



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR/SBP- 04

## SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

### 1. Name

**Present** : Anantasayi Visnu Temple, Sambalpur Town, Dist.- Sambalpur

**Past** : ---

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

### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 83° 57' 45" E      **LATITUDE** 21° 28' 17" N      **ELEVATION** 493 ft.

**Address** : **Village (village code)** Kamali Bazar  
**Post** : Bada Bazar      **Via**: Sambalpur Town  
**Tehsil**:Sambalpur Town      **District**: Sambalpur  
**State** : Orissa      **PIN**: 768003

**Approach** : The temple, on the left bank of the river Mahanadi is situated on the left side of the road leading from Kunjelpada to Bada Bazar. It is about 2.5 kms from Sambalpur Railway Station.

### 3. Property Type

- Buildings**
- Palace
  - Fort
  - Citadel
  - Government building
  - Railway station
  - Defence building
  - Industrial building
  - Other public buildings
  - Residential building

- Bridge
- Tunnel
- Other engineering structure

- Religious structures**
- Temple
  - Mosque
  - Minar
  - Church
  - Monastery
  - Stupa
  - Tomb, Mausoleum

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

- Other Structures**
- Wall
  - Gateway
  - Pillar
  - Others(specify):

**Note:**

The temple has an imposing *rekha vimana* and a pillared *mandapa* open to all sides. A small Garuda *stambha* is in front of the temple at a distance of 1.50 mtrs from the entrance.

#### 4. Property Use

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**ABANDONED / IN USE :** In use

- Present** : Living temple, the presiding deity is an image of four-armed Anantasayi Visnu, reclining on the coil of the seven-hooded Ananta. He rests on the right side keeping his head on the right hand. The other three hands hold chakra, sankha and an ornamented gada. His head is canopied by the hood of the snake. Brhama is seen on the Navikamala. Laxmi is found massaging the left foot of the lord.
- Past** : Worshipped

#### 5. Age (Source)

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- PERIOD** : Chauhan rule of Sambalpur State
- YEARS** : 16<sup>th</sup> century A.D.
- Precise date of Construction** : The original temple was built by the 1<sup>st</sup> Chauhan ruler Balarama Deva (1575 – 1595 AD.)
- Completion** : ---
- Subsequent changes** : The present temple was rebuilt by the saint Chauhan prince Bansigopal. Now the entire temple was plastered and lime washed.
- Destruction / Demolition** : ---

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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**SINGLE / MULTIPLE :** Multiple

- Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Endowment Department , Government of Orissa.
- Private** : ---
- Any other (Please specify) Name** : Maurasi Trustee  
: Banchhanidhi Panda, President of the Trustee.
- Address** : AT- Kamali Bazar, P.O.- Bada Bazar, Dist.- Sambalpur, Pin -768003, Orissa.
- Phone** : ---

#### 7. Association

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• **WITH EVENTS**

- In History** : Related with the history of Chauhans.
- In Rituals** : *Ananta brata, Dola Purnima, Rakhi Purnima, etc.*
- In Building Construction** : It is said that the image of Anantasayi Visnu was brought by the Surguja princess along with her as dowry after her marriage with Balarama Deva, who built this temple for the deity.

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

• **WITH PERSONS**

**Patron** : Originally by the Chauhans, but now under the care of Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.  
**Architect / Engineer** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : Maurasi Trustee

### 8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	✓ Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	✓ Historical
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	: On architectural ground and literary sources, the temple can be assigned to the later part of the 16 <sup>th</sup> or the first half of the 17 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. i.e. the Chauhan rule of Sambalpur.

## SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

### 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Context</b></li> </ul>	* <b>Drawings</b> (Attach extra sheet if necessary):	No
<b>Urban / Rural Setting</b>	:	Urban Setting
<b>Surroundings</b>		
	<b>Stand in Isolation</b>	
	<b>Integral part of a</b>	Street
	<b>Landscape / Street / Complex :</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Quantification</b></li> </ul>		
Area Dimension ( L x H)	:	18.90 mtrs X 9.30 mtrs X17.00 mtrs (approximate height) (m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks	:	Two
Number of Storeys	:	N.A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Spatial Organization</b></li> </ul>		
Orientation	:	The temple is facing towards east.
Plan	:	A square <i>vimana</i> and a <i>jagamohana</i> that stands on a low platform of 0.20 mtrs high.
Allocation of Spaces	:	40 mtrs X11.00 mtrs in length and breadth respectively.
<b><u>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE</u></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ornamentation</b></li> </ul>		
Exteriors	:	Decorated with miniature <i>rekhamundis</i> in the <i>gandi</i> and number of niches in the outer wall of the temple that enshrines both the vaisnavite and saivite <i>parsvadevatas</i> such as Trivikrama, Varaha, Narasimha, four-armed Mahisasuramardini Durga, Kartikeya, Govardhanadhari Krisna, etc.
Interiors	:	Plain
Movable Collections	:	---
* <b>Any Other</b> (specify)	:	Besides the presiding deity, another Anantasayi Visnu is found as a part of the decorative programme of the temple.

### 10. Construction Technology

<b>Structural System</b>	:	<i>Rekha vimana</i> and a pillared <i>mandapa</i> of the Chauhan style of architecture.
<b>Building Techniques</b>	:	Ashlar masonry
<b>Material of Construction</b>	:	Stone and lime mortar are used for the structure and the entire temple is plastered and lime washed.

**11. Condition Assessment**

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**In General**

- Good / Fair** : Good.  
 Sign of Deterioration  
 Serious Deterioration  
 Danger of Disappearance

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

The temple is in a good state of preservation.

**12. Threats to the Property**

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- Natural  
 Negligence  
 Vandalism  
 Urban Pressures

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**xSECTION III: REFERENCES**

**13. Reference Sources** (published and unpublished textual details)

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1. P.K.Nayak, 2006, Temples of Western Orissa - Phase-II: Medieval Temples, in S.Pradhan(ed.) *Art and Archaeology of Orissa*.
2. R.P.Mohapatra, 1986, *Archaeology in Orissa*, Vol-II, Delhi.

**14. Photographs: 12 nos**

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(attach list as in page 6, in case of multiple photographs)

Photo Reference :  
CAPTION :

**15. Audio / Video**

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(related to rituals / performance / festivals etc.)

Reference :  
DESCRIPTION :

**16. Maps/Plans/Drawings**

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**17. Listers**

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NAME : Jaya Shankar Naik NAME :

**8.Reviewers**

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NAME : Dr. S. Pradhan NAME :  
COMMENTS COMMENTS :