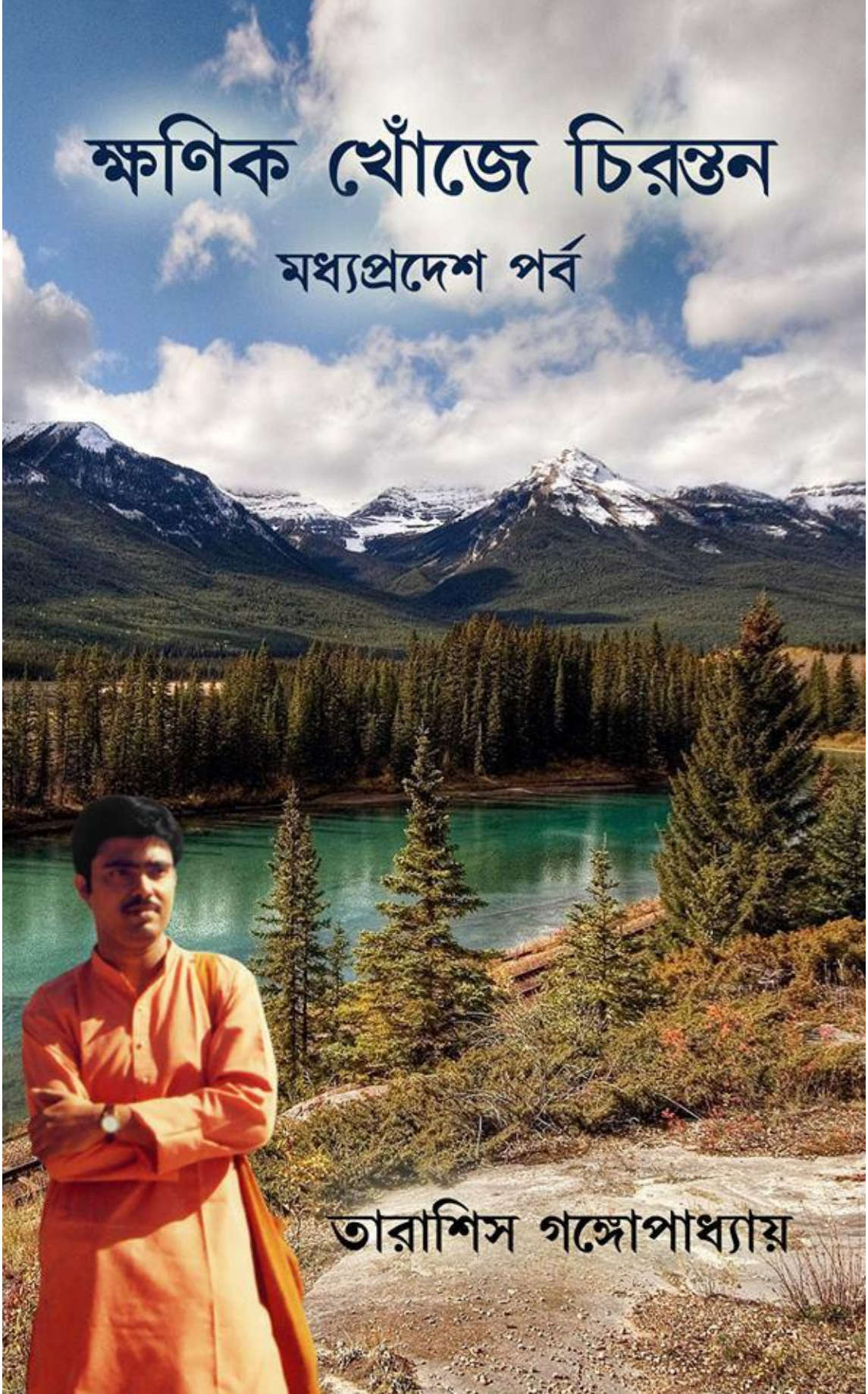


# ক্ষণিক খোঁজে চিরন্তন

মধ্যপ্রদেশ পর্ব



তারানিস গঙ্গোপাধ্যায়

A pictorial travel of **Khonik Khonje Chirantan – Madhya Pradesh Parva** by **Tarashis Gangopadhyay**

Khonik Khonje Chirantan is another masterpiece written by this talented spiritual author **Tarashis Gangopadhyay**. The first volume of this trilogy (published in 2010) is based on the author's tour to **Madhya Pradesh**. This is really a classic travelogue on the notable religious sites and tourist spots of Madhya Pradesh like Khajuraho, Bhopal, Sanchi, Bhojeshwar, Bhimvetka, Indore, Mandu, Omkareshwar, Ujjain, Panchamarhi and Amarkantak.

The main theme of the book is the **Saint Rudranandaji**, who has declared his death day 2 months prior and then set on to travel all the religious sites of India where he practiced severe Sadhana earlier in his life. This book gives all the historical, spiritual & geographical details of the sites of M.P. where the author travelled with a great saint of the century Swamy Rudranandaji.



Lakshamana Temple – Khajuraho



Front View of Lakshamana Temple – Khajuraho



The sculpture is the main Idol, located in the Sanctum of Lakshmana Temple.  
This sculpture is of tri-headed & four-armed sculpture of Vishnu.  
The central head is of human, and two sides of boar (depicting Varaha) and lion (depicting Narashima).



Kandariya Mahadeva Temple – Khajuraho



In front of Kandariya Mahadeva Temple, Khajuraho



Writer in the premises of Kandariya Mahadeva Temple, Khajuraho



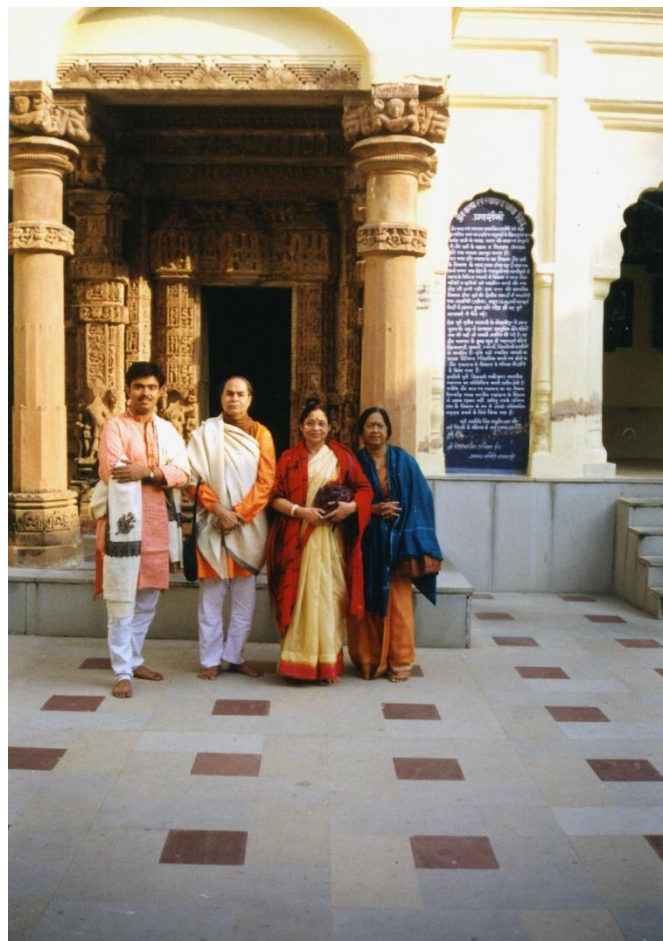
Another view of Kandariya Mahadeva Temple – Khajuraho



Writer in Kandariya Mahadeva Temple premises, Khajuraho



Kandaria Mahadev Shivalngam - Kandariya Mahadeva Temple – Khajuraho



In front of Kandariya Mahadeva Temple - Khajuraho





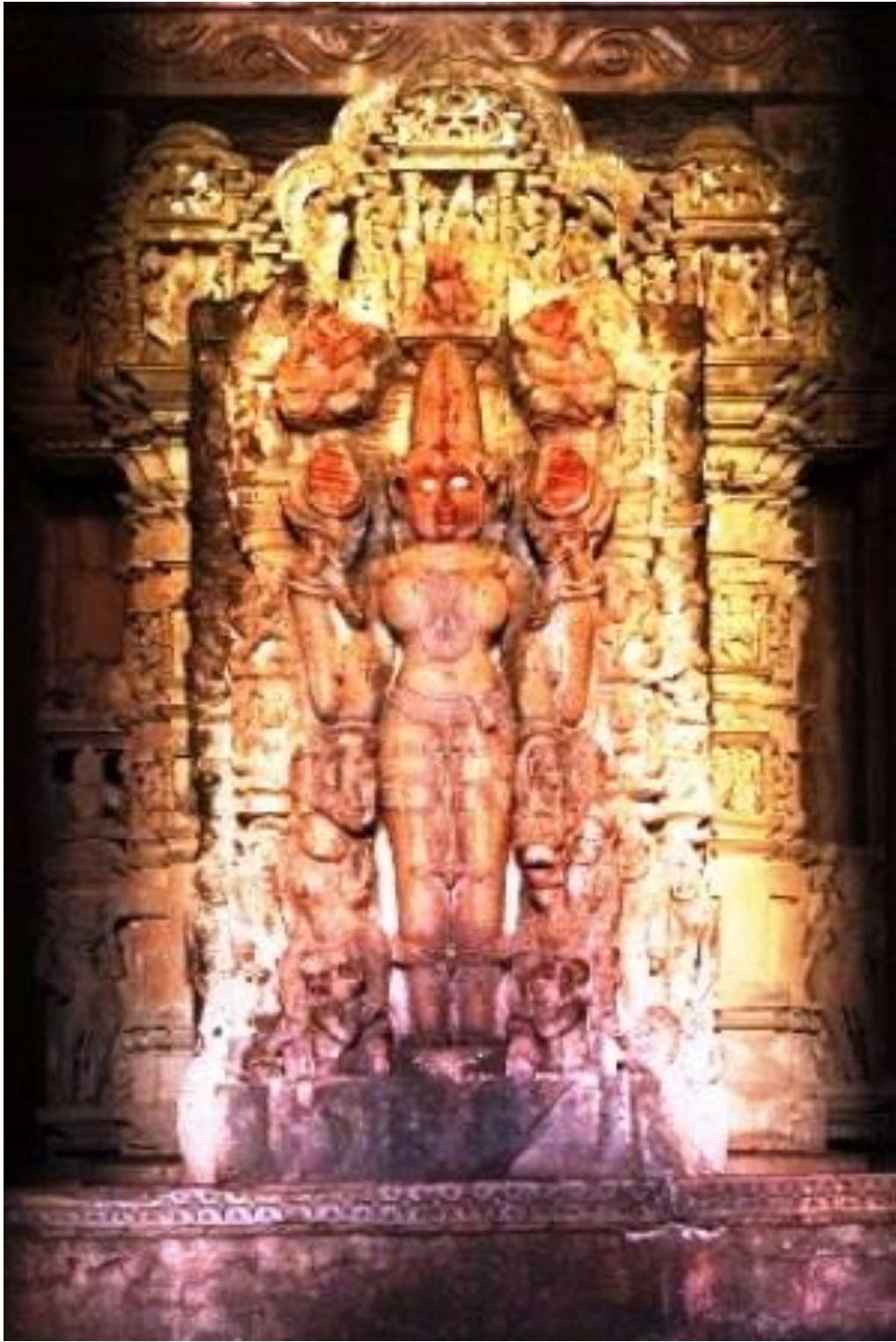
The garbha-griha with Shivalingam - Kandariya Mahadeva Temple - Khajuraho



