

## REWA

### (454) FORT, KYOTI



The fort of Kyoti is 22 miles away from Rewa in the northeastern direction in the Sirmour tehsil. Near the fort is the 33 feet Kyoti falls in which the water flows from the Mahanadi. The history of the Kyoti dynasty begins with the 18th King of Rewa, Veer Singh Dev. King Shahalvahan had two sons, Veer Singh Dev and Nagmal Dev. Veer Singh Dev ascended the throne while Nagmal Dev got the state of Kyoti. Hence the fort of Kyoti is believed to be

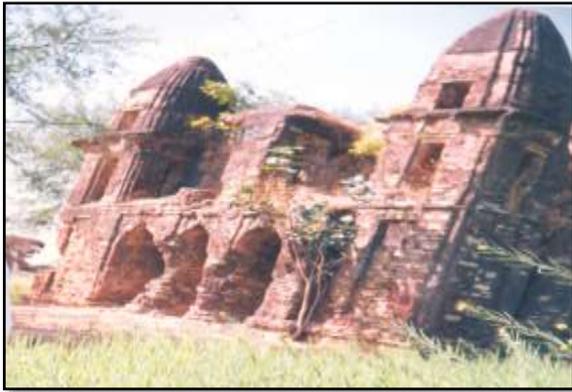
built by Nagmal Dev and its architecture also suggests the same. The terraced and domed gateway is of special interest. In the year 1857 a fierce battle was fought between Thakur Rannmat Singh and the British Col. Aswan in this fort. Many British soldiers were killed. Ahead of the Fort lies a small cave through which a stream flows whose origin is unknown. The cave has a piece of broken idol on which *Gajlakshmi*, Ganesh and Vishnu are inscribed in a sitting posture. Above the inscription three male figures have been drawn. The fort has been declared as a conserved monument. Near the fort are some small temples and below are two rock cut caves, one having a Shivlinga on the outer rock are carved designs of Buddhist stupas indicating that these caves must have been used at one time by Buddhist monks. The inscription in Pali on the roof also indicates this and describes the construction of a temple by one shonak, for of Harati. The caves also have some rock paintings. Near the village can also be found a group of Sati *stambh* belonging to 14<sup>th</sup> century A.D. which have the names of Maharaja Hammir Dev of Luksthana and maharaja Dev of Katholistan along with other warriors unsuited on them. It seems that these *stambhas* are memorials of some war fought near the fort.

### (455) BHAIKAV IDOL, KHAMDEEH



This place is 4 km on the right of the Rewa Gurh Road. This four-armed Bhairav is monolithic in structure. This idol is 8.05 metres long and 3.07 metres wide. In the upper left hand of Bhairav is a *trishul* and in the lower left hand a *rudraksh mala*. In the upper right hand he holds a snake with three tongues and in the lower right hand he holds a *kalash*. A *rudraksh mala* adorns his neck and a snake twines along with. His waist bears the inscription of a lion's face where from a bell is hanging. Four bearded and moustached worshippers are engraved on the idol - two on either side, one sitting and one standing. This idol belongs to the 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> century. The upper left hand of the idol has broken and is kept beside the idol. This idol is unique due to its size and has been declared as a protected monument.

#### (456) ANCIENT BRICK TEMPLE, BAIJNATH



This temple is on the left of the road that goes from Bela to Nauvasta on the Rewa-Satna Road. Built by the Baghelas, it faces east and is built of bricks and stones wherein lime has also been used in plastering the walls. The sanctum sanctorum is rectangular from inside and the three walls have wave like vaults. It has doors on the three sides. The door of the sanctum sanctorum has a wave like pattern. The inner *mandapa* of the temple is also rectangular in shape. The roof of the

*mandapa* has four small temple structures. Originally the Temple must have been very large, The *mandapa* having rested on 16 pillars. The *torans* have crocodile, Tortoise, Ganga and Yamuna figures while the gate her huge statue of Nandi, nearby, large statues of Ganga Shiva, Vishnu and Durga had been discovered. The arches built depict the composite two Islamic influence. The state Archaeology has declared this temple as a conserved monument.

#### (457) ANCIENT FORTRESS, GURH



There is a village called Gurh on Rewa-Sidhi road, about 20 kms from Rewa.

This fortress is situated on eastern side of the village on the banks of the river Ranwa. Presently in dilapidated condition, the fortress would have been surrounded by rampart in earlier days. The main building and the rooms are rectangular in shape. A courtyard has been built on the top of

pillars opposite to the rooms and the fortress would have been originally a large two-storied building. In present times a government school is run within the fortress premises wherein the Education Department has also done new constructions. The main building is used for the staff and equipments of the school. This fortress was built by a headman of the Rewa State in the 17th - 18th century. The state government has already declared it as a conserved monument.

#### \*(458) SHIV MANDIR, MAHSAANV



Mahsaanv village is situated some 15 km on the right side of the Rewa-Gurh road. The temple faces west. In the front view, base & the crown of the temple are seen, while from the top, one can see the inner sanctum sanctorum & the *mandapa*. Both upper portions of the base are bigger than its lower part. The crown of the temple is broken. *Shuknasika* is westward in which there are two panels of *dev kosht*.

In each panel the middle *dev kossth* is bigger in size than the other two *dev kossth*. Brahma and *apsara* are attached on the upper sides of the *dev kossth*. *Mandapa* of the temple measures 4.25m x 2.246m. 8 pillars hold the roof of the temple. The *mandapa* is open from both the sides. *Mandapa* and the inner sanctum sanctorum are interconnected. The sanctum sanctorum is circular in shape and a Shivaling is embedded in its centre. The temple was built in the 9th-10th century. This temple is a representative example of the *kalchuri* era architecture. Till date, only two temples with a circular sanctum sanctorum have been found which belong to the *kalachuri* times - one Mahsaanv temple and other, Chandreh temple. The temple has been declared as a protected monument and is being maintained by the department.

#### (459) HARGOURI BUST, REWA



It is situated in the Padamdhar Park near Ghora Chauraha in Rewa city. Found in the 11th century from a place called Gurgi in Rewa district, this large idol is under the shade of a canopy in Padamdhar Park. This idol is significant from the archaeological point of view. It shows Shiva holding Parvati in embrace. In the upper section of the tablet garlanded love making couple in a flying posture can be seen from both the sides. On the forehead of Shiva is his third eye while the head is crowned with matted hair. In his ears he is wearing large earrings and a three stringed chain adorns his neck. His chest is decorated with seven stringed pearls. On his right shoulder he wears the sacred thread. There is a girdle round his navel. He is also embellished with armlets and anklets.

On the left of Shiva Parvati stands, her arms are full of bangles and bracelets. A long chain hangs from her neck while a broad necklace covers her breasts. In between her breasts she wears a pendant and a chain encircles her navel. Anklets adorn her feet. Below her navel she wears a transparent corset bedecked with flowers. The right hand of Parvati is placed on the shoulder of Shiva and she holds a lotus flower in her left hand. The monument is protected by the State Archaeology.

#### (461) PAINTED ROCK SHELTERS, GADDI HILLOCKS



On the Rewa-Sidhi road, there is a village called Gaddi situated at some 25 kms from Rewa.

The painted rock shelters of Gaddi are important from archaeological point of view. The rock paintings on these rock shelters are an evidence of the artistic sensibilities of the pre-historic man. The paintings comprise of human forms. As well as rectangular shapes filled with haphazard lines drawn along with colours all over within.