

## SHIVPURI

### (192) FORT, NARWAR



Narwar is located about 25 km from Satanwara on Agra-Bombay National Highway and 40 km from Shivpuri. The fort at Narwar is perched on a 400 feet high hill on the right bank of Sindha river. The circumference of the fort is about 8 km. The fort is divided into three sections- (1) Majh Mahal (2) Bala Hisar (3) Madar Hata. The southeastern portion is called Dulha Kot. Madar Hata is separated from Dulha Kot by a 600 feet long wall. The Majh Mahal or Bala Hisar is spread in an area of about two kms.

The main entrance gate of the fort is towards east. The first gate is called Alamgir Darwaja. The other three gates are called Saiyadon Ka Darwaja, Piran Paur and Hawa Paur. The Alamgir Darwaja was built by Alamgir. The Saiyadon Ka Darwaja was built in 1545 by Jagirdar Saiyad, while the Hawa Paur was constructed by Daulat Rao Scindia's Governor Ambaji in 1800 A.D. Sikandar Lodi is said to have conquered the fort and to have destroyed the temples inside the fort in 1508, the remains of which are still there. Now only Makardhwaj Tal built by the Kachhawahas survives. Many constructions were done subsequently by the Muslim rulers, the Scindhias and the British.

Important buildings still existing inside the fort include Chhip Mahal, Ladau, Bungalow, Chhakki Mahal, Fulwa Mahal, Kachahari Mahal and Sikandar Lodi's Masque.

### (193) SHIVA TEMPLE, CHORPURA



It is 40 km from Shivpuri on Agra-Bombay road.

The east-facing temple is located to the east of the village. The 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D. temple consists of *garbha-griha* and *mandapa* based on two pillars. Its *shikhar* portion is damaged. It seems that the *shikhar* has either collapsed or had not been built at all. It is an important temple from architectural point of view.

### (194) SURYA TEMPLE, SESAI



Sesai is 12 km from Shivpuri on Agra-Bombay road. The west-facing Surya temple is raised on a high platform. Its base is built on a Pacharath plan and it has *garbha-griha*, *antara*, gate and *mukh-mandapa* based on two pillars. The plinth is carved with figures of *khur*, *kumbha*, *kalash* and *kapotika* moulding. The *jangha* portion has *bhadra rathikas*.

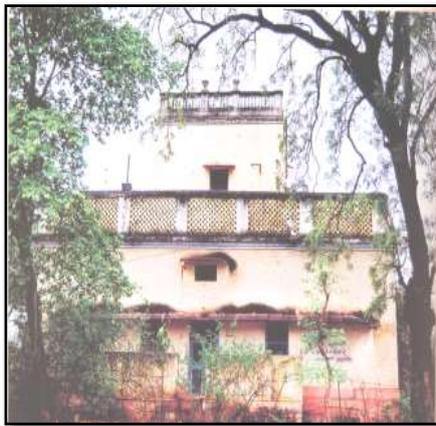
The *shikhar* portion of the temple is ruined. The lower portion of the doorjamb is carved with images of river goddesses astride their respective mounts. In the doorjamb, *patra shakhas*, *nag shakhas*, *roop shakhas*, *stambh shakha* and *bahya shakha* are main. The lintel piece is occupied by a Surya image seated on a Chariot drawn by seven horses. Besides, Navagrihas are carved. On the basis of architecture and iconography the temple can be ascribed to 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D. It was built by Pratihara rulers.

\*(195) STATUE CENOTAPH OF TATYA TOPE, SHIVPURI



A statue of freedom fighter of 1857 Tatya Tope has been installed at the place where he was hanged on April 17, 1859 at Shivpuri. Tatya Tope was the commandeer-in-chief of Maharani Laxamibai. He was matchless in Guerilla warfare. He was arrested by the British treacherously. The Kachhwaha ruler of Narwar Manu Singh was his friend. He called Tatya Tope on some pretext and informed the British of his presence. Tatya Tope was arrested on April 7, 1859 and was fried at Shivpuri. Before being hanged to death Tatya Tope said in the court “ I am not a slave to the British. I am a servant of Peshwa. Your accusations do not prove me guilty of any crime. I waged a war against you, so I am ready for death”.

