

Archaeological **MUSEUM** Hand Book

**Department of
Ancient Indian History,
Culture & Archaeology**

**Awadesh Pratap Singh University
Rewa (MP)**

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About the University

This university was established on 20th July 1968 as a state university of Madhya Pradesh. The University has been named after a distinguished son of the soil and a freedom fighter Capt. Awadhesh Pratap Singh, a national leader and the first Prime Minister of Vindhya Pradesh. The university was recognized by the UGC in February 1972. The University is a member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and All Commonwealth Association of Universities (ACAU). The University has 16 teaching departments and 12 Study Centres



which offer more than 50 post graduate and under graduate programmes on regular and self-supporting basis. We also impart education through 242 affiliated colleges within the University jurisdiction in Rewa, Mauganj, Satna, Maihar, Shahdol, Anuppur, Umaria, Sidhi and Singrauli districts of Madhya Pradesh. We have also started more than 30 Certificate Programmes for skill development of youth. Our university is producing world class talent with optimum utilization of limited resources. Under the dynamic leadership of our present Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Rajkumar Acharya the university has set new goals and aspirations for itself and is aiming to achieve greater heights. Our university is a fine example of excellent management of higher education with limited resources. In spite of low paying capacity of the students and financial limitations, our university is imparting quality education to students in an exemplary manner. Our students are adorning high positions across the globe. Our university conveys the message that an institution is not made of concrete structures only; it is the spirit that guides the institution which really matters. The university campus is spread over 258 acres of hilly and green land, towards 3km north of main city.

About the Founder of the Museum

Prof. Radhakant Verma (15.03.1937), the founder of the Archaeological Museum Department of AIHC & Archaeology, A.P.S. University Rewa, is an eminent archaeologist and a wise teacher, with a professional standing of over six decades. Prof. Verma was the first Professor & Head of this department. He has attended many international and national seminars & conference and visited many times abroad for his academic deliberations. He has also organized many seminars and conferences and is a member of various prestigious professional bodies. He has supervised a number of scholars for their doctoral research. Some of them are of international fame. As a prolific writer he has published nearly 70 research paper in different reputed journals. He has written many books. The important one are Bhartiya Pragitihas, Pragaitihasik Sanskritya, Puratattava Anuseelan. His recent book 'Rock Art of Central India' was highly acclaimed by scholarly world. Prof. Verma has the credit to excavate first Rock Shelter site in India and many more in this region such as Itaha, Padokhar and Patpara. He has also the credit of exploring a number of new archaeological sites in vindhya region. Under his guidance the department has discovered several sites of prehistoric and historical importance through field study, exploration and excavation.



Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture & Archaeology

The archeological remains of a country enlighten its countrymen about the rich cultural heritage and illustrious history. The archeological sites and monuments were fast deplating due to lack of awareness and care. The loss of any heritage is irrevocable. Therefore, the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archeology was established in the university in 1984 for teaching and research exclusively in this field. The department took initiative to explore and excavate archeological site in the region and beyond. Exploration and excavation enable us to identify the unknown history and bridge the gap between the past and present culture and civilisation.

On line with the objectives of the university, the department has conducted rigorous field study through excavation and exploration embedded in the curriculam of PG and UG Programmes offered to the students. We have discovered several sites of historic and pre-historic importance.

Objectives:-

- To conduct exploration and excavation of archaeological sites in the region
- To study the archaeological remains create awareness and disseminate knowledge to the society.
- To University rich cultural heritage of this region.
- To preserve the archaeological remains of historic and prehistoric period.
- To enable students and scholars to independently identify and carry out their research.

Keeping above objectives in mind the curriculum and syllabus have been framed. Through important training in methods of exploration and excavation the student get an experiential learning and training of what they are taught in the classroom. They learn how to identify a site, distinguish artifact and antiquities. It helps them in knowing things much better than mere theoretical knowledge. This creates awareness among the students about the value of our heritage which they discover in the process.

The method adopted in training the students has definitely yielded success and has brought the institution and its students to the forefront, nationally.

