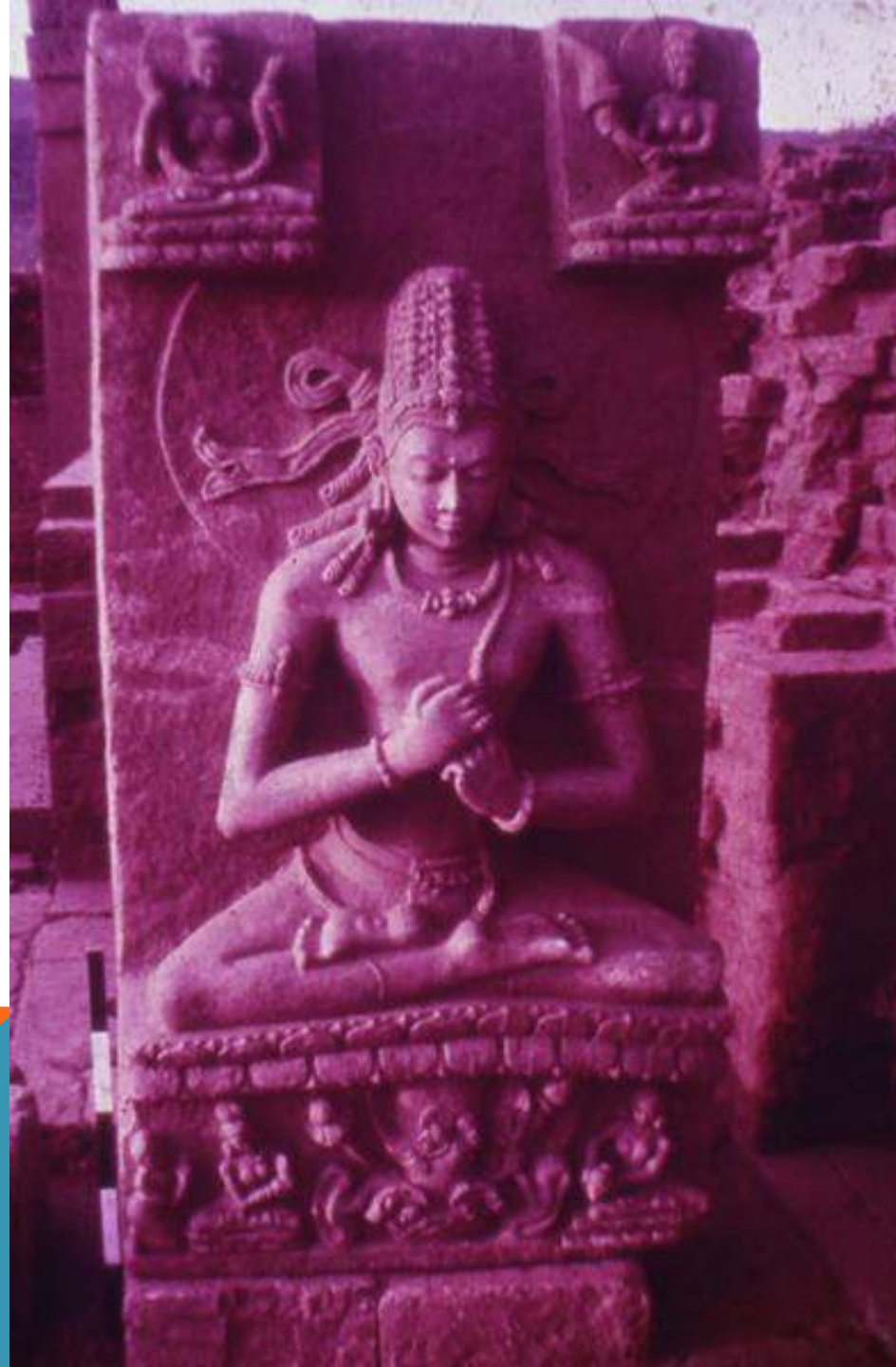




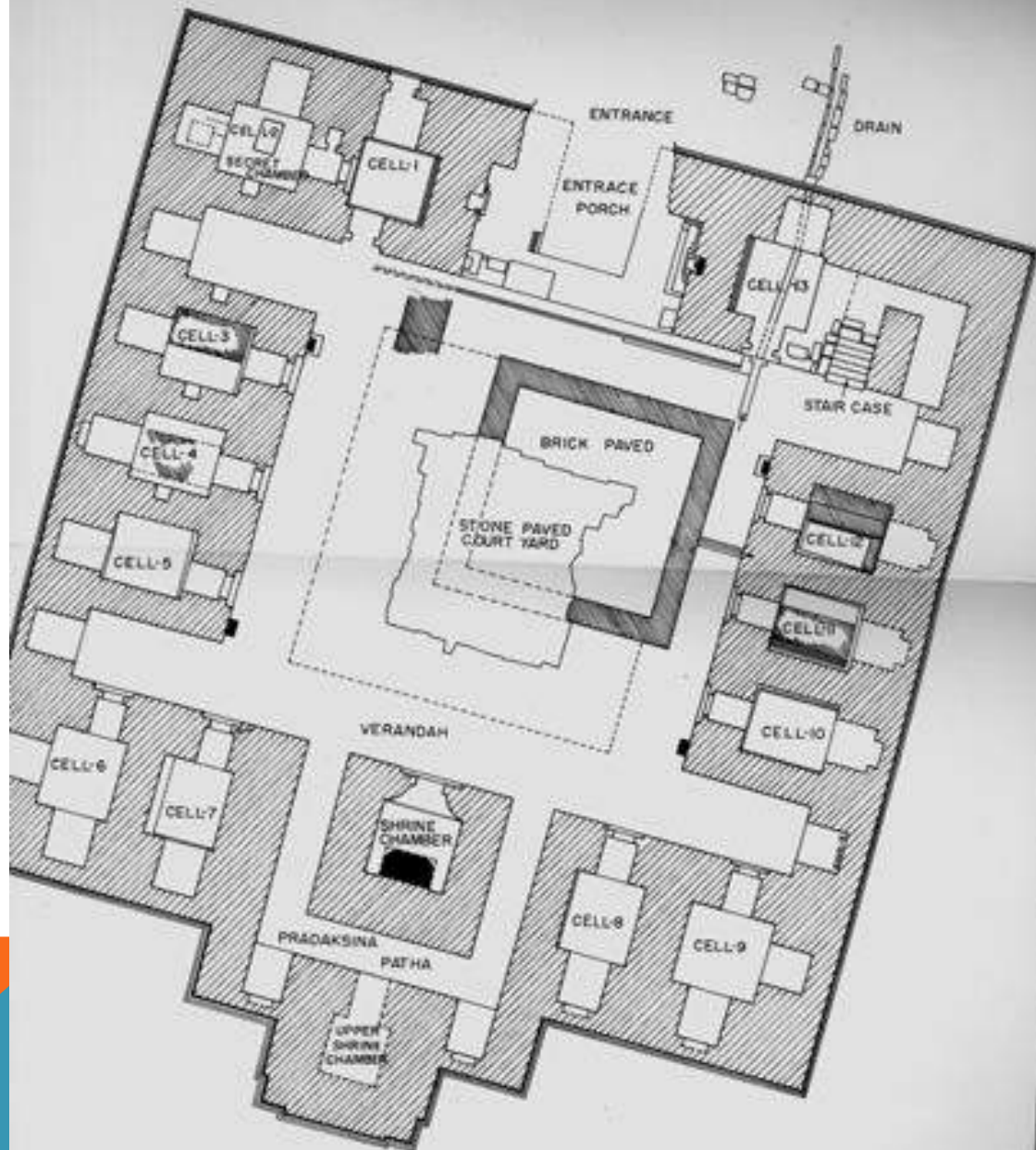


