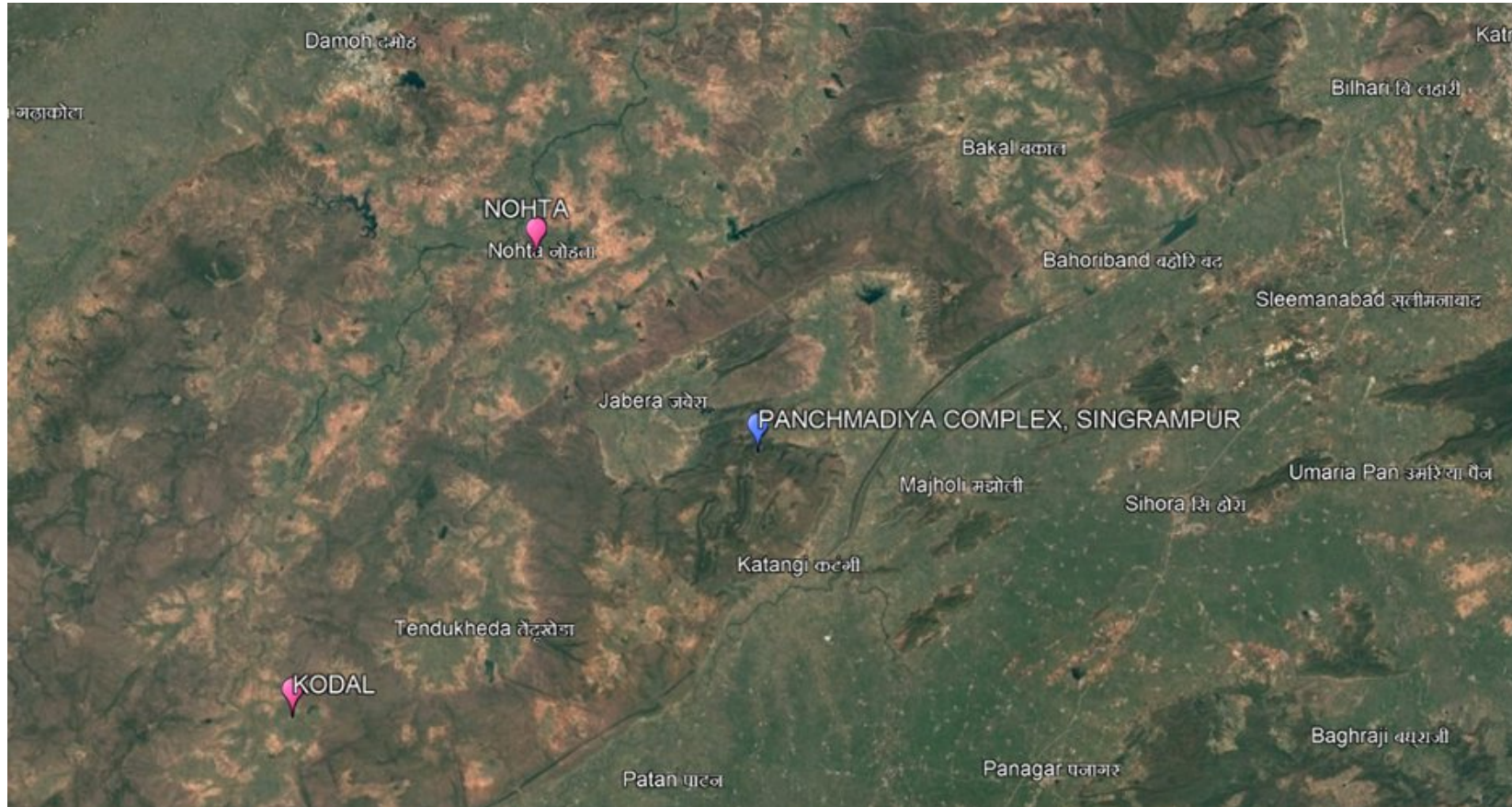


PANCHMADIYA COMPLEX:

HISTORICAL NARRATIVES &
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RE-EVALUATION

