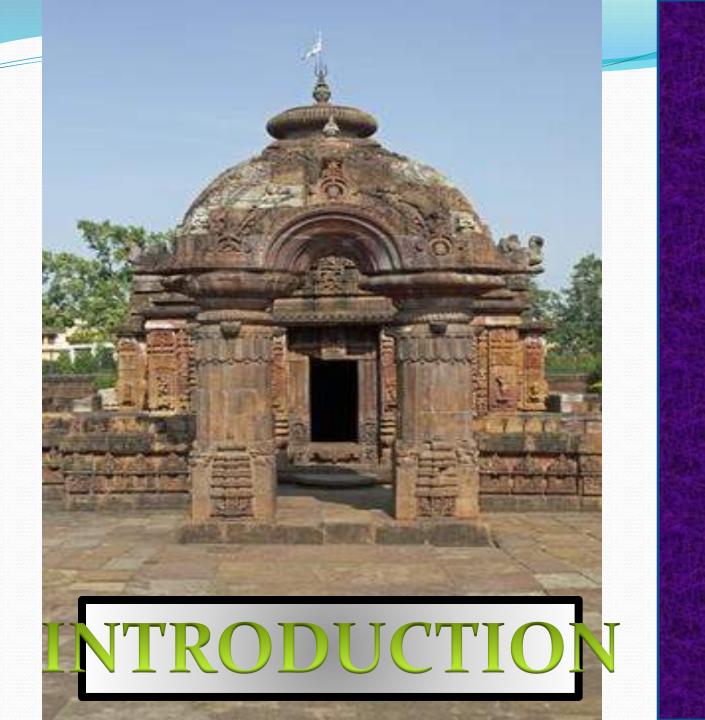
# ART AND CULTURE OF ODISHA: A STUDY ON MONUMENTS OF BHUBANESWAR

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ODISHA



#### **ODISHA**

- Odisha, the state of east coast of India had been the cradle land of cultural activities since the dawn of human civilisation.
- Bhubaneswar is the capital of Odisha province, of Indian union since its formal inauguration on April 13, 1948.
- The modern city was designed by the German architect Otto Konigsberg in 1946.
- Like Jamshedpur, Chandigarh, it is one of the planned cities of modern India. This is also one of the cleanest and greenest cities of India.
- Bhubaneswar is also known as *Ekamrakshetra* in ancient scripture and owing to large number of ancient temple this city is known as temple city.

#### **HISTO**

- The history of Odisha goes back to prehistoric period as the cultural & material remains shows in form of prehistoric stone tools and rock art discovered in the twin hillock of Khandagiri and Udayagiri and in different places of the state.
- ■The Historical account of this state started with Nanda rule in Magadha in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. But the real history begins with the famous Kalinga War fought in the year 261 B.C between Ashoka Mourya of Magadha and Kalinga.
- After Ashoka, the Chedi dynasty ruled over the then Odisha during 1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C. The Famous Hatigumpha Inscription speaks about Mahameghvahana Kharavela as the powerful ruler of Chadi dynasty under whom Odisha reached its highest political strength in the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C.

- History of the state remained in darkness for a period of more than 500 years and again came into prominence during the reign of Sailodbhavas in 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.
- The Bhaumakaras in 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> century A.D, the Somavamsis in 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Century A.D, the Gangavamsis in 12-14<sup>th</sup> Century A.D and the Suryavamsis in 15-16<sup>th</sup> Century A.D ruled over Odisha. Though no where it is mentioned that all the above ruling families after Mourya and Chedi rule had their administrative capital at Bhabaneswar, but this city remained the cultural capital of Odisha through out the history of Odisha.
- Large number of monuments in form of Forts, Caves, Temples and independent Sculptural objects were commissioned in different places of the state for a long time.

#### WHAT IS MONUMENTS

"Monument" means any structure, erection, pillar or any tumulus or place of interment, or any cave, rock-sculpture, inscription or monolith, which is of historical, archeological or artistic interest and which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years.

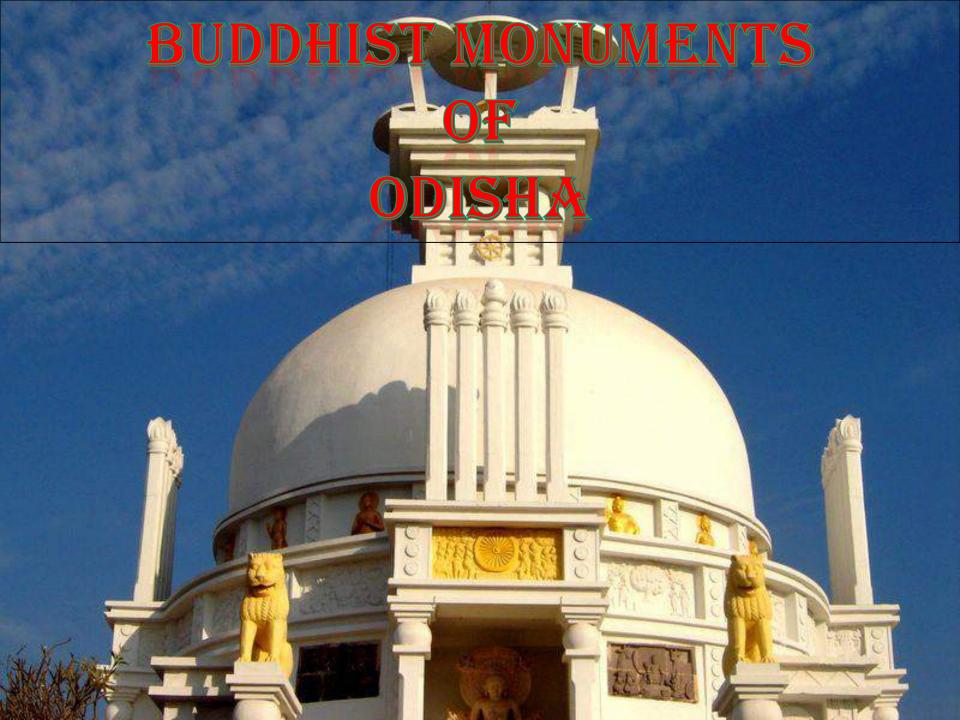
#### MONUMENTS OF ODISHA

- As already mentioned Odisha due to long period of cultural activities preserves huge numbers of monuments of different religion.
- On the basis of religious affiliation the monuments of Odisha may be divided in to Buddhist, Jain and Hindu religious monuments.
- Besides religious monuments it also possess secular monuments like forts i.e Sisupalgarh, Asurgarh, Barabati etc.

