



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / KDA/ BSR- 42

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Dakra-Bhimesvara Temple, Old Town, Bhubaneswar, Dist.-Khurda

Past : ---

Other Name (if any): : Dakra-Bibhisana Temple

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85°50'10"E **LATITUDE** 20°14'14"N **ELEVATION** 72 ft

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

Approach : It is on the left side of Dakra Bhimesvara lane, leading from Garage Chowk to Lingaraja temple.

3. Property Type

Buildings

- Palace
- Fort
- Citadel
- Govt. building
- Railway station
- Defense 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 is a *rekha* temple of *Kalingan* order.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

- Present** : It is a living temple; the presiding deity is a *Sivalinga* within a circular *yonipitha* made of black chlorite which is 1.50 mtrs below the *Chandrasila* level.
- Past** : Worshipped.

5. Age (Source)

- PERIOD** : Late Somavans & Early Ganga Period
- YEARS** : 11th – 12th centuries A.D.
- Precise date of Construction** : 11th – 12th centuries A.D.
- Completion** : ---
- Subsequent changes** : Renovated by State Archaeology under the X & XI Finance Commission Award in 1999 and a RCC *mandapa* veneering with marble is added by the Temple Trust Board.
- Destruction / Demolition** : ---

6. Ownership / Level of Protection

SINGLE / MULTIPLE : Multiple

- Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Protected Monument of Orissa State Archaeology
- Private** : Dakra Bibhisena Temple Trust Board under the presidentship of Pratap Kumar Mohapatra.
- Any other (Please specify)** : ---
- Name** : Orissa State Archaeology
- Address** : Pryatan Bhawan, BJB Nagar, Bhubaneswar
- Phone** : 0674-2432147

7. Association

• **WITH EVENTS**

- In History** : ---
- In Rituals** : Sitalasathi, Kartika-purnima, Sivaratri, Rudrabhisekha, Jalbhisekha etc. observed here.
- In Building Construction** : ---
- Any other (specify)** : Marriage, Thread ceremony, engagements etc practiced here.

• **WITH PERSONS**

- Patron** : Presently the Orissa State Archaeology and the Dakra Bibhisena Temple Trust Board.
- (Chief priest.)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 architectural ground, the temple can be assigned to the late Somavanshi period/ early Ganga period i.e. the 11 th century AD. |

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Context | | * Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) : No |
| 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) | : | 8.15 mtrs x 7.45mtrs x 12.00 mtrs (approximately) (m / cm/ feet / inch) |
| Number of Blocks | : | Two |
| Number of Storys | : | --- |
| Spatial Organization | | |
| Orientation | : | The temple is facing towards west |
| Plan | : | Square <i>vimana</i> having a frontal porch which stands on a <i>pista</i> (platform) of 0.75 mtrs in height and now a RCC mandapa has been added. |
| Allocation of Spaces | : | 64.00 mtrs X 39.00 mtrs. |

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Ornamentation | | |
| Exteriors | : | Decorated with <i>khakhara</i> mundi & <i>pidha</i> mundi in lower & upper <i>jangha</i> respectively. Traces of Digpalas found in the <i>khakhara</i> mundi, scroll work within animal motifs. <i>chaitya</i> design, <i>muhanty</i> motif found in <i>pabhaga</i> & lower <i>jangha</i> . |
| Interiors | : | Plain |
| Movable Collections | : | <i>Deulacharini</i> & an upper part of <i>Naga-nagi</i> pilasters found. |
| * Any Other (specify) | : | It is <i>pancharatha</i> on plan and <i>panchangabada</i> in elevation. |

10. Construction Technology

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Structural System | : | <i>Rekha vimana</i> of <i>Kalingan</i> order. |
| Building Techniques | : | Ashlar Dry Masonry |
| Material of Construction | : | Sand stone for the temple construction and laterite for foundation |