(196) BANGALOW NO. 17, SHIVPURI



Man Singh of Narwar was persuaded by the British to surrender and his help was cleverly sought to capture Tatya Tope who was hiding in the jungles of Paron. Tatya Tope regarded Man Singh as his friend and had even rested in his *kachhari* at Paron. He was caught asleep unsuspecting at the destined place of his rendezvous with Man Singh. He is said to have cast a look of scorn at Man Singh on being captured. He was held captive in the upper room of what in now officer Bangalow No. 17 in Shivpuri, and his trial was held in the front room of the ground floor. Tatya tope was hanged publicly in Shivpuri- the place where now Tatya Tope Memorial stands.

After his execution, even admiring British ladies are said to have gathered tufts of hair.

\*(197) ANCIENT DEVI TEMPLE, BALARPUR



It is about 20 km from Shivpuri on Jhansi-Shivpuri road.

Balarpur is a famous place located at a short distance from Surwaya. Once upon a time a number of temples were built here, but the temple existing today is totally renovated and named Devi Ka Mandir. However, the sculptures on the walls belong to the Pratihara period. The temple can be ascribed to the 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

#### \*(198) JAIN TEMPLE, KARSENA



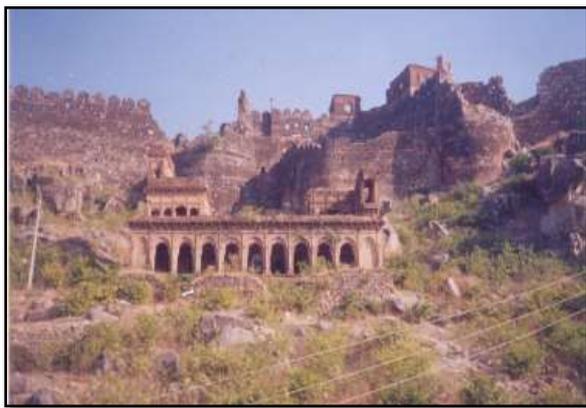
Situated about 3 km west of Bhangarh beyond Subhashpura on Bombay-Agra National Highway, the square temple belongs to the 12<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Originally, it had no *shikhar* but the existing *shikhar* was built later. The plinth of the east-facing temple is carved with images of Tirthankaras.

#### \*(198) JAIN TEMPLE, KAREU



Situated 10 km from Subhashpura on Agra-Bombay road, remains of a ruined Jain temple lie about 4 km east of Dholagarh on Subhashpura-Dholagarh road. Its *shikhar* is gone. The *garbha-griha* enshrines and image of a Jain Tirthankara whose head is mutilated. The doorjamb of this 12<sup>th</sup> century A.D. temple is carved with images of Ganga-Yamuna. The lintel piece is occupied by a Jain Tirthankara. The doorjamb has a Mithun Shakha.

#### \*(199) FORTRESS, KARERA



Karera is 54 km from Shivpuri on Shivpuri-Jhansi road. The fortress is perched on a high hill in the centre of Karera tahasil headquarter, it is said to have been built by Paramara rulers who were under the Mughal Emperor. In 1729 A.D. the rulers failed to pay the tax, upon which the Emperor ordered Chanderi's ruler Mansingh to take Karera in his possession with the help of Salar Khan, who was Kiledar of Gwalior at that time. When the Peshwa attacked Karera, Salar Khan accepted

defeat and handed over the fort to Datia's ruler Indra Singh who was his friend. In lieu of this Indrajit gave him a jagir. In 1748 A.D. the fort came under the possession of Jhansi's ruler. In 1841 A.D. Jhansi's ruler Gangadhar Rao was given the fort, which remained under his possession till 1860 A.D.

Originally, the fort was built by Veer Singh Dev. It has a number of bastions. It is built in the style of Bundela fortresses. At present it is in a state of disrepair.

### (200) FORT, POHARI



It is 35 km from Shivpuri on Shivpuri-Sheopur road. Vestiges of a ruined fortress lie on the bank of ancient lake to the south of Pohari. It is said to have been built by Kachhwaha rulers of Narwar. It was snatched by the British and given in 1860 A.D. to Jiyaji Rao Scindia. The jagir of Pohari was given to Sardar Sithole by Scindia. The fort witnessed a battle between the British and Taty Tope in 1858 A.D.

At present the fort is in a state of disrepair. About half of Pohari's population lives inside the fort.

### (201) BUDDHIST MATH, RAJPUR



Situated 8 km from Pichhore on Pichhore-Dinara road, the 18<sup>th</sup> century A.D. enormous Math is built of stones, Lakhauri bricks and lime.

Rooms crowned with domes are built on all four sides of the open courtyard, which has four entrance gates. The domes are of Mughal style, which look like Stupas from distance. The gates are arched.