## TYPES OF MONUMENTS IN ODISHA

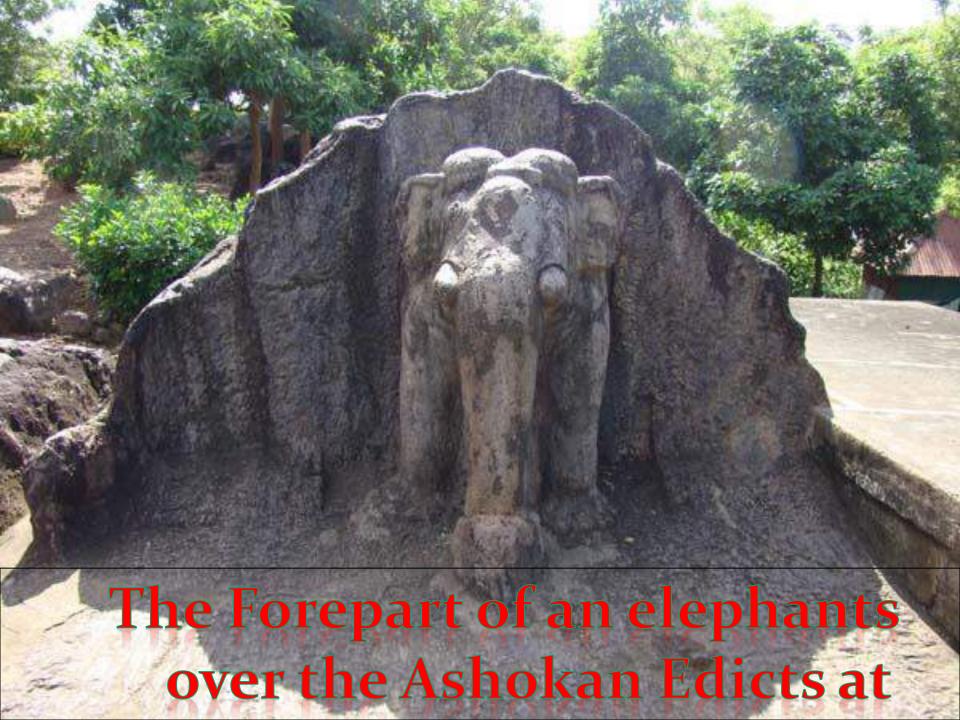
- RELIGIOUS
  - **BUDDHIST**
  - >JAIN
  - >HINDU
- -SECULAR
  - >FORTS
  - >PALATIAL REMAINS

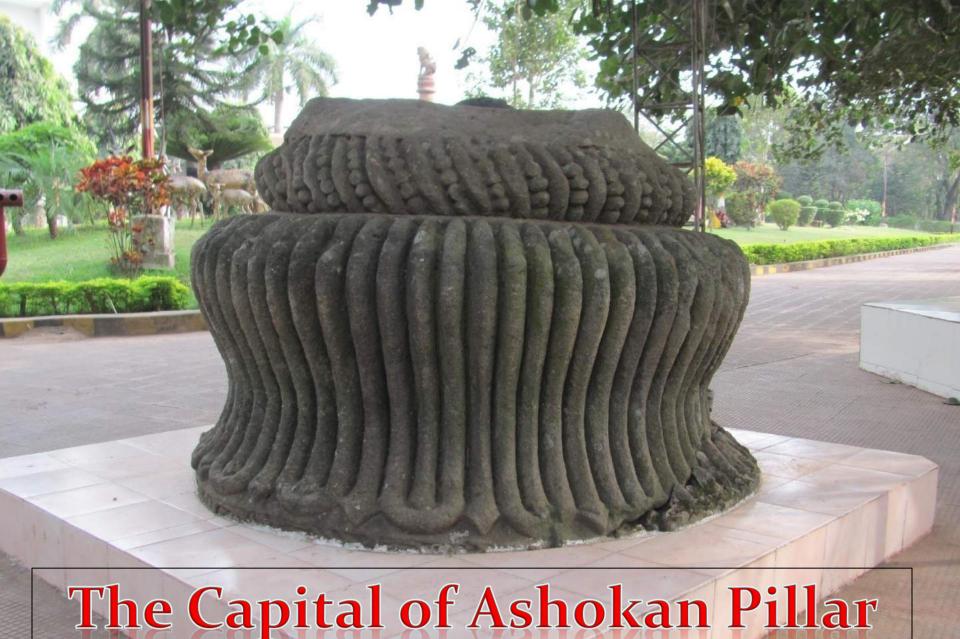
### RELIGIOUS MONUMENTS OF ODISHA



- The history of Buddhist Monuments date back to Kalinga War i.e 261 B.C.
- **Flourished under the direct** patronization of Mouryan **Emperor Ashoka to** propagate Buddhism in his newly acquired province of Kalinga.

- Specimen of Buddhist Monuments Includes.
  - > Remains of an Ashokan Pillars in form of Siva Linga in Bhaskareswar temple.
  - > The Capital of Ashokan Pillar in the premises of Orissa State Museum.
  - > The Forepart of an elephants and Ashokan Edicts at Dhauli.
  - ➤ The Remains of a Lion as Crowning element of Ashokan pillar now preserved at Orissa State Museum.
  - > Some fragments of railings of Stupas, Monasteries, Images of Lord Buddha etc are found in different places of





The Capital of Ashokan Pillar in the premises of Orissa State



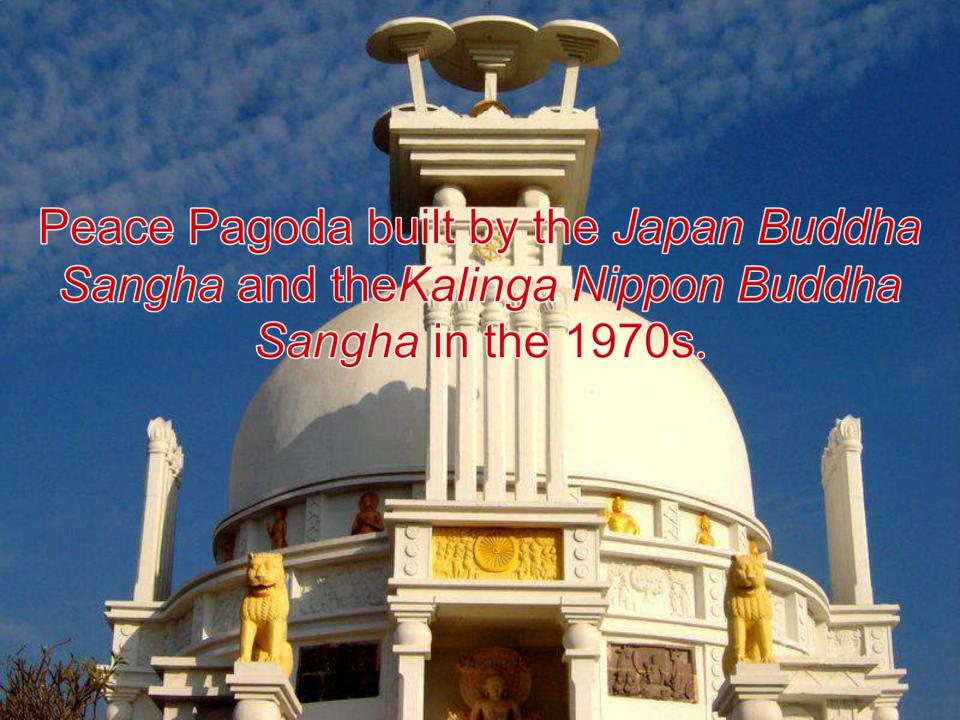
Remains of an Ashokan Pillars in form of Siva Linga in



