

HOSHANGABAD

(61) FORT, HOSHANGABAD



The fort lies on the bank of Narmada of Hoshangabad that exists on the National Highway and railway. The fort is said to have been built by Malwa's Sultan Hoshangshah in the first half of the 15th century A.D. The foundation of Hoshangabad fort and the city was laid by Hoshangshah. The fort might have been built on an area of eight acre. At present the fort is survived by one bastion and 1.25 meter thick and 5-6 meter high security wall, the way to the bastion and a room (security post).

It is said that after construction of the fort it was used by the ruler of Khedala in Betul district for conducting his expedition against the ruler of Bahamani. The walls of the fort are decorated with arch formations and *kanguras*. The fort was reconstructed and expanded in the 18th century also. The fort was subjected to attacks of Bhopal State and the Bhonsale rulers. Local people believe that Hoshangshah had died at Hoshangabad and his grave is located here.

After the fall of Mughal Empire the Rajwada Pargana in the western part was ruled by four rulers, who were all under the Gadha Mandala.

(62) TILAK SENDUR TEMPLE, KHATAMA



This monument is situated at Khatama, a forest village, about nine km from village Jamani in Itarsi tahasil. The cave-like temple is built by cutting a rock at a height of about 1230 feet. It is known as Tilak Sindur Mandir. A flight of 70 steps leads to the temple.

The plan of this simple temple consists of a *mandapa* based on four pillars with a square *garbha-griha* in the center, which enshrines a Shivlinga, and a Nandi idol in its front. An ambulatory passage has been carved by cutting the rock on all four sides. This State protected monument can be ascribed to the 10-11th century A.D.