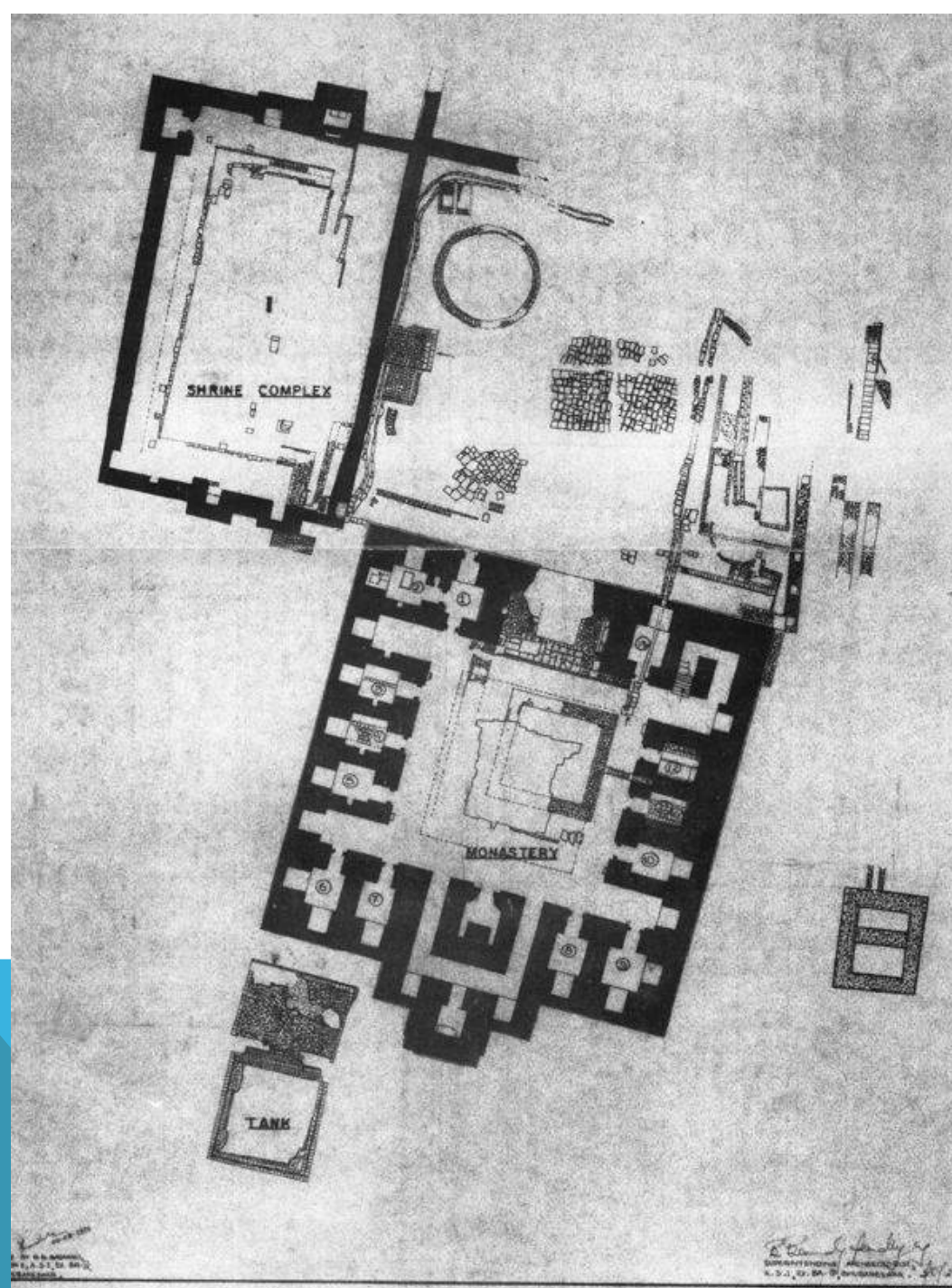




















RATNAGIRI
(1958-1961), (1997-1999) & (2003-2004)

