Shanti Stupa at Dhauli

# Historical Daya River with the Shanti Stupa in background.







- The history of Jain Monuments of Odisha date back to Chedi Rule in Odisha (Kalinga) i.e 1st Century B.C.
- Caves were excavated under the direct patronization of Chedi Emperor Kharavela to provide retreatment to the Jain monks in rainy season.
- Later, the Bhaumakara and Somavamsi Kesari rulers also commissioned excavation of some caves in 9<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup>

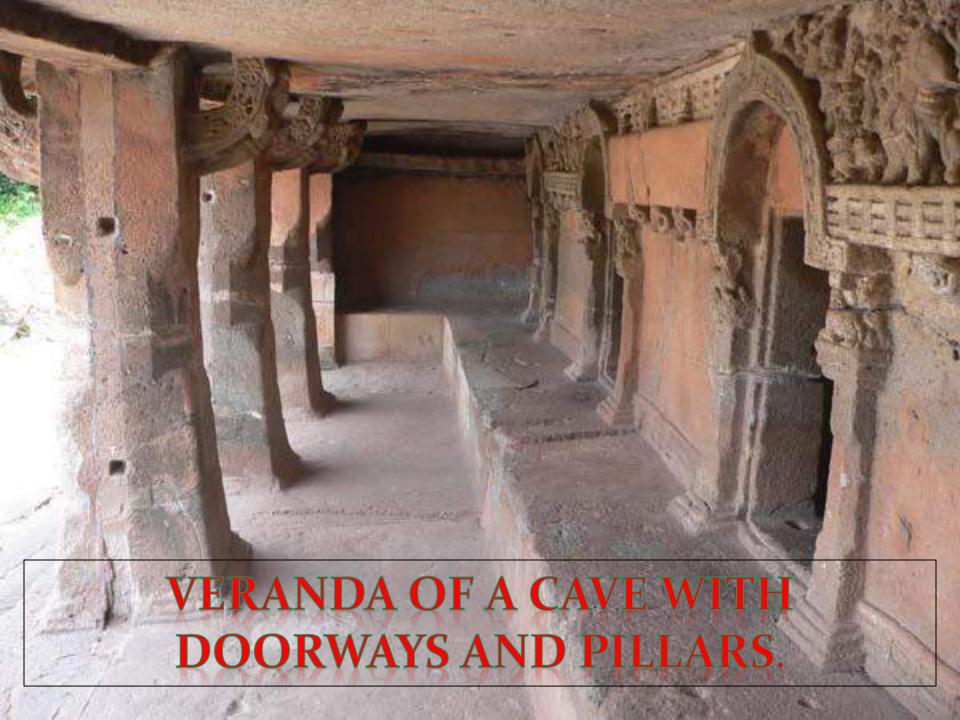
- **Originally there were more** than 100 caves, but due to ravages of time and severity of climate presently 18 caves existed in Udayagiri and 15 are in Khandagiri hill.
- The caves are excavated from the living rocks and

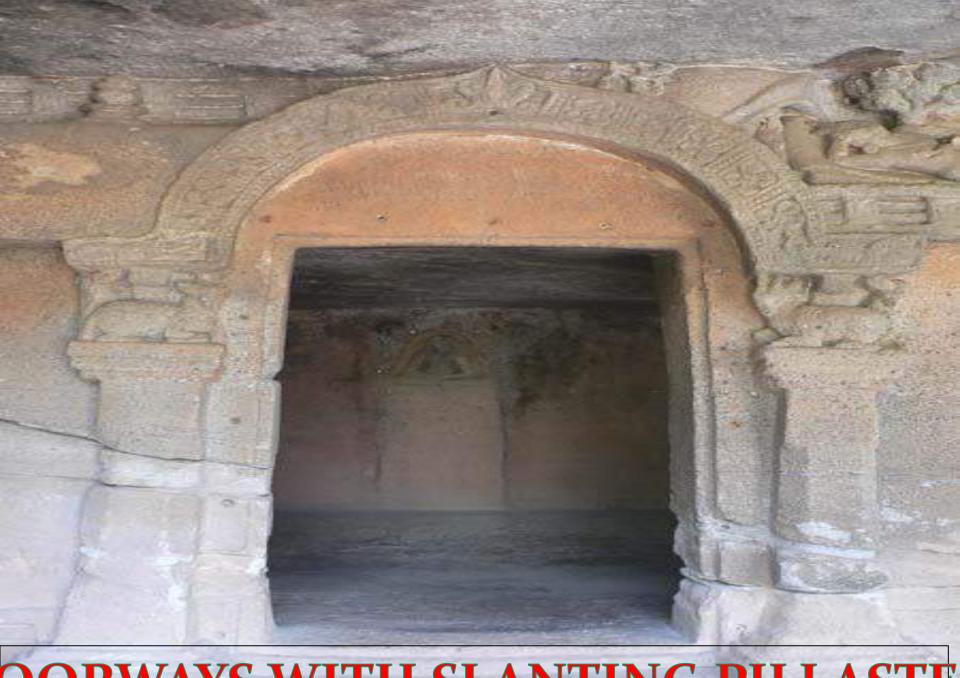
#### RCHITECTURAL FEATURES

- The caves are excavated mostly on the slope of the hill.
- The caves are consists of either single cell, double cell or multiple cells, The multiple cells caves are fronted by pillar.
- ➤ The caves are small in height with concave floor and provided with small doorways flaked by leaning pilasters.
- All the above features were designed

#### SCULPTURAL FEATURES

- Facades of the caves are carved with beautiful sculptural panels in frieze.
- These sculptures are highly artistic and natural in appearance.
- Sculptures are carved in low relief's and are not projected boxond the surface





OORWAYS WITH SLANTING PILLASTE



NI GUMPHA- A DOUBLE STORIES CAV

### LOW RELIEF SCULPTURAL PANEL IN THE FACADE OF A CAVE





Jain images and their *Sasandevis* in a cave in Khandagiri hill



#### HINDUISM IN ODISHA

- Sanskrit text like Ekamra Purana, recorded the tradition that the Gauda king sasanka, a stunch devotee of Siva, conquered part of the then Odisha and built the first Saiva temple at the site of Tribhubaneswara.
- The sect which brought change in the religion of the people of this city in ancient time and gave an impetus to temple building was the Pasupata sect, organised by Lakulisa a Saiva teacher.