Among the Archaeological exploration and excavation conducted in recent year by the Department, few of them are as. In recent year, excavation and exploration has been conducted by the department in following sites of this region :-

Excavation:-

- ❖ **Itaha** : An urban settlement of 5th cent. B.C., 8 Km. from the University, on the right bank of river Beehar.
- ❖ **Padokhar** : Semi fossilized Mesolithic settlement.
- ❖ **Patpara** : Pleistocene deposit bearing plant fossil on the left bank of river Son near Churhat (Sidhi), unique of it's type. (1st time discovered in India by us)

Exploration:-

- ❖ **Pre historic sites** : Baghore, Patpara, Khetauhi, Nakajharkhurd, (Son valley) Maihar (Satna).
- ❖ **Fossils sites** : Patpara, Baghore, Khadbada, Ramnagar, Sihawal.

- ❖ **Rock painting sites** : Gaddi, Khando, Badwar, Hanumana, Murli Pahar, Deur–Kothar, Keonti, Kerha (Rewa), Gidhala Pahar, Ushrar, Dhosara, Majhigawan, Dharkundi, Jhakhora(Satna), Hatta, Ranimachi (Sidhi).
- ❖ **Historical sites** : Itaha, Deour Kothar, Doodigadhi, Manpur, Bharhut, Mudiyari, Dhari, Moharva, Pathrha, Tikuri, Amilkoni, Itahwa.

Temple Survey :-

The department has conducted extensive temple survey programs throughout the Vindhyan region and these are well documented. The important temples are - Nacchna, Bhumara, Rehi, Candreh, Bela, Virateshwar, Khajuha, Gurgi, Mahasaon, Lilha, Dundeshwar, Gola Math, Manora, Marhi, Kashtaharnath, Look, Ramnagar and Sarbhang ashram.

Archaeological Museum



The Archaeological Museum was established in the year 1991 under the able guidance of Prof. Radhakant Varma. It was established as a show case of the archaeological and cultural findings of the region. Here the exhibits are displayed in a chronological manner to fulfill the needs of the researcher as well as the curiosity of the visitor. Pre-historic man made tools, Rocks Paintings, Fossils, Punch marks coins, Terracotta Beads (glass and terracotta), Pottery, Ornaments, Buddhist Sealing's, Bricks, Sculptures and Manuscripts are the important one. We have sum original manuscripts in Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu scripts. Our Museum in open to all.

It is important to note that each and everything that is displayed in the Museum are the findings of the excavation and exploration work of the Department.

Some important findings that can be highlighted are those which are discovered from Vindhyan region and displayed in the museum.

Fossils :-

Animal fossils :- Animals fossils from Khetauhi, Khadbada, Rampur, Baghor etc. in middle Son Valley have been discovered by us.



Largest Gour fossil (Baghor, Sidhi) (50,000 year B.C.)



Tentative Photoshop Image



Elephant fossil (50,000 years B.C.)



Camel fossil (50,000-40,000 years B.C.)



Tortile fossil



Barah Singha (40,000-30,000 years B.C.) Ostrich egg shell.

(B) Plant fossils: - Vindhyan region is very popular for unique plant fossils. Leaf fossils from Patpara - Pleistocene period (Near about one lakh years B.C.)

The Department has the credit of discovering this Pleistocene leaf fossil's site and excavating it (Patpara, Sidhi).



Plant Fossil



Block of Leaf fossil (1,00,000 years B.C.) Leaf fossil

Pre-historic Tools :-

Lower, Middle, Upper Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic sites have been discovered by the department from various parts of Vindhya. Nakjhor Khurd, Sihawal, Khetohi and Baghor in Sidhi, Maihar & Badha in Satna are the important ones.



Cleaver



Handex



Scraper

Lower Paleolithic (400000 - 40000 B.C.)



Blade



Blade



Blade



Blade

Mesolithic Period (25,000-10,000 B.C.)



Neolithic Celt (8000 – 4000 B.C.)

Historical Sites :-

Vindhyan Region is famous for the origin and development of human beings. Many references are available to prove the movement of nomadic culture to settled life. Many historical sites were explored which reflect the life of rural and urban people. Various type of potteries e.g. NBP (Deluxe pottery) Red ware, OCP ware, Punch Mark coins and Terracotta figurines were discovered from various sites.