OISHIKI SINHA & SHIVAM DUBEY



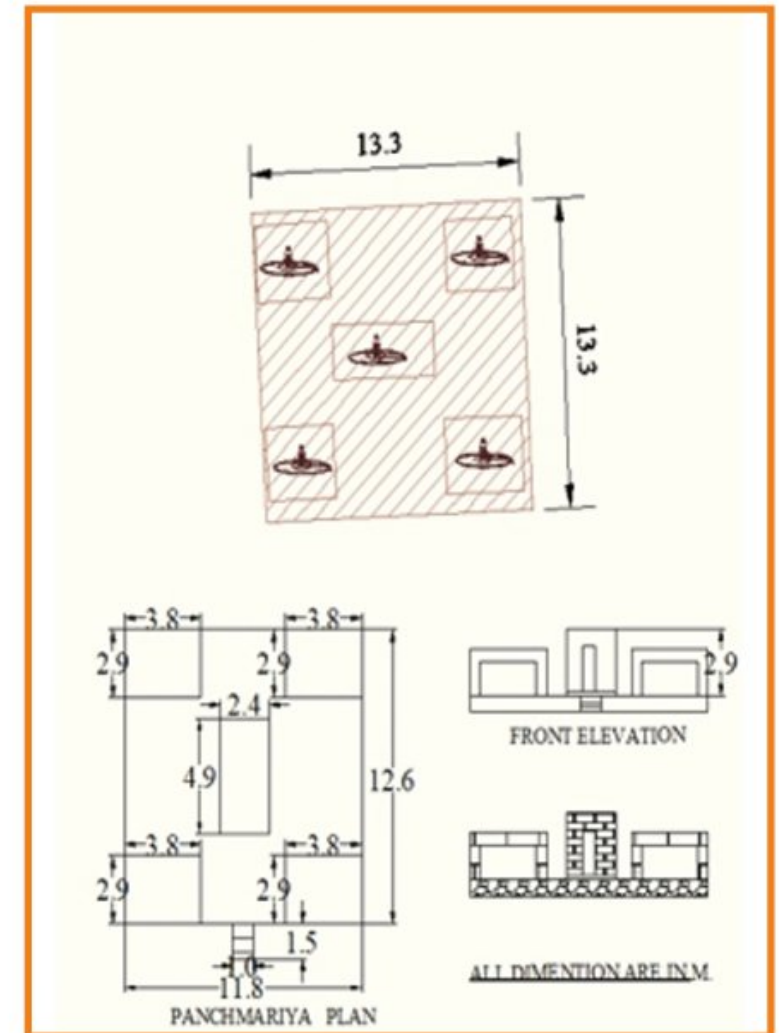


INTRODUCTION

LOCATION OF THE PANCHMADIYA COMPLEX

PLAN & MAP OF THE PANCHMADIYA COMPLEX

Courtesy : ASI Jabalpur
Circle





VISHNU SHRINE:

A Vaishnavite shrine measuring 4.9 X 2.4 metres in the middle of the large platform; possibly a mandapika temple, consisting of a mandapa and a garbhagriha. Made of stone blocks arranged in dry masonry, the lintel is the only identifying element of the temple affiliation.



DOOR JAMB:

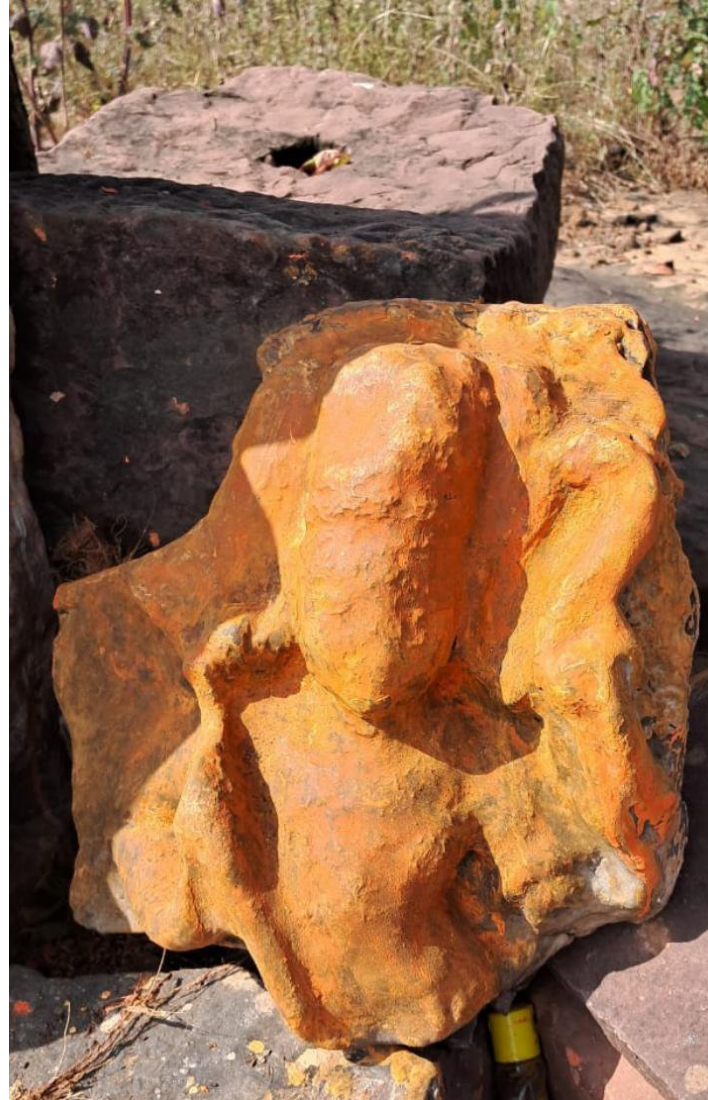
Ornamented but incomplete, it has almost all traditional iconographic elements. The Tridev depiction being the only identifying feature of a Vishnu shrine.



SUBSIDIARY SHRINES:

The shrines were built at four corners of the big platform, each measuring 3.8 X 2.9 metres. Only the misraka pillars stand today.





SCULPTURAL REMAINS AT THE SITE:

The complex has very few sculptural remains, with the Hanuman and Shaiva sculpture being the ones with old antiquity. They are currently under worship and overed in vermillion.

OTHER INDIVIDUAL SHRINES IN THE COMPLEX

The shrines are built of Stone and indicate towards continued tradition of worshipping the ancient sculptures at the site.





SATI STONES:

Inscribed & Un-inscribed

Sati Stones placed in the complex, which speak of Women sacrificing their lives either, in honour of their valourous husband.

1. निकुंभरामालू सुत रतनस्य पत्नी
2. मेलास हितस्य कीर्तिस्तंभोयम् ॥ सं ६६



KALACHURI PERIOD MATTAMAYURA MATHA

Repurposed in the modern days as the ‘Maladevi Temple’ where people offer their prayers to an ancient Chamunda sculpture as Maladevi.