#### HINDUISM IN ODISHA

- The above sect established itself in Odisha in the fifth century A.D. after overpowering the prevailing Buddhist faith.
- Thus, since early time Odisha had been the famous centre of *Saivism*.
- Saivism was patronized by ruling dynastuies like the Sailodbhavas, the Bhaumakaras, the Somavamsis and partly the Gangavamsis.

#### HINDU TEMPLE

- Due to religious sanctity large numbers of temples were constructed in different cities of Odisha by various ruling families.
- In fact, some cities owing to large numbers of extant temples often called as temple cities.
- Bhubaneswar is the centre of Odishan Temple Building Tradition or the Kalingan temple architecture.

### TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE

- In Odisha temples were constructed during a long period from 6<sup>th</sup> Century to 15<sup>th</sup> Century A.D are standing and gives us a picture of Kalingan Temple Building Tradition
- Ancient treaties on Architecture or the Silpasastras, gives us a vivid account on the temple architecture of Odisha.

### TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE

The existing temple of Bhubaneswar shows an evolutionary phase in the temple building tradition of Odisha. i.e formative, mature and climax phase. Besides Bhubaneswar in many other places early extant temples are also found both in good and dilapidated condition. Originally Odishan temples belonged to Indo-Aryan group i.e Nagara style of North Indian temple architecture, but due to regional variations it was styled as Kalingan Temple Architecture. Later on Architectural styles of Central Province were brought to this land by the Panduvamsis alias Somavamsis through South Koshala to the Coastal Odisha. In south Odisha

#### TYPES OF TEMPLES

- Architectonically, the temples resolve themselves into three broad orders, known to local terminology as rekha, pidha and khakhara.
  - > Rekha- characterized by a curvilinear spire and meant for Sanctum Sanctorum where the deities reside.
  - ➤ Pidha- characterized by receding tiers and meant for both jagamohana or hall of audience and vimana or sanctum sanctorum.
  - >Khakhara- Characterized by an oblong ground plan with a semi cylindrical super structure and meant for sanctum

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#### FEATURES OF ODISHAN TEMPLE

ODISHAN TEMPLE IN GENERAL HAS TWO BROAD CATEGORY OF FEATURES.

•ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES.

CONSISTS

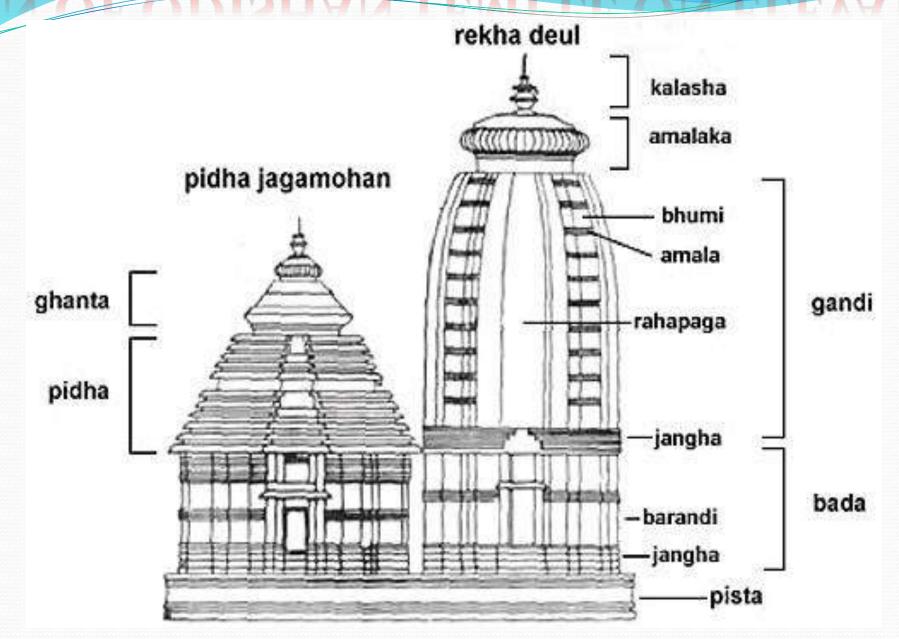
ARCHITECTURAL COMPONENTS

OF A TEMPLE.

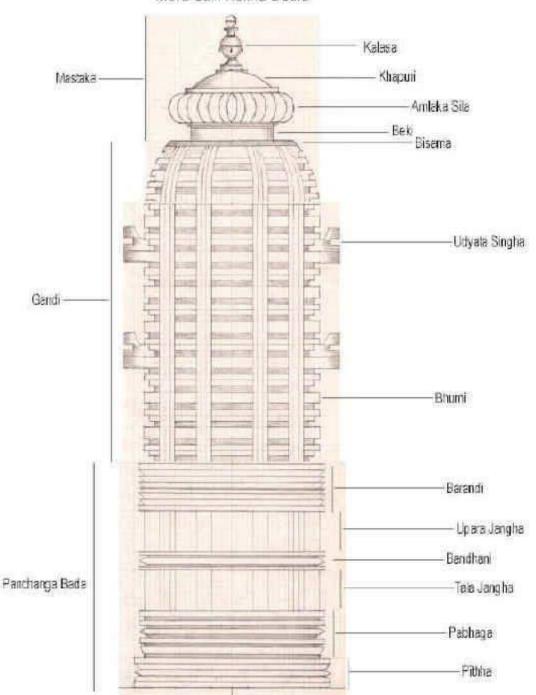
•SCULPTURAL FEATURES.

CONSISTS OF SCULPTURAL
AND DECORATIVE MOTIFS
ADORNING THE TEMPLE.
THIS ALSO INCLUDES

## AN OF ODISHAN TEMPLE ON ELEVAT



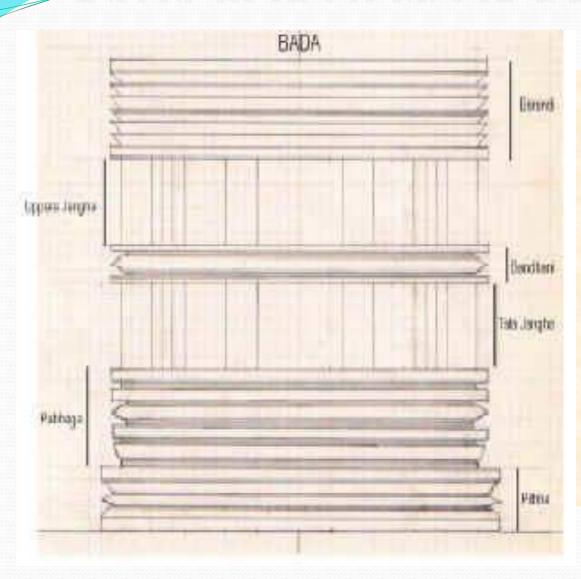
Meru Saili Rekha Deula



## FEATURES OF REKHA TEMPLE

A Rekha temple characterized by a curvilinear spire and generally meant for vimana or the sanctum sanctorum.