Excavated Sites :-

1. Itaha



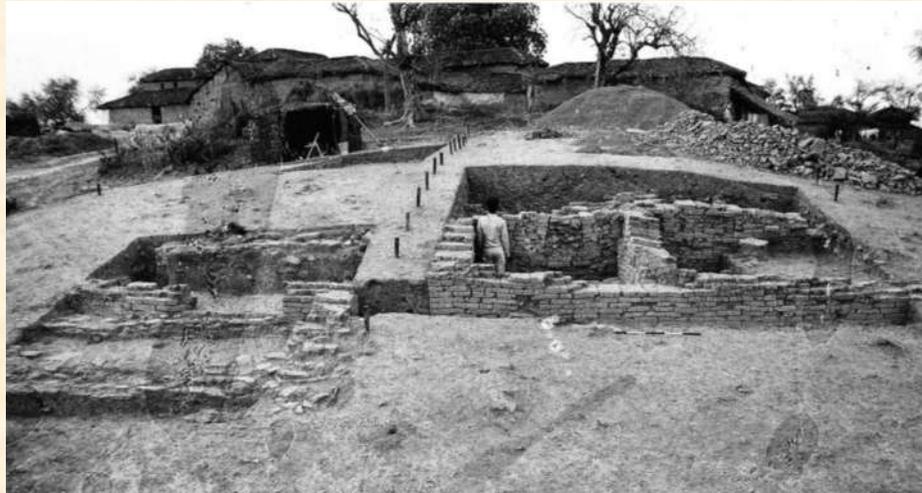
General View of Itaha

Itaha is situated on the right bank of river Beehar which is 8 km. from university campus. This historical site shows the existence of the earliest urban settlement of this region. All the characteristics of urban life are evident here.

Characteristics of Urban settlement

Urban settlement is marked by presence of Bricks Houses (Use of Baked Bricks)

Covered mounts with a moat, Deluxe quality potteries, Punch marked and Cost Coins, Beads (Semi precious & precious stone beads), Glass and Terracotta Bangles, Terracotta figurines.



Excavated area Itaha -1 (4th to 3rd Cen. B.C.)



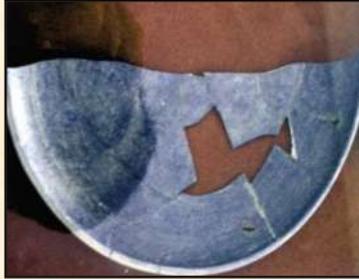
Itaha-2



Floor Level (2)



Section and strata



Deluxe N.B.P. Dish



Pottery



Terracotta Figures



Pendent

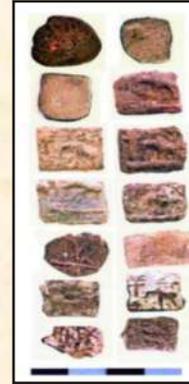


Terracotta Beads

Punchmarked Coins



(Face Side)



(Revers)



