



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 : Lingaraja Temple, Bhubaneswar, Dist. - Khurda
Past : ---
Other Name (if any): : ---

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85°50'05" E **LATITUDE** 20°14'26" N **ELEVATION** 70 ft.

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

Approach : The temple, in Old Town, Bhubaneswar is located about 3 kms south of Bhubaneswar Railway Station and 1 km west of Garej chowk on Bhubaneswar - Puri road.

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 largest temple at Bhubaneswar, and one of the most magnificent in India, is the grand Lingaraja. Its elegant and graceful *gandi*, soarnig height dominates the

surrounding countryside. It stands in a spacious compound, within the compound are about hundreds of temples of various size. The main temple Lingaraja has a *rekha vimana* (sanctum), *pidha jagamohana* (porch), *natamandira* (hall of dance) and a *bhogamandapa* (hall of offerings) of *Kalingan* order. The *vimana* and the *jagamohana* were integral part of one architectural scheme, while the other two structures were later additions. The *nisha* shrine in front of the *parsvadevata* images are also later additions.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

- Present** : Living temple, the presiding deity is a circular *yonipith*, made of black chlorite.
- Past** : Worshipped

5. Age (Source)

- PERIOD** : Somavamsi rule
- YEARS** : 11th century AD.
- Precise date of Construction Completion** : Third quarter of the 11th century AD.
- Subsequent changes** : ---
- Destruction / Demolition** : Archaeological Survey of India has been conserved this temple time to time.
- 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 Archaeological Survey of India
- Private** : Lingaraja Temple Trust Board maintains the rituals of the temple.
- Any other (Please specify)** : Endowment Department, Government of Orissa manages the property of the temple.
- Name** : ---
- Address** : Archaeological Survey of India, Bhubaneswar Circle, 153 - VIP Area, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
- Phone** : 0674- 2558170

7. Association

• **WITH EVENTS**

In History : Related with the ruling dynasties like – Somavamsi, Gangas and Suryavamsi Gajapatis.

In Rituals : *Prathamastmi, Pravarana Sasthi, Pusyabhiseka, Ghrtakambala, Maghasaptami, Sayana Chaturdasi, Pavitraropana, Yamadvitiya, Utthapana Yatra, Kartika Purnima, Sivaratri, Ratha Yatra, Damanabhanjika, Chandana Yatra, Parasuramastami, etc.*

In Building Construction : ---

Any other (specify) : Thread ceremony, engagements etc are held here.

• **WITH PERSONS**

Patron : Archeological Survey of India and Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.

Architect / Engineer : ---

Any other (specify) : Lingaraja Temple Trust Board

8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	✓	Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	✓	Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	✓	Historical
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	✓	Religious
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other(specify)	:	On architectural and sculptural embellishments, the temple can be assigned to the third quarter of the 11 th century AD i.e. the Somavamsi rule in Orissa.

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) : 75.65 mtrs x 18.80 mtrs (excluding the *nisha* shrine) x 45.11 mtrs
 (m / cm/ feet / inch)

Number of Blocks : Four

Number of Storys : N.A.

• **Spatial Organization**

Orientation : Facing towards east.

Plan : The temple consists of a square *vimana, jagamohana, natamandira* and a *bhogamandapa* and the latter two are standing over a platform of 1.00 mtrs in height.

Allocation of Spaces : 158.49 mtrs x 141.73 mtrs in length and breadth respectively.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

• Ornamentation

- Exteriors : The temple is decorated with architectural motifs like- *khakharamundis* and *pidhamundis* in the *talajangha* and *uparajangha* respectively of both the *vimana* and *jagamohana*, pillar and pilasters design, *naga/nagi* pilasters, balustrade window, *vajramundi* niches, miniature *rekhamundis*, *vajramastaka*, *gajakranta* motifs, *dopichhasimhas*, etc; decorative motifs such as scroll work with or without animal and human motifs in the center, beaded border, lattice pattern, *champaka* motifs, *nara-vidala*, *gaja-vidalas*, *nayikas* in different form in different pose, *mithuna* and *maithuna* images, etc; secular motifs like- royal figures, court scenes, *siksadana* scenes, procession of infantry, cavalry, and elephants, domestic scenes, etc; divinities such as Ganesa, Kartikeya, Parvati, Lakulisa, Brahma, Surya, Chamunda, Kaumari, Mahisamardini Durga, different forms of Siva such as Ardhnanarisvara, Andhakasuravadhamurty, Nataraja, dancing Bhairava, Kama with his consorts, etc; semi-divinities like- *dikpalas*, *dikpalikas*, *bharabahakas*, etc and *dvarapala* figures like Jaya and Vijaya etc.
- Interiors : Decorated pillars in the *bhogamandapa*.
- Movable Collections : Nil
- * **Any Other** (specify) : All the components of the temple are *pancharatha* on plan and *panchangabada* in elevation.

10. Construction Technology

- Structural System** : The temple has a *rekha vimana* and the rest components - *jagamohana*, *natamandira* and *bhogamandapa* are *pidha* order of mature *Kalingan* style.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar dry masonry and use of iron dowels
- Material of Construction** : Sandstone is used for the construction of the temple, Laterite for the compound wall and Chlotite for the doorjambs, parsvadevata images and the navagraha architrave.

11. Condition Assessment

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

In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary):

The temple is in a good state of preservation due to the series of conservation measures taken by Archaeological Survey of India.

12. Threats to the Property
