



Konark (Monumental Legacy Series)^

By Thomas Donaldson

Oxford University Press, New Delhi, India. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First Edition. The modern state of Orissa (Odra, Utkala, or Kalinga in antiquity) is well known as a land of temples, its great sanctity extolled in various Sanskrit texts. The Orissan style of architecture represents a unique regional variation of the northern style of Hindu temples. Architecturally, the Sun Temple at Konark, built by King Narasimha I in the mid-thirteenth century, represents the climax of a thousand-year evolution of Orissan temple construction. Although the temple is now a colossal ruin, it has been said to be the most richly ornamented building externally at least in the whole world. Its decorative elements run the gamut from the sacred to the erotic, including exquisitely carved monumental images of the Sun God, celestial female musicians, and scenes of the daily life of the Oriya people. In this volume, Thomas Donaldson addresses numerous myths and theories related to the temple's construction, while outlining its architectural features and sculptural programme in an accessible manner. Detailed site information, a helpful glossary, and extensive photographs and plans are also included. Printed Pages: 98. Size: 14 Cms x 22 Cms.

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