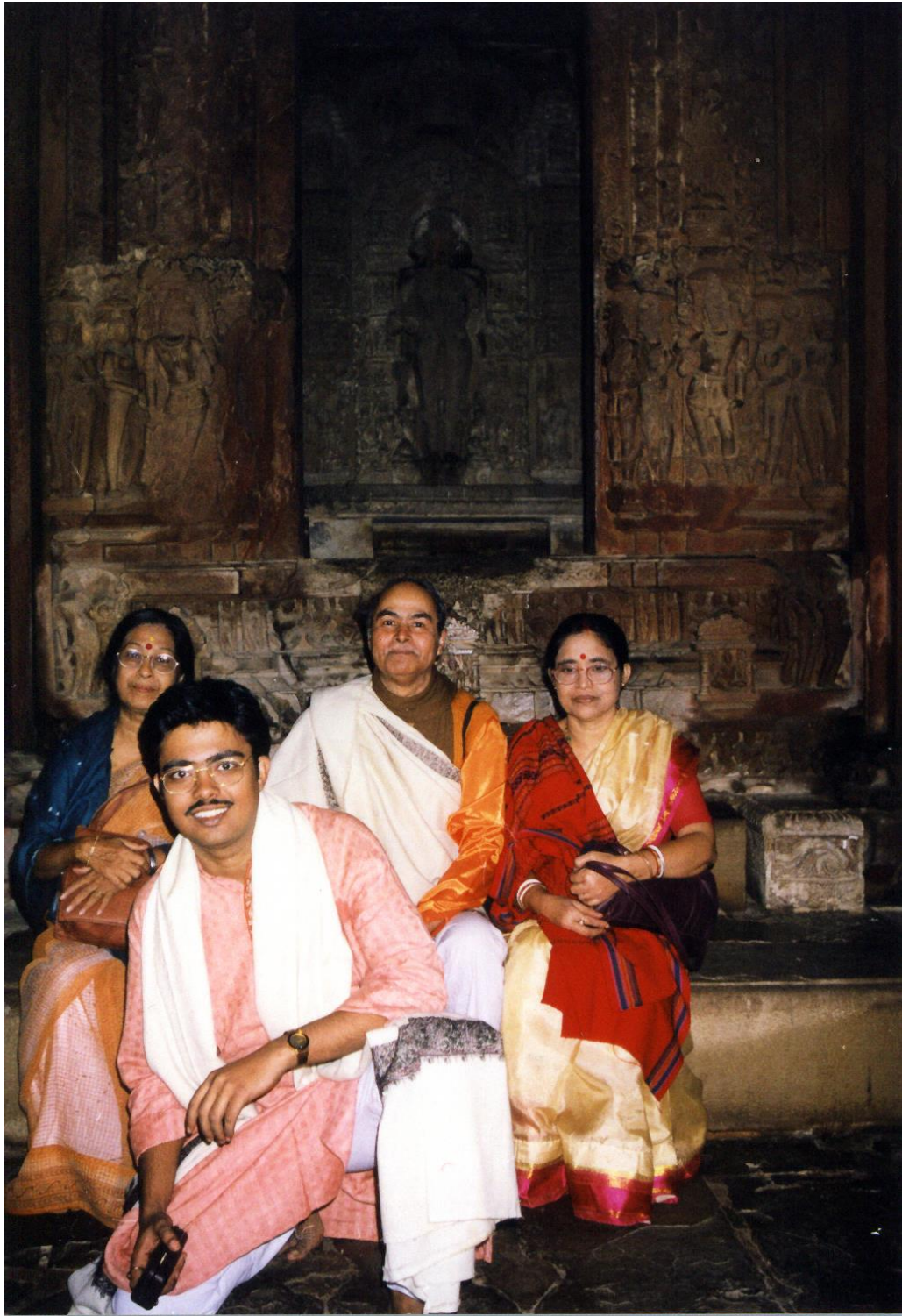
Devi Jagdamba Temple – Khajuraho



Front view of Devi Jagdamba Temple - Khajuraho



Devi inside Jagdamba Temple – Khajuraho



Inside Chitragupta Temple



Chitragupta Temple in Jagdamba premises – Khajuraho



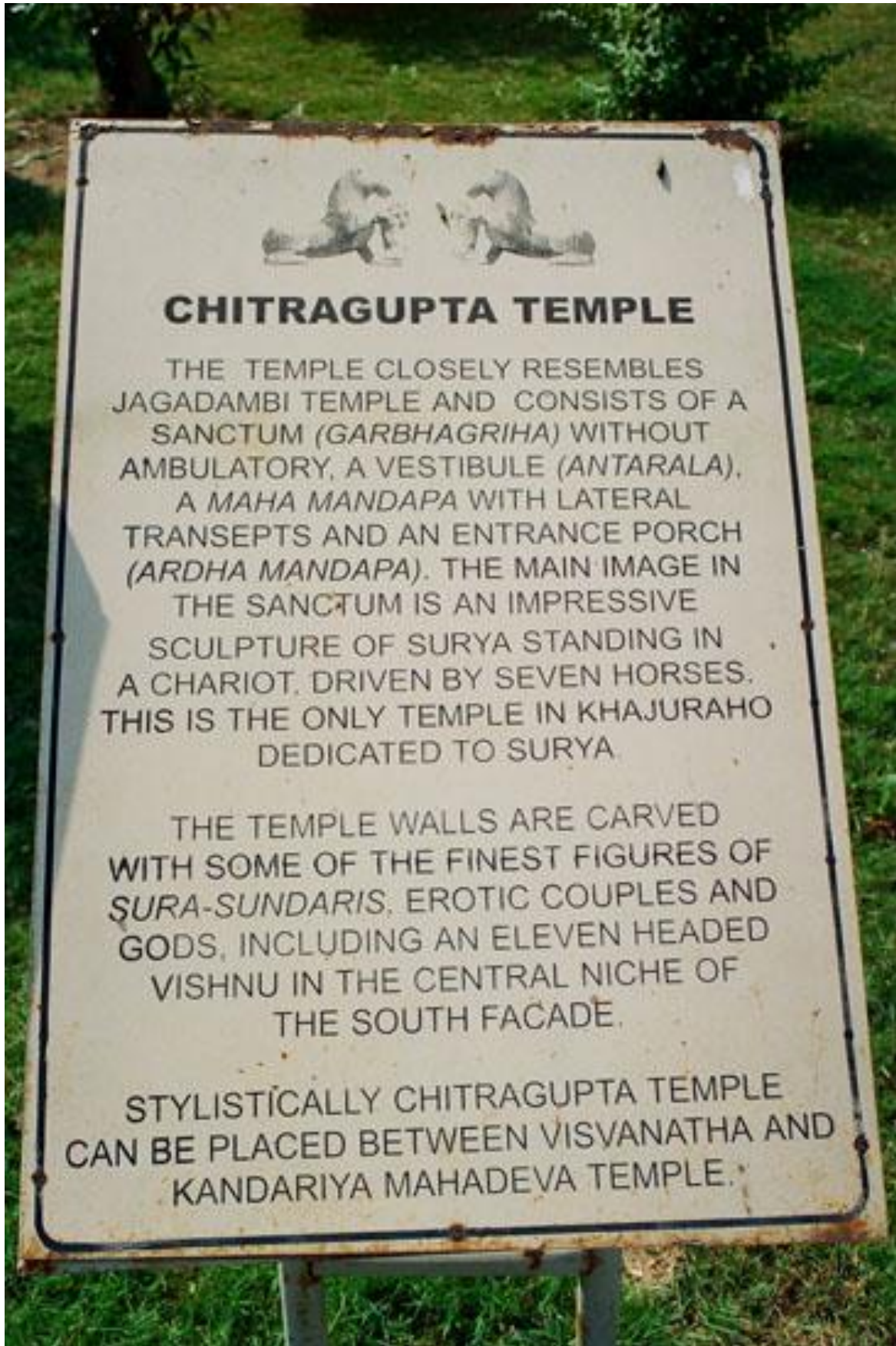
Inner view of Chitragupta Temple in Jagdamba premises – Khajuraho



Deity inside Chitragupta Temple in Jagdamba premises - Khajuraho



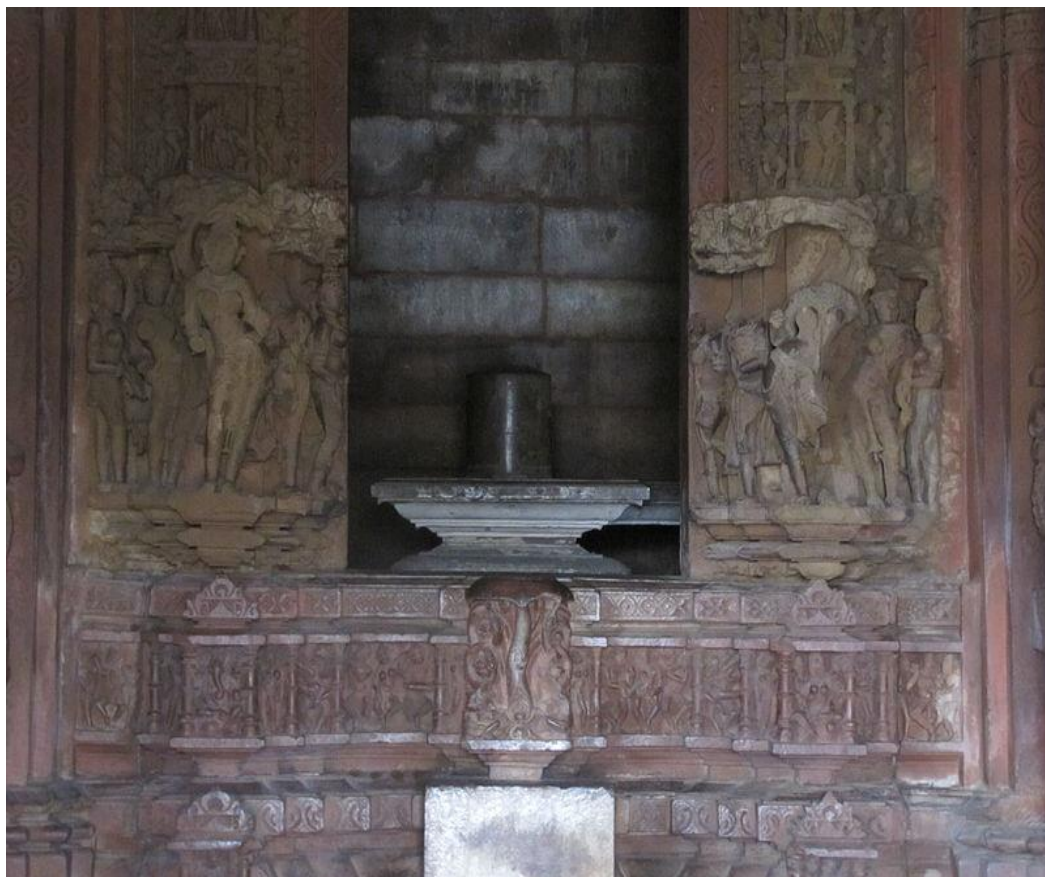
A famous statue of a man fighting a lion bare handed in front of Jagdamba Temple - Khajuraho



A board outside Chitragupta Temple mentioning the idol of Suryadev inside the temple – Khajuraho



Vishwanath Temple – Khajuraho



Vishwanath Shivalingam inside the temple.

There are a lot of similarities in the inner view of Vishwanath and Kandariya Mahadeva Temple

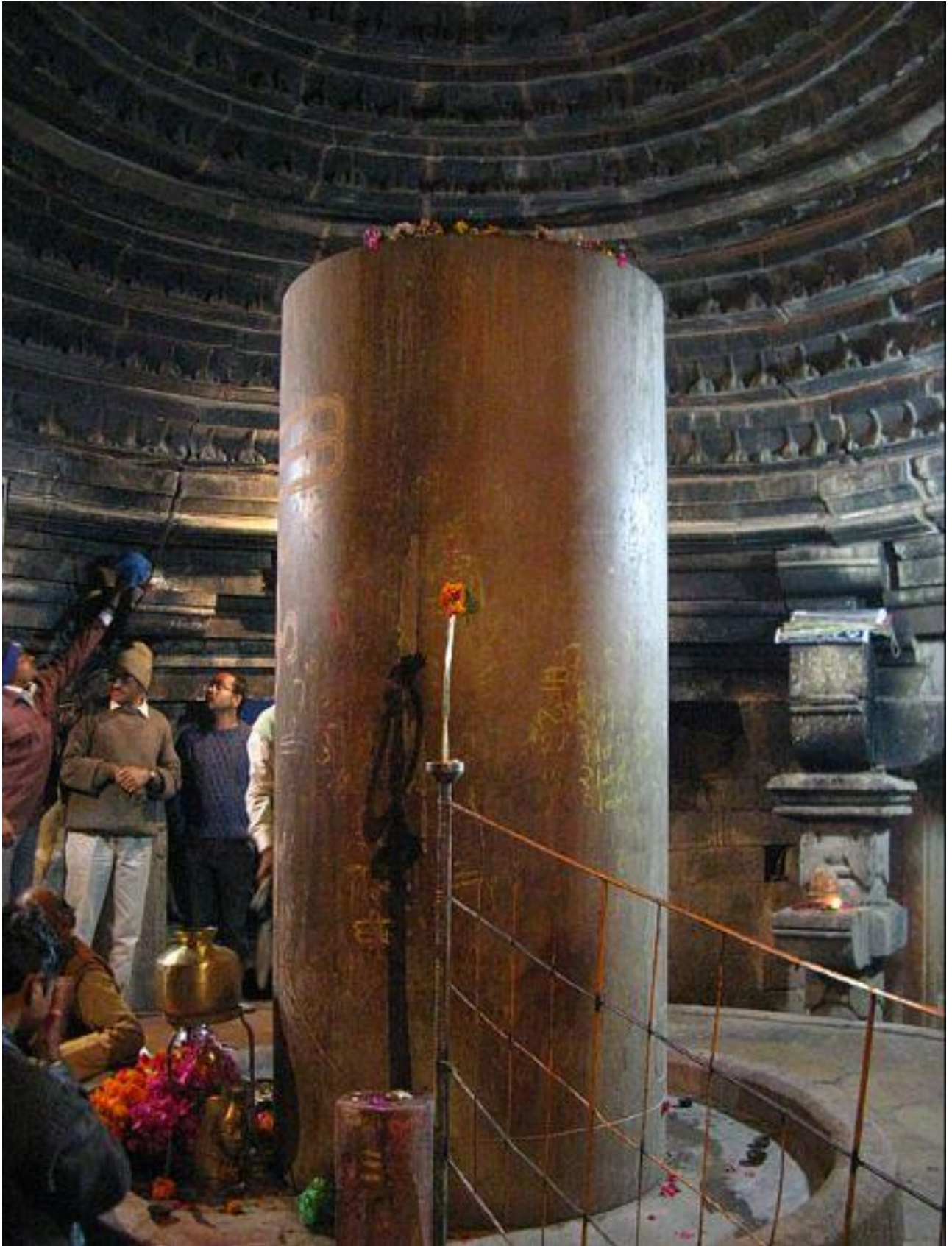




Devi Parvati inside Vishwanath Temple – Khajuraho



Matangeshwar Temple - Khajuraho.  
The only live temple in Khajuraho where rituals and puja takes place



Matangeshwar Shiva Linga inside Matangashwar Temple - Khajuraho



Lights in Matangeshwar Temple in evening - Khajuraho



Sri Chausath Yogini-Temple – Khajuraho



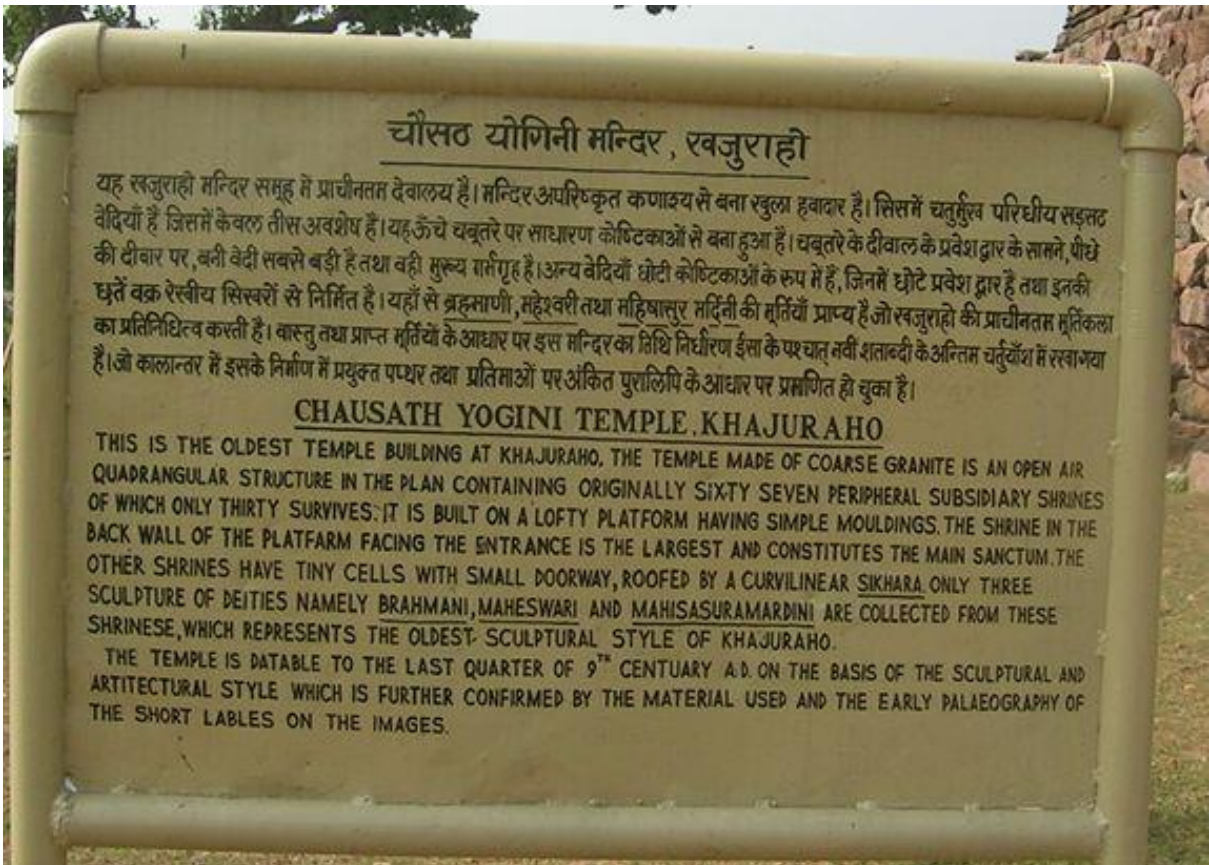
Inside Sri Chausath Yogini- Temple - Khajuraho



