



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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## Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / PRI - 18

### SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

#### 1. Name

**Present** : Somanatha Temple, Birabalabhadrapur, Dist. - Puri  
**Past** : ---  
**Other Name (if any):** : ---

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 85° 47' 55" E **LATITUDE** 19° 52' 52" N **ELEVATION** 38 ft

**Address** : **Village (village code)** Birabalabhadrapur  
**Post** : Birabalabhadrapur **Via:** Chandanpur  
**Tehsil:** Puri Sadar **District:** Puri  
**State** : Orissa **PIN:** 752012

**Approach** : The temple is located on the left bank of the river Bhargavi in Birabalabhadrapur sasana which is 2 kms west of the Budhalinga pokhari chowk on Bhubaneswar - Puri road. The temple is 10 kms from Puri township.

#### 3. Property Type

##### **Buildings**

- ☐ Palace
- ☐ Fort
- ☐ Citadel
- ☐ Govt. building
- ☐ Railway station
- ☐ Defence building
- ☐ Industrial building
- ☐ Other public buildings
- ☐ Residential building

##### **Religious structures**

- ☒ Temple
- ☐ Mosque
- ☐ Minar
- ☐ Church
- ☐ Monastery
- ☐ Stupa
- ☐ Tomb, Mausoleum

##### **Other Structures**

- ☐ Wall
- ☐ Gateway
- ☐ Pillar
- ☐ Others (specify)

##### **Engineering structure**

- ☐ Bridge
- ☐ Tunnel
- ☐ Other engineering structure

##### **Open space and related structures**

- ☐ Public square
- ☐ Park or garden
- ☐ Graveyard
- ☐ Baolis, Well
- ☐ Tank
- ☐ Cave

##### **Note:**

The present temple is a impoverished *pidha* temple fronted by a modern RCC *mandapa*.

#### 4. Property Use

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##### ABANDONED / IN USE :

**Present** : The original temple is buried under water and the present temple in front is enshrining the movable image of lord Siva.  
**Past** : Worshipped

#### 5. Age (Source)

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**PERIOD** : Bhoi rule of Khurda kingdom  
**YEARS** : 17<sup>th</sup> century AD.  
**Precise date of Construction** : 1648 - 1657 AD.  
**Completion** : ---  
**Subsequent changes** : The present temple was rebuilt in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century A.D.  
**Destruction / Demolition** : Except the presiding deity of the original temple, which is now submerged under water the rest portion is missing.

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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##### SINGLE / MULTIPLE : Multiple

**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Protected monument of Orissa State Archaeology and under the Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.  
**Private** : ---  
**Any other (Please specify)** : ---  
**Name** : ---  
**Address** : Orissa State Archaeology, Paryatan Bhawan, B.J.B. Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Orissa  
**Phone** : 0674-2432147

#### 7. Association

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##### • WITH EVENTS

**In History** : ---  
**In Rituals** : *Sivaratri, Sitalasathi*, etc are observed here.  
**In Building Construction** : Birabalabhadra Deva (1648 - 1657 AD.) of Bhoi dynasty built the original temple.  
**Any other (specify)** : Engagement, thread ceremony are held here.

##### • WITH PERSONS

**Patron** : Orissa State Archaeology.  
**Architect / Engineer** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.

#### 8. Statement of Significance

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<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural	:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological	:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical	:	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	:	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Any other (specify)	:	On the basis of local traditions the original temple can be

assigned to the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century AD.

## **SECTION II: DESCRIPTION**

### **9. Physical Description and Decorative Features**

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Context</b></li></ul>		<b>* Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) :</b> No
Urban / Rural Setting	:	Rural setting
Surroundings	:	
		<b>Stand in Isolation</b>
		<b>Integral part of a Landscape /</b> Stand in isolation
		<b>Street / Complex :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Quantification</b></li></ul>		
Area Dimension ( L x B x H)	:	11.90 mtrs x 10.60 mtrs x 10.00 mtrs (approximate height)
		(m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks	:	Two, consists of a <i>vimana</i> and modern RCC <i>mandapa</i> .
Number of Storys	:	---
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Spatial Organization</b></li></ul>		
Orientation	:	Facing towards east
Plan	:	The <i>vimana</i> is square on plan whereas the <i>mandapa</i> is rectangular on plan that stands over a platform of 0.65 mtrs high.
Allocation of Spaces	:	24.60 mtrs (L) x 16.80 mtrs (W)

### **ARCHITECTURAL STYLE**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ornamentation</b></li></ul>		
Exteriors	:	Plain, only the <i>parsvadevata</i> niches housed with Ganesa, Kartikeya, Parvati and the <i>beki</i> is adorned with <i>beki</i> - Bhairabha and <i>dopichhasimha</i> .
Interiors	:	Plain
Movable Collections	:	Images of Lakulisa, Ganesa and Varaha are fixed in the wall of the RCC <i>mandapa</i> .
<b>* Any Other</b> (specify)	:	The temple has multi-segmented <i>bada</i> in elevation.

### **10. Construction Technology**

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<b>Structural System</b>	:	<i>Pidha vimana</i> of impoverished <i>Kalingan</i> order.
<b>Building Techniques</b>	:	Ashlar masonry
<b>Material of Construction</b>	:	Khandolite and laterite stone are used for the temple and the compound wall respectively and the entire surface is applied with plaster and white washed.

### **11. Condition Assessment**

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<b>In General</b>	<b>Good / Fair</b>	:	Fair
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sign of Deterioration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serious Deterioration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Danger of Disappearance

The temple faces water seepage problem during rainy season.

✓	Natural
	Negligence
	Vandalism
	Urban Pressures

[illegible]

### 13. Reference Sources (published and unpublished textual details)

1. ---
2. ---

(attach list as in page 6, in case of multiple photographs)

**Photo Reference** :  
**CAPTION** :

(related to rituals / performance / festivals etc.)

Reference	:
DESCRIPTION	:

## 17. Listers

**NAME** D. B. Garnayak **NAME :**

<b>NAME :</b>	Dr. S. Pradhan	<b>NAME :</b>	
<b>COMMENTS</b>		<b>COMMENTS :</b>	