Stone beads



T.C. Bangles



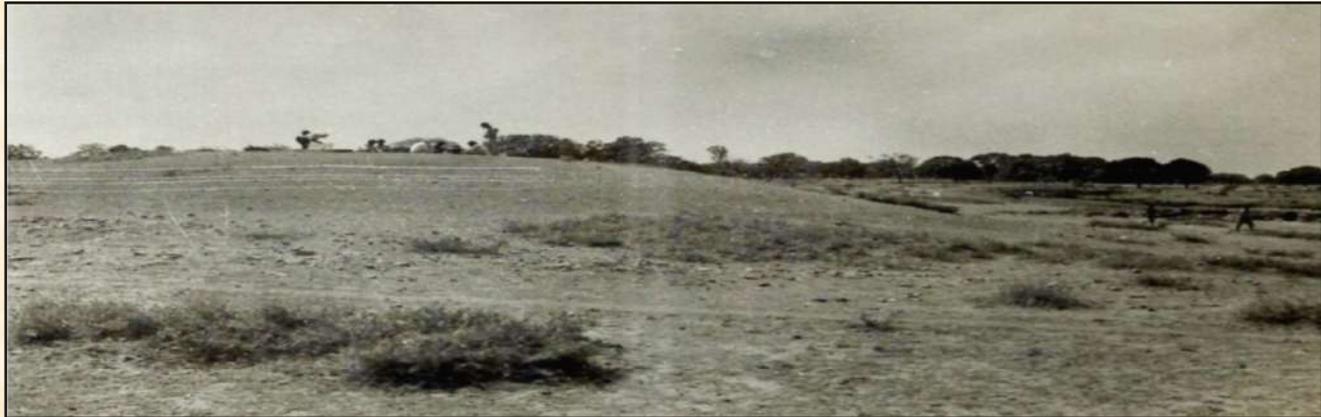
Stone beads

2. Padokhar

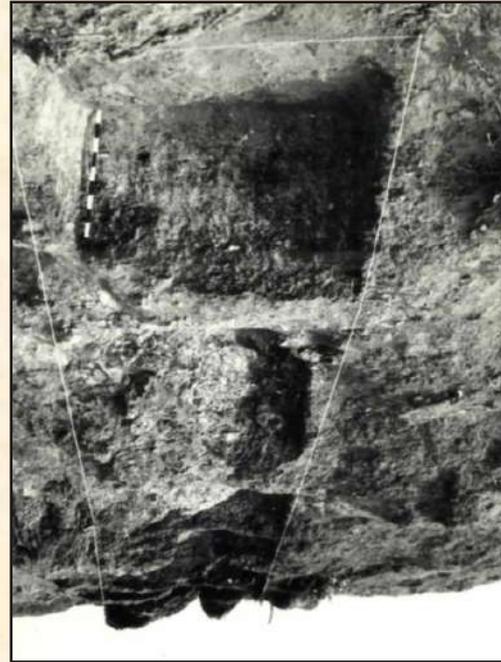
This site is situated about 14 km from University at Rewa - Govindgarh Road.

Findings

Semi fossilized deposits were found on the surface. After excavation Mesolithic tools, semi fossilized bone pieces, Iron slag etc were found. This confirmed the activities of human beings in this area during the Mesolithic period.



General View of Padokhar



Excavated Trench Padokhar (Mesolithic period)

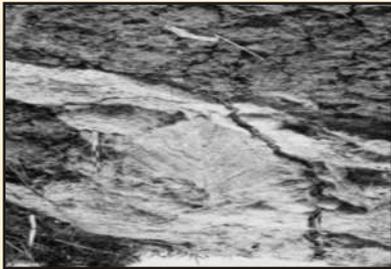
3. Patpara - This site is situated on the right bank of Son River in Sidhi district. The outcome of excavation of this site disclosed the importance of Pleistocene culture of middle Son Valley. Tuffa deposit was discovered from the site. Leaf fossils of Pleistocene period were discovered from this site which were never reported before from this region. It is one of the remarkable finding of our department.



Gernal View of Patpara Site



Excavated Trench



Block of Leaf Fossil (1,00,000years B.C.)

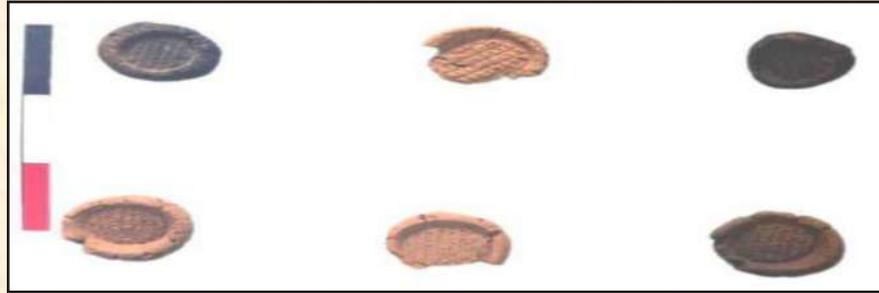
Manpur Stupa



**Inscribed Sealing
(Terracotta)**



Manpur Stupa 7th - 8th Cent. A.D



Inscribed Sealing

The fourteen line inscription with stupa symbol are inscribed in the sealing discovered from cylindrical stupa of Manpur. Buddhist Mantra 'ये धम्मा हेतु प्रभवा' was scripted in Kutil script. These inscription successfully reflect the enistence of Vajhrayan Tantrik Buddhism in this region.