#### BADA PORTION OF REKHA TEMPLE

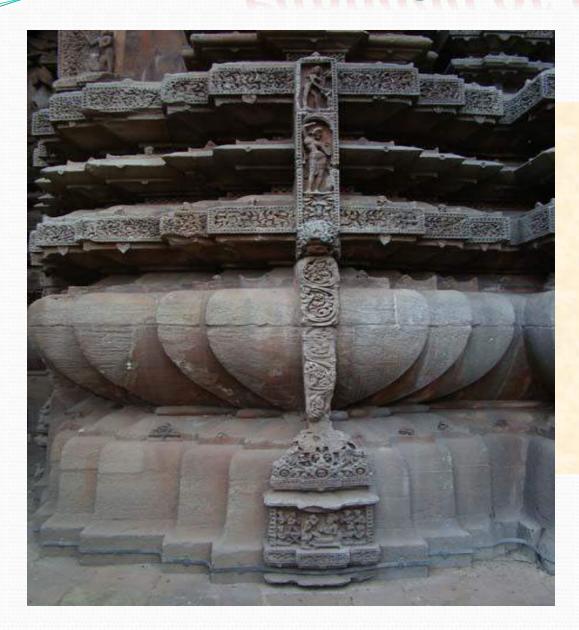


**Bada** meant for the wall part of the temple. In the interior this part is simply plain, and square on plan, where as on the exterior part Bada is decorated with both architectural and sculptural features, which gives it an ornamental appearance.

#### **BADA-FEATURES**

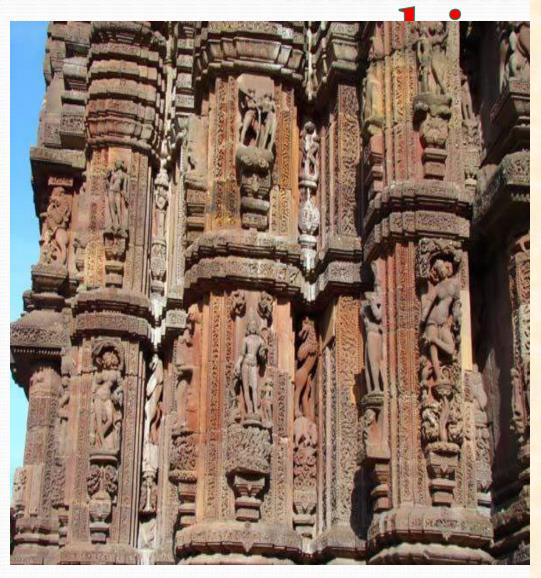
- Bada is almost same in Rekha and Pidha temple except for the Parsvadevata shrine in the raha paga.
- On the evolutionary scheme in the early templebada has three fold division called as trianga bada i.e. Pabhaga, jangha and baranda.
- With matured phase bada become five fold divisions namely Pabhaga, Tala Jangha, Madhya bandhana, Upara jangha, Baranda and called as panchanga bada.

# Pabhaga or Foot



The lower most unit of bada is Pabhaga consisting of Khura, Kumbha, Pata, kani, basanta.

# Jangha or



- Jangha or Shin
   part of the temple
   represent the
   central part of
   bada or wall.
- In the early phase it was single storied where as in the later period it became two storied with a dividing line called as madhya

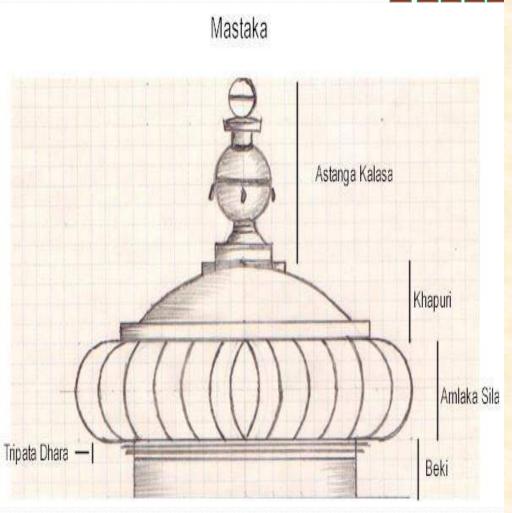
# Gandi-Superstructure



- Gandi or the super structure of a rekha temple is designed as a curvilinear structure and separated from the bada by a baranda.
- The gandi is divided into pagas or projections and depicted with chaitya medallions. The Kanika or corner projection is divided into storey by bhubmi amalaks.

# Mastaka-the

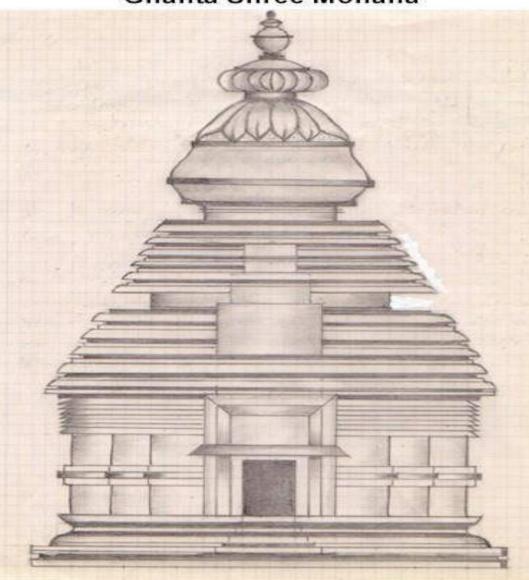
finial



- Mastaka or the finial part of the temple is separated from the gandi portion at bisama.
- Mastaka of a rekha temple consisting of five architectural element i.e beki, amalaka, khapuri, kalasa, ayudha.

## PIDHA TEMPLE

Ghanta Shree Mohana



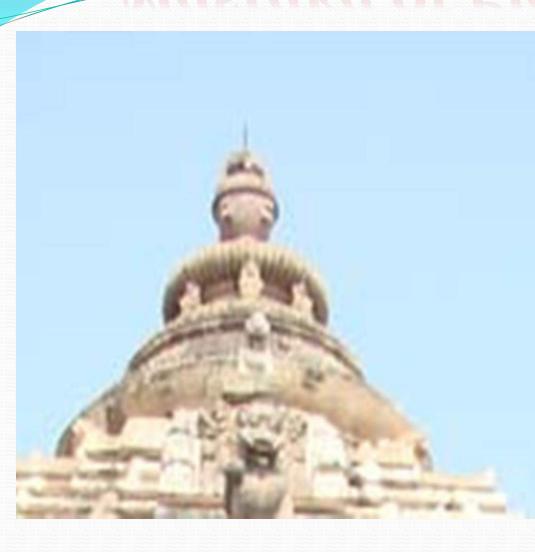
- Pidha temple is characterized by receding tiers at gandi level.
- The bada part is as same as rekha temple.
- Mastaka part consisting of seven element.

