

University Grand Commission

Minor Research Project

“SCULPTURE AND MONUMENTS IN SILLOD – KANNAD TALUKA : A STUDY”

Executive Summary Report

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Introduction

India is famous for its ancient sculpture traditions. It has various ancient monuments, some of them are ruined but some still witness great tradition of ancient sculpture style.

Sculpture is an important and prominent part of Indian culture. The ancient architectures and sculptures are the reflection of the contemporary Indian culture. Typical type of stone that are unique and strong enough used for carving various sculptures.

Scope & Limitations:

The scope of study is vast but for study is limited only up to 15th A.D.

Aims & Objectives:

To study architecture & sculptural art in Sillod & Kannad taluka.

1. To study architectural art of sculpture and monuments
2. To study architectural art of temple
3. To study how we can develop tourism.
4. How to conserve these monuments and sculptures.

Hypotheses

1. Monuments and sculptures in Kannad and Sillod taluka are historically very important but they are not conserved properly.

2. In both talukas Hemadpanthi temples are very ancient having architectural art but they are most neglected from tourism point of view.
3. Due to these ancient sculptures, monuments and temples both these talukas are important as international tourist places, but they aren't developed as tourist destinations.

Research Methodology:

The present study is related with the study of sculptures and monuments in Kannad and Sillod taluka in Aurangabad district. This is an empirical research based on gaining the knowledge by means of direct and indirect observation. This study is also a descriptive type of research that includes field study, survey and fact finding. To carry out this study theory is supported by the field studies. One of its significant advantage is the capability to generalize results. In this study theory has been used to study the fact it is supported by survey with a reliable questionnaire, observation, and interview method for data collection. Secondary data was collected from epics, Books, magazines, journals etc.

Observations and conclusions

The present research study is based on study of ancient temples, forts, Barvs, caves, in Kannad and Sillod taluka in Aurangabad district. There are many ancient sculptures, monuments, temples, caves, forts in these area. But they remained neglected. These sculptures are: Dhara-

Kund cave, near Ghatnandra, Rudreshwar caves near soygaon. These caves have the splendid sculpting like: Sculpting of gods and goddesses, a Sculpture depicting Narsinha`s killing to Hiranyakakshapa. Similarly, there are temples of Daneshwar, Budhneshwar, Purneshwar in Sillod taluka. Padke fort is also located in Kannad which is situated 30.k.m. away from Kannad at Kalanki.

It has been observed that all the caves are carved out on hills. The height may be given for the safety purpose and protect them from enemies and villagers. The specialty of the caves is that every cave has water-tanks having availability of water for every season. These caves are found on the ancient commercial high-ways.

It has been observed that these sculptures are in miserable condition. At one hand new temples are being built and at another ancient temples and sculptures are not repaired or ignored. The study carried by Dr. Maya Patil revealed that the earth-quake disaster, occurred in 1993, in Osmanabad and Latur, destroyed all including buildings, mansions, bungalows but all the sculptures, temples made with Hemandpanti technique were, found intact . It is not a magic but is result of architecture and construction technique (Hemandpanti). Therefore we must develop such a technique, especially for earthquake prone area, which can prevent any untoward incident (economical and human disaster).

General Conclusions

1. Monuments, sculptures, forts and temples are in worse condition. They are the victims of long ago history. These works reflect the

grand history of Maharashtra useful to know the history for present and future academicians, students of history, tourist etc.

2. Today the forts from these taluka are not in good condition. Nearby villagers had used the bricks, rocks, soils of these forts to build their own houses. We can not neglect the great history behind it, which is a foundation for future studies.
3. The ancient Barvas (wells) are the architectural art for storage and supply of water that times. But now these are in very bad condition. These Barvas now were found filled with garbage, dust. They have become dust-bins. People throw wastes in these wells polluting water. It is necessary to rejuvenate these wells. They should be cleaned and its water can be supplied to the people.

It was found that there is less awareness and apathy of villagers, public, government officials regarding the conservation and preservation of these monuments, sculptures.

In short, these, caves, forts, temples are the grandeur of Indian sculpture which has been lying unnoticed, in these two talukas. This historical and architectural heritage should be familiarized to the whole world. The area around these caves, monuments and sculpture should be declared as tourist place. Subsequently historians, tourists, scholars, researchers will frequently visit these places which can cater job opportunities to the locals various tourism related businesses will gain ground in the area. Ultimately the greatest heritage of art and sculpture will be preserved.

Findings:

1. The studied sculptures are carved along the alignment of the commercial-high-ways.
2. The Satwahnas seem to have whole-heartedly sponsored for the making of the Pitar-Khora caves. Today it is in miserable condition, due to its brittle rock.

3. Water tanks, at Vetawadi, Pitalkhora caves Suwarnapaleshwar caves, and Jaicha-Dev etc, were found dug and it was made with a special technique through which all these tanks could have cool water for all season.
4. It is observed that attempts had been made to carve Lenza cave but due to not getting patronage, the work was stopped.
5. A little written printed information about Lenza fort, Vetawadi fort, Kalika goddess temple, Jaicha-Dev etc, was available. With the help of field visits the research has been made. Some images of these historical places are shown in the work.
6. Then, contemporary age, water reservoirs [Barvs, Kund, Water, tanks] used to be carved or built to cater water to people for all season. Surprisingly in this age, too, we find water for all season, in these reservoirs. In field visit, we have found it in Mahadev Take, Suwarnapaleshwar Take, Gautala Sanctuary`s water tank, and Jai-Dev`s water tank. But unfortunately, water, in these reservoirs, is found polluted.
7. Aurangabad Gazateers doesn`t have any information about above studied sculptures. Even, nothing is mentioned there about these sculptures. Studying these sculptures closely visiting, interviewing locals and other historians, present research has been made. It is great privilege to have provided information about some ignored sculpture which was totally unknown to the world.
8. Shiv temples, near Salegaon, Kalika goddess temple near Nagad are in miserable condition. These temples are undersfood to be built in the age of Yadavas.

9. Silhod and Kannad telukas are surrounded by hills. Watch-towers are found at various forts and sculptures such as: Mahadev Tank, Swarnpaleswar Take, Temple , Antur fort, Vetalwadi fort etc. All the surrounding areas of these towers come under surveillance.

Suggestions:

1. On the way to the historical sites, direction boards should be placed. Boards showing information of the sites should be placed so that people could be well aware of the history related to the sites.

2. The roads to these sites are full of pot-holes. It is suggested that P.W.D. should repair the roads.
3. Security guards, with guns should be deployed at the historical sites, in the area of Gawtala Sanctuary.
4. Some part of Salegaon, Kedareshwar temples is engulfed in the earth. These temples are in desperate need of excavation.
5. Some sculptures from Pitalkhora caves, and some statues from Salegaon, Raneshwar temples are mused. These sculptures and statues should be placed in nearby museum.
6. These sites are being damaged by the locals. It should be preserved.
7. Photographs of these sites, with general information should be pasted at nearby talukas, towns, cities, bus-stands, railway stations, guest houses etc. places. How far it is from the place, mentioned above, How long it takes, how to get, these type of information should be attached to the photographs, mentioned above so that people, tourists, historians, scholars should get attracted.
8. Antur fort, Vetalwadi fort, Pitalkhara caves, Kalika goddess temple near Nagad are rapidly ruining. Therefore stern measures should be taken to preserve these sites.
9. Pure drinking water and toilet facility should be provided at these sites.
10. For the development of these tourists, sites, funding should be made available.

11. Special attention should be given by historians, social warkers, N.G.O.S, professors, scholars, and local residents to preserve these sites.