Devi inside Sri Chausath Yogini Temple -  
– Khajuraho



Another inside view of Sri Chausath Yogini - Temple  
– Khajuraho



A board depicting details of Sri Chausath Yogini Temple outside the temple – Khajuraho  
The other Chausath Yogini Temples in India are

01. Chausath Yogini, Western Group Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh. Dated 9th Century AD
02. Chausath Yogini, Hirapur near Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Dated 9th Century AD
03. Chausath Yogini, Ranipur near Bolangir, Orissa, Dated 9th Century AD
04. Chausath Yogini, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, Dated 9th Century AD



Statue of Nandi in front of Lalguan Mahadev Temple - Khajuraho



Ruins of Lalguan Mahadev Temple near  
Chausath Yogini Temple - Khajuraho



Parvati Temple – Khajuraho



Chatur Bhuj Temple - South Khajuraho



Chaturbhuj Tribhanga murti in Chatur Bhuj Temple - South Khajuraho



Front view of Chatur Bhuj Temple - South Khajuraho



Duladeo Temple - Khajuraho





Statues in the outer wall of Duladeo Temple  
– Khajuraho



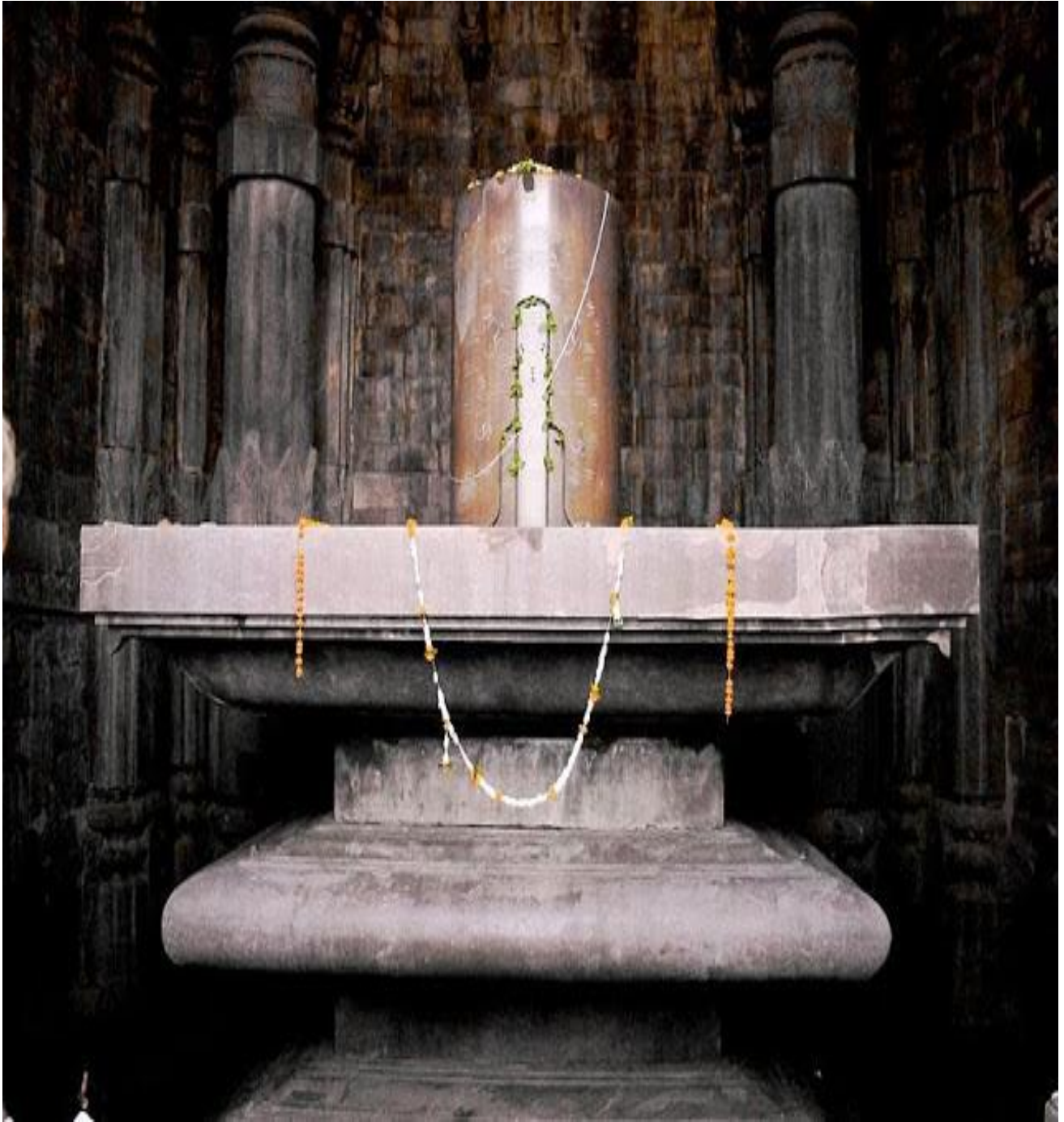
Inside Duladeo Temple – Khajuraho



Bhojeshwar Mahadev Temple – Bhojpur



Front view of Bhojeshwar Mahadev Temple - Bhojpur



Bhojeshwar Shiva Linga inside the temple



Birla Temple – Bhopal



The great Stupa at Sanchi. A concept by Emperor Ashok – Sanchi



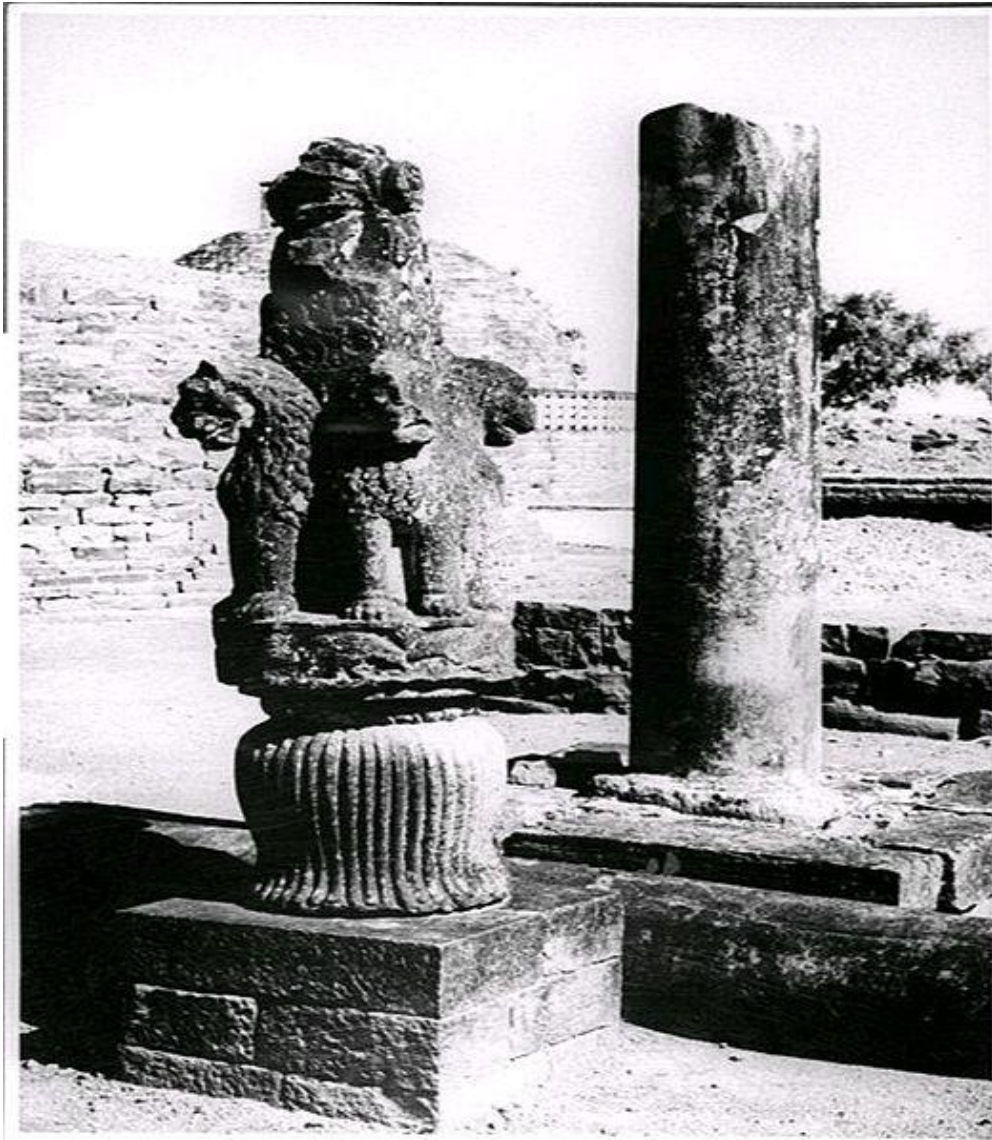
Carved decoration of the Northern Gateway to the Great Stupa of Sanchi