# Gandi of Pidha temple



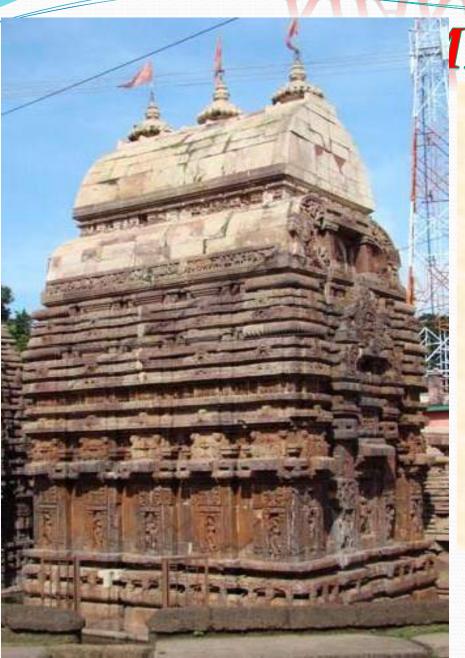
Gandi part of a pidha temple is designed with a set of receding tiers or pidha.

# Mastaka of Pidha temple



Mastaka or the finial part of a pidha temple consisting of seven architectural element i.e beki, amalaka, khapuri, ghanta, amalaka kalasa, ayudha.

## KHAKHARA



## IPLE

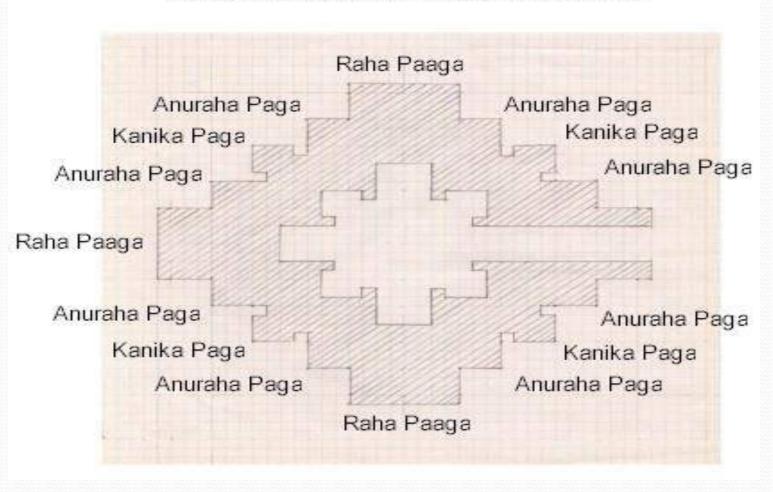
- Khakhara temple is characterized with an rectangular ground plan and a semi cylindrical superstructure.
- This type of temple is only meant for female divinities.



**Vaital** templelocated in Bhubaneswar is a khakhara temple dedicated to goddess Chandi

### GROUND PLAN OF ODISHAN TEMPI

#### Pancha Rathaka Deula Bhunaksa



# Sculptural Features

# The Odishan temples are remarkable for the abundance of sculpture including:

- Religious: Images of divine and semi divine personalities.
- Secular: Human figures, animal both real and mythical, and erotic figures.
- Decorative patterns: like Kirtimukha, Chaitya medallion and scrolls,
- Architectural motifs: like pidha and khakharamundis, chaitya window, Vajramastaka etc.

In Odicha tomple anchitecture and contenture

# Satrughaneswar Group of Temple

- Constructed during 6th century A.D. under Sailodbhava rule.
- Inspite of being earliest extant temple, the temple, is found to be a mature conception.



- It represented a rekha temple.
- Along with this temple another two temple namely Bharateswara and Laxmaneswara also standing in the same compound dated to same time.





 The sculptures of the Satruganeswar are marked by vigour & exuberance of the designs recalling the best characteristics of the Post-Gupta Art.

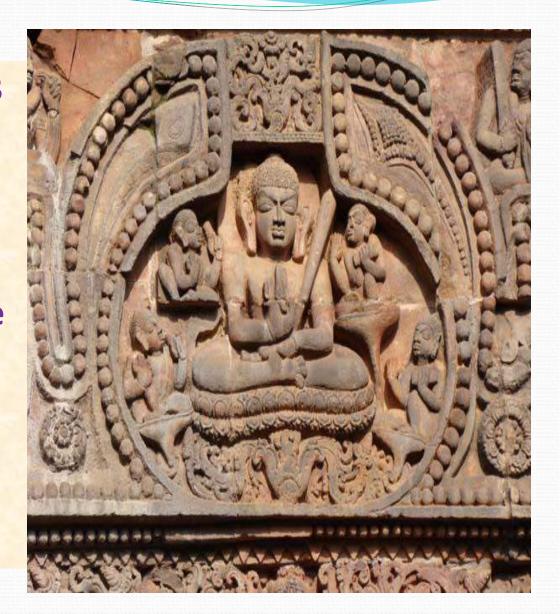
## Parasurameswar



Built in the 7th century, the Parasurameswar Temple is small but lavishly decorated.

- Enclosed within a compound wall, the deula, facing the West is a square towered.
- The jagamohana, is a rectangular structure with a terraced roof, sloping in two stages.

- The deula about 13 mtr high is triratha on plan.
- The temple
   represent the stage
   of Saiva Pasupata
   Sect, illustrated by
   the frequent
   representation of
   Lakulisa.



# Mukteswara temple

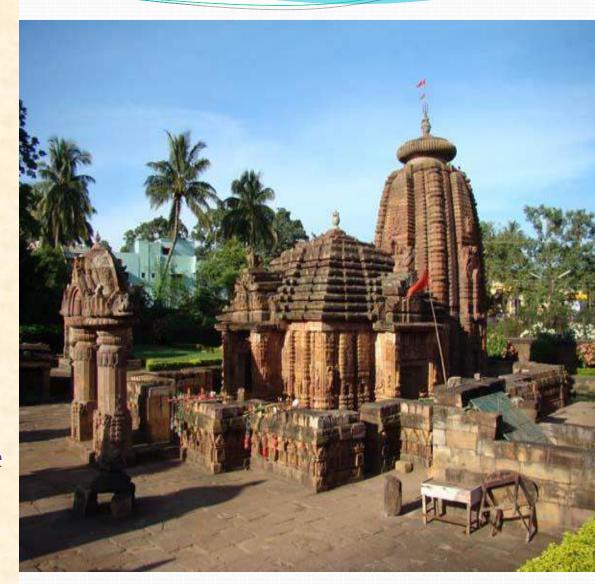
- Mukteswara temple (c. AD 950) is often referred to as the "gem of Orissan architecture". Due to its delicate carvings on this refined little structure.
- The Temple was probably constructed by Somavamsi ruler Jajati Kesari- I after conquest of Utkala.