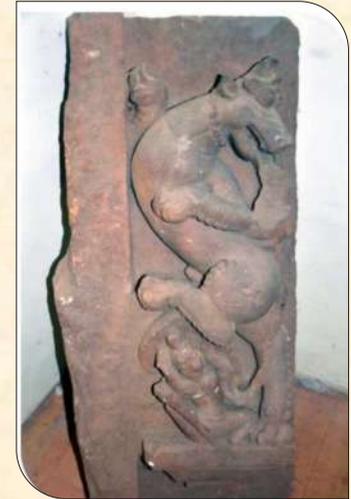
Museum Sculptures



Krishna lila



Parikar



Shardul

(9th -8th Cent. A.D.)

We have about 300 unpublished manuscripts.



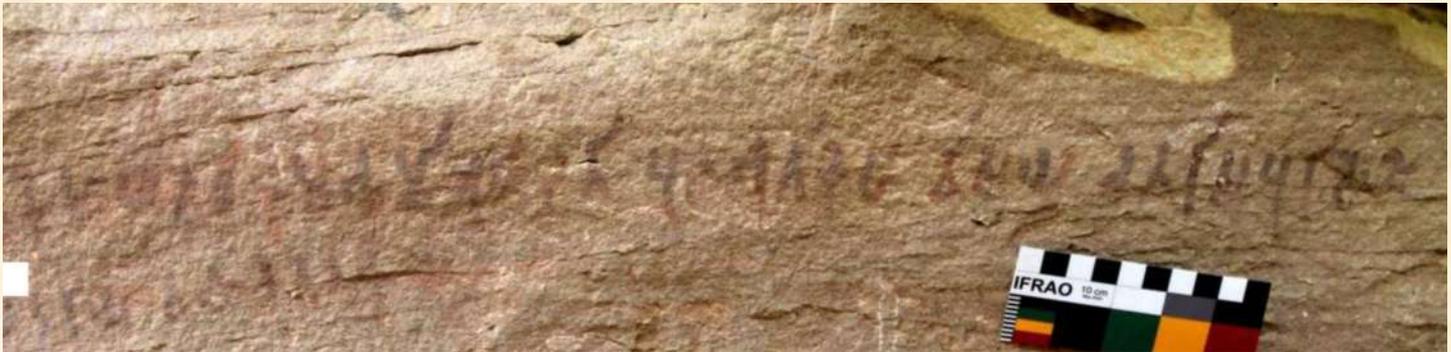
(Historical Period)

Exploration:-

Paintings Sites -

Vindhyan region is very much known for painting sites. Paintings from pre historic period to modern period has been discovered from the various parts of this region. The important sites are Gaddi, Khando, Badwar, Hanumana, Murli Pahar, Deur Kothar, Kerha (Rewa), Ushrar, Dhosara, Dharkudi, Jhakhora (Satna), Hatha, Rani Machi, Beechi (Sidhi).

I would like to highlight the fact that one rock painting site from Majhgowan (Satna) has Brahmi Scripts.





Ushrar, Satna (Mesolithic period)



Jhakhura, Satna (Mesolithic period)



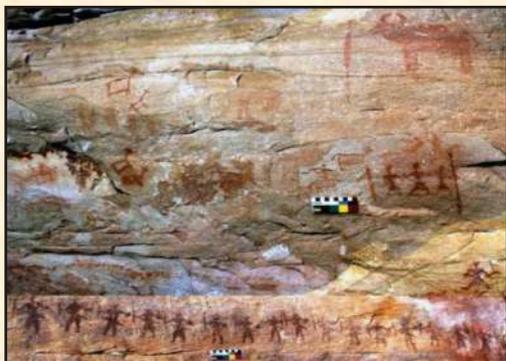
Gidhaila, Satna (Chalcolithic period)