Writer in front of Sanchi Stupa



Enjoying the beauty of The Stupa

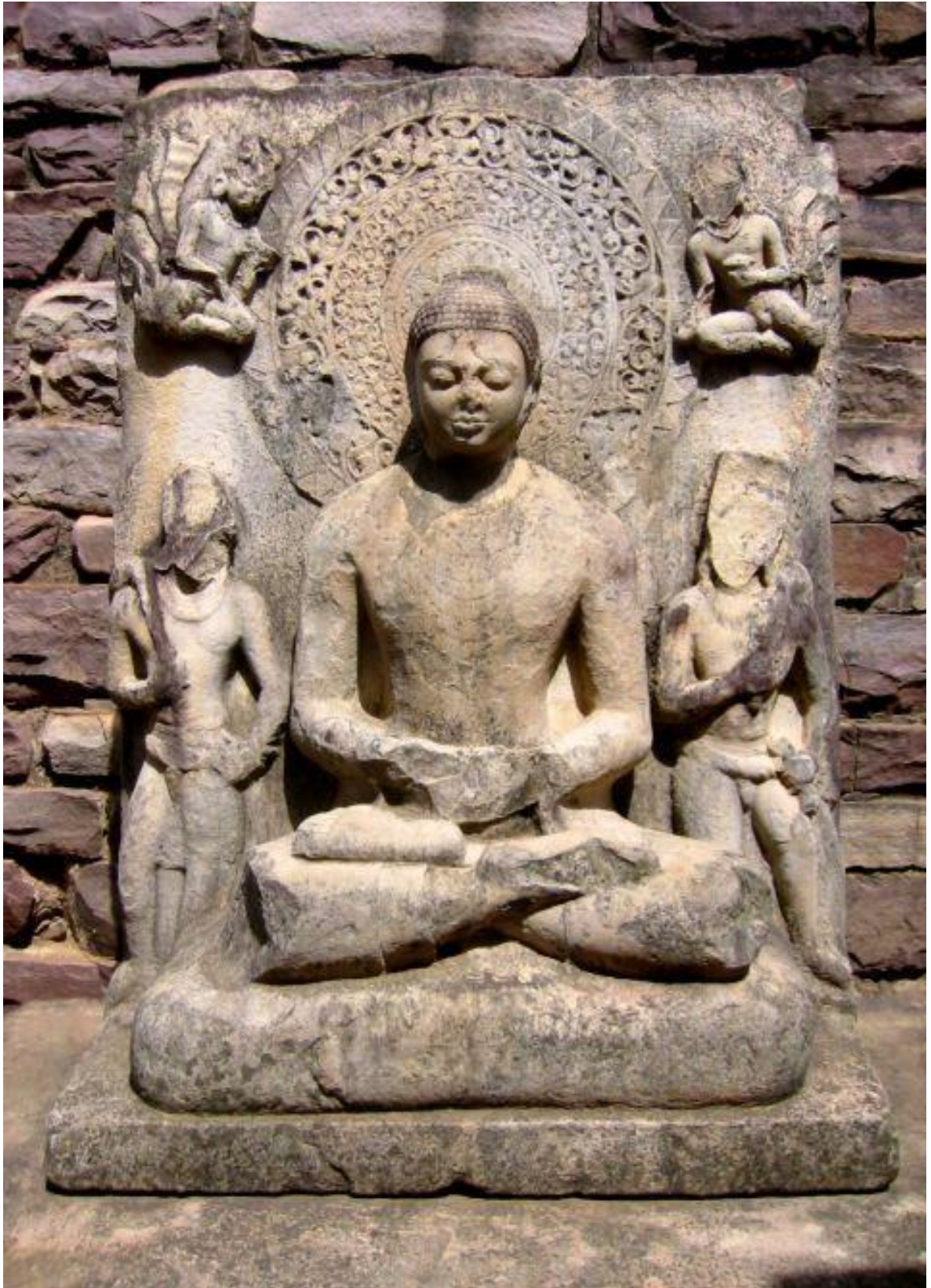


Remains of a Pillar of Ashok with four lions at Sanchi



Lord Buddha statue at Sanchi Stupa – Bhopal



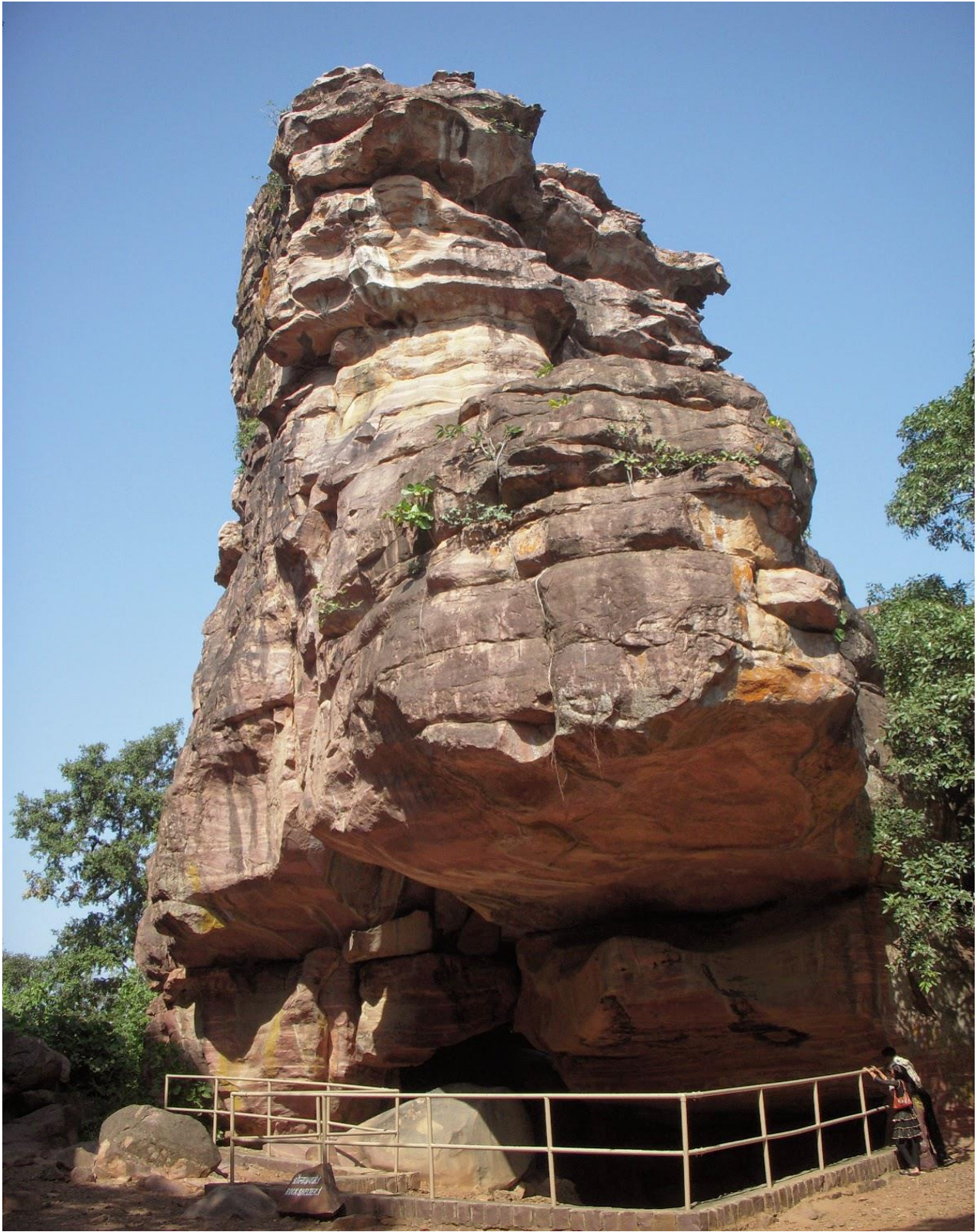


Lord Buddha statue at Sanchi Stupa – Bhopal

## Bhimbetka Caves



An entrance of Bhimbetka rock shelters located about 45 km northeast of Bhopal. The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site of the Paleolithic, exhibiting the earliest traces of human life on the Indian Subcontinent, and thus the beginning of the Indian Stone Age. It is located in the Raisen District in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, near Abdullaganj town and inside the Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary. At least some of the shelters were inhabited by Homo erectus over 100,000 years ago. Some of the Stone Age rock paintings found among the Bhimbetka rock shelters are some 30,000 years old. The caves also deliver early evidence of dance. They were declared a World Heritage Site in 2003.



Entrance of Bhimbetka Caves



Ancient paintings inside Bhimbetka Caves – Bhimbetka

The rock shelters and caves of Bhimbetka have a large number of paintings. The oldest paintings are considered to be 30,000 years old, but some of the geometric figures date to as recently as the medieval period. The colors used are vegetable colors which have endured through time because the drawings were generally made deep inside a niche or on inner walls. The drawings and paintings can be classified under seven different periods.

**Period I - (Upper Paleolithic):** These are linear representations, in green and dark red, of huge figures of animals such as bison, tigers and rhinoceroses.

**Period II - (Mesolithic):** Comparatively small in size the stylized figures in this group show linear decorations on the body. In addition to animals there are human figures and hunting scenes, giving a clear picture of the weapons they used: barbed spears, pointed sticks, bows and arrows. The depiction of communal dances, birds, musical instruments, mothers and children, pregnant women, men carrying dead animals, drinking and burials appear in rhythmic movement.

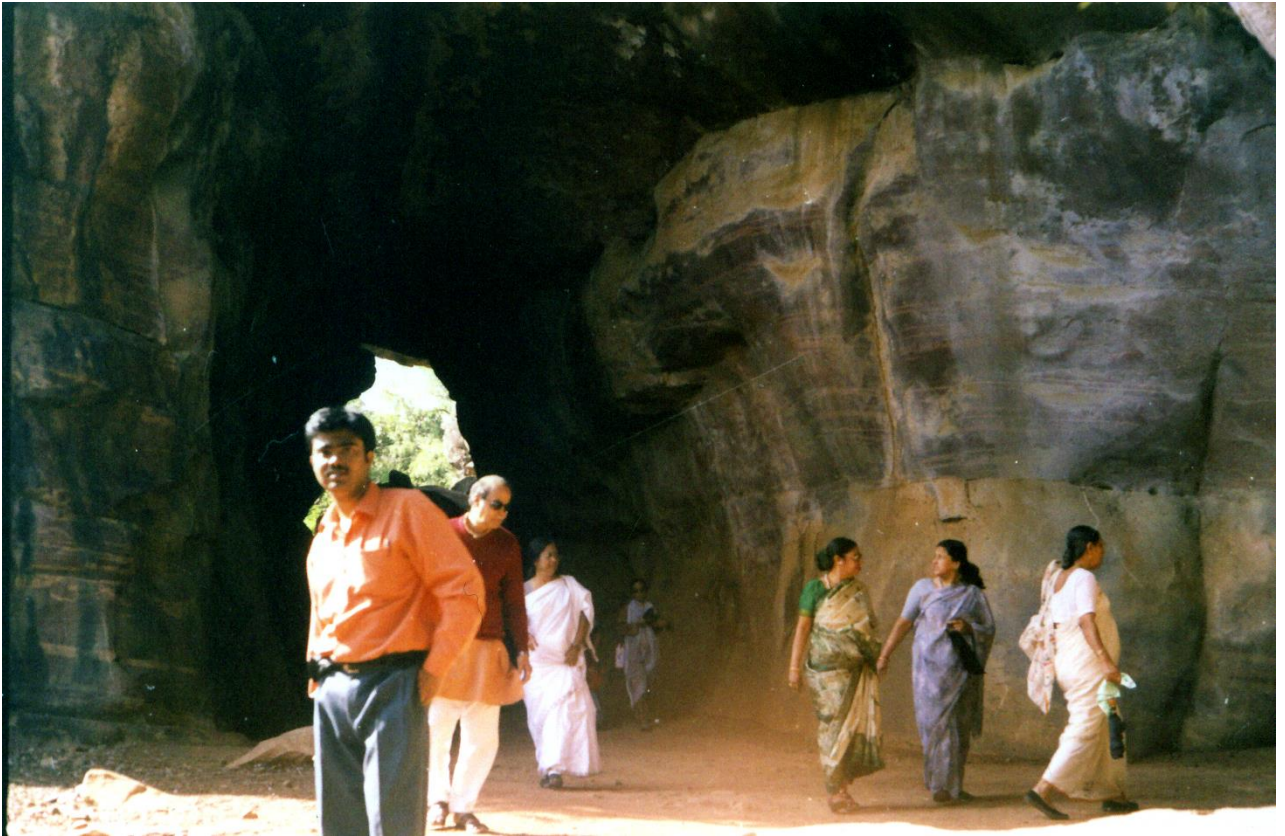
**Period III - (Chalcolithic):** Similar to the paintings of the Mesolithic, these drawings reveal that during this period the cave dwellers of this area were in contact with the agricultural communities of the Malwa plains, exchanging goods with them.

**Period IV & V - (Early historic):** The figures of this group have a schematic and decorative style and are painted mainly in red, white and yellow. The association is of riders, depiction of religious symbols, tunic-like dresses and the existence of scripts of different periods. The religious beliefs are represented by figures of yakshas, tree gods and magical sky chariots.

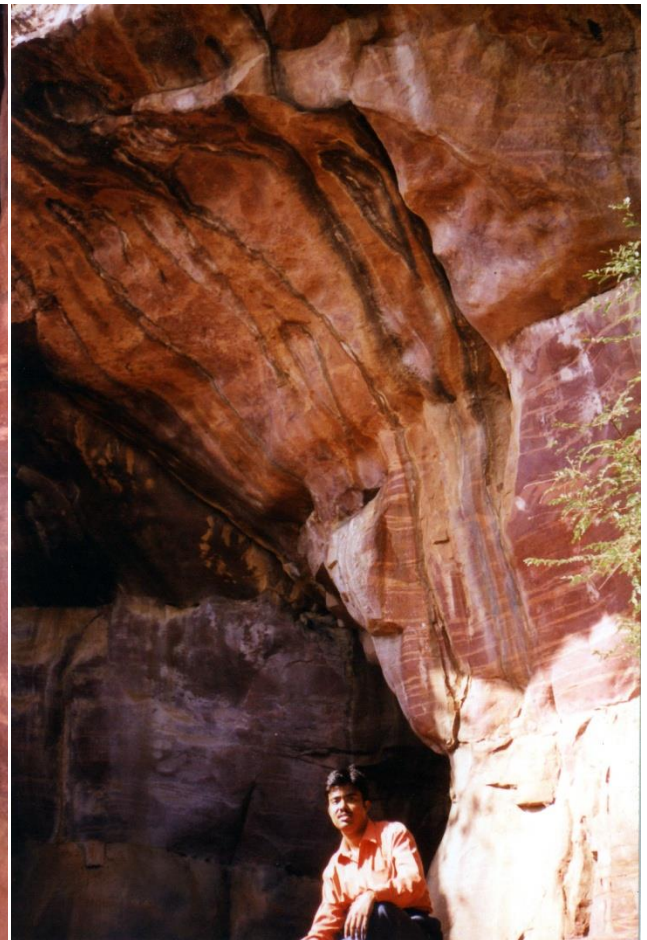
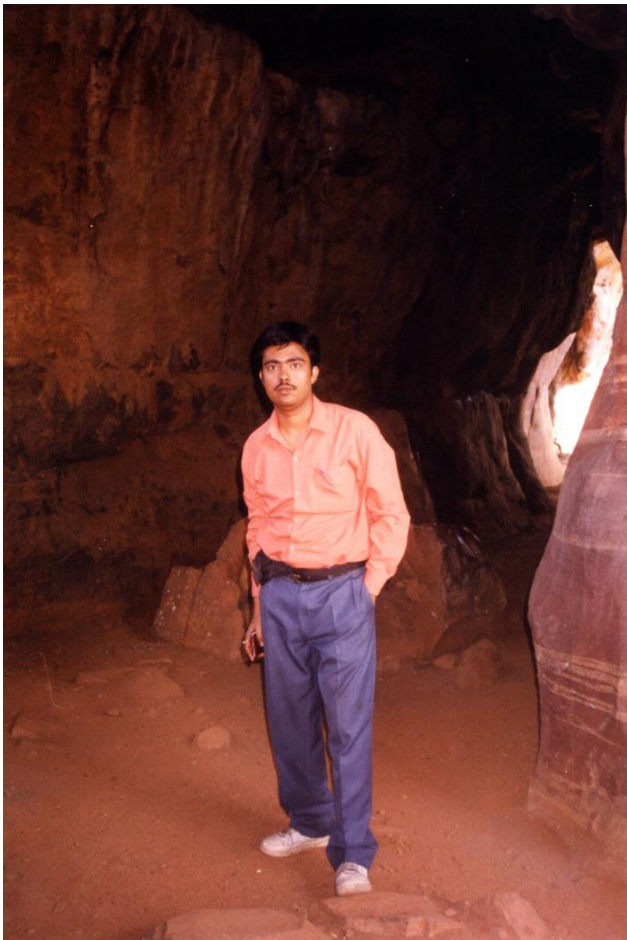
**Period VI & VII - (Medieval):** These paintings are geometric linear and more schematic, but they show degeneration and crudeness in their artistic style. The colors used by the cave dwellers were prepared by combining manganese, hematite and wooden coal.



Inside one of the caves of Bhimbetka Caves – Bhopal



Writer inside Bhimbekta Caves





In front of Bhimbetka caves



View of Jahaz Mahal - Mandu Fort

Mandu or Mandavgad is an uninhabited ancient city in the present-day Mandav area of the Dhar district. It is located in the Malwa region of western Madhya Pradesh, India, at 35 km from the Dhar city. In the 11th century, Mandu was the sub division of the Tarangagadh or Taranga kingdom. This fortress town on a rocky outcrop about 100 km (62 mi) from Indore is celebrated for its fine architecture.

**Jahaz Mahal/Ship Palace** - Situated between two artificial lakes, this two storied architectural marvel is so named as it appears as a ship floating in water. Built by Sultan Ghiyas-ud-din-Khilji, it served as a harem for the Sultan.







