



# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

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## Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: OR / KDA/ BSR- 123

### SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

#### 1. Name

**Present** : Muktesvara Temple, Bhubaneswar, Dist.-Khurda  
**Past** : ---  
**Other Name (if any):** : Muktesvara Temple

#### 2. Location

**LONGITUDE** 85°50'26"E      **LATITUDE** 28°14'33"N      **ELEVATION** 52 ft.

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

**Approach** : It is located on the right side of the road leading from Bhubaneswar to Puri.

#### 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:**

The temple has a rekha vimana and pidha jagamohan of Kalingan order.

#### 4. Property Use

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**ABANDONED / IN USE :** In use

**Present** : It is a living temple, enshrining *Sivalinga* within a circular *yonipitha*.  
**Past** : Worshipped.

#### 5. Age (Source)

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**PERIOD** : Somavansis rule  
**YEARS** : 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.  
**Precise date of Construction** : 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.  
**Completion** : ---  
**Subsequent changes** : ---  
**Destruction / Demolition** : ---

#### 6. Ownership / Level of Protection

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**SINGLE / MULTIPLE :** Single

**Public** : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Protected Monument of Archaeological Survey of India  
**Private** : Load Lingaraja Temple Management Trust.  
**Any other (Please specify)** : ---  
**Name** : Archaeological Survey of India  
**Address** : Bhubaneswar Circle, 153, VIP Area, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar  
**Phone** : 0674-2558170

#### 7. Association

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• **WITH EVENTS**

**In History** : ---  
**In Rituals** : *Sivaratri, Kartikapurnima, Jalasaya etc observed here.*  
**In Building Construction** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : ---

• **WITH PERSONS**

**Patron** : Archaeological Survey of India, Bhubaneswar Circle  
**Architect / Engineer** : ---  
**Any other (specify)** : ---

#### 8. Statement of Significance

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	✓	Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	✓	Religious
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	:	From the point of art and architecture, the temple is assigned to the transitional phase of temple building tradition. Fergusson described it as the gems of Orissan architecture. R. L. Mitra described it as "the handsomest –a charming epitome of the perfection of Orissan temple architecture.

## SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

### 9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

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- **Context**  
Urban / Rural Setting : \* **Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) :** No  
Surroundings : Urban setting
  
- **Quantification**  
Area Dimension ( L x B x H) : 13.68mtrs x 8.10mtrs x 10.67mtrs.  
(m / cm/ feet / inch)
  
- **Spatial Organization**  
Orientation : Facing towards west  
Plan : The *vimana* is square on plan and the *jagamohana* is rectangular on plan.  
Allocation of Spaces : 68.50mtrs (L) x 61.00 mtrs (B)

### ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

- **Ornamentation**  
Exteriors : The temple is highly decorated with proper symmetrical order. The *nayika* figures, scrollwork, *chaitya* motifs, social scene like *sikhyadana*, baby nursing scene and architectural motifs like *naga-nagi stamba* etc. enriched the sculptural embellishment of the temple.
  
- Interiors : Decorated with the eight-petalled lotus medallion in the center. *Matruka* images are carved on each petal with the least petal containing an image of Virabhadra. The truncated and panels of the coffer are filled with Kartikeya and a dancing Ganesa. The corner panels are filled with seated figures, male and female, flanked by Virala motifs. Every inch of the ceiling is ornately carved.
  
- Movable Collections : ---
- \* **Any Other** (specify) : The temple stands on a low platform, is a *pancharatha* on plan and *triranga bada* in elevation.  
Exemption: *Pabhaga* consists of five moulding except for the corner rather which have only four.

### 10. Construction Technology

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- Structural System** : A *rekha* types *vimana* with curvilinear spire and *pidha* type *jagamohana* with a stepped pyramidal roof.
- Building Techniques** : Ashlar dry masonry with corbelled technique of construction.
- Material of Construction** : Ocher colour sand stone.