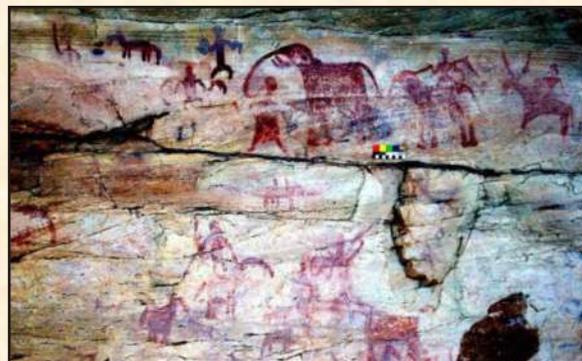
Gaddi, Rewa (Chalcolithic period)



Gaddi, Rewa (Chalcolithic period)



Majhigawn, Satna (Historical period)



Murli Pahar, Rewa (Historical period)

Stupas -

Deur Kothar, Paira, Dundigarhi (Rewa) and Cylindrical Stupa Manpur (Umariya) have been discovered by the department.



Deur Kothar (3rd Cen.B.C.)



Inscription of Brahmi Script



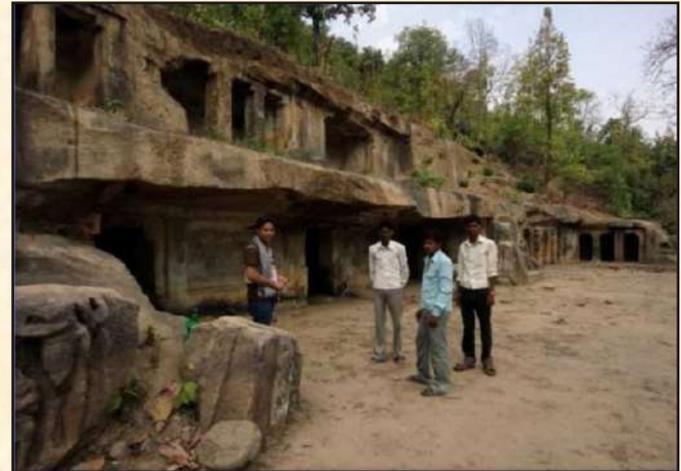
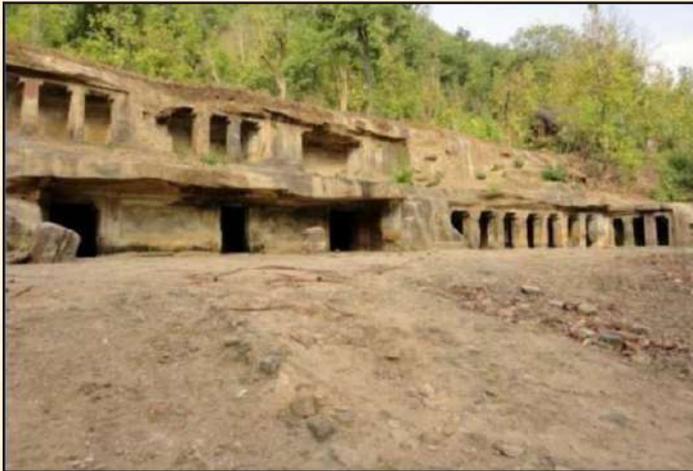
Bharhut Stupa (3rd Cent. B.C.)



Stupa and Rock Shelter of Dundhi Gadhi (8th Cent. A.D.)

ROCK CUT CAVES-

Vindhyan Region has rich tradition of natural and man made rock cut caves and monasteries. They are situated in places like Bandhavgarh, Silhara, Lakhwariya and Mada where monolithic rocks are available.



Shaiv Guha Math Mada Singroli (7th-8th Century A.D.) Shaiv Guha Math Mada Singrauli

Temples -

Temple architecture originated during the Gupta period. We have good examples of Gupta Temple, Pratihara temple, Kalchuri and Chandela Temples. Bhumra, Nachana, Bela Baijnath of Satna District are good examples of Gupta temple architecture. The photographs and plans of the important temples of the region are displayed in the museum.

Rehi in Rewa is a good example of Partihar temple architecture. Circular Temple of Mahashown, Golamath Temple of Maihar, Virateshwar Temple of Sohagpur, Shiv Temple Chandreh reflect the development of the temple architecture of Kalchuries.

One unique temple of Rauria Nath has special characteristics of Religious harmony where Kalma is inscribed on the wall of the Shiva Temple of 17th Century.



