



Structural Remains of Votive Stupa Bandhavgarh

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Abstract

There are many such ancient places on the face of the earth which are decorated with the story of a long period of history .Which flourished with time and then got dissolved in the cheeks of time and the form of a long period of history. This place of Bandhavgarh is not only a tourist destination but this delightful sites has also been the holy place of Kabir , Tansen and the other saints .The remains of Buddha have been found in the form of stupa and monastery in the forest of Bandhavgarh . This site is a great site . Gives evidence of being a great place.Which flourished with time and then got dissolved in the cheeks of time. The stupa of Buddha was built by the contemporary kings of that time .It was destroyed by other kings . In the present article ,one such ancient site was found in the form of remains of Buddha's stupa in Bandhavgarh . Which may be of 6th or 7th Century . This stupa is of very small size and its shape looks like a votive stupa.

Keyword : Structural remains of Votive Stupa, Architecture , Archaeology and antiquity

Introduction

Bandhavgarh Votive stupa is located in Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh. Survey is an important method to know the antiquity , history or heritage of any particular place or area and for archaeology , Survey is also done unpublished and buried antiquities. The survey was done by archaeologist Shivkant Bajpai Sir in Bandhavgarh of Vindhya region and the research work was done by me .This Survey was conducted near a pond in the middle of the dense forest of Bandhavgarh . The name of this pond is " Rani Ka Talab " . This stupa was seen only because of the drying upof this pond. My objective behind the survey in this area is to discover more archaeological sites around the Bandhavgarh Buddhist archaeological site ends in the 6th 7th century . We did research to find out this happens .

Objectives of the Study

- . To find out structural remains of Votive stupa
- .To find out the architecture of the votive stupa

.To find out the archaeology of the Votive stupa

.To find out the antiquity of the Votive stupa

.To find out the history of the Votive stupa

Structural Remains of Votive Stupa

Structural remains of Votive Stupa were found during the exploration of the " Rani- Mahal "locality of Bandhavgarh fort . Votive stupa was found during exploration of the " Rani Mahal" area of Bandhavgarh fort. This stupa was found inside the queen's tomb . It appears that it has been deliberately thrown into the pond . Because no evidence of other remains of the stupa was found nearby .Rani 's Pond has almost dried up. This Votive stupa came to light only because of the drying of the pond. The Votive stupa was capable of shape structures that demanded significant structure of the stupa.No structural remain of period I was found during the course of excavaton . The antiquities associated with this period include 6th -7th century.

Architecture of the Votive Stupa

The Bandhavgarh Votive stupa found in tomb of the queen of Bandhavgarh has the form of one cylindrical structures with the distinctive dome -like drum . The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered in 2023.During landscaping activities near " Rani -Talab ".This Stupas , carved out of stone depicts the figure of Buddha and many other figures.

On one side of the stupa , the harmika part is broken and below it, the egg part is also seen to be slightly broken on one side . There are also two lines in the altar below the stupa . In which the lower part is broken from one side.

Fig .

Recently Discovered Buddhist Stupa Remains from Tala range of Bandhavgarh Forest, district Umariya Madhya Pradesh



Fig. No. 4 & 5: Votive stupa

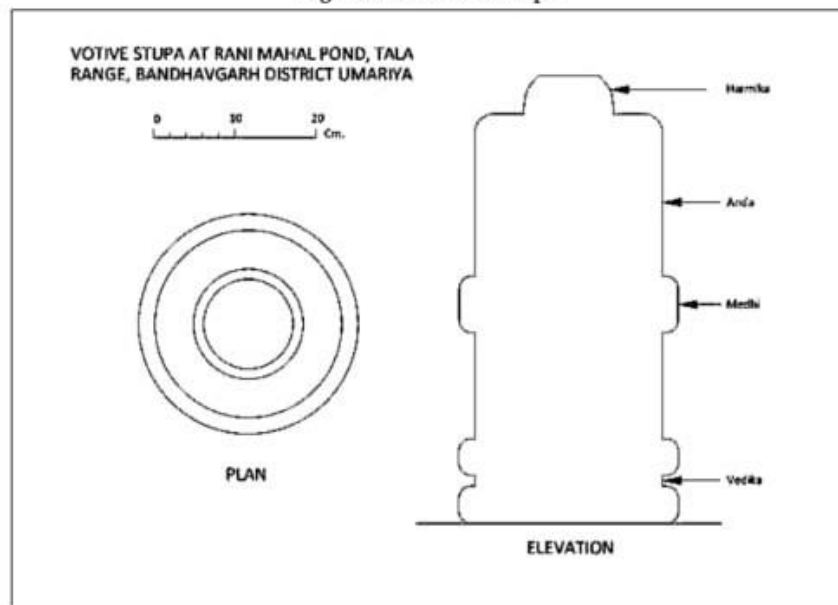


Fig. 6. Votive stupa plan

Archaeology and Antiquity of the Votive stupa

Surveys were conducted in this area earlier also which includes temple of Hindu religion. The first survey conducted by Shivkant Bajpai was of the broken Hindu temples and their deties , but during this period ,one day he saw the Buddha Stupa which was in the middle of the pond .It might have been thrown inside the pond by some anti- social elements .

Review of literature

A large number of books have been written on Vindhya's Buddhist stupa but a few of them give us information about the Votive Stupa of Bandhavgarh in a detail way, and the moral and legal basis of the Votive stupa of Bandhavgarh on which basis the Votive stupa was established in Bandhavgarh, Umariya.

Research gap And New Findings

A lot of books have been written on the Vindhya's Buddhist stupa and different pattern of stupa style of Vindhya's. But the details about Vindhya's Votive stupa has been ignored by many of the scholar. Actually the literature provides a lot of information about the structural aspects of the historical development of Bandhavgarh stupa and there is a lot of information about the Votive stupa.

Justification of the topic

After discussing gap it is clear that the previous work has not focused on the Structural remains Bandhavgarh stupa and detailed way and not developed a systematic approach. The research on Structural remains of Bandhavgarh Votive stupa untouched and unexplored. My efforts will be identify the impacts of structural remains of Bandhavgarh Votive stupa.

Research Methodology

I used primarily as well as secondary sources related to the historical development under the survey of Votive Stupa of Bandhavgarh. Primary data gathered from personal interview, questionnaires, and observation of structural remains of Votive stupa. I used Bandhavgarh record of gazetter of district of India. I visited National Archives and Madhya Pradesh State Archives Vindhya for searching the new Paradigm of Structural remains of Votive stupa Bandhavgarh.

Time and Area of My research proposal

My Present research for deal with the 7th -8th century of Bandhavgarh. The study covered the overall survey of Vindhya's region's stupas and their architecture. I took a case study of Structural remains of Votive stupa.

Conclusion

From the above studies it has been concluded that the Votive stupa hold an important and significant part in the history of Satna. It has great heritage value it comes under the category of built heritage. Votive Stupa of Bandhavgarh face some major problems in present Scenario is going on and at the same time challenge for Vindhya region's Madhya Pradesh government. Its should be more care of this stupa. On the basis of finding of Buddhist Votive stupa. From excavations at Bandhavgarh. It is proved that the central part extension of the Bandhavgarh stupa.

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