Distant View of Jahaz Mahal - Mandu Fort



Jahaz Mahal, inside Mandu Fort



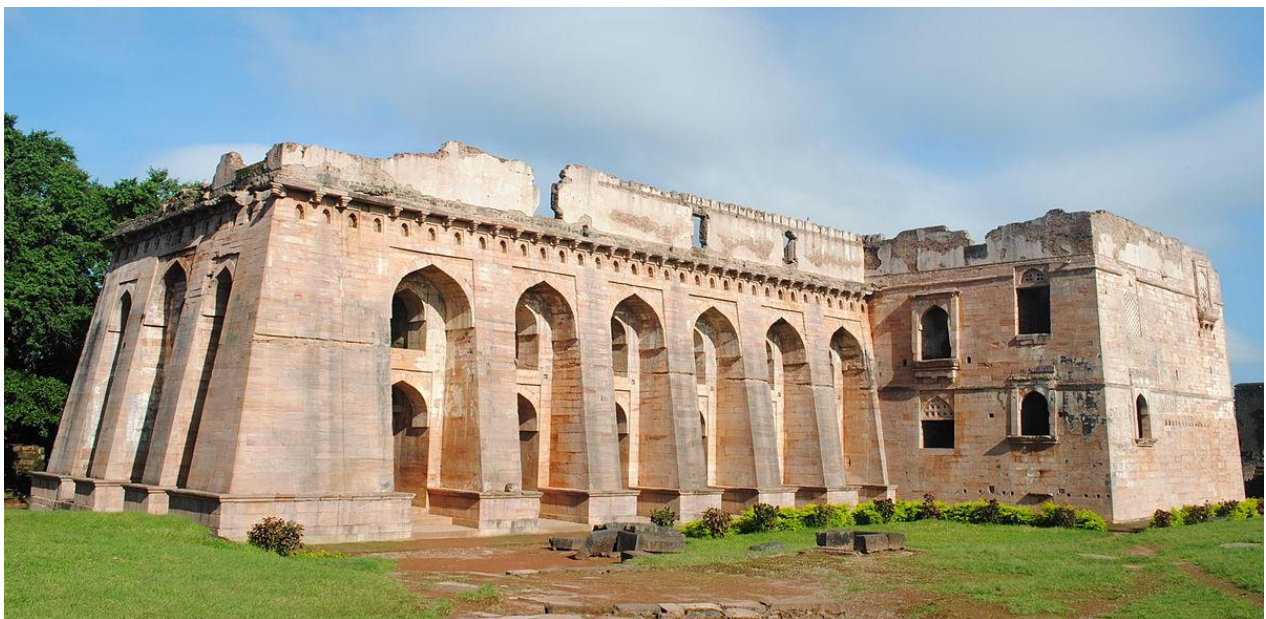
In front of Jahaz Mahal – Mandu Fort



Jahaz Mahal – Mandu Fort

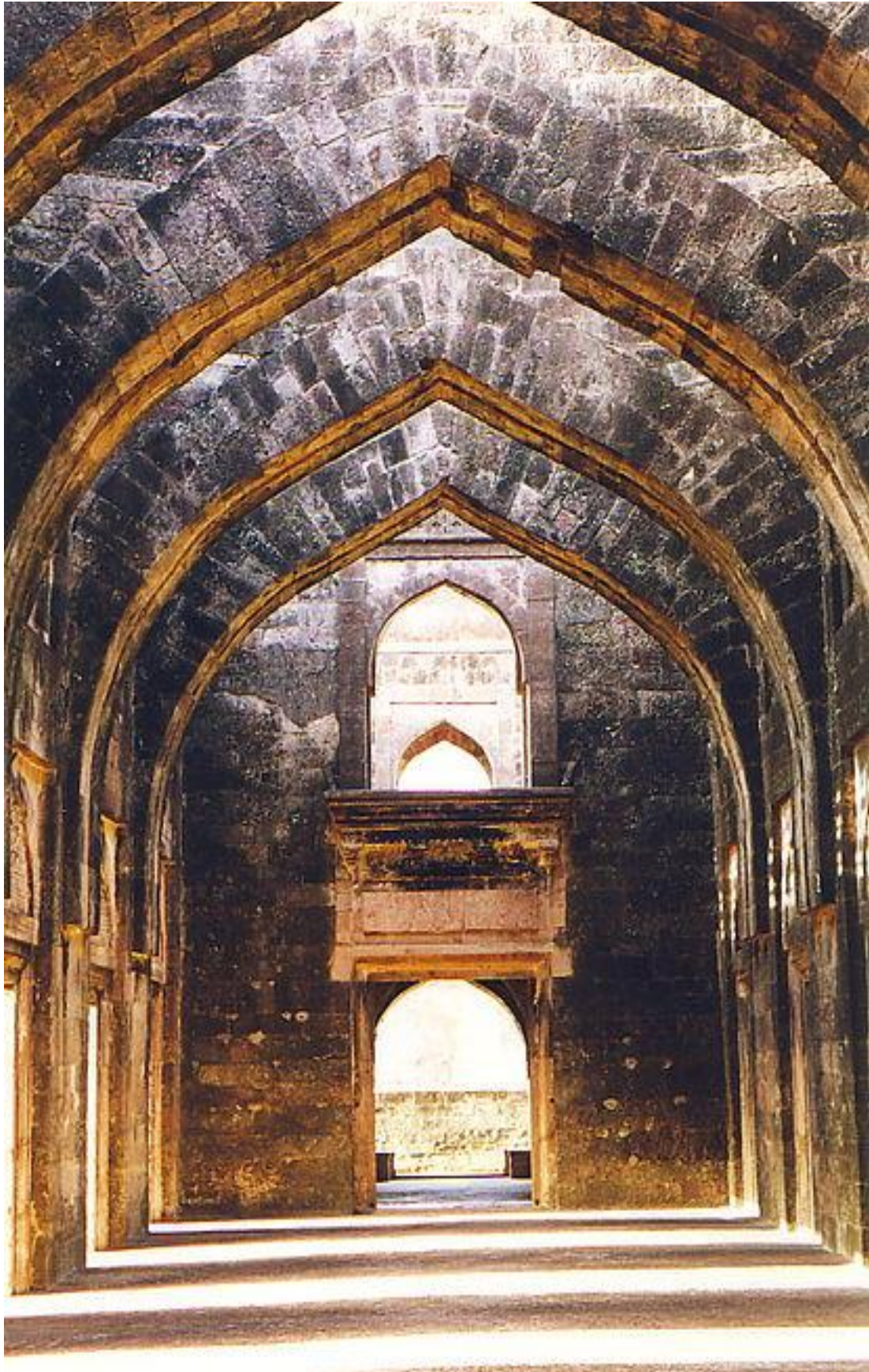


An intricate set of curlicues set in the floor leads rainwater from the roofs to a tank in Jahaz Mahal - Mandu Fort



Hindola Mahal - Mandu Fort

**Hindola Mahal** - meaning Swing palace is so named due to its sloping side walls. The Hindola Mahal might have been constructed during the reign of Hushang Shah about 1425 C.E. but may date to the end of the 15th century during the reign of Ghiyas al-Din. It is one of a set buildings making up the royal palace complex at Mandu, which consists of the Jahaz Mahal, the Hindola Mahal, the Tawili Mahal, and the Nahar Jharokha. The Hindola Mahal may have been used as an audience chamber. There are a number of other, undated structures surrounding the palace - an evidence of the rich and glorious past.

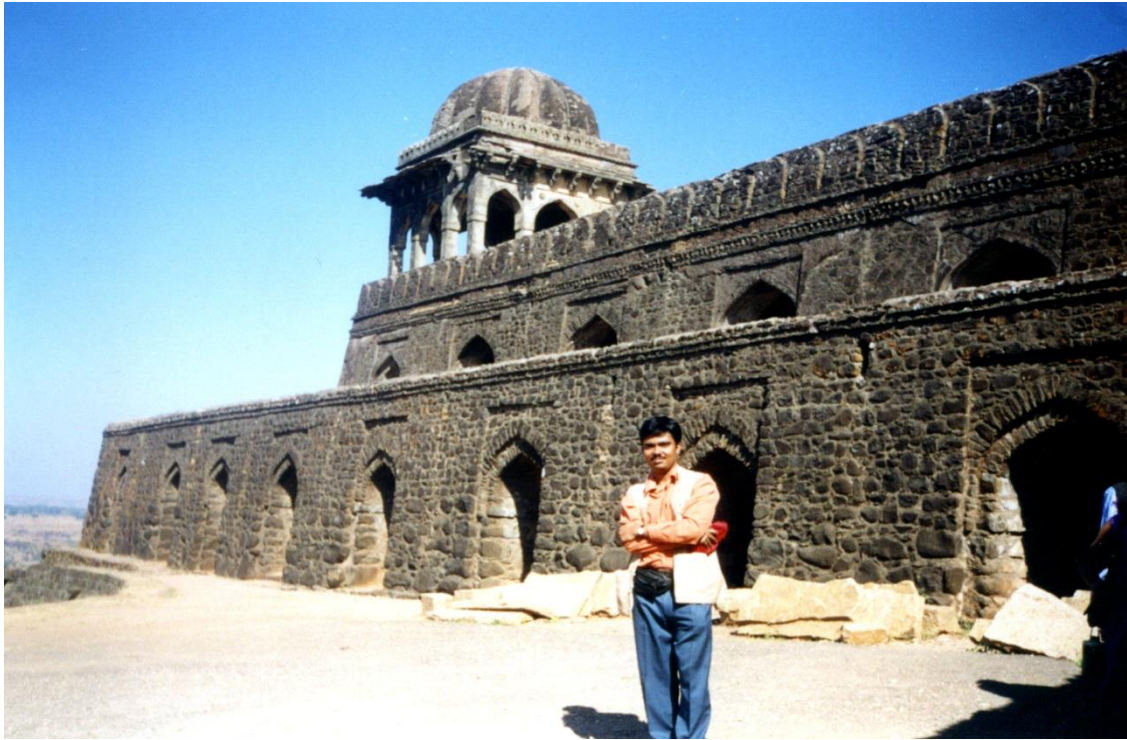


Interior of Hindola Mahal - Mandu Fort



Rani Roopmati Pavillion - Mandu Fort

Mandu seems to be a celebration of Roopmati & Baz Bahadur's love story. Baz Bahadur was the ruler of Malwa in 1550, and a patron of arts. According to Malwa legend, Roopmati was a singer par excellence and Baz Bahadur was enamored by her voice. Desperately in love, he beseeched Roopmati to marry him and move with him to Mandu. Roopmati apparently was a worshipper of Narmada (the river) and Mandu is at some distance from the river. So Baz Bahadur constructed a building specifically for her at the edge of the plateau, from where, in the vast plains, the river Narmada is visible. This building is called Roopmati's pavilion, and it is an enchanting place to be at sunset. So Roopmati moved into Mandu, a muslim king and a hindu singer. It is not very clear whether they were married, but their love story was one for the ages it seems. Unfortunately for them, tales of Roopmati's beauty had reached Adham Khan, Akbar's military commander. He attacked Malwa in 1561, and defeated Baz Bahadur. Roopmati consumed poison and thus ended the most famous love story of Malwa. But when you stand on Roopmati's pavilion and gaze to Baz Bahadur's palace, you can imagine centuries before, Roopmati doing the same.



Writer in front of Roopmati Mahal



It is said that Rani Roopmati used to come here to enjoy the scenic beauty of the trail of the majestic river Narmada



Another view of Rupmati Mahal - Mandu Fort

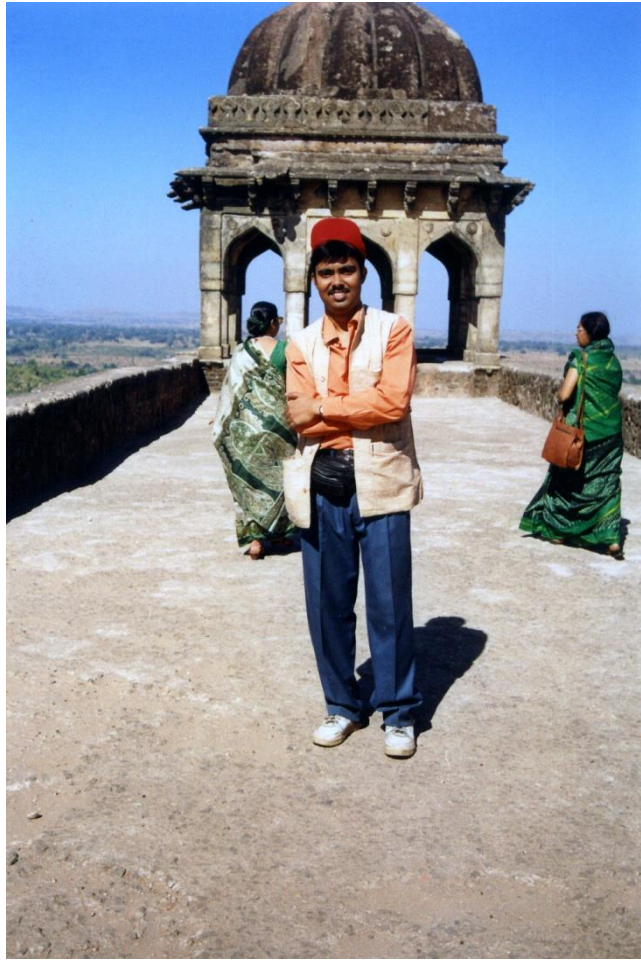


Writer in Roopmati Mahal premises – Mandu Fort



Rewa Kund - a reservoir that supplies water to Rani Roopmati's Pavilion - Mandu Fort





On Roopmati Mahal terrace



Baz Bahadur's Palace - Mandu Fort

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Main court of Baz Bahadur's Palace - Mandu Fort



View from Mandu Fort



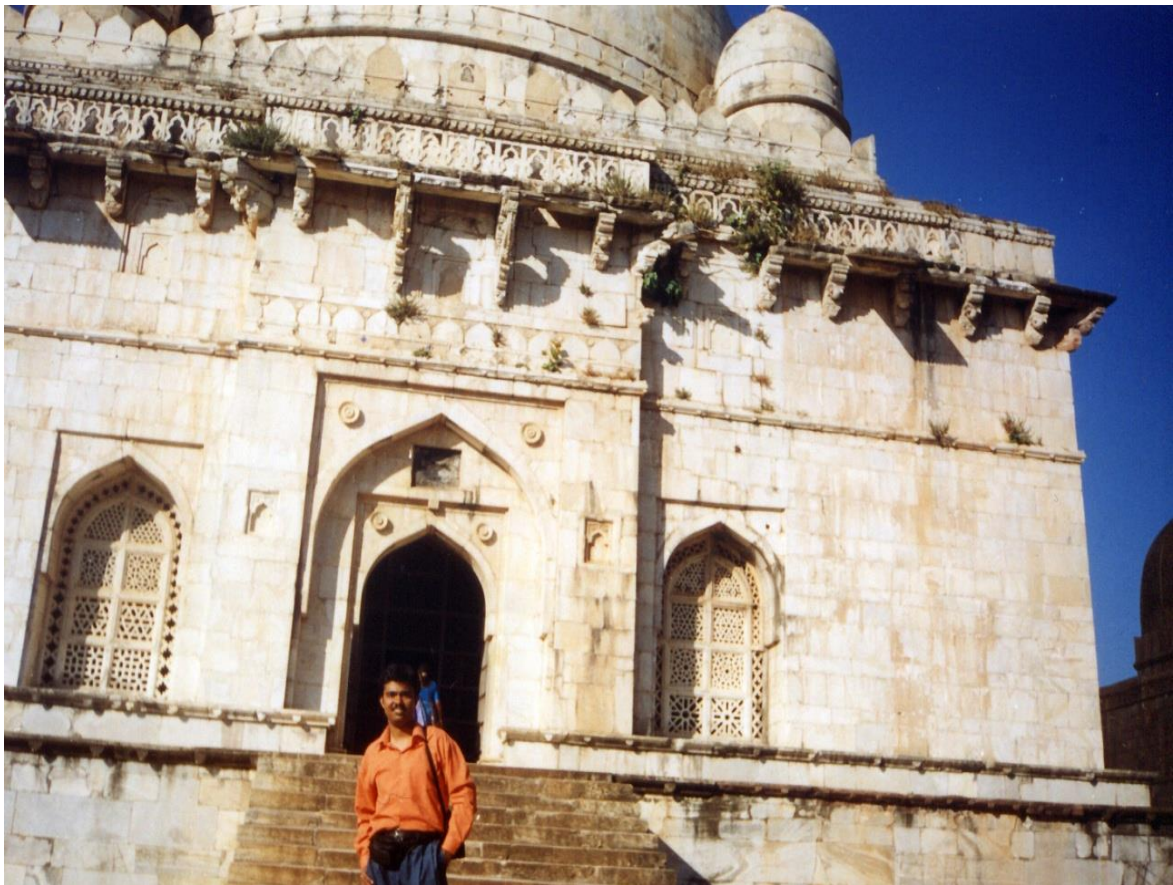
Champa Baori view from Jahaz Mahal - Mandu Fort



