# Natural Geomorphic Landscape, Historical Religious Hindu Temple, Monument, Palace Architecture, Culture And Heritages In Sihawa -Kanker Granitic Mountainous Tract, Mahanadi Catchment, Chhattisgarh, India

1Dr. H.D. Diwan, 2Dr. D. Sanyal, 3Ar. A.K. Singh 1Technical Officer, 2Teaching, 3Teaching 1School Of Studies in Geology and Water Resource Management Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, C.G., 2Deptt. of Architecture, National Institute of Technology(NIT), Raipur, 3School of Architecture and Landscape Design,Shri Mata Vaishnav Devi University, J&K

Abstract - In the Ancient Medieval Period, the Central India had been mostly governed by Rajputana clans. The reigns of Som Dynasty (1125-1345 AD) and Chandra Dynasty (1385-1947 AD with Princely States of British India) had made efforts towards cultural and social upliftment and status of common Tribal People of Sihawa – Kanker Granitic Mountaneous Tract (SKGMT) of Upper Mahanadi Catchment (UMC). The aim of the study is multidisciplinary Scientific interpretation of the facts to elaborate the physical domain of Granitic terrain and landscape and correlation with Histo-archaeological, Architectural, Religeous & Cultural heritages. The Prolific growth of religious Heritages in form of Temple, Monuments had been maintained by their successors also even after King Rulings, in the 19th and 20th Century, during princely states of British Colonial Rules. The rock shelters, Natural Caves, Rock Paintings, Lush green forests, Hillocks, River Valley enriches the Geo heritages of the region. In this study, under methodology the Remote Sensing Satellite Imageries have been utilized for the physical domain recognition. The Landscape Physiography, Geomorphic features, Natural Resources Interpretation and Demarcation (NRID) have been carried out at selected zones of "Ancient Kanker State Region Peripheries" (AKSRP) The study reveals that during their reign of Som and Chandra Dynasty, the Ruler King had given priority on expansion of education and cultural religious segment in the state's society. The making of intellectual and wise citizens of the state was proved after a long tenure of successful administration by Ruler King of Som Dynasty and Chandra Dynasty. The interpretation and concise study analysis will be useful in identification and selection of Natural, Historical, Archaeological and Architectural heritage site at National level or UNESCO oriented Programmes of Conservation Schemes.

*keywords* - Mahanadi, Granitic Tract, Sihawa, Mountain, Kanker, Somdynasty, Chandra Dynasty, Hindu Culture, Heritage, Temple, Rock Monument, Colonial Architecture, Geo Heritage, Chhattisgarh, India.

#### INTRODUCTION

During the Medieval period, the Central India had been governed mostly by Rajputana Clans viz. Kshatriya Chauhan, Haihaivansh Kalachuris, PanduVanshi, Somvanshi, Chandels, Jat, Chandra, and Tribal Group Like Gonds, Raj Gonds, Kandra etc.(1,5) The rulings of Chandra Dynasty had established in the Kanker state, lies the Kingdom, at the North of Baster plateau Region (Dadyakranya) C.G. on 1385 AD. King Veer Kanhar Deo. Related to Som Dynasty came from Shri Jagganath Puri to Sihawa mountains for cure of his health, but after healings on people wish and request he had opted Ruling of Kanker State. Earlier to Chandra Dynasty, the Kandra Dynasty was ruled over the Kanker State about 40 yrs.(1345-1385 AD.) (18) The Tribal leader Dharma Dev Captured Kanker, defeating the Chandra Sen Dev belonging to Som Dynasty in 1345 AD.(19) The Som Dynasty was established in Kanker by Founder Singh Raj in 1125 AD. He defeated Kalchuri King Ratanpur, Gaykarni. The Kalchuri ruler was a weak King. The rulings of Som Dynasty and Chandra Dynasty had made efforts toward cultural and social upliftment for common man of the Kanker State, situated in the Upper Mahananadi Catchment, tribal region, by prolific growth of Religious heritage like temples and monuments. It had been maintained by their successors also even in the 18th and 19th century during princely states and British colonial rules. The educational formulation for common peoples of the state including the establishment of English school, Primary School, Colleges and Hospitals. In this study for the Physical Domain recognition, the Remote Sensing Satellite Imageries have been utilized. The landscape, physiography, geomorphic features, natural resources interpretation and demarcation have been carried out at the selected zones of Ancient Kanker State Region (AKSR).(20) Since Kanker State acts as protective shield for Bastar region, it had utmost important strategically and Trading route purposes. The historical events and socio-political conditions of Som Dynasty and Chandra Dynasty has been collected from various literatures properly cited and acknowledged. The study reveals that priority on

