



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 : Charchika Temple, Banki, Dist. - Cuttack
Past : ---
Other Name (if any): : ---

LONGITUDE 85° 01' 00" E **LATITUDE** 20° 02' 10" N **ELEVATION** 140 ft

Address : **Village (village code)** Banki
Post : Banki **Via**: Banki
Tehsil: Banki **District**: Cuttack
State : Orissa **PIN**: 754008

Approach : The temple, on the top a small hillock in Banki township of Cuttack district is situated on the right bank of the river Mahanadi. It is about 35 kms from Bhubaneswar.

3. Property Type

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

- Engineering structure**
- Bridge
 - Tunnel
 - Other engineering structure

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

- Open space and related structures**
- Public square
 - Park or garden
 - Graveyard
 - Baolis, Well
 - Tank
 - Cave

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

Note.

The temple has a *pidha vimana*, *jagamohana* and a wooden *mandapa* known as "*sunyavahini mandapa*" of impoverished *Kalingan* order. The ceiling of the *mandapa* is profusely carved and painted.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

- Present** : Living temple, the presiding deity is an eight-armed goddess Chamunda, locally known as Charchika. She is seated on a prostrate human body and wearing a garland of human skulls. She displays *khadga*, *shula*, *katari* and *varadamudra* in her four right hands whereas the four left hands represent severed head, blood-cup, *damru* and leaving a finger of the remaining hand soaked in blood.
- Past** : Worshipped

5. Age (Source)

- PERIOD** : During the princely rule of ex state of Banki.
YEARS : 19th century A.D.
Precise date of Construction Completion : ---
Subsequent changes : The entire temple complex is paved with marble and the carvings of the wooden ceiling of the mandapa were commissioned by the ruler of Banki.
Destruction / Demolition : ---

6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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 : ---
Address : ---
Phone : ---

7. Association

- **WITH EVENTS**
In History : Related with the history of ex-princely state of Banki
In Rituals : *Dasahera, Chandipatha*, etc are observed here.
In Building Construction : ---
Any other (specify) : Marriage, engagement, etc are held here.
- **WITH PERSONS**
Patron : Endowment Department, Government of Orissa.
Architect / Engineer : ---
Any other (specify) : ---

8. Statement of Significance

- Architectural : Architectural
 Archaeological :

<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	:	✓	Historical
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	:	✓	Religious
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	:		The present temple was built in the 19 th century. But the remarkable point is the enshrining deity Chamunda on iconographical point of view can be assigned to the 9 th – 10 th centuries A.D. i.e. Bhaumakara rule in Orissa.

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Context 	:	* Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) : No
Urban / Rural Setting	:	Urban setting
Surroundings	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stand in Isolation Integral part of a Landscape / Street / Complex : Complex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantification 		
Area Dimension (L x B x H)	:	15.25 mtrs x 8.55 mtrs x 7.50 mtrs (m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks	:	Three, consists of a <i>vimana</i> , <i>jagamohana</i> and a wooden <i>mandapa</i> .
Number of Storys	:	N.A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spatial Organization 		
Orientation	:	Facing towards east.
Plan	:	The <i>vimana</i> and <i>jagamohana</i> are square on plan whereas the <i>mandapa</i> is rectangular.
Allocation of Spaces	:	45.00 mtrs (L) x 28.00 mtrs (W)
<u>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ornamentation 		
Exteriorsn	:	The <i>vimana</i> and <i>jagamohana</i> are devoid of decoration, except <i>dopichhasimhas</i> over the <i>beki</i> and projecting lion on each <i>raha</i> of the <i>gandi</i> . The wooden ceiling of the <i>mandapa</i> is relieved with episodes from Bhagabata Purana with intervening decoration of animals and birds like - elephant, duck, parrot, peacock, etc; floral motifs, lotus medallions, scroll and jali works, animal hunting, horse rider, <i>gaja-vidalas</i> , <i>makaramukha</i> , <i>mithuna</i> and <i>maithuna</i> images. The paintings with matching colours over the carvings add glamour to the entire composition. Besides, the <i>parsvadevata</i> niches enshrine four-armed Chamunda, four-armed Mahisasuramardini Durga and an eight-armed Chamunda on the north, west and southern side respectively.
Interiors	:	Plain
Movable Collections	:	Nil
*Any Other (specify)	:	The temple is <i>pancharatha</i> on plan and <i>panchangabada</i> in elevation.

17. Listers

NAME : Jaya Shankar Naik

NAME :

18. Reviewers

NAME : Dr. S. Pradhan
COMMENTS

NAME :
COMMENTS :