



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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## Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / PRI - 43

### SECTION I: IDENTIFICATION

#### 1. Name

**Present** : Markandeya Tank, Puri Town, Dist- Puri

**Past** :

**Other Name (if any):** :

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 85°48'94"E      **LATITUDE** 19°48'62"N      **ELEVATION** 16 ft

**Address** : **Village (village code)** Markandesvara Sahi, Puri Town

**Post** : Puri      **Via**: Puri Town

**Tehsil**: Puri      **District**: Puri

**State** : Orissa      **PIN**: 752001

**Approach** : Markandeya tank is located behind the Markandesvara Siva Temple across the compound wall, in upara Markandesvara Sahi, Puri. One can approach the site from the right side of the Markandesvara road leading from upara Markandesvara chowk to Brahmagiri.

#### 3. Property Type

##### ***Buildings***

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

##### ***Engineering structure***

Bridge  
Tunnel  
Other engineering structure

##### ***Religious structures***

Temple  
Mosque  
Minar  
Church  
Monastery  
Stupa  
Tomb, Mausoleum

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

Public square  
Park or garden  
Graveyard  
Baolis, Well  
✓ Tank  
Cave

##### ***Other Structures***

Wall  
Gateway  
Pillar  
Others (specify)

##### **Note:**

The tank is an open structure and it enclosed within a masonry embankment made of dressed laterite blocks. The tank is 8.50 mtrs below the present road level.

#### 4. Property Use

**ABANDONED / IN USE :** In use  
**Present** : Living tank, presently used for rituals as well as normal bathing.  
**Past** : Rituals and bathings.

#### 5. Age (Source)

**PERIOD** : Ganga Period  
**YEARS** : 12<sup>th</sup> Century AD.  
**Precise date of Construction** : ---  
**Completion** : ---  
**Subsequent changes** : ---  
**Destruction / Demolition** : ---

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

<b>SINGLE /MULTIPLE :</b>	Multiple
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**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Endowment Department, Government of Orissa

**Private** : Markandeya Siva Temple  
**Any other (Please specify)** : ---  
**Name** : Narsingha Tiadi, Chief Priest  
**Address** : Upara Markandesvara Sahi, Puri  
**Phone** : ---

#### 7. Association

##### • WITH EVENTS

**In History** : ---  
**In Rituals** : Offering of *Pinda*, *Mundan Kriya*, *Gobadha papa* etc.  
**In Building Construction** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : ---

##### • WITH PERSONS

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

#### 8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural	✓ Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological	
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical	
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Any other (specify)	: On the basis of local tradition as well as related evidence with Markandesvara temple, the tank can be dated back to the



12<sup>th</sup> century AD which is the date of Markandeya siva temple.

## **SECTION II: DESCRIPTION**

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

- **Context**
  - Urban / Rural Setting** : Urban setting
  - Surroundings** :
    - Stand in Isolation**
    - Integral part of a Landscape / Street** : Street
    - Street / Complex** :
- **Quantification**
  - Area Dimension ( L x B x H)** : 152.00 mts x 120.00 mts x 4.00 mts  
(m / cm/ feet / inch)
  - Number of Blocks** : Single
  - Number of Storys** : N.A
- **Spatial Organization**
  - Orientation** : Bathing ghats are provided in southern side.
  - Plan** : Rectangular on plan
  - Allocation of Spaces** : 152.00 mtrs (L) x 120.00 mtrs (B)

### **ARCHITECTURAL STYLE**

- **Ornamentation**
  - Exteriors** : In the north eastern corner of the compound wall there is a niche measuring 1.43 mtrs in height x 0.72 mtrs in width. In the northern wall there are fifteen niches. In the western wall there are thirty four niches. In two of these niches detached sculptures are there. It appears that originally these niches of the tank house various cult images.
  - Interiors** : N.A
  - Movable Collections** : Two detached sculptures of female figure and Hanuman are noticed in the north eastern compound wall of the tank. In the south-eastern corner there is a modern shrine where eight detached sculptures are kept over a moulded pedestal.
- \* **Any Other** (specify) : The tank is fed by a natural spring from the under ground. The excess and waste water is discharged through an outlet channel in the north-eastern wall. As a result the water level of the tank remains constant throughout the year.

### **10. Construction Technology**

- Structural System** : Rectangular tank with embankment

**Building Techniques** : Dry masonry  
**Material of Construction** : Laterite

## 11. Condition Assessment

**In General**                      **Good / Fair**     : Fair

	Sign of Deterioration
	Serious Deterioration
	Danger of Disappearance

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

The compound wall in the western side has partly collapsed. The sacred water became polluted highly due to lack of cleaning.

## **12. Threats to the Property**

✓	Natural
✓	Negligence
✓	Vandalism
✓	Urban Pressures

[illegible]

### SECTION III: REFERENCES

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

## 14. Photographs

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

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

## 15. Audio / Video

(related to rituals / performance / festivals etc.)

<b>Reference</b>	:
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	:

## 16. Maps/Plans/Drawings

## 17. Listers

**NAME :** B. B. Satpathy **NAME :**

## 18. Reviewers

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