



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Janpath, New Delhi -110 001, [www.ignca.gov.in](http://www.ignca.gov.in)

## Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / PRI -41

### SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

#### 1. Name

**Present** : Mahiprakash *Matha* , Puri Town, Dist.- Puri  
**Past** : ---  
**Other Name (if any):** : ---

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 85° 48' 85" E      **LATITUDE** 19° 48' 10" N      **ELEVATION** 45 ft

**Address** : **Village (village code)** Harachandi Sahi  
**Post** : Harachandi Sahi **Via**: Puri town  
**Tehsil**: Puri **District**: Puri  
**State** : Orissa **PIN**: 752001

**Approach** : The *Matha* is situated in Harachandi Sahi, Puri and located on the right side of the Lokanath road leading from Jagannath temple to Lokanath temple.

#### 3. Property Type

<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Religious structures</b>	<b>Other Structures</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Palace	<input type="checkbox"/> Temple	<input type="checkbox"/> Wall
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort	<input type="checkbox"/> Mosque	<input type="checkbox"/> Gateway
<input type="checkbox"/> Citadel	<input type="checkbox"/> Minar	<input type="checkbox"/> Pillar
<input type="checkbox"/> Govt. building	<input type="checkbox"/> Church	<input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Railway station	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monastery	
<input type="checkbox"/> Defense building	<input type="checkbox"/> Stupa	
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial building	<input type="checkbox"/> Tomb, Mausoleum	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other public buildings		
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential building		

  

<b>Engineering structure</b>	<b>Open space and related structures</b>	<b>Note:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Public square	This is a three storied monastery and affiliated to Sankara Sect. It has four courtyards, two temples and a play ground in the premise.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tunnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Park or garden	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other engineering structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Graveyard	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Baolis, Well	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tank	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cave	

#### 4. Property Use

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**ABANDONED / IN USE :** In use

**Present** : Living monastery and the enshrined deities are Bagalamukhi and a Sivalinga within a circular *Yonipitha*.

**Past** : Monastic activity and temporary staying of pilgrims.

#### 5. Age (Source)

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**PERIOD** : Bhoi rule.

**YEARS** : 17<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

**Precise date of Construction Completion** : ---

**Subsequent changes** : Presently more than 50% of the *Matha* is let out to *Sarasvati Sisumandir* School.

**Destruction / Demolition** : ---

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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**SINGLE / MULTIPLE :** Multiple

**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.

**Private** : Presently *Sarasvati Sisumandir* maintains this *Matha*.

**Any other (Please specify)** : ---

**Name** : ---

**Address** : ---

**Phone** : ---

#### 7. Association

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• **WITH EVENTS**

**In History** : ---

**In Rituals** : *Sitalasasthi, Siva Vivaha* etc. are observed here.

**In Building Construction** : ---

**Any other (specify)** : ---

• **WITH PERSONS**

**Patron** : Originally the Bhois, but now it is looked after by the Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.

**Architect / Engineer** : ---

**Any other (specify)** : *Sarasvati Sisumandir*.

#### 8. Statement of Significance

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	✓ Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	✓ Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	: On the basis of <i>Matha</i> tradition and building materials, the monastery can be assigned to the 17 <sup>th</sup> century A.D.

#### SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

## 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

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- **Context**  
Urban / Rural Setting :  
Surroundings :
  - \* **Drawings** (Attach extra sheet if necessary): No Urban setting
  - Stand in isolation/ Street
  - Integral part of a landscape /
  - Street / Complex :
- **Quantification**  
Area Dimension ( L x B x H) :
  - First courtyard- 5.45 mtrs x 3.20 mtrs
  - Second courtyard- 7.88 mtrsX 5.60 mtrs.
  - Third courtyard- 5.90 mtrs X 3.20 mtrs,
  - Fourth courtyard- 6.60 X 4.95 mtrs in length and breadth respectively.

(m / cm/ feet / inch)

  
Number of Blocks : 29 rooms, out of which 16 rooms have been let out to *Sarasvati Sisumandir*, 4 rooms are used for ritualistic purpose and 9 rooms had already collapsed.
- Number of Storeys : Three storied.
- **Spatial Organization**  
Orientation : The *Matha* is facing towards east.
- Plan : The *Matha* has four rectangular courtyards surrounded by pillared verandah leading towards the rooms.
- Allocation of Spaces :

### **ARCHITECTURAL STYLE**

- **Ornamentation**  
Exteriors : plain  
Interiors : The ceiling of the monastery is decorated with floral motifs.
- Movable Collections : Nil
- \* **Any Other** (specify) : There are two temples in the *Matha*, one measuring 4.70 mtrs in height enshrining a Sivalinga within circular *Yonipitha*. Another *pidha* temple of 10.85 mtrs in height enshrining a standing Bagalamukhi deity, who holds sword on her left hand and the right hand, is in *varada* mudra.

## 10. Construction Technology

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- Structural System** : Three storied monastery.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar masonry.
- Material of Construction** : Sandstone and laterite.

### 11. Condition Assessment

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**In General**

**Good / Fair** : Fair

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sign of Deterioration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Serious Deterioration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Danger of Disappearance |

**In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary):**

The monastery shows sign of deterioration in many places.

### 12. Threats to the Property

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- |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Natural         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Negligence      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Vandalism       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Urban Pressures |

X      x      x      x      x      x      x      x      x      x      x      x      x

## **SECTION III: REFERENCES**

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

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**14. Photographs**

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

Photo Reference :  
CAPTION :

**15. Audio / Video**

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(Related to rituals, / performance, / festivals etc.)

Reference :  
DESCRIPTION :

**16. Maps/Plans/Drawings**

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**17. Listers**

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NAME : J.S Naik

NAME :

**18. Reviewers**

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NAME : Dr. S. Pradhan  
COMMENTS

NAME :  
COMMENTS :