Shiv Temple Bhumara, Satna (Gupta period)



Nachna Parvati Temple, Panna (Gupta period)



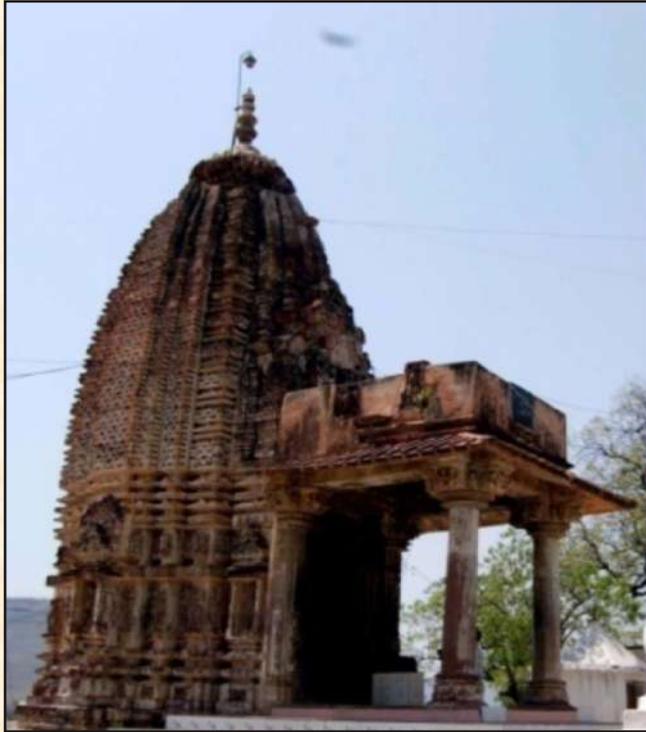
Bela Temple, Satna (7th -8th Cent. A.D.)



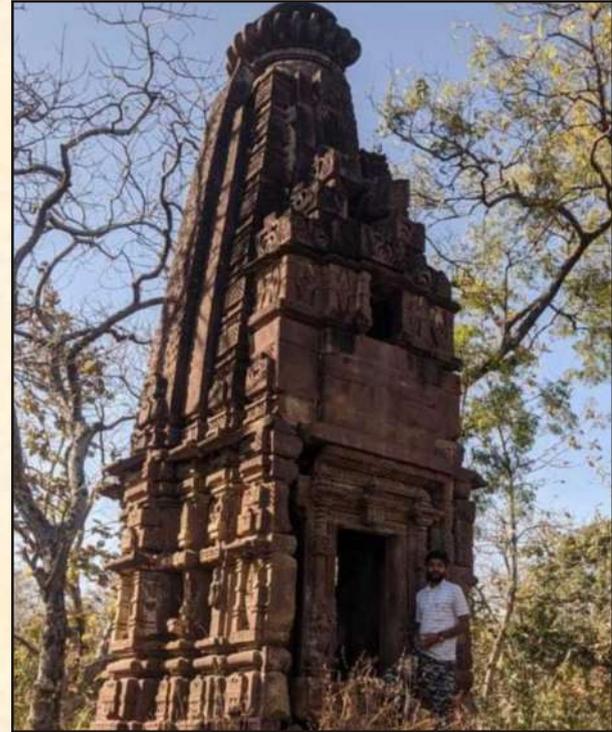
Mahashown Temple, Rewa (8th - 9th Cent. A.D)



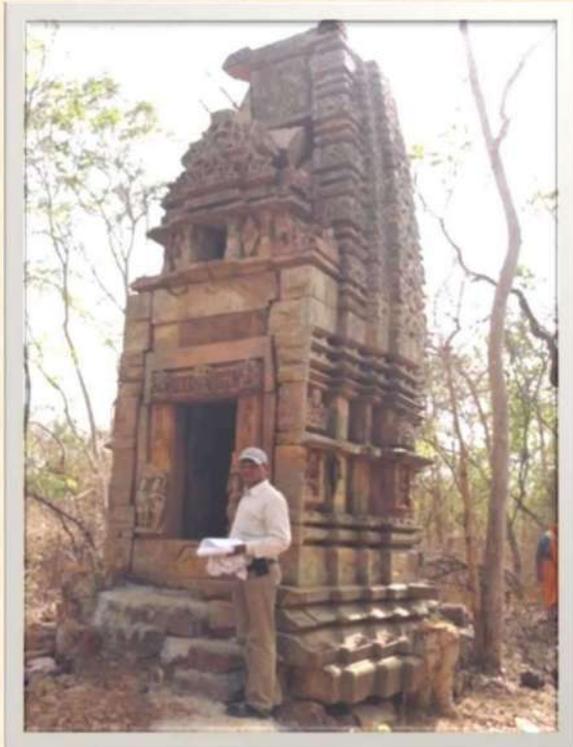
Ramnagar, Majhigawan (8th - 9th Cent.A.D)