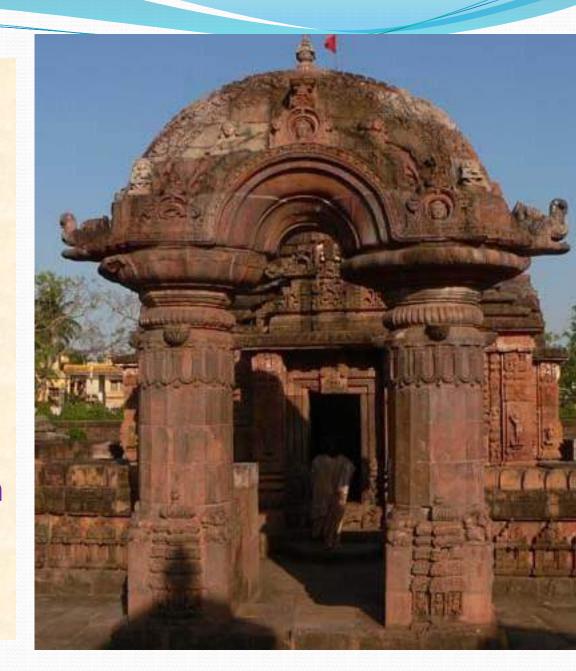


 The Mukteswara is important as a transition point between the early and later phases of the Kalinga school of temple architecture.

- The builder has successfully combined many elements of the old with new designs and conceptions.
- Many of the innovations took root, here and became essential features of all later temples.
- Scholars described the Mukteswara as "harbinger of the new culture".



- The 'torana' of the Mukteswara deserves special attention.
- Its extraordinarily beautiful sculpture includes elaborate scrolls, graceful female figures, monkeys, peacocks, and a wealth of delicate and lovely decorative detail.



# Rajarani Temple

- •The Rajarani Temple, was built in the 11th century.
- The peculiar reddish sandstone known as Rajarani was used after which temple is named as Rajarani.
- •It is also belived that the temple was initially known as Indralingeswara after Indraratha, a somavamsi king, who built this.





- Rajarani Temple stands on a raised platform.
- Its spire is decorated
   with clusters of turrets called
   aangasikhara. It is a influence
   of Central Indian style.
- The Jagamohana though demonstrating a pyramidal structure is yet to take on as a complete structure of its own.

- The sculptures adorning the walls of the deula are alive and energetic.
- Especially attractive are the sculptures of coquettish women, women carrying children, looking at their reflection in the mirror or playing becomingly with birds and nature.



## Brahmeswar Temple



•The Brahmesvara temple was constructed by Kolavati devi, mother of Udyotakeasari and wife of Jajati Kesari II during first part of 11th Century A.D.

Brahmeswar, shows mature workmanship and advanced architectural features. Here the canons of Orissan architecture is found to have been fully applied.

•It is a pancha-ratha temple which give the structure almost a rounded appearance.



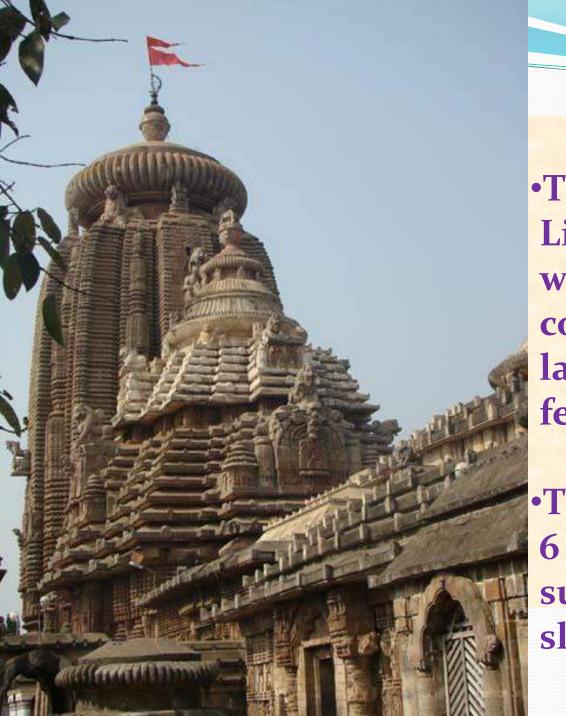
Among the dated temples it is the earliest one where iron beams have been used, and where porch or the *Jagamohana* consists of the full-fledged *Pidha-Deula* with the usual crowning members.



# Lingaraj Temple

- Dedicated to Harihara cult, made Bhubaneswar, a revered pilgrimage center.
- •Presiding deity of this temple is lord Kirtibasa.
- •The temple is traditionally believed, though without historical authentication, to be built by the Somavamshi king Jajati Kesari-II, in 11th century A.D.





•The temple of Lingaraja, is located within a spacious compound wall of laterite measuring 520 feet by 465 feet.

•The wall is 7 feet 6 inches thick and surmounted by a plain slant coping.

- The temple of Lingaraja is one of the biggest monuments of Odisha rising to a height of about one hundred and eighty feet and dominating the entire landscape.
- it represents the quintessence of the Kalinga type of architecture and the culminating result of the architectural tradition in Odisha.





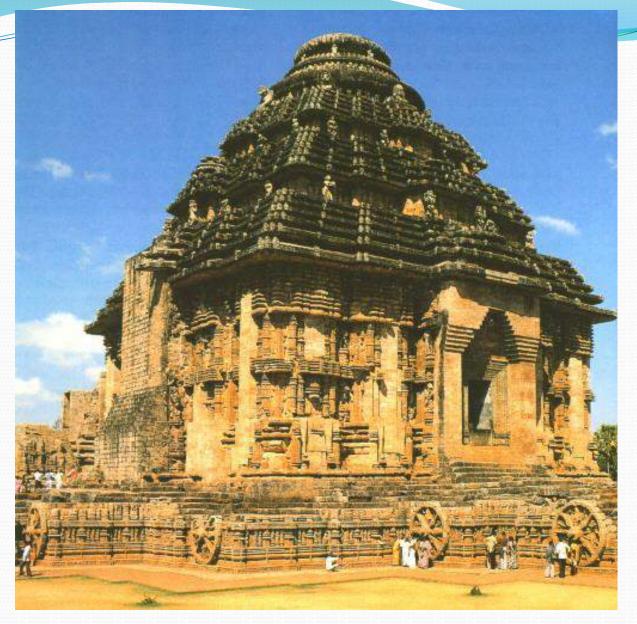
## **Anant Vasudeva Temple**

- •Ananta Vasudeva Temple is dedicated to lord Krishna, is the only Vaisnavite Monument at Bhubaneswar.
- •The temple was constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, by Chandrika Devi, the daughter of Anangavimadev a III, during the reign of the king Bhanudeva.