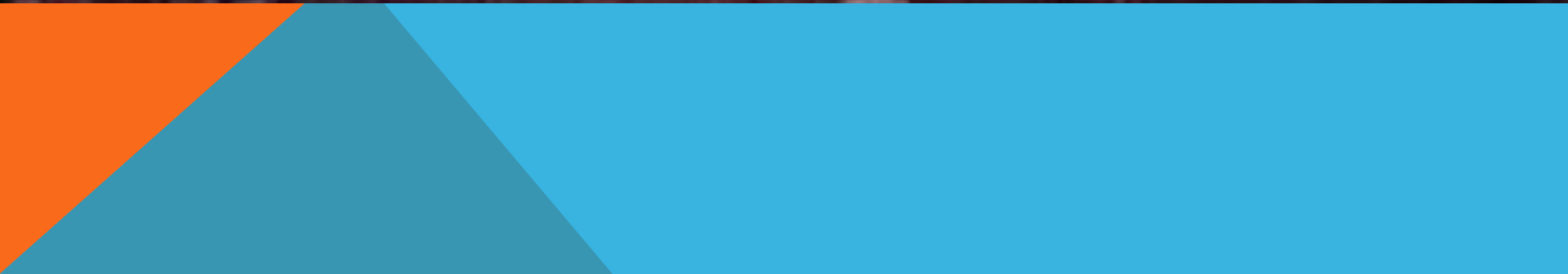




















THANKING YOU.....