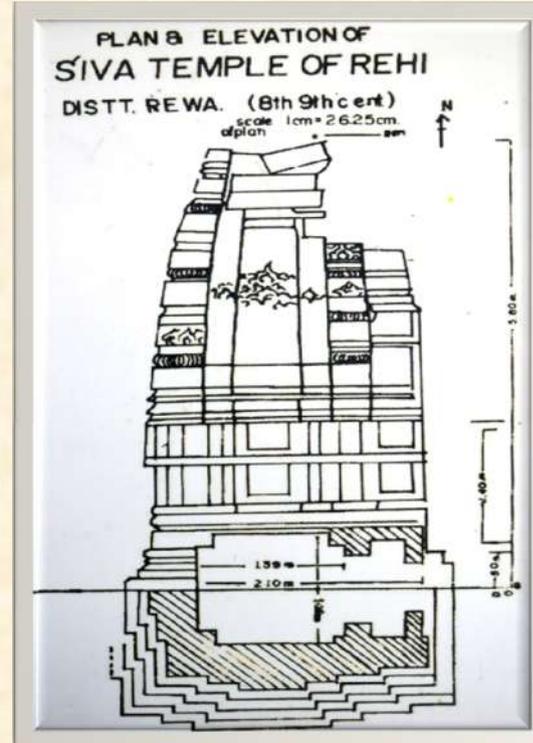
Gola math Temple, Maihar (Kalchuri Pd.)



Lilha Temple, Sajjanpur (Kalchuri Pd.)



Rehi Temple, Semaria (Pratihara period)



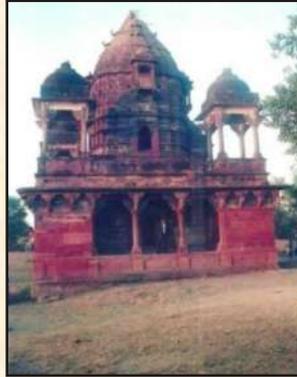
Plan / elevation of Shiv Temple Rehi, Rewa



Virateshwar Temple, Shahdol (Kalchuri period)



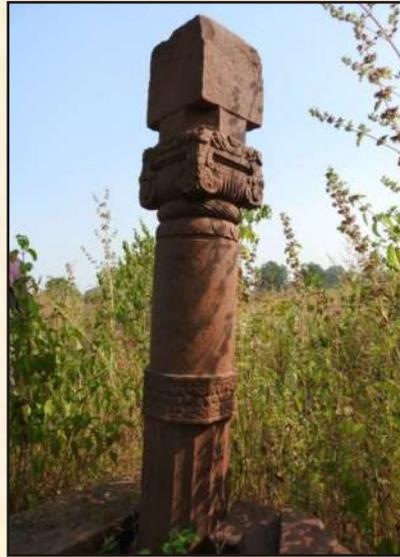
Shiv Temple Chandreh, Sidhi (Kalchuri period)



Rauria Nath Temple, Rewa



Ekmukhi Shivling, Bhumra



Pillar



Ekmukhi Shivling, Manaura

(Gupta period)

सतना जिले से प्राप्त मुखलिंग



मुभरा



खोह



मनौरा



चौमुखनाथ(जसो)

रीवा क्षेत्र के अभिलेख



सती स्तम्भ लेख



मुकुंदपुर



करनदेव गुर्गा



करनसिंह देव, रीवा



आल्हाघाट



कस्तुरा लेख



जुरा अभिलेख



सती स्तम्भ लेख