

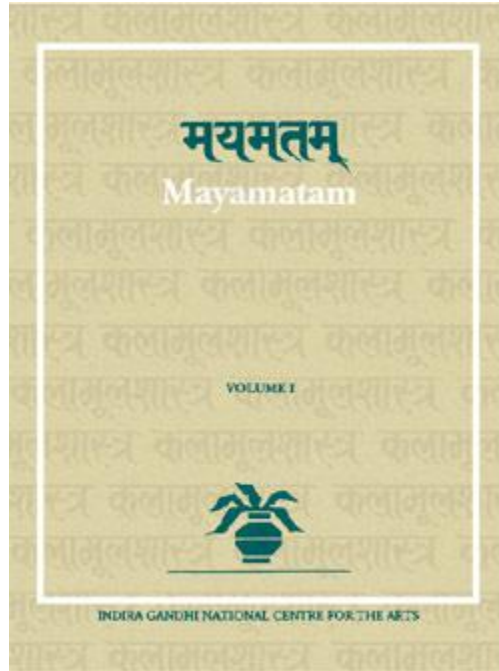
MAYAMATAM

(KMS No. 14-15)

Treatise of Housing, Architecture and Iconography

Edited and Translated by **BRUNO DAGENS**

2007, 2 vols., ci+978pp., line drawings, appen., bibl., index, gloss., ISBN: 978-81-208-1224-6 (vol. I), 978-81-208-1225-3 (vol. II) 978-81-208-1226-0 (set), Rs.2500 (set) (HB). (3rd reprint)



The Mayamatam is a Vāstuśāstra, i.e. a treatise on dwelling and as such it deals with all the facets of gods' and mens' dwellings, from the choice of the site to the iconography of the temple walls. It contains numerous and precise descriptions of the villages and towns as well as of the temples, houses, mansions and palaces. It gives indications for the selection of a proper orientation, right dimensions and of appropriate materials. Well thought of by traditional architects (sthapatis) of south India, the treatise is of great interest at a time when technical traditions, in all fields, are being scrutinized for their possible modern application.

ŚILPARATNAKOŚA

A Glossary of Orissan Temple Architecture

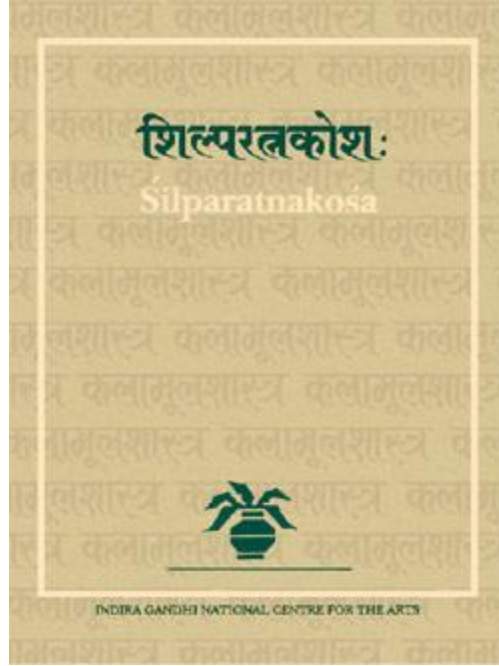
by

STHĀPAKA ŚRĪ NIRANJANA MAHĀPĀTRA

(KMS No. 16)

Critically edited with English translation and illustrations by
BETTINA BAUMER and RAJENDRA PRASAD DAS

1994, ix+228 pp., illus., plates, gloss., bibl., indexes, ISBN: 81-208-1216-0, Rs 400 (HB)



The Śilparatnakosha is a seventeenth-century CE Orissan text describing all the parts of the temple and the most important temple types of Orissa, such as the Maṅjuśrī and Khākāra. It also contains a section on sculpture (Prāsādamūrti) and an appendix on image-making. The text, though much later than the temples described, reflects the still-living tradition and contributes much to clarify the terminology of Orissan temple architecture. It also contains interesting references to the symbolism of the temple and its elements. The most important contribution of this text, however, lies in the identification of the Maṅjuśrī Temple with the Śrīcakra, which has helped to re-identify the Rājarānī Temple at Bhubaneswar as a temple dedicated to Rājarājeśvarī in the form of a Śrīcakra.

ŚILPA-PRAKĀŚA

by

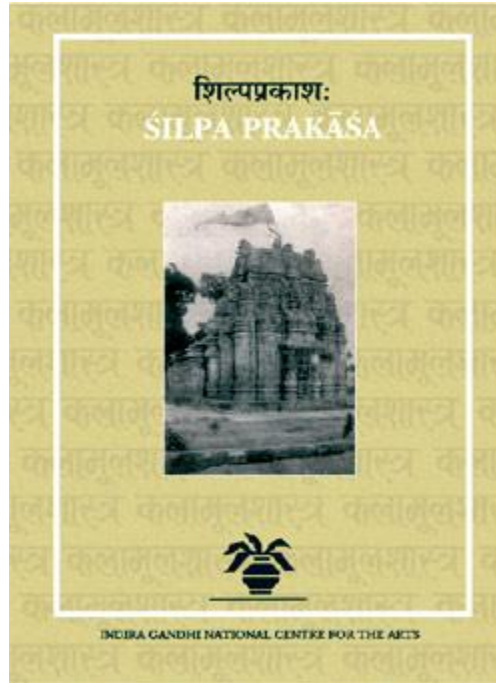
RĀMACANDRA MAHĀPĀTRA KAULA BHATṬĀRAKA

(Medieval Orissan Sanskrit Text on Temple Architecture)

(KMS No 52)

Introduction and Translation by ALICE BONER AND SADASIVA NATH SARMA
Revised and Edited by: BETTINA BÄUMER, RAJENDRA PRASAD DAS AND SADANANA DAS

2005,xix+471pp., 21 figs., plates, notes, gloss., bibl., indexes, ISBN : 81-208-2052-5, Rs.1795(HB).



"The Śilpa-prakāśa is an important addition to the existing literature on Indian Śilpa texts" (V.S. Agrawala). This early text on Orissan Temple architecture (possibly from the tenth century CE) describes various temple types of Orissa, but especially a tantric temple termed Vimānamālinī with its sub-types padmagarbha and Kāmagarbha. The latter could be identified with the tenth century Vārāhī Temple at Caurāsī near Koṅārka. The text goes into great detail of the architecture, the iconography and the symbolism of all the parts of the temple. Its unique contribution lies in the description of yantras or symbolic

diagrams underlying the architecture as well as sculpture.

The original author was not only a practising tantric, but also an expert architect speaking from experience. The text was first discovered, edited and translated by Alice Boner with the help of Pandit Sadasiva Nath Sarma of Purī, and published by Brill (Leiden) in 1966. The present edition is a completely revised version of text and translation, with new illustrations, on the basis of a palmleaf manuscript, with added indices.

This edition will be extremely valuable for understanding not only the temple construction but the entire symbolism underlying the unique temples of Orissa.