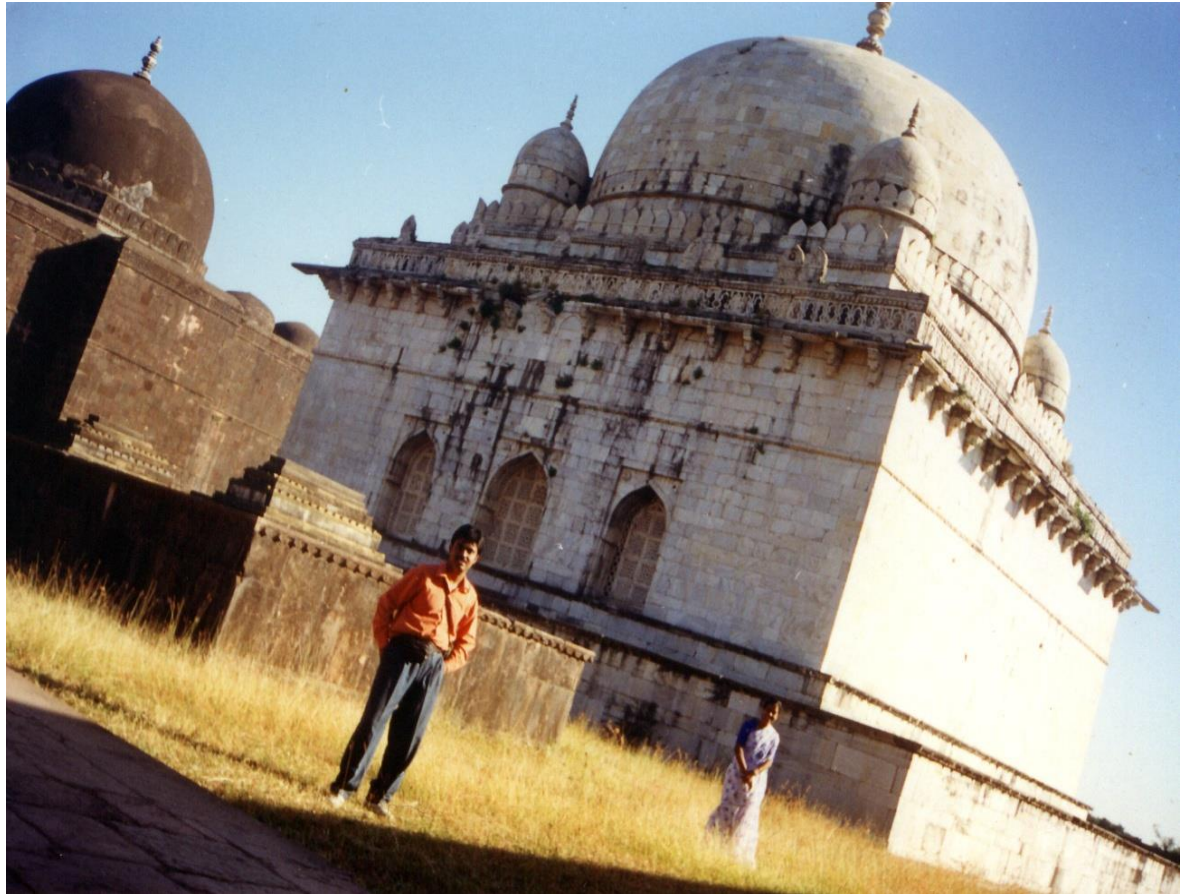
Ujala Baori - Mandu Fort



Hoshang Shah's Tomb - Mandu Fort



Writer in front of Hoshang Shah's Tomb - Mandu Fort



A greater view of Hoshang Shah's Tomb - Mandu Fort with writer in front.



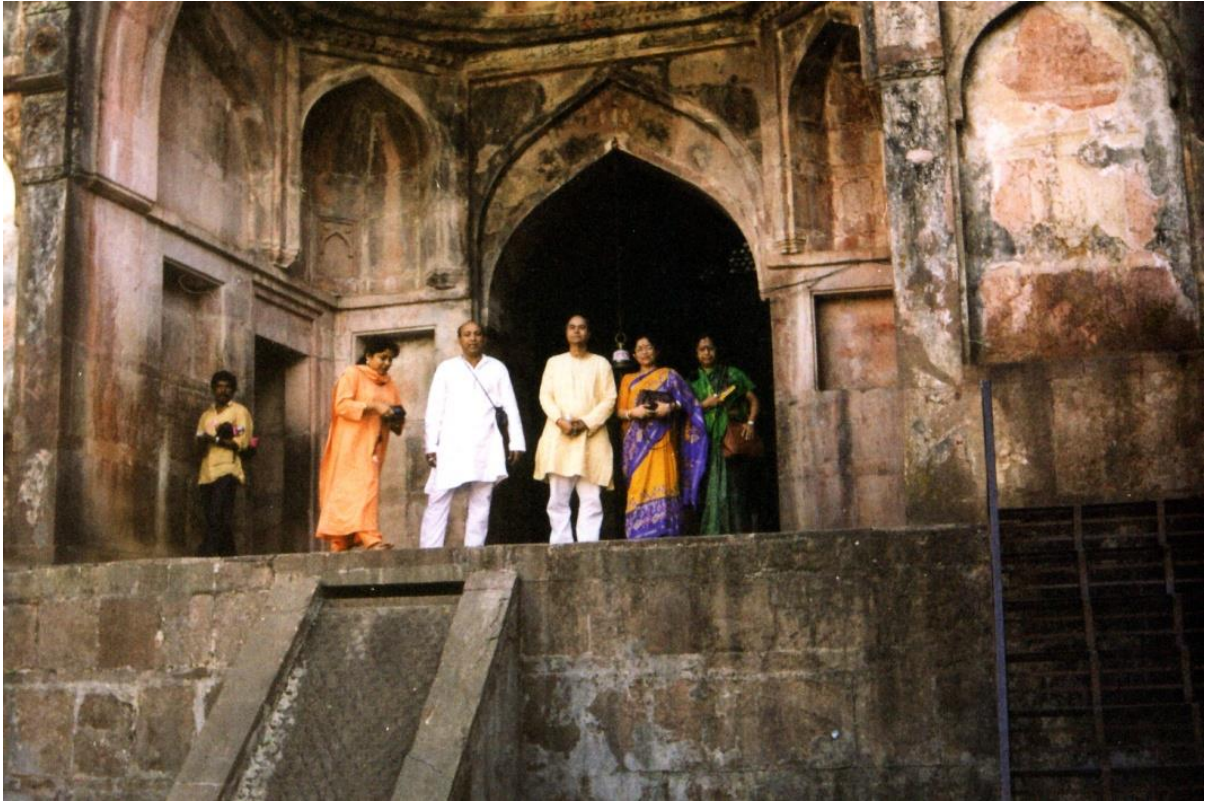
The courtyard of the Jami Masjid - Mandu Fort



Ruins at Jal Mahal - Mandu Fort



Neelkanth Mahadev inside a cave temple - Mandu Fort



In front of Neelkanth Mahadev Cave Temple – Mandu Fort



Kanch Ka Mandir or Kanch Mandir – Indore



Writer in front of Kanch Ka Mandir - Indore





Interior of Kanch Ka Mandir or Kanch Mandir. You can see idol of Jain Tirthankar - Indore



Juna Rajwada Palace – Indore



Juna Rajwada Palace at night – Indore



Statue of Queen Ahilya Bai Holkar in front of Juna Rajwada Palace – Indore



Entrance of Annapurna Mandir – Indore



Annapurna Mandir – Indore



Writer in front of Annapurna Mandir – Indore



Sri Bipul Baba in front of Annapurna Mandir Entrance – Indore



Ma Annapurna inside Annapurna Mandir – Indore

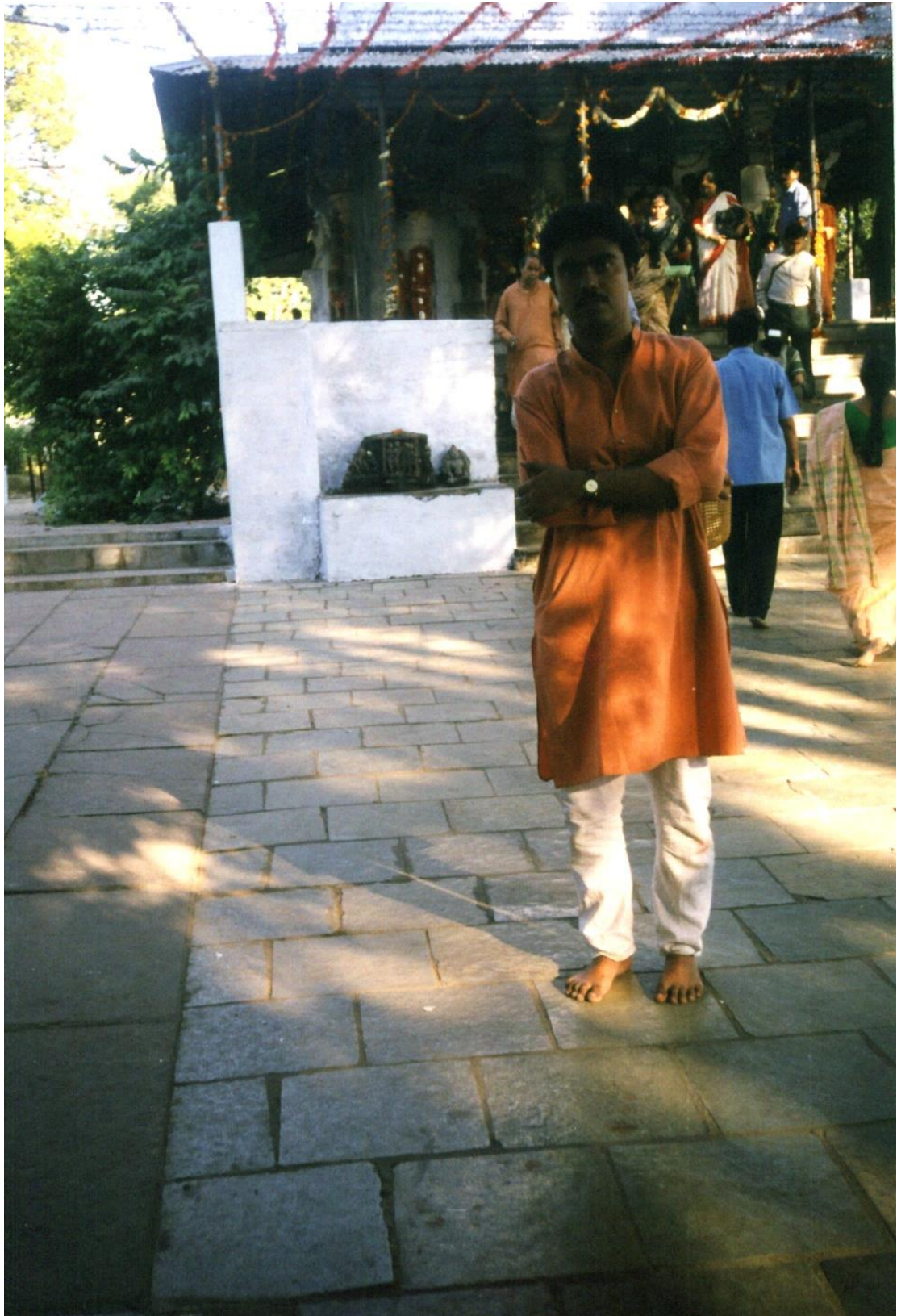


Bada Ganapati – Indore



Kaal Bairav – Ujjain





Writer in front of Kaal Bhairav temple – Ujjain



In the ghats of Shipra River – Ujjain



Mahakaaleshwar Jyotirlinga Temple – Ujjain



Writer with family in front of Mahakaaleshwar Jyotirlinga Temple – Ujjain



Mahakaaleshwar Jyotirlinga Temple at night – Ujjain



Mahakaaleshwar Jyotirlinga – Ujjain

Avantikayam vihitavataaram Muktipradanaya cha sajjananam  
Akaalmrityoh parirakshanartham Vande Mahakaalam Mahasuresham 🙏🙏🙏



