Nagara Temples -II

Nagara School of temple architecture, Kalinga

Kalinga refers to the eastern coastal belt of India between the Mahanadi and the Godavari

Rivers (Odisha and Andhra Pradesh). In the 3rd century BC, Kalinga was annexed by the

Mauryan Emperor Ashoka after the Kalinga War. It was subsequently ruled by several

dynasties including Mahameghavahana, Sailodhbhava, Bhaumakara, Somavanshis and

Eastern Gangas.

Bhubaneshwar, the capital of Odisha, literally means the Bhuban (abode) of Ishwar (Shiva).

local style of Nagara or North India School of Temple architecture called Kalinga School of architecture. The temples of Lingaraj in Bhubaneswar,

Jagannath in Puri and Surya in Konark represent the best examples of Kalinga School of

Architecture.

- The temples of Kalinga order followed a common structural and elevation plan. The
- elevation plan is based on certain fundamental principles of stability and is named after parts
- of the human body. The superstructure is basically divided into three parts, the Bāḍa (lower
- limb), the Gandi (body) and the Mastaka (head).





The Mastaka of temple generally divided into six parts:

Gandi (Body)

In improvised temples, towards the lower middle portion of Gandi, Bajra Mastaka motifs are se

Bada is the vertical section of pilasters from the Pithha (plinth) up to the base of the Kalasa. The enclosure created by this Bada is the Garbhagruha



In Odiya, a shrine is called Deula.



Rekha-prasada/Latina

Phamsana





Simple shikhara with square base and whose walls slope inwards to a point on top.



Roofs composed of many slabs that gently rise to a single point over the building's centre.



Rectangular buildings with a roof that rises into a vaulted chamber. The Mature Phase – 11th to 13th centuries AD Dominant Dynasty – Eastern Gangas Finest examples – Konark Sun Temple, Jagannath Temple, Puri













VFig. 1. Modhera, Baroda: Sun Temple, entrance; 11th century.





Peninsular India: Chalukya Empire and Interface Zone of Architectural Traditions

there are five principal forms of structural

temples of the Chalukyas, viz., Dravidian (South Indian), Nagara (North indian),

Phamsana (Proto-Nagara), Gajaprishtha (Apsidal-end) and Mandapa (Hall).

The infiltration of 'Nagara' architectural tradition may be first traced to about

the close of 6th Century when Mangalesa successfully raided the Kalachuri kingdom. The

huge pillar which he set up as Dharmajayastambha (pillar of victory of piety) at Mahakuta

exemplifies a 'northern' pillar, complete with amalaka and kalasa. (This now may be seen

in the Archaeological Museum in Gol Gumbaz complex in Vijayapura, earlier known as

Bijapur). Nagara sikhara models also are seen over the doorway of the garbhagriha of

Cave 2 at Badami. Full-fledged Nagara temples are noticeable in Aihole, Alampur, Mahakuta and Pattadak

Rekha-Nagara (North Indian) Temple Form

- External form of the Mulaprasada (shrine proper) defines the Rekha-Nagara Temple.
- Components from bottom to top are: Pitha, Jangha, rekha-sikhara, gala, amalaka and kalasha.
- Each has secondary components.
- Offset (Ratha) from the central part of the pedestal, continued on wall and superstructure, significant physical feature.





Hucchimalligudi, Aihole Note presence of *sukanasamukhapatti*, and *kakshasana Sandhara Rekhanagara* temple, 7th Cent.



Kudaveli, Sangamesvara Temple, 7th-8th Century



Rekha-Nagara temple and Phamsana temple compared







DRE-VIDEOS ganatha temple, Aihole, 8th Century, note karnamalakas on last storey



Gajaprishtha or Apsidal-end Temple

- Literally elephant's back, it is English "U"-shaped in plan.
- Sikhara should be like elephant's back in appearance, but Chalukya temples make exception.
- Rekha-nagara or northern style superstructure. E.g. Durga temple at Aihole.







Durga temple, Aihole, C. 700, Gajaprishtha temple, northern and southern mixed idiom

Mandapa or Hall-type temple

- Sanctum is accommodated at the rear within a large hall.
- Exteriorly, it looks like a secular hall structure
- No superstructure.
- Central roofing flat. Ladkhan temple, Aihole









Fig. 1







