



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / KDA/ BSR- 63

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Narasimha Temple, Old Town, Bhubaneswar,
Dist.-Khurda

Past : ---

Other Name (if any): : ---

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85⁰49'96" E **LATITUDE** 20⁰14'71" N **ELEVATION** 67 ft

Address : **Village (village code)** Gosagaresvara temple precinct, Old Town
Post : Old Town **Via**: Bhubaneswar
Tehsil: Bhubaneswar **District**: Khurda
State : Orissa **PIN**: 751002

Approach : The temple is situated in the precinct of Gosagaresvara on the south-eastern side of Gosagaresvara Siva and Paradaresvara Siva temple. It is located on the left side of the Ratha Road leading from Mausima chowk to Badheibanka chowk. It is located at a distance of 1km west of Lingaraja temple and 1km south of Ananta Vasudev and 200 mtrs west of Vaitala temple

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:

It has a *pidha vimana* and fronted by a porch of *Kalingan* order. The temple is dated to the 14th -15th centuries A.D, on the basis of its architectural features and building materials.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

- Present** : It is a living temple and the enshrining deity is a four armed Narasimha image seating on a pedestal. His upper left hand holds a conch, upper right hand holds a disk while in major left and right hands are busy in killing the demon. The base of the pedestal is carved with series of females in *anjalimudra*.
- Past** : Worshipped.

5. Age (Source)

- PERIOD** : Ganga rule
YEARS : 14th -15thcenturies A.D.
Precise date of Construction : Last decade of the 14th century and first decade of 15th century A.D.
Completion : ---
Subsequent changes : The temple was repaired and renovated by Orissa State Archaeology under the X and XI Finance Commission Award.
Destruction / Demolition : ---

6. Ownership / Level of Protection

SINGLE /MULTIPLE : Multiple

- Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Lingaraja Temple Administration
- Private** : ---
- Any other (Please specify)** : The temple is looked after by the chief priests Nalinikanta Panda and Mahendra Maharana.
- Name** : ---
- Address** : Godipokhari Sahi, Old Town, Bhubaneswar.
- Phone** : ---

7. Association

• **WITH EVENTS**

- In History** : ---
- In Rituals** : *Narasimha chaturdasi* and *Narasimha janma* are observed here.
- In Building Construction** : ---
- Any other (specify)** : ---

• **WITH PERSONS**

- Patron** : Originally, the Gangas but now the temple is looked after by the chief priests Nalinikanta Panda and Mahendra Maharana
- 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	✓ Religious
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	: On the basis of architectural style, the temple can be dated to the 14 th -15 th centuries AD.

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

- **Context**
Urban / Rural Setting : Urban setting
Surroundings :
Stand in Isolation : Complex
Integral part of a Landscape / Street / Complex :
- **Quantification**
Area Dimension (L x B x H) : 2.50 mtrs x 2.10 mtrs x 3.38 mtrs (m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks : One
Number of Stories : ---
- **Spatial Organization**
Orientation : The *vimana* is facing towards west.
Plan : The *sanctum* is square on plan measuring 2.40 square mtrs and a frontal porch of 0.40mtrs.
Allocation of Spaces : 50.40mtrs x 52.60mtrs in length and width respectively.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

- **Ornamentation**
Exteriors : The temple is devoid of architectural motifs and sculptural embellishments.
Interiors : plain
Movable Collections : Detached sculpture of a four armed Ganesa and a *Ligam* made of sandstone are there inside the *sanctum*.
*** Any Other (specify)** : The temple is *pancharatha* on plan and *trianga bada* in elevation. The doorjambs are recent additions and at the *lalatabimba* there is a Gajalaxmi with an archaic feature.

10. Construction Technology

- Structural System** : The *vimana* is a *pidha* temple of *Kalingan* order.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar dry masonry.
- Material of Construction** : Sandstone