education and cultural religious segment in the States Society proved after the long tenure of successful administration of ruler King of Chandra and Som Dynasty. The soveregenity of Som Dynasty make Kanker as independent status in South Kosala. The Hindu Temple of Kal Bhairav (by Vyaghraj in 1136AD.). Lord Shiva Temple (by Kamraj (Krishna) in1184 AD) and Chandra Sen Dev (1344AD) considered significant founder of Temple, Monuments in Kanker State. The rules of Chandra Dynasty begins from 1385 AD till the 1947AD i.e. Independant India, except a short period of Maratha Occupation during (1809-1818) about 9 years and at the time of British India, it was. recognized as Princely States. The study indicates that the rulers of Chandra Dynasty were changed the capital town many times e.g. Sihawa, Rudri, Kanker, Narharpur Govindpur etc. from time to time, perhaps due to giving equal weightage to these place and making Kanker as New Urban Growth Centre in Nucleus position. Also to raise their Ethical attitude to promote the literacy awareness and increase in Social status of common people of the Kanker State. The natural resources in form of vegetation, forestry products, flora and fauna, water drainages streams rivers provide plentiful water resources to enrich the agricultural practices of the region.(8,19)

#### PHYSIOGRAPHY, LANDSCAPE AND TERRAIN CONDITIONS

Geologically, the Kanker State lies in the Stable Bastar Craton of Archean Age. The landscape is governed by the Geologic Litho Type (GTL) mainly Granites, Granitoids igneous rocks and their weathering processes prevailing in the region. (21)The hillocks, ridges, slopes, valleys and undulating plains are major landforms developed in the region. The dense Forest Canopy Cover (FCC) makes pleasant greenish environment and nourishing the floras species of Medicinal Plant (MPS) apart from the Timber, Fodder and Wood Plants. The Subtropical Climatic Conditions (SCC) are suitable for plant growth and agricultural products. The average annual rainfall ranges between 1200mm - 1400mm and temperature ranges between 4°C in winter raises to 43°C during summer seasons are common.(8)

#### **UPPER MAHANADI CATCHMENT-(UMC)**

The origin of Mahanadi (Chitrotapala Ganga) lies in Southern Hills of Sihawa, near Muchkot Pharsiya Village Literally Mahanadi combines two Sanskrit words, Maha (Great) and Nadi (River) (22).It's name has been differently known according to Hindu Vedic Era (TableI(A)). The surface water drainage lines of Eastern Central India, C.G. & Orissa, is occupied by Mahanadi River Catchment, spread over 1,46,600 km2 and flows from origin place Pharsiya, Sihawa, (440mAMSL) Hilly mountain to Jagjitpur Delta Orrisa (False point, OmAMSL) at Bay of Bengal(23)(Table II).

#### METHODOLOGY

Under methodology, the historical literatures of Kanker, C.G. have been collected and arranged in a chronological order. Various sources of information Published Literature, Monograph, Periodicals, Books, Journals have been consulted, analysed, classified and tabulated . The physical domain of Kanker State, Natural Assets Forest, Water Resources, Hills, Mountains, Soil, rocks have been studied using Satellite Imagery Prints adopted inductive and deductive reasoning and interpretation keys with limited Ground truth i-e. Field Work. The historical temples, monuments, palace, and other Constructed Ancient Remains (CAR) have been visualized, observed and identified. Correlation made with the literature information and other sources, described in tables.