One entrance of Bhraatri Hari Caves – Ujjain



Inside view of one of the caves in Bhratri Hari caves – Ujjain



Another inside view of one of the caves in Bhratri Hari caves – Ujjain



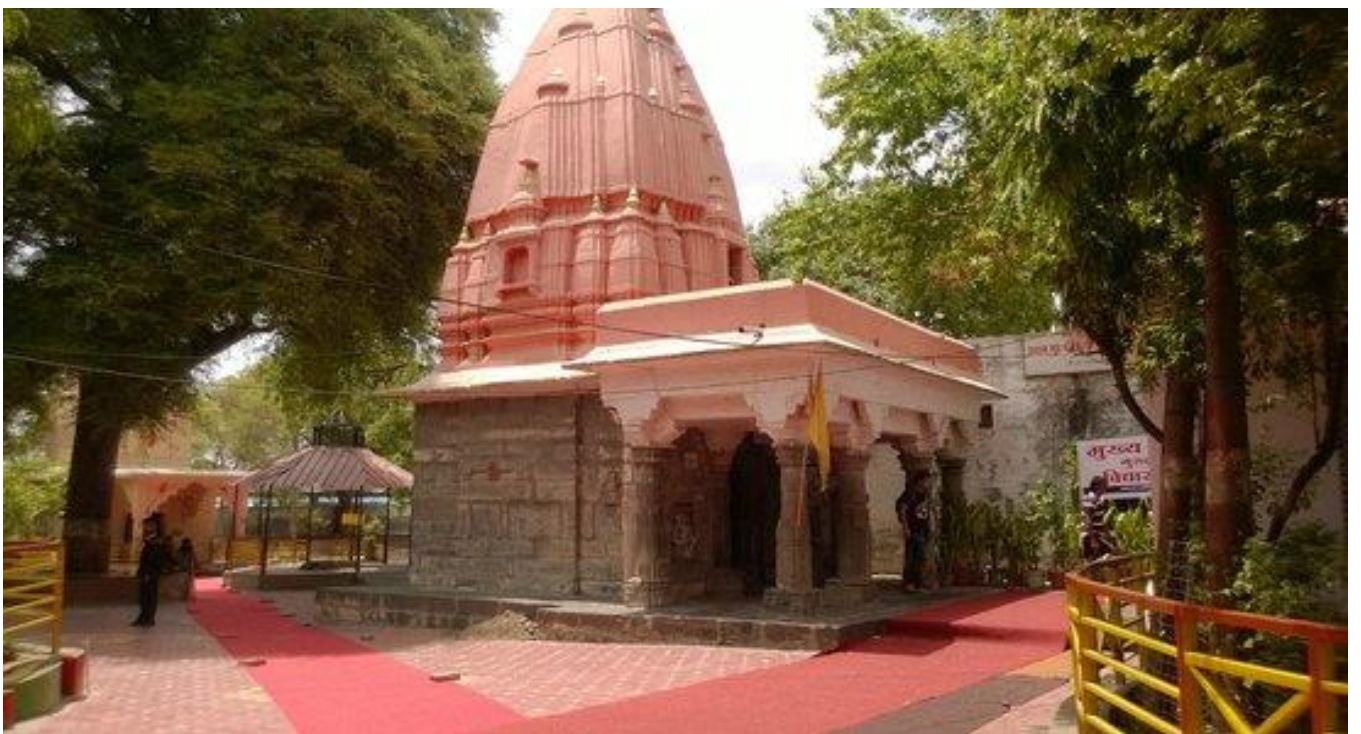
Bada Ganapati – Ujjain



Entrance of Saandipani Ashram – Ujjain



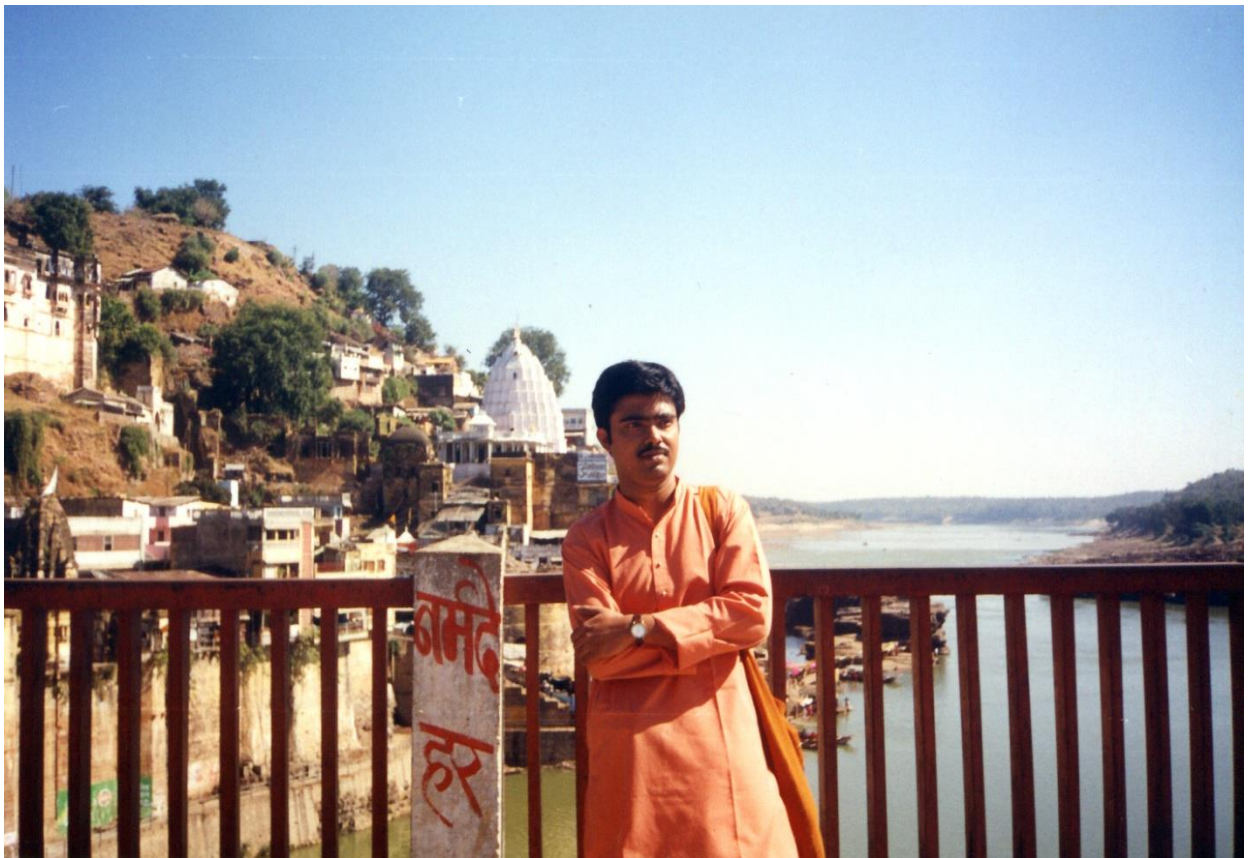
Inside Saandipani Ashram – Ujjain



Another inside view of Saandipani Ashram – Ujjain



Omkareshwar Jyotirlinga Temple on the bank of River Narmada



Writer on the bridge on River Narmada





Omkareshwar Jyotirlinga

Omkaaram Bindusanyuktam Nityam Dhyanti Yoginaha  
Kamadam Mokshadam Cha Eiva Omkarayah Namaha 🙏🙏🙏



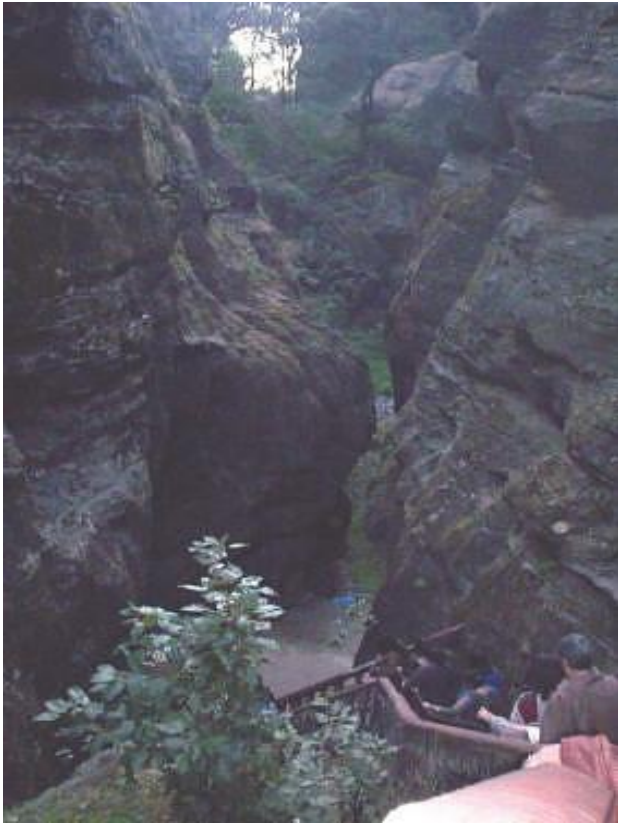
Omkareshwar Jyotirlinga



Amleshwar Mahadev. Mamleshwar is the other name



Markendeya Sanyas Ashram – Omkareshwar



Trek to Jatashankar Caves - Pachmarhi-MP



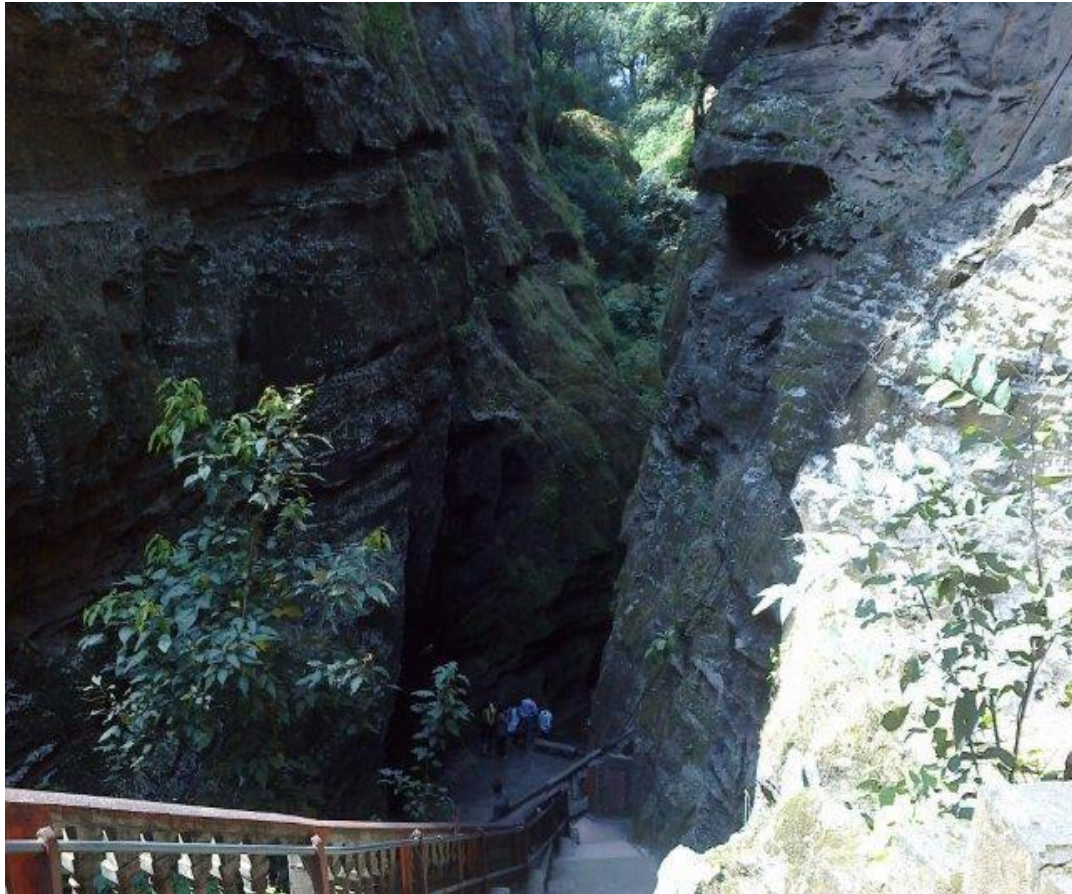
Sri Bipul Baba trekking to Jatashankar Caves



Writer trekking to Jatashankar Caves



Writer trekking to Jatashankar Caves



Railed steps lead the way into the Jatashankar valley – Panchmarhi



Coming down into the Jatashankar caves – Panchmarhi



Jatashankar linga, notice the matted hair or jata on the linga, Jatashankar Caves – Panchmarhi



Rock cut and blue painted Mahadev near Jatashankar caves – Panchmarhi



Pandev Gufa – Pachmarhi



Garden at the base of Pandav caves



Writer in the Garden at the base of Pandav caves



Satpura range as viewed from Handi Khoh - Panchmarhi's most impressive ravine





Another view of Satpura range from Handi Khoh – Panchmarhi



Gupt Mahadev Gufa – Panchmarhi



Gupt Mahadev linga inside the Gupt Mahadev Gufa- Panchmarhi



Bada Mahadev Gufa – Panchmarhi



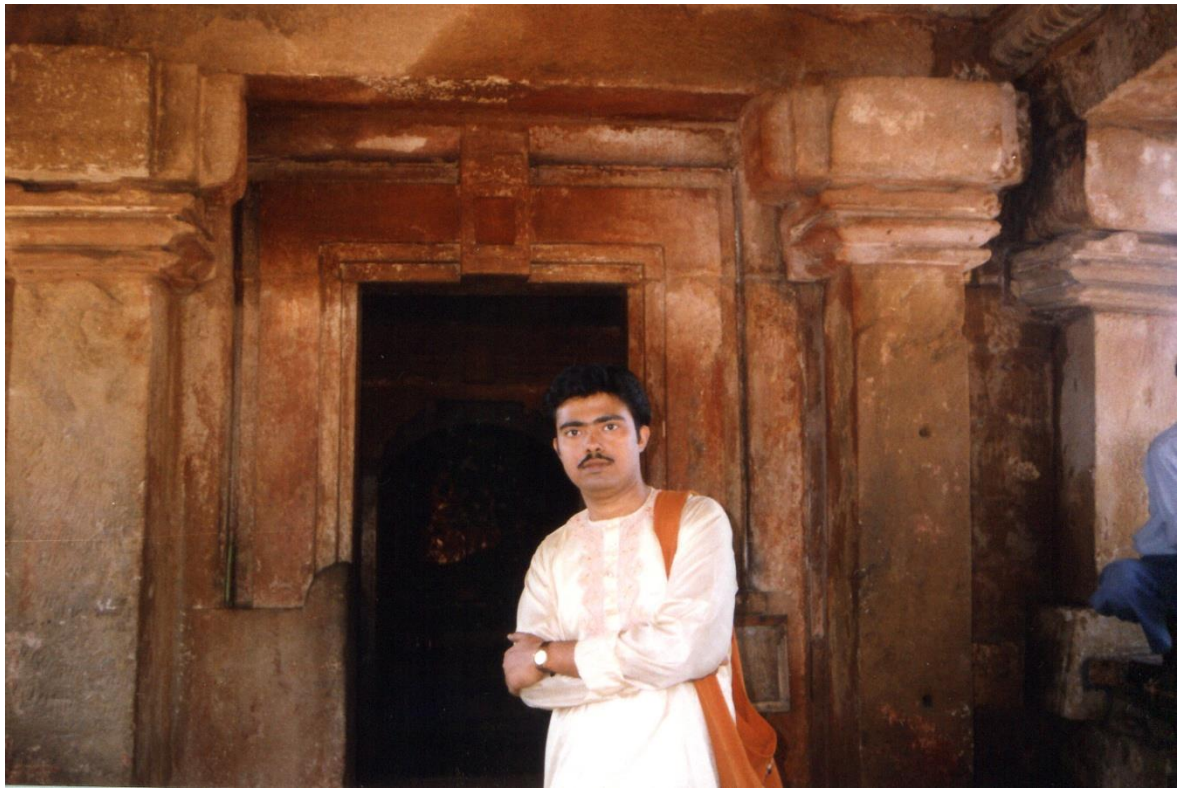
Bada Mahadev linga inside Bada Mahadev Gufa – Panchmarhi



