



# 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** : Rock Art Shelter of Rajbahal Ushakuthi-I, Dist.- Sundargarh

**Past** : ---

**Other Name (if any):** : Risikund / Sarpagarh

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 83° 39' 29" E      **LATITUDE** 22° 12' 49" N      **ELEVATION** 1715 ft

**Address** : **Village (village code)** Rajbahal  
**Post** : Lephripara      **Via:** Lephripara  
**Tehsil:** Lephripara      **District:** Sundargarh  
**State** : Orissa      **PIN:** 770012

**Approach** : The site is located in the reserve forest Ushakuthi in Lephripara tehsil of Sundargarh district. It can be approached from the village Lephripara via Rajbahal, which is about 6.00 kms south of the rock shelter.

#### 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)

**Rock art shelter**

##### **Engineering structure**

- Bridge
- Tunnel
- Other engineering structure

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

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

##### **Note:**

The shelter preserves both paintings and engravings of animate and inanimate motifs of prehistoric times as attested by the colour composition of the motifs and microlithic tools embedded on the floor of the surface.



#### 4. Property Use

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**ABANDONED / IN USE :** Abandoned

**Present** : Abandoned, but the local people pay homage to the shelter occasionally.  
**Past** : Dwelling place of prehistoric men

#### 5. Age (Source)

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**PERIOD** : Mesolithic to Chalcolithic periods  
**YEARS** : ---  
**Precise date of Construction Completion** : ---  
**Subsequent changes** : Orissa State Archaeology recently plastered the floor.  
**Destruction / Demolition** : The artifacts yielded on the floor was concealed due to the plastering done by Orissa State Archaeology.

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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**SINGLE / MULTIPLE :** No claimant

**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Located in the reserve forest without any claimant.  
**Private** : ---  
**Any other (Please specify)** : ---  
**Name** : ---  
**Address** : ---  
**Phone** : ---

#### 7. Association

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• **WITH EVENTS**

**In History** : According to local traditions the shelter is associated with the epic hero Rama who was believed to have lived with his wife Sita and brother Laxmana during their exile.

**In Rituals** : ---

**In Building Construction** : ---

**Any other (specify)** : ---

• **WITH PERSONS**

**Patron** : ---

**Architect / Engineer** : ---

**Any other (specify)** : ---

#### 8. Statement of Significance

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|                          |                     |                  |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Architectural       |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archaeological      | ✓ Archaeological |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Historical          |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious           |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Any other (specify) | :                |

On the basis of execution style of the motifs, the rock art can be dated to the Mesolithic – Chalcolithic periods.

## SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

### 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Context</b></li> </ul>              | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Drawings</b> (Attach extra sheet if necessary): No</li> </ul>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban / Rural Setting</li> </ul>         |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reserve forest</li> </ul>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surroundings</li> </ul>                  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Stand in Isolation</b></li> <li><b>Integral part of a Landscape/</b></li> <li><b>Street / Complex :</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integral part of a landscape</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quantification</b></li> </ul>       |   |  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area Dimension ( L x B x D)</li> </ul>   | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18.00 mtrs x 5.75 mtrs x 9.00 mtrs (L x D x H) Rock Shelter</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(m / cm/ feet / inch)</li> </ul>        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Blocks</li> </ul>              | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One</li> </ul>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Storys</li> </ul>              | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Spatial Organization</b></li> </ul> |   |  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orientation</li> </ul>                   | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oriented east-west, the rock shelter is facing towards north.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan</li> </ul>                          | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>---</li> </ul>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allocation of Spaces</li> </ul>          | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18.00 mtrs x 5.75 mtrs (L x D)</li> </ul>   |  |

### ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ornamentation</b></li> </ul>       |   |   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exteriors</li> </ul>                    | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>---</li> </ul>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interiors</li> </ul>                    | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The back wall of the rock shelter executed with host of motifs such as vulvas, cupules, palm, diamond pattern, honeycomb, broom pattern etc. in monochrome and polychrome of red ochre, white and yellow.</li> </ul> |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Movable Collections</li> </ul>          | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Microliths are found in the adjoining slope.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Any Other</b> (specify)</li> </ul> | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>---</li> </ul>   |  |

### 10. Construction Technology

- |                                 |   |              |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|--|
| <b>Structural System</b>        | : | Rock shelter |  |
| <b>Building Techniques</b>      | : |              |  |
| <b>Material of Construction</b> | : | Sandstone    |  |

### 11. Condition Assessment

|                   |                   |   |      |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|------|
| <b>In General</b> | <b>Good/ Fair</b> | : | Fair |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|------|

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sign of Deterioration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Serious Deterioration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Danger of Disappearance |

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

Growth of micro organism over the rock surface which obliterates few motifs.