#### HISTORY OF KANKER STATE

Physiographically, the Kanker Sihawa region is a part of Dandakaranya province of Bastar Tribal Hilly Mountaineous Plateaues. The history reveals that Kanker had been always known as a separate Kingdom or State since beginning of political states. History of Kanker State begin with early stone Era of primitive human being, resides in cave and rock shelters. Also mentioned in Hindu Epic Ramayana and Mahabharata, Vedic literature and Puranas(24). Various Rock Shelters, Cave, Rock Painting confirms the presence of human being during Litho Ages and Early stone ages in Kanker region. The region and states of Ancient Indian History commence from 3rd BC with Mauryan empire, then Satvahan Dynasty King's Satkarni ruled from 106 AD. Pulluvami, Shiv Shri, Shivskand were administered the Bastar Plateaue region, It also described by Chinese visitor Huensang. After wards, the state king, Vakatak, Nal Gupta Dynasty were ruled the region upto 500AD. South Chalukyas ,Pulkeshin II, Vikramaditya,Vinayaditya, Vikramaditya II and Kriti Verman expanded the Region including Odisha, A lot of Tamples were constucted by these rulers between 500 AD to 788 AD. The Haihaivanshi Kshatriya, Kalchuries of Tripur, M.P. and Ratanpur C.G. ruled from 788-1125 AD. King Gayakarni was defeated by Som Vansi founder King Singh Raj in 1125AD. Onwards, Som Vansi and Chandra Dynasty, with only intermiltant Kandra Dynasty for 40 years, ruled over the Kanker, Sihawa region. (21)(TableIII) The Bhosle of Nagpur were controlled the state continuously for 9 years and British Rulings recognized Kanker as Princely States of India. Thus, the history reveals that Kanker had been always known as a separate and independent State since beginning of political states and rulers expanded Hindu culture and heritages throughout the span of their rulings.(27)(Table IV)

#### SIHAWA MOUNTAINEOUS TRACT

Sihawa had been the place of Hindu Monk's, Saptrishi, Lomus, Angira and Shringi. The Sihawa Tract is an extension of Eastern Ghat Archean Metamorphosed Rock Ridges mountain's(Table I (B)). It contains Rock boulders of Granitoid nature with scanty vegetations. The Great River Mahanadi turn its flows at one flank of mountain peripheries also water pools found in form of ponds and ditches, filled with permanent source of water. According to Hindu legends and literature of Epic Ramayana, Hindu Monk Shringi had built his Ashram in this mountain and his blessings in Treta Yuga, gave King Dashrath of Ayodhya, a Son in performing Yagya rituals. Also, Rishi Angira, another Hindu Monk mediated in the Navakhand Hills near to Ratwa Village, Sihawa with aims to gain enlighten supreme power from Agni Deva (Lord of fire) in Yagyashala situated at cave of Hillocks.(24) Apart from this the Rishi Lomus also prayed Lord Vishnu in the bank of Chitrotapal Ganga

IJEDR2202001

(Mahanadi) in upper Mahanadi and also at confluence of Mahanadi, Sondur and Pairi river i.e. Triveni in Rajim.

#### ANCIENT ROCK MONUMENTS AND GEOHERITAGES ANCIENT ROCK SHELTERS AND CAVES

The stone implements of Ancient Nomadic people have been found at many localities of Kanker region. The cultural heritages of Mountaineous Tract is oldest one and begins with stone age. Rock shelters and caves, Rock Painting's have been located and identified as prehistoric, Rock paintings in well conditions e.g. Udkuda, Parkha, Kacheri, Khairkhed villages of near byCharamaTahsil. The Rock Paintings exhibit Hand impression, Forest, Fauna, Haunting Scene and various activities of human being.(25)

#### GADIA MOUNTAIN KILA DONGRI

The Gadiamountain lies in the southern boundries of Kanker City. It is encircled on western part by Doodh Nadi, a tributary of Mahanadi which is originated from Neele Gondi about 15 kms distance in further south of Kanker city. The Gadia mountain is a Granitic Residual Hills, erect out by fluvial weathering and erosion processes in the region (601 mAMSL). It was the capital of Kanker State in ancient medieval period of King of Kandra Dynasty (1345-1385 AD) .(26) The remanants of Forts scattered at the IInd level and Top level of Hill contains Natural Cave ChuriPager ,Jogi Cave, Lord Shiva Temple, Shitala Temple, Yogmaya, Durga Temple water reservoir pond /lake (Sonai-Rupai).These enriched Monumental Heritage Hindu Religious Heritage , Natural Heritages , Geo Heritage of Kanker State Region (Diwan et al, 2020)(19)

