



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: 0R / PRI - 50

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

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

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85°49'14" E **LATITUDE** 19°48' 24" N **ELEVATION** 43 ft

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

Approach : This *Matha* (monastery) is located on the left side of Bali Sahi road leading from Singhadvara to Svargadvara. It is situated on the south of Emar *Matha* at a distance of 06 mtrs.

3. Property Type

Buildings

☐ Palace
☐ Fort
☐ Citadel
☐ Govt. building
☐ Railway station
☐ Defense 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 *Matha* is affiliated to Ramanuja sect and was established by a Tamil Vaishnavite saint. The *Matha Mahantas* here are from Ellur district of Andhra Pradesh.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

Present : It is affiliated to the Ramanuja sect. The enshrined deity is an image of Narasimha. The *Matha* is now served for dual purpose as it is used both for residence as well as a place of worship for the devotees.

Past : Used as residential building for pilgrims.

5. Age (Source)

PERIOD : Maratha period
YEARS : 18th -19th centuries A.D.
Precise date of Construction Completion : ---
Subsequent changes : ---
Destruction / Demolition : ---

6. Ownership / Level of Protection

SINGLE /MULTIPLE : Multiple

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

Private : ---
Any other (Please specify) : The *Matha* is now looked after by the *Matha Mahanta*.
Name : ---
Address : ---
Phone : ---

7. Association

• **WITH EVENTS**

In History : ---
In Rituals : *Jhulana yatra, Nrusimha janma, Radhastami, Ramanavami, Pana Sankranti* etc. observed here.

In Building Construction : ---
Any other (specify) : The *Matha Mahantas* are from Ellur district of Andhra Pradesh.

• **WITH PERSONS**

Patron : Originally the Marathas, but now the Endowment Department, Government of Orissa are looked after the *Matha*.

Architect / Engineer : ---
Any other (specify) :

8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	✓ Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	✓ Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	✓ Religious

☐ Any other (specify) : On the basis of carvings on the beams, decorated *makara torana* and gateways, the *Matha* can be assigned to the 18th -19th centuries A.D.

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

- **Context**
Urban / Rural Setting :
Surroundings :

*** Drawings** (Attach extra sheet if necessary): No

Urban setting

Stand in isolation/

Integral part of a landscape /

Street / Complex :

Street

- **Quantification**
Area Dimension (L x B x H) : 12.60 mtrs x 8 mtrs(LXD) – central courtyard.

(m / cm/ feet / inch)

Number of Blocks : 15 rooms
Number of Storys : Double storied.

- **Spatial Organization**
Orientation : Facing towards west.
Plan : On plan, the *Matha* has a central courtyard with pillared verandah around it, leading to the rooms.
Allocation of Spaces : 0.50 Acres.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

- **Ornamentation**
Exteriors : Door jambs of the entrance are decorated with vertical bands of *nagasakha*, *puspasakha* and *narasakha*.
Interiors : The wooden beams on the roof are carved with *Purna kumbha* and floral motifs. The images of Narasimha, Luxmi, Ramanuja and Saraswati are also noticed here.
Movable Collections : Nil
*** Any Other** (specify) : The lintel measures 02 mtrs in length is carved with ten incarnation of lord Vishnu.

10. Construction Technology

- Structural System** : Double storied monastery.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar masonry.
- Material of Construction** : Bricks, woods and 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 monastery is in a dilapidated condition, cracks are noticed on the walls and ceiling.

12. Threats to the Property

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

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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.)

Reference :
DESCRIPTION :

16. Maps/Plans/Drawings

17. Listers

NAME : B.B Satpathy NAME :

18. Reviewers

NAME : Dr. S. Pradhan NAME :
COMMENTS COMMENTS :