Cold water kund inside Bada Mahadev Gufa – Panchmarhi



Chausath Yogini Temple – Jabalpur



Inside Chausath Yogini Temple – Jabalpur



Writer in front of Chausath Yogini Temple – Jabalpur



In the lawn of the hotel in Jabalpur before leaving for Veraghat



Panchvati Ghat – Jabalpur



Narmada River, Jabalpur



Marble rock on the banks of Narmada – Jabalpur

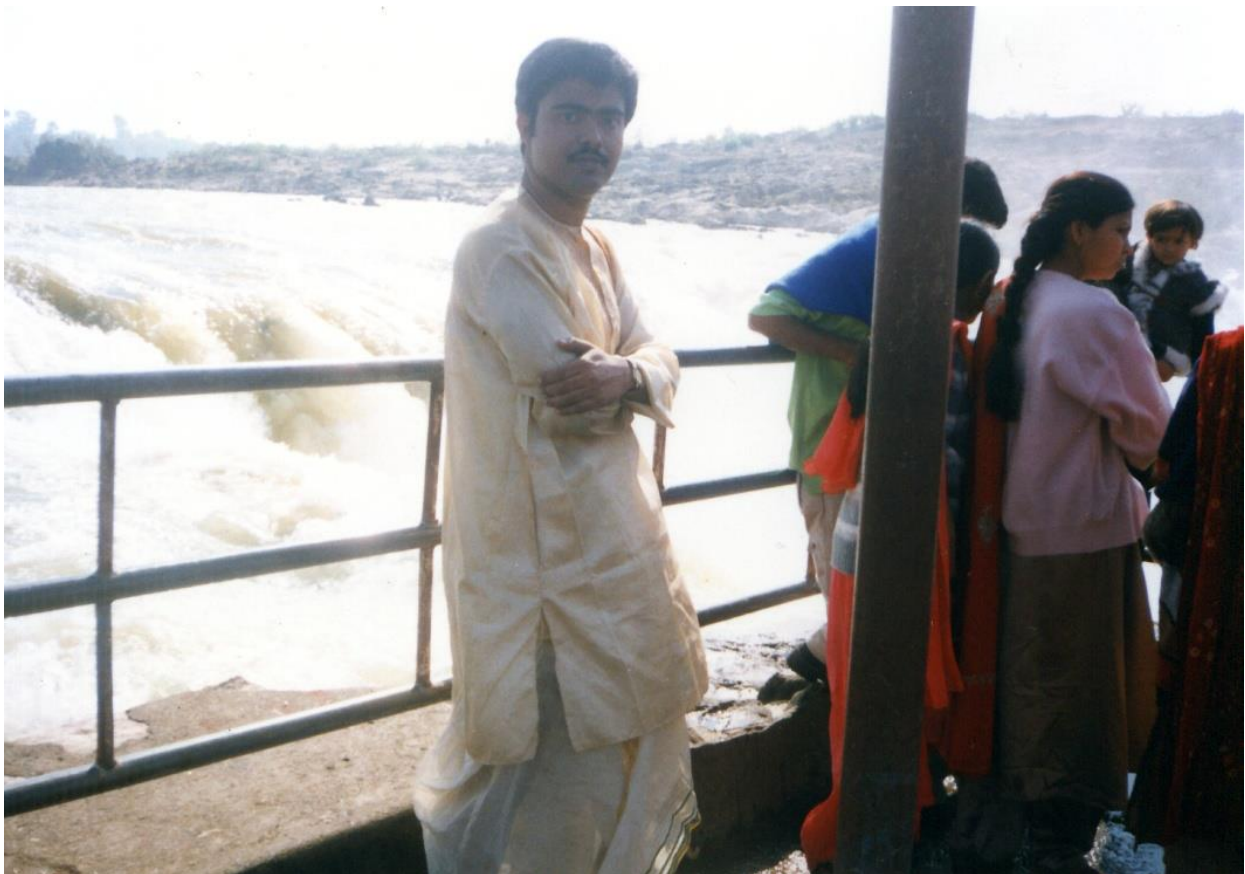


Snap from the boat





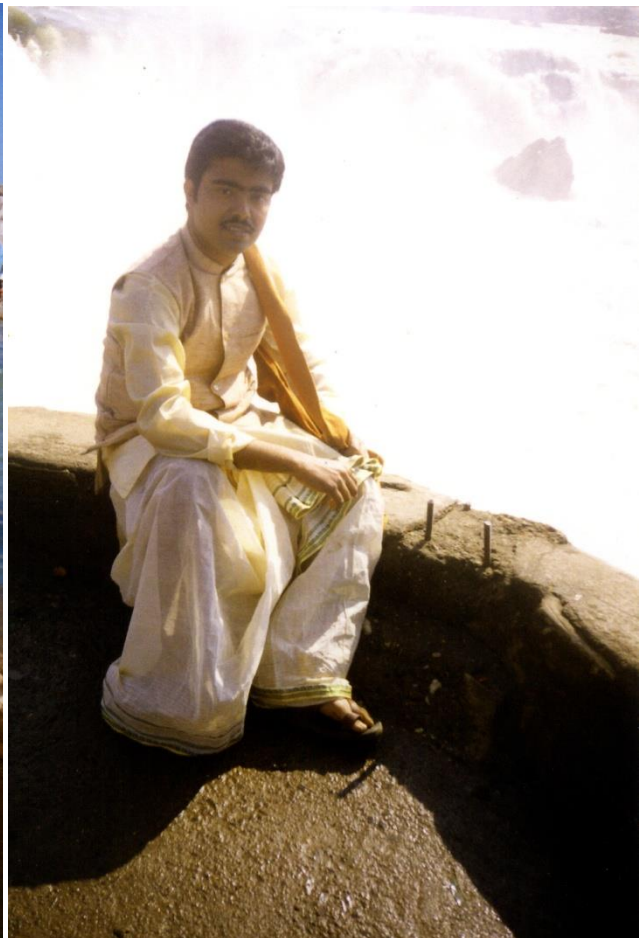
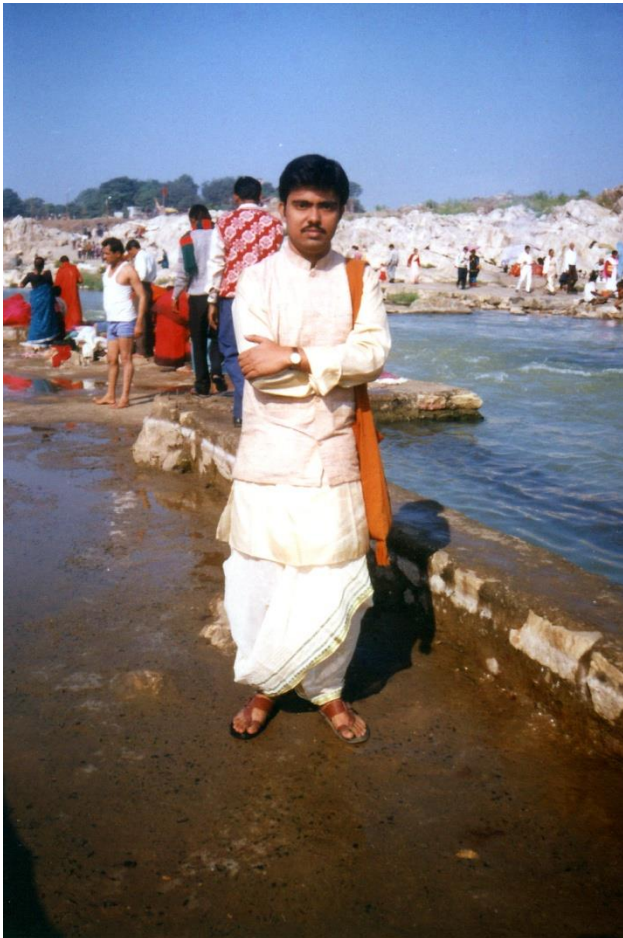
Writer in front of Dhuandhar Falls



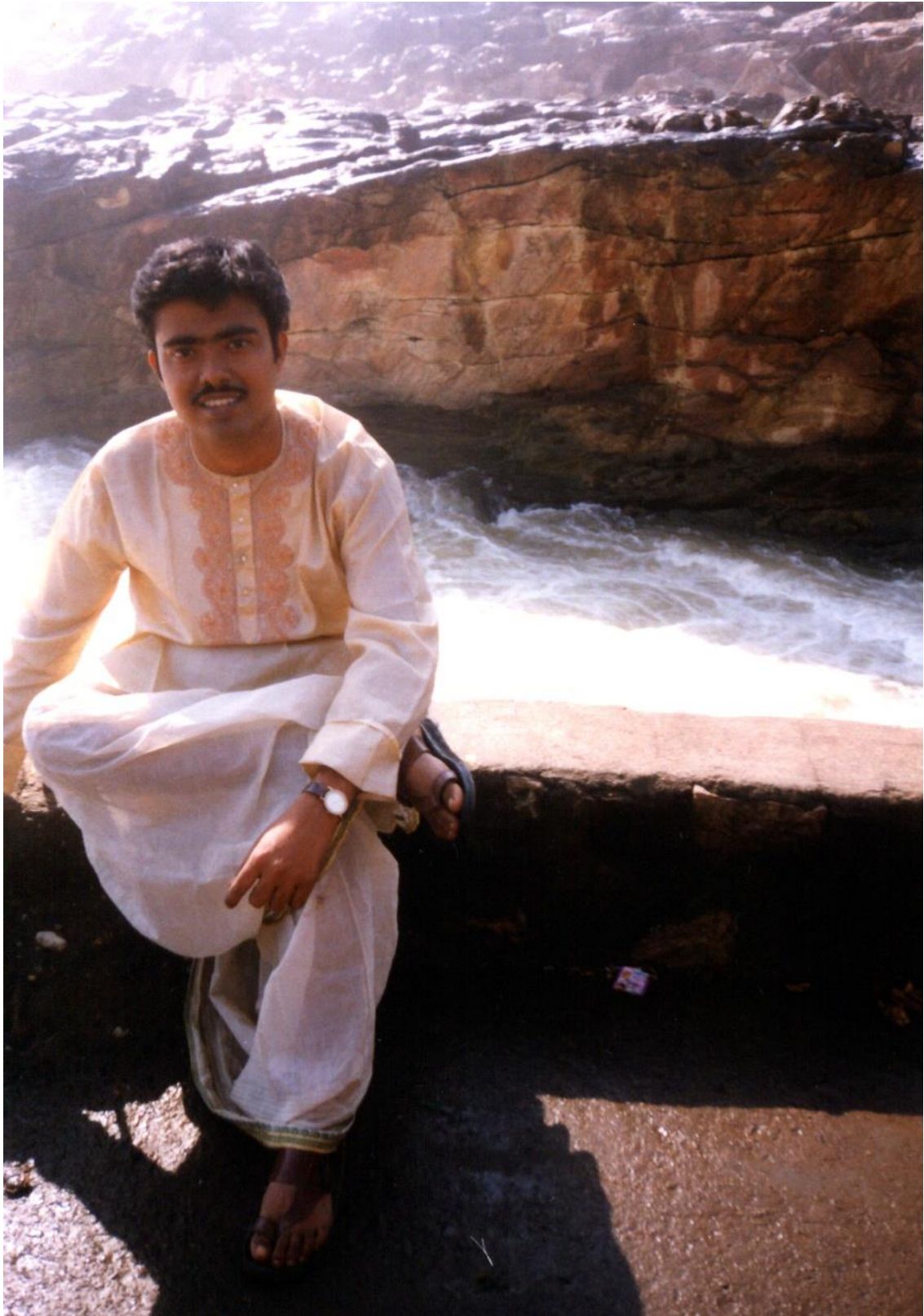
In front of Dhuandhar Falls



Distant view of Dhuadhar Falls – Jabalpur



Writer in front of Dhuadhar Falls



Writer in front of Dhuandhar Falls



Origin of Narmada – Amarkantak



Narmadeshwar Temple – Amarkantak



Narmada Kund – Amarkantak



Writer in front of Narmada Kund – Amarkantak



Narmada kund temples, the origin of Narmada River – Amarkantak



Main Narmada temple – Amarkantak



In front of Main Narmada Temple – Amarkantak



Koti Tirtha Kunda – Amarkantak



Enjoying the view in Amarkantak



Amarkanteshwar Mahadev – Amarkantak





Trident of Amarkanteshwar Mahadev – Amarkantak



Surya Kund – Amarkantak



Pataleshwar Mahadev Temple – Amarkantak



Shivalinga inside Pataleshwar Mahadev Mandir – Amarkantak



## ज्वालेश्वर महादेव मंदिर

Jaleshwar Mahadev Temple – Amarkantak



Jaleshwar Mahadev in the temple – Amarkantak



Kabir Chabutara – Amarkantak



Sant Kabir in Kabir Chabutara – Amarkantak



Savitri Sarovar – Amarkantak



Kapil Muni Ashram – Amarkantak



126. Shree Yantra Temple – Amarkantak



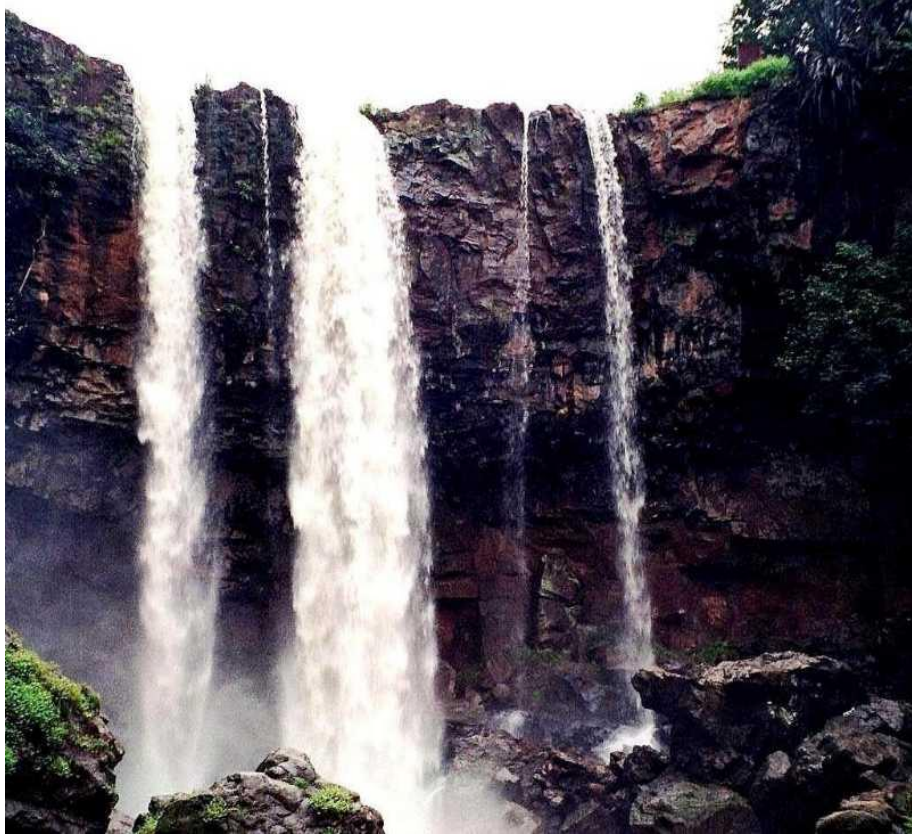
127. Another view of Shree Yantra Temple – Amarkantak



Karna Temple – Amarkantak



Full view of Karna Temple – Amarkantak



Kapil Dhara – Amarkantak



Footprint of Kapil Muni – Amarkantak





Writer in front of Kapil Dhara - Amarkantak



Bhriku Kamandal – Amarkantak



Worship place of Maharshi Bhriku – Amarkantak



Doodh Dhara – Amarkantak



Mai ki bagiya – Amarkantak



Sri Bipul Baba with family at Sonmuda



Sonmuda – inception of Sone River, 15 kms from Amarkantak

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