#### CARVED STONE TEMPLE

The ancient monuments includes carved temples constructed by Som Dynasty and Chandra Dynasty during 12th century AD to 20th century AD (Table) it includes Shiva Temples, Ram Nath temple, Hanuman Temple in Sihawa, Kanker during (12th-14th century AD) Vyaghraj, Krishna (KamaRaj) and Chandra Sen Dev, whereas the Chandra Dynasty rulers Vasudeva (15th century AD) to NarharDeo (early 20th century) constructed many temples at Bank Of Mahanadi and city Kanker, Dhamtari, Rudri etc. (Table IV)(27) These constructions enriched the Hindu religious and cultural heritages of Chhattisgarh state as mostly these structures have been found in well preserved conditions. Apart from these tepmles constructed by Royal families of Som Ruler and Chandra Ruler, the Indigenous Tribal Groups (ITGS) of Southern Keshkal valley, at 29 kms distance from Kanker, Mahanadi Valley, consists Temples of Bhaivagaram (A Tribal Diety) and at GarhGobarhin village, ASI (Archeological survey of India) has excavated remains of Ancient Temple, at 12 kms from Keshkal, in Dhanora village i.e. GarhDhanora also has remains of many ancient Temples, need further investigation and correlation.(25)

#### ROYAL PALACE - KANKER PALACE ( RADHA NIWAS BAGICHA) COLONIAL ARCHITECTURE

The Palaces of C.G. State comprises a unique tradition of monumental architecture and can be compared with Rajputana Palace heritages. It also reflects the vibration of local cultural, religeous thoughts and construction structures. The Palace of Kanker was built in the 18th century and renovation with landscaped Garden in 1937AD. It was earlier known Radha Niwas Bagicha, and lies in the Raja para, the old part of Kanker City. The Architectural style represents the "ColonialArchitecture" i.e. Princely state of British India (1853 AD) The aesthetic, sensitivity and stylistic influences of Rulers power and dignity expressed in the Glory of Palace Building structures encompasses, large compound with greeneries of Garden. The Kanker Palace, the "plan" exhibits "wings" where rooms has been arranged (22) The decoration painted in yellow colour it shows a religious Hindu Royal Choice of Rajputana Palaces. It has double storied plain facades with logo Emblem double tigers at the centre of the Parapet wall. In Rajapara, the old Palace Complex entry can be approached by an imposing Gateway.(24) The temples of Royal Family, dedicated to Dieties Chhote Pat Deo, and Anga Dev lies in this place, prayed by Royal Chandra Dynasty clan members in their fixed occassions In the Rajapara, the ancient temples dedicated to Lord Balaji and Lord Jagannath had been constructed by King NarharDeo (1882-1903) of Chandra Dynasty (Table IV)

#### DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The Ancient Hindu Kanker State has always been stands as an independant Reign in the Indian History. During Medieval period the Kanker State had been mainly ruled by two rulings namely Som Dynasty (1125AD to 1345AD) and Chandra Dynasty (1385AD to 1947 AD) with the intermiltant Hindu Tribal of Kandra Dynasty for 40 years (1345AD to 1385AD Physiographically, the Kanker Sihawa Granitic Mountaineous Tract comprises Dandakaranya tribal province of Bastar Plateaue Forests, The cultural Heritage s and Geoheritages- of Monuments, Carved Hindu Temples, Cave, Rock shelters , Rock painting, Mountain s , Forest, Valleys, enriched the region. The study indicates that the Som Dynasty and Chandra Dynasty rulers had made efforts towards raise of cultural and social uplift of common people s of Kanker- sihawa Mountaineous Tract, Upper Mahanadi Catchment Zone'. The construction of various religious Heritage Temple. Monuments by earlier ruler, the ethics and plans were also followed by their successors, even in the Princely States under British Architecture of Kanker Palace reflects the ethical attitude toward awareness and keen interest of Rulers in upgrading the social status of the State.

