



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / BRG - 01

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Narasimhanatha Temple, Narasimhanath,
Dist. - Bargarh
Past : ---
Other Name (if any): : ---

2. Location

LONGITUDE 82° 49' 44" E **LATITUDE** 20° 53' 41" N **ELEVATION** 1120 ft

Address : **Village (village code)** Narasimhanatha (Near Durgapali)
Post : Paikmal **Via**: Paikmal
Tehsil: Padampur **District**: Bargarh
State : Orissa **PIN**: 768039

Approach : The temple is situated on the foot hill of the Gandhamardana, 5 kms south-east of Paikmal and 115 kms from the district headquarter town Bargarh.

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:

Rekha vimana of Kalingan order with a flat-roofed *jagamohana* of latter addition.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

Present : Living temple, the presiding deity is lord Marjarakesari, a form of Visnu with the head of a cat and the body of a lion. It is thickly covered with clothes and has a silver nose, eyes and mouth.

Past : Worshipped.

5. Age (Source)

PERIOD : Ganga rule

YEARS : 13th century A.D.

Precise date of Construction : 13th century A.D.

Completion : ---

Subsequent changes : Renovated by Orissa State Archaeology under X & XI Finance Commission Award.

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 : ---

Any other (Please specify) : Narasimhanatha Temple Management Trust under the presidentship of the Block Development Officer, Paikmal.

Name :

Address : Orissa State Archaeology, Paryatan Bhawan, B.J.B. Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Phone : 0674- 2432147

7. Association

• WITH EVENTS

In History : The temple is associated with the Chauhan king Vajala Deva of Patna kingdom as attested by an inscription on a slab of black stone attached on the southern wall of the *jagamohana*. The inscription has four lines, written in Oriya language and in proto-Oriya script.

In Rituals : *Narasimhanama, Nabarna, Kartika Purnima, Janmasthanam*, etc.

In Building Construction : Local tradition says that lord Visnu appeared in the shape of a cat to kill the mouse demon Musika Daitya.

Any other (specify) : Thread ceremony, funeral rituals, marriage ceremony, etc are observed.

• WITH PERSONS

Patron : Orissa State Archaeology and Narasimhanatha Temple Management Trust.

Architect / Engineer : ---

Any other (specify) : ---

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)	:	The sculptural embellishment and architectural scheme dates the temple to 13 th - 14 th century A.D.

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

Context	:	* Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary):	No
Urban / Rural Setting	:		Hilly surrounding
Surroundings	:	Stand in Isolation	Integral part of a landscape
		Integral part of a Landscape / Street / Complex :	
Quantification			
Area Dimension (L x B x H)	:	14.00 mtrs x 5.00 mtrs x 13.00 mtrs (approximate height)	(m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks	:	Two blocks, consists of a sanctum and a renovated pillared <i>jagamohana</i> . Also a rectangular hall provided adjacent to the temple for preparing offering food.	
Number of Storys	:	---	
Spatial Organization			
Orientation	:	The temple is facing towards east.	
Plan	:	The <i>vimana</i> is square on plan whereas the <i>jagamohana</i> is pentagonal due to bad conservation in later period.	
Allocation of Spaces	:		

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

Ornamentation

Exteriors	:	The temple is decorated with architectural motifs like <i>khakharamundis</i> and <i>pidhamundis</i> in the <i>talajangha</i> and <i>uparajangha</i> respectively, a series of four miniature <i>rekhamundis</i> in succession on the <i>anuratha pagas</i> ; <i>talagarbhika</i> in <i>rekhamundi</i> design, a large <i>angasikhara</i> surmounted by a <i>gaja-kranta</i> motif on the frontal <i>raha</i> and the rest <i>rahas</i> have a <i>bho motif</i> crowned by a <i>gaja-kranta</i> . The <i>gandi</i> is divided into seven <i>bhumi-amlas</i> , each having five <i>bhumi-barandis</i> in the <i>kanika pagas</i> . The conjunctions of the <i>pagas</i> are adorned with <i>gaja-vidala</i> and <i>nara-vidalas</i> in the <i>talajangha</i> and different form of <i>nayikas</i> in <i>tribhanga</i> pose over lotus pedestal in the <i>uparajangha</i> . The <i>parsvadevata</i> niches house the images of four-armed Trivikrama, four-armed Narasimha and four-armed Varaha in the north, west and southern
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- side respectively. The *mastaka* part of this temple is provided with the usual *beki*, *amalaka*, *khapuri*, *kalasa* and the *chakra*.
- Interiors : Four pillars supporting the roof of the *jagamohana* are square in section and identical in design. The decorative design of the shaft reveals an upwarding meandering creeper with semi-lotus medallion at the top and the crowning element is a vase surmounted by foliage. It seems to have been objects of an earlier ruined temple utilized here during the time of restoration.
- Movable Collections : Hero stone, royal figure probably the builder and an image of Laxmi-Narayana.
- * **Any Other** (specify) : The *vimana* is *pancharatha* on plan and *panchangabada* in elevation. The *jagamohana* has two entrances on the northern and eastern side and both the doorjambs are identical in design, except at the bottom whereas the sanctum's doorjamb is plain.

10. Construction Technology

- Structural System** : *Rekha vimana* and a flat-roofed *jagamohana*.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar masonry
- Material of Construction** : Sandstone is used for the construction of the temple and black chlorite is used for the doorjambs.

11. Condition Assessment

In General **Good / Fair** : Fair

- Sign of Deterioration
- Serious Deterioration
- Danger of Disappearance

In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary):

Lichen and moss are noticed on the walls of the temple.

12. Threats to the Property

- Natural
- Negligence
- Vandalism
- Urban Pressures

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SECTION III: REFERENCES

13. Reference Sources (published and unpublished textual details)

- J. D. Beglar, 1874-76, In Cunningham (Ed) , *Archaeological Survey of India- Report*, Vol. - XIII
- R. P. Mohapatra, 1986, *Archaeology in Orissa*, Vol. – II, Delhi.

14. Photographs: Nos- 44

(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

17. Listers

NAME : Jaya Shankar Naik NAME :

18. Reviewers

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