



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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## Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

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### SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

#### 1. Name

**Present** : Nilakanthesvra Siva temple, Old Town, Bhubaneswar, Dist.- Khurda

**Past** : ---

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

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 85°50'09" E      **LATITUDE** 20°14'41" N      **ELEVATION** 56 ft

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

**Approach** : The temple is located on the western embankment of the Bindusagar tank. It is situated on the left side of the lane branching from the road leading from Kedar-Gouri chowk to Vaitala temple in Gyana nagar (Hadi Sahi) of old town, Bhubaneswar.

#### 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:**

The present temple is a recent construction over the remains of an earlier one. The building material is old but the entire structure now has a cement plaster and enamel paint.

#### 4. Property Use

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**ABANDONED / IN USE :** In Use

**Present** : It is a living temple and the presiding deity of the temple is a Sivalinga within a circular *yonipitha*.  
**Past** : Worshipped

#### 5. Age (Source)

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**PERIOD** : Somavamsi rule  
**YEARS** : 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.  
**Precise date of Construction** : Last quarter of the 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.  
**Completion** : ---  
**Subsequent changes** : ---  
**Destruction / Demolition** : ---

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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**SINGLE /MULTIPLE :** Single

**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : ---  
**Private** : Jitu Mishra is the chief priest and custodian of the temple.  
**Any other (Please specify)** : ---  
**Name** : ---  
**Address** : Mishra Sahi, Old Town, Bhubaneswar, Dist-Khurda, Orissa.  
**Phone** : ---

#### 7. Association

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• **WITH EVENTS**

**In History** : ---  
**In Rituals** : Sankranti and Sivaratri are observed here.  
**In Building Construction** : The local people ascribe it to the Kesaris(Somavamsis).  
**Any other (specify)** : *Sradha, Rudrabhiseka, Mangula*, Marriage and Thread ceremony etc are observed here.

• **WITH PERSONS**

**Patron** : Chief Priest  
**Architect / Engineer** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : ---

#### 8. Statement of Significance

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

Any other (specify) : On the basis of the iconographical features of the *parvadevatas*, the original temple can be dated to the 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

## SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

### 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

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- |                              |   |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Context</b>               | : | * <b>Drawings</b> (Attach extra sheet if necessary) : No |
| <b>Urban / Rural Setting</b> | : | Urban setting  |
| <b>Surroundings</b>          | : | <b>Stand in Isolation</b> Complex                        |
|                              |   | <b>Integral part of a Landscape</b>                      |
|                              |   | <b>/ Street / Complex :</b>                              |
  
- |                             |   |                                   |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Quantification</b>       |   |                                   |
| Area Dimension ( L x B x H) | : | 4.90 mtrs x 4.30 mtrs x 4.55 mtrs |
|                             |   | (m / cm/ feet / inch)             |
| Number of Blocks            | : | Two                               |
| Number of Stories           | : | ---                               |
  
- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Spatial Organization</b> |   |
| Orientation                 | : The temple is facing towards east.  |
| Plan                        | : The <i>vimana</i> is square on plan and fronted by a shallow porch measuring 0.60 mtrs in length in front of the <i>vimana</i> in the eastern wall there is a concrete structure that serves as the <i>jagamohana</i> . |
| Allocation of Spaces        | : 9.50 mtrs x 9.50 mtrs in length and width respectively.   |

### ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Ornamentation</b>         |   |
| Exteriors                    | : Plain except the <i>udyotasimhas</i> above the <i>raha pagas</i> of each wall.  |
| Interiors                    | : plain   |
| Movable Collections          | : A Sivalinga within a circular <i>yonipitha</i> and four eroded sculptures are found which are not clearly identifiable. |
| * <b>Any Other</b> (specify) | : The <i>vimana</i> is <i>triratha</i> on plan and <i>trayangabada</i> in elevation.                                      |

### 10. Construction Technology

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- |                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Structural System</b>        | : | * <i>Pidha vimana</i> of impoverished <i>Kalingan</i> order. |
| <b>Building Techniques</b>      | : | Ashlars dry masonry with cement plaster.                     |
| <b>Material of Construction</b> | : | Sandstone  |

### 11. Condition Assessment

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- |                          |                         |   |      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|------|
| <b>In General</b>        | Good / Fair             | : | Good |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sign of Deterioration   |   |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Serious Deterioration   |   |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Danger of Disappearance |   |      |