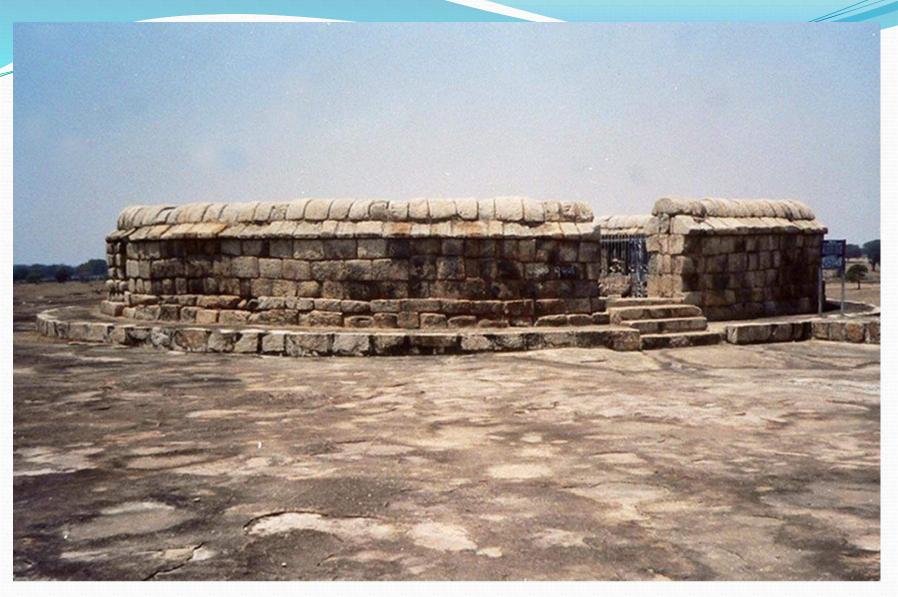
The temple consisting of four structure i.e vimana, jagamohana, natamandapa, bhogamandapa..



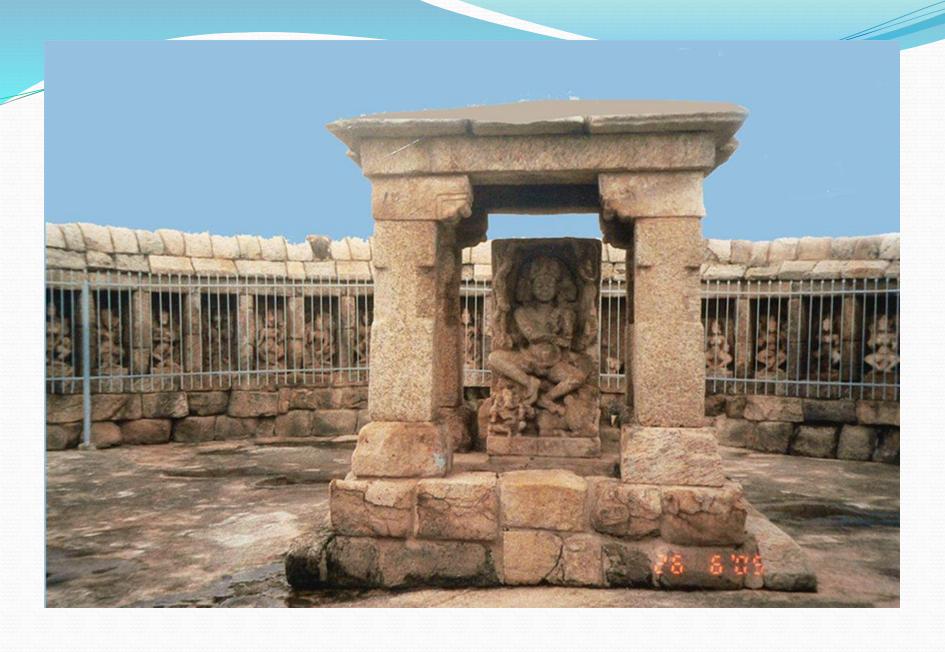
**KONARK TEMPLE, MUKHASALA - PIDHA ORDER** 



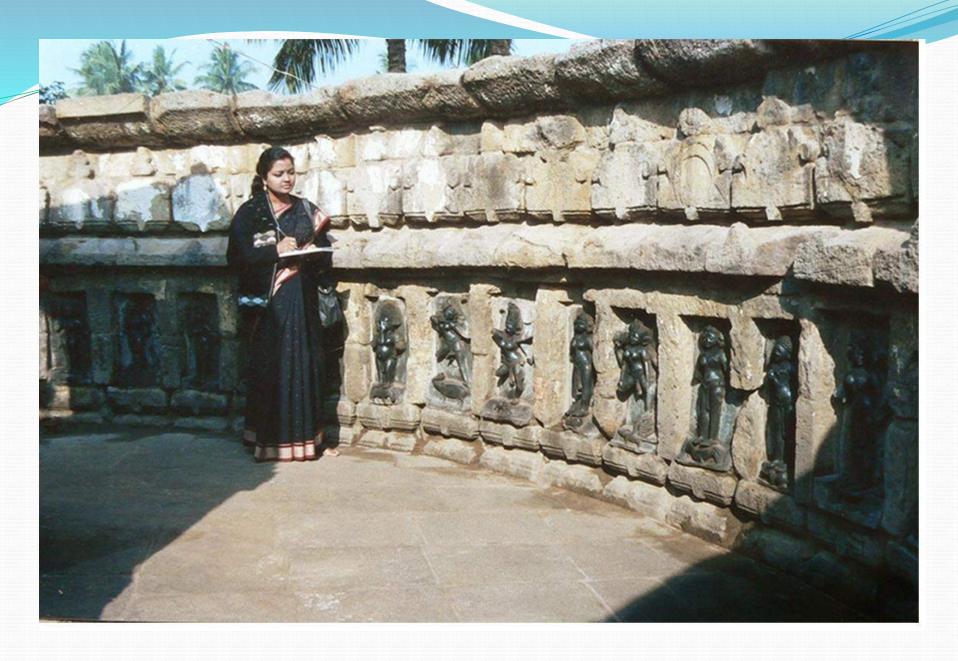
WHEEL OF KONARK TEMPLE



64 YOGINI TEMPLE, RANIPUR JHARIAL – CIRCULAR HYPAITHRAL ORDER



64 YOGINI TEMPLE, RANIPUR JHARIAL – MANDAPA



64 YOGINI TEMPLE, HIRAPUR – INSIDE VIEW

## Secular Monuments of Odisha

- Secular monument of Odisha includes Sisupalgarh fort and its excavated ruins, palaces, ports etc.
- Sisupalgarh is one of the famous archaeological site within Bhubaneswar and biggest fortified city of eastern India.
- Flourished from 3<sup>rd</sup> Century B.C to 3<sup>rd</sup> Century A.D. Identified with Kalinganagari of Kharavela's Hatigumpha inscription.
- · Remains include.
  - Laterites gateway.
  - · Palatial remains.
  - Excavated structures.

## Thus the above monuments reveal that Odisha is a State of Historical, Cultural, Religious and above all tourism importance.

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- •*Ibid*, p. 2.
- •N.K. Bose, op. cit., pp. 171-73.

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