

A Note on Archaeological Remains at KadaveBudruk (Dist. Satara)

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An archaeological exploration was carried out in the village KadaveBudruk in dist. Satara. Undocumented temple and two caves in the vicinity were explored. These temples consist of various sculptures of different deities of various cults. These temples can be dated probably to the 14th century CE, according to the style of temple architecture. Various local practices and oral traditions were explored regarding the location and the sculpture present in the said temples.

Location

The temple is located at the village Kadave Bk. (17°31'49.8"N 73°56'57.4"E), Tal. Faltan, Dist. Satara. The site is located near Pavnai Devi temple- the village deity -on the bank of a water flow. The site is about 20 feet down from the road level.

Structure and Plan

Localists call the site Odhyatale Mandir, as it is situated at the bank of water flow. It is built on a platform, to reach there one must climb down steps. On the left and right side of the temple, there are carved caves. Temple, water surrounding the area is a scenic view. One must climb down 4 steps to reach the water.

Central Temple

It is a stone-built structure. The temple has three sanctums. Three is carving at entry and have a Sabha Mandap. There are 7 Devakoshtha i.e. the niche on exterior. 3 on sanctum walls and 2 each of left and right sides.

The area of sabha mandap is 10 ft x 10 ft. It has an uplifted platform at the center on which four pillars are based. The height of the center is uplifted part is .5 feet and area are 4 x 4 feet. The pillars have a simple design.

Other two pillars are at the entrance.

Sanctum No. 1

Central sanctum contains a Shiv linga at present. Its varimarga is towards North. The walls of the sanctum are flat. At the doorstep there is a face carved – just like a Kirimukha. There is a Ganech idol carved on the middle of the door panel. One Ganesh idol is placed outside the sanctum.

Sanctum No. 2

It is situated at left hand side. It contains Vishnu idol. The idol carries lotus in right hand and seashell in right back hand. The other two hands are demolished. There is a Garuda and Lakshmi at the foot of the idol. The idol is decorated with ornaments. There is not much carving on the Prabhaval. The idol is placed on a platform. The way to drain the water is demolished. The idol in Lalatabimba or door panel is fully demolished.

Sanctum No. 3

It has a Surya idol. Though demolished, its beauty cannot be hidden. This idol is also on a platform, and it is in good state. Thus, we get an idea about other platforms which are demolished. This idol has decorative Mukuta, unlike the Vishnu idol. Its feet are bare. At the base we can see the chariot driven by 7 horses and the driver Aruni. The prabhavala is decorative as compared to that of Vishu's. It

contains Gandharva in the center, Vyala on the sides and chariot carved next to them. On the door panel one can see an idol in tribhanga stage. It seems to be holding Damaru.

Cave No. 1

One can see the cave on circumambulation path. The cave is carved in the rock. The door bracket is carved. One must step down to get inside. One can stand straight inside. It is in square shape. Size is 5 x 5 feet. Today there is a Shiva linga placed inside. Varimarga is towards the North. There is a platform behind the linga. Though it is demolished it appears prima facie to be of some idol.

Cave No. 2

There is a cave on the right side of circumambulation path. It is special as it is of Saptamatruka. There are two pillars and idols of Saptamatruka in this cave. Its size is 20 x 20 ft. there is a platform carved along the side of the carved walls. On that are the idols of Matrukas and contains some other idols. As soon as you enter the cave you easily notice the Lakshmi idol, placed in the center. The idols (from left to right) are as follows.

Left side

1. NagnaBhairava : He has a Sword, Khatwanga, Trishula and a Pot in hands. He is in a dancing pose. Idol is on a platform, which is again on the carved platform.
2. Maheshwari : Has Sword, Damaru, Trishula and a Pot in hands. There is a bullock face carved near the foot. Idol is on platform.
3. Krishna
4. Garuda
5. Kaumari : Has Sword, Damaru, Trishula and a Pot in hands. There is a face carved near the foot; but it is worn out. Idol is on platform.

Front Side

1. Unidentifiable idol in sitting position.
2. Shiva Linga with 5 Linga.
3. Lakshmi : Having Pot, Gada, Chakra, Beejapuraka in hands. Lion is near the feet. The Prabhaval is decorated. Servants are on both sides of the base. Initially no eyes were placed on the idol. Within a period of 6 months, they are affixed. There is a carved niche behind the idol. Today the idol is placed in the front of the niche and the gap between is cemented. The idol is decorated with many ornaments.
4. A sage in meditation position.

Right Side

1. Bramhi : Idol has 3 faces and 6 hands.
2. Kaumari : The idol is fully eroded. Upper left hand holds a Trishula.
3. Unidentified image : Both hands in the front are demolished. Rear right hand may be holding a flower. Rear left hand holds a Trishula. This idol is on a platform.
4. Vaishavi : This idol is in a bit good condition. It has four hands, holding a Sword, Chakra, Gada and a Pot. Garuda in swastika mudra is at the bottom side.
5. Varahi : idol has four hands, holding Akshamala, Gada, Shankha and a Bell. It has a vahana but it is not clear.
6. Aindry : Idol of four hands, holding Akshamala, Trishula, Damaru and Beejapuraka. It has its vahana – elephant near the feet, so it is identified as Aindry. The idol is on platform.
7. Chamunda : Idol of four hands, holding a Sword, Damaru, Khatwanga (maybe) and a Pot. She has garland of human heads. She is in a dancing pose and a dead body is under the legs. There is a baby next to her. Idol is placed on a platform.

8. Ganesha : It is in a dancing pose. Having 4 hands – Abhay hasta, Parashu, Modak pot/ Beejapuraka (maybe) and Modaka. There is Nagabandha on shoulder. Mouse is below the feet. Idol is on a platform.

The pillars in the cave are decorated; but the work at back side is incomplete. Pillars have mineral deposits and because of the deposit they appear unfinished.

The roof leaks water. One can see the deposits in the corners and on the roof. In rainy season and after about for 2 months there is water (about a feet) in the cave. It gradually reduces.

Pavnai Devi Temple

The village has a Grama Devata – Pavnai Devi - temple near this site. The Pavnai Devi temple is now renovated; but has history from medieval age. We can see few Samadhis and old plinth of the temple.

Conclusion

The villagers do some rituals in this temple. They have built a Shikhara on this temple. The steps from road are reconstructed.

Medieval temple and caves with the images of Saptrmatruka and other deities are not found in the vicinity. Hence their occurrence at this location is interesting.

Hence these remains were documented in detail.

References

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