

## THE REFLECTION OF ARTISTIC EXCELLENCY OF ODIA PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR FAMOUS MONUMENTS

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Known for its utkarsh in kala, i.e, excellent in art Odisha is considered as India's one of the most hidden splendid cultural landscapes. Traditionally archaeology and monuments have been the prime motivation for a visitor to Odisha who usually returns with enchanting experience, enduring thoughts and lingering memories of an endearing and hospitable Odia people, their picturesque land and above all the magnificent monuments. For touristic interest, this ancient land of Odisha offers its rich and varied archaeological treasures and wealth of monuments in a pristine and fortunately intact form. The entire length and breadth of the state are dotted with a large number of standing monuments and archaeological sites which would be around 4000- in the figure. The range of monuments includes early Jaina caves and temples; Buddhist Viharas (Monasteries), chaityas (apsidal structures), stupas; Hindu temples; mosques; churches; ancient and medieval forts; palaces of erstwhile kings and the colonial architecture. The great tradition of monument building which is as old as the recorded history or even older, finds an echo in the religious and cultural life of the people till today.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Archaeology, Monuments, Architecture, Sculpture, Gigantic*