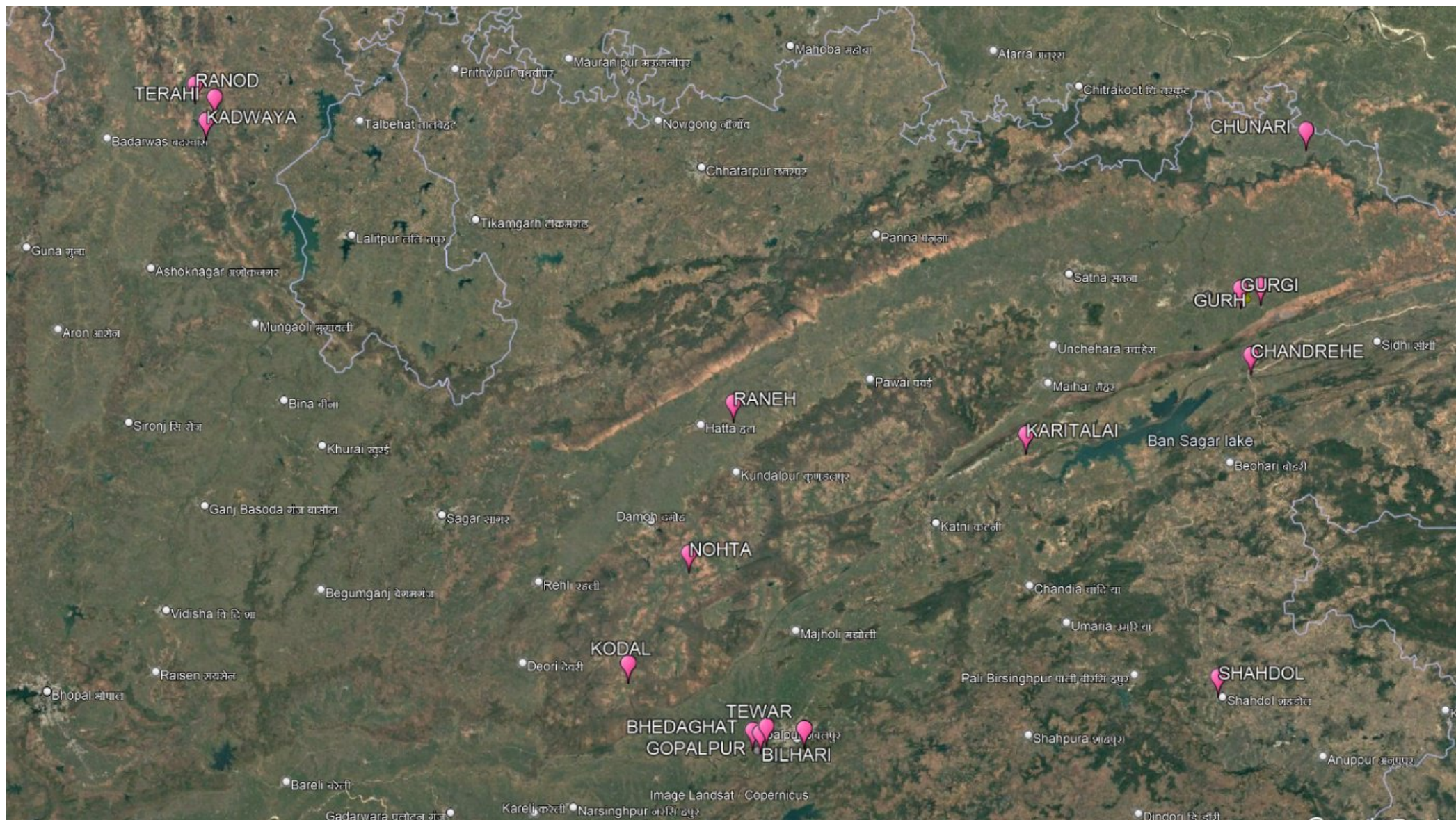
The interior of the Matha show architectural similarity to other Mattamayura Mathas that were constructed all over the modern-day territory of Madhya Pradesh between the 9th – 11th century CE.



DASABHUJI CHAMUNDA

**inside the Matha,
still in worship as Maladevi**





LOCATION OF THE MATTAMAYURA MONASTERIES THAT WERE BUILT IN MP BETWEEN 9-11TH c. CE



HEAPS OF ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS

Consisting of pillar shafts, blocks of
stone and quadrangular shaped
stone beams

DISCUSSION:

Based on archaeological evidence, the Panchmadiya complex originated as a minor Kalachuri-period (10th-12th c. CE) Shaiva monastic site (matha). It was later repurposed in the 12th-13th c. CE with the addition of Vaishnavite elements. Following the decline of early medieval dynasties, the site's significance transformed in the Garha Mandala period (14th-16th c. CE), gaining new folkloric associations with Queen Durgavati and the placement of Sati stones. Thus, the site represents a continuous chronological layering of cultural and religious identities, from Shaivism to Vaishnavism to local hero-stones, with each era reinterpreting and preserving the ancient relics.

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THANK YOU!