

# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Janpath, New Delhi -110 001, www.ignca.gov.in

## **Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments**

Serial No.: OR/CTC- 50

SEC <sup>*</sup>	TION I: IDENTIFICATION
Present  Past Other Name (if any):  2. Location	<ul> <li>: Somanatha Siva Temple, Simhanatha Temple Complex, Dist Cuttack</li> <li>:</li> <li>:</li> </ul>
LONGITUDE 85° 22 ' 51 "E Address	LATITUDE 20° 22 '15 " N ELEVATION 40 ft : Village (village code) Gopinathapur Post: Baramba Via: Baramba Tehsil: Baramba District: Cuttack State: Orissa PIN: 754031
Approach  3. Property Type	: The temple, within the Simhanatha temple complex is situated on an island in the river Mahanadi near Baideswar (right bank) and Baramba (left bank) which can be approached from both sides by boat.
Palace Fort Citadel Govt. building Railway station Defence building Industrial building Other public buildings Residential building  Engineering structure  Bridge Tunnel Other engineering structure	✓ Temple Mosque Minar Church Monastery Stupa Tomb, Mausoleum   Open space and related structures Public square Park or garden Graveyard Baolis, Well Cave  Wall Gateway Pillar Others (specify)  Note: It is a single triratha rekha vimana of early Kalingan order.

## 4. Property Use

		ABANDONED / IN USE: In use
Present	:	It is a living temple and the presiding deity is a Sivalinga within a rectangular <i>yonipitha</i> , made of chlorite.
Past	:	Worshipped
5. Age (Source)		
PERIOD YEARS Precise date of Construction Completion Subsequent changes Destruction / Demolition	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	Somavamsi rule 9 <sup>th</sup> century A.D
6. Ownership / Level of Protection	<u>n</u>	
		SINGLE /MULTIPLE : Single
Public: Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify)	:	Protected Monument of Archaeological Survey of India.
Private	:	
Any other (Please specify)	:	
Name	:	Archaeological Survey of India, Bhubaneswar Circle
Address Phone	:	153, VIP Area, Nayapali, Bhubaneswar, Orissa 0674- 2558170
7. Association		
<ul> <li>WITH EVENTS</li> </ul>		
In History	:	
In Rituals	:	Sivaratri, Sitalasasthi, Kartikapurnima, etc. are observed here.
In Building Construction	:	
Any other (specify)  • WITH PERSONS	:	<del></del>
Patron	:	Archaeological Survey of India.
Architect / Engineer	:	
Any other (specify)	:	
8. Statement of Significance		
Architectural	:	✓ Architectural
Archaeological	:	
Historical	:	√ Poligique
Religious Any other (specify)	:	✓ Religious On the basis of architectural feature and iconographic
Any other (specify)	•	peculiarities the temple can be dated to the 9 <sup>th</sup> century A D

#### **SECTION II: DESCRIPTION**

#### 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

• Context \* Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) : No

Urban / Rural Setting : Within an island of the river Mahanadi

Surroundings

Stand in Isolation

Integral part of a Landscape / Complex

Street / Complex:

Quantification

Area Dimension (L x B x H) : 3.85 mtrs x 3.30 mtrs x 6.00 mtrs

(m / cm/ feet / inch)

Number of Blocks : One Number of Storys : ---

Spatial Organization

Orientation : Facing towards west.

Plan : The temple is square on plan and fronted by a shallow

porch measuring 0.55 mtrs.

Allocation of Spaces : 36.40 mtrs(L) x 18.40 mtrs (W)

**ARCHITECTURAL STYLE** 

Ornamentation

Exteriors : The exterior of the temple is highly embellished with

architectural motifs and sculptural motifs. The *pabhaga* has four mouldings and the *patta* and *basanta* portion are relieved with scroll work, *muktalobhi-hamsa* and hanging pendant. The *jangha* portion is represented with *parsvadevata* niches at *raha pagas* and flanked by elongated *khakharamundis*. The *khakharamundis* enshrined the images of Aja-ekapada, Ardhanarisvara, Uma-Mahesvara, Hari-Hara and Parvati. The *gandi* has four *bhumiamlas*. The *bhumivarandis* are represented with miniature *chaitya* medallion and enshrining the images of animal, human face, Sivalinga, dancer, Ganesa, Varahi, Parvati and *bharavahaka*, etc. Each *raha* projection have *bho* motif enshrining images of, Rishi, Andhakasurabadha *murtv*.

Parvati and Natraj.

Interiors : Plain Movable Collections : Nil

Any Other(specify) : The temple is triratha on plan and triangabada in

elevation.

10. Construction Technology

Structural System : Rekha vimana of early Kalingan school of architecture.

Building Techniques : Ashlar dry masonry

Material of Construction : Sandstone

11. Condition Assessment
In General Good / Fair : Good Sign of Deterioration Serious Deterioration Danger of Disappearance
In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary):
It is in a good state of preservation, however, the temple faces the ravage of flood water of the river during the rainy season and a few images are eroded and weathered.
12. Threats to the Property
Natural : Negligence Vandalism Urban Pressures  X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X
SECTION III: REFERENCES
13. Reference Sources (published and unpublished textual details)
1. R.P. Mohapatra, 1986, <i>Archaeology in Orissa</i> , Vol. – II, Delhi.
14. Photographs: 26 nos  (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
10. mapo/i lallo/Diawingo
17. Listers
NAME: A. R. Sahoo NAME:
18. Reviewers
NAME: Dr. S. Pradhan NAME: COMMENTS COMMENTS: