



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / PRI - 86

SECTION I: IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Varahi Temple, Bali Sahi , Puri Town, Dist. – Puri

Past : ---

Other Name (if any): : ---

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85°49'03"E **LATITUDE** 19°48'06"N **ELEVATION** 46 ft

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

Approach : The temple is located in Bali sahi of Puri town. It can be approached on the left side of the Varahi lane leading from Bali sahi to Varahi chowk, Puri.

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 temple has a *pidha vimana* and *jagamohana* of impoverished *Kalingan* order.

4. Property Use

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| ABANDONED / IN USE : | In use |
|-----------------------------|--------|

Present : It is a living temple and the presiding deity is a four-armed Varahi image made of black chlorite. The deity is holding a pot in her upper left hand, fish in upper right hand, a child in her lower left hand and the lower right hand is in *abhayamudra*.

Past :

5. Age (Source)

PERIOD : Ganga rule
YEARS : 13th century 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) : ----
Private :
Any other (Please specify) : It is looked after by Varahi Mandira Parichalana Samiti.
Name : ---
Address : AT- Varahi Lane, PO - Bali Sahi, Puri Town
Phone : ---

7. Association

• WITH EVENTS

In History : According to the local tradition the deity Varahi is one of the guardian deities of Jagannatha temple.
In Rituals : *Durgapuja, Navapatrika Puja*, etc are held here.
In Building Construction : ----
Any other (specify) : ----

• WITH PERSONS

Patron : Varahi Mandira Parichalana Samiti.
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 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Any other (specify) | : On the basis of iconographic and stylistic features of the presiding deity, it can be dated to the 13 th century A.D. i.e the Ganga rule in Orissa, though the temple is later construction. |

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| • Context | | * Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) No |
| Urban / Rural Setting Surroundings | : | Urban setting |
| • Quantification | | Stand in Isolation |
| Area Dimension (L x B x H) | : | Integral part of a Landscape / Street / Complex : Street |
| Number of Blocks | : | Two |
| Number of Storys | : | N.A. |
| • Spatial Organization | | |
| Orientation | : | Facing towards north. |
| Plan | : | The <i>vimana</i> and <i>jagamohana</i> are square on plan that stands over a platform of 0.26 mtrs high. |
| Allocation of Spaces | : | 7.18 mtrs (L) x 4.20 mtrs (W) |
| <u>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE</u> | | |
| • Ornamentation | | |
| Exteriors | : | --- |
| Interiors | : | The inner walls of the temple are decorated with various paintings like Vimala, Bagala, Mahalaxmai, Nilasaraswati, Bhubaneswari, Sodasi, Dhumavati, Chhinamasta and Shyamakali. In the eastern wall of the <i>jagamohana</i> there is a small niche that houses Hanuman. In the same wall there is another miniature <i>pidhamundi</i> where an image of Sarbamangala is housed. In the northern wall there are two highly decorated pilasters adorned with Saptamatrika images and two eroded male figures at the base. There are six images on both sides of the entrance of the sanctum. The images are Maa Simhamukhi, Ganga, Varahi, Vyagramukhi, Ganesa and Yamuna. |
| Movable Collections | : | --- |
| * Any Other (specify) | : | Both the components – <i>vimana</i> and <i>jagamohana</i> are <i>panchangabada</i> in elevation. |

10. Construction Technology

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Structural System | : | <i>Pidha vimana</i> and <i>jagamohana</i> of impoverished <i>Kalingan</i> style. |
| Building Techniques | : | Ashlar masonry |
| Material of Construction | : | Laterite |

11. Condition Assessment

In General **Good / Fair:** Good

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sign of Deterioration |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| | Serious Deterioration |
| | Danger of Disappearance |

In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary)

The temple is in a good state of preservation.

12. Threats to the Property

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| | Natural |
| | Negligence |
| | Vandalism |
| | Urban Pressures |

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SECTION III: REFERENCES

13. Reference Sources (published and unpublished textual details)

1. ---

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 : Jaya Shankar Naik **NAME :**

18. Reviewers

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