#### TABLE I (A) INDIAN LITERALLY NAME OF MAHANADI RIVER WITH AGES

S. No.	Language/ Age /Era	Name (Popular)	Source Literature
1.	Sanskrit Language	Great Nadi	Epics/Hindu Literature
2.	Ancient Era	Kanakandini	Ramayana Grantha
3.	Dwapar Yuga	Chitrotapala	Matsatya Purana
4.	Treta Yuga	Nilotapala	VayuPurana
5.	Mahabharata Era	Mahananda	Maabharata Grantha
6.	Kalyuga	Mahanadi or Mahasweta	Vedic-Puranik literature

Source: (Wikipedia, 2021)

AGE/ERA	GROUP/FORMATION	LITHO UNIT/			
		ROCK TYPES			
Recent to Pleistocene	Laterite/Alluvium	Soil, Sand, Alluvium, Reddish Laterites			
	- UNCONFORMITY-				
Proterozoic	Chattisgrh SG Chandrapur Group	Quartzitic Sand stone Siliceous			
FIOLEIOZOIC	(Sedimentry Rocks)	Aeranites Dolerite Dykes Intrusion			
	- UNCONFORMITY-				
	Intrusive	Quartz veins, Pegmatite, Aplite veins			
		Pink Granite, Grey Granite, Gneisses,			
		Magmatites			
Archaean	Bengpal	Banded ferrugenous, Quartzites, Biotite			
		Schist, Hornblende Schist Amphibolite,			
		Tale Schist			
	Older Metamorphics				

	TABLE -II Landscape Physiog	graphy and Terrain Cha	racteristics of Mahanac	li Region. (Catchment)
S No	Characteristics	Locality	Coographical Co	Dhusiography / Dagion Aron /

S.No	Characteristics	Locality	Geographical Co-	Physiography / Region Area /
			Ordinates	Elevation
Ι	Source Area Dense forest flows	Sihawa (Part of the	20° 11'N	Extension of Eastern Ghat
	Towards North Direction	Dandakaranya)	81° 91′E	HillocksArcheanGranitic
	mountaneous terrain	Head water Lies 6		Rock(890 mAMSL
		km at Mahakot		Max.)Originated From
				Pharsiya Village Mts.(442
				mAMSL)
II	Middle Part East Ward Flow,	Area Spreadin	20° 11' N	Main trunk 858 km length
	max, Length of main trunk in	C.G. and Orissa Join	81° 91' E to	Catchment Area 1,41600 km
	C.G.	Seonath, Arpa,	81° 23′ E	Archean Granites C.G.
	In C.G Bilaspur, Janjgir,	Jonk, Ib, Bramhini		<ul> <li>Sedimentaries Granitoid,</li> </ul>
	Raigarh- Undulating Plains	etc.		Metamorphic, Eastern Ghat&
	In Odisha- Ridges, Ghats			Alluvium in Cuttack onward
	(Sambalpur, Cuttack)			
III	The Drainage Catchment Area	Dandakaranya Centra		Hilly Terrain, Undulating Plair
	coverage	Province Sambalpur	•	in C.G., Nilgiri Mountains,
		Dakshina Kosala		Eastern Ghat Marine Coastal
		Kingdom Coastal		plains Jagtishpur (False Point)
		Plains		
IV	Mouth Confluence with Ocean	False point	Bay of Bengal	Deltaic Coastal Alluvium,
	(Bay of Bengal)	Jagtishpur Delta		Beach, Sands, 0m(MSL)
		Odisha		

#### TABLE III CHRONOLOGICAL PERIODS OF RULERS/KING/RAJA IN KANKER STATE (GENERALIZED)

S.	Age/Era	Dynasty	Ruler/King	Locality/	Discription of
No				Area	Events/Activities
					Cultural/Religious Social etc.
Ι	Ancient Period	STONE AGE &	Neolithic and Primitive Man	Hills, Cave,	Cave, Rock shelters, Litho
	1000 BC/600 BC	HINDU EPICS	Ramayana Mahabharata	Dandakara	Paintings, Keshkal Ghati
	to 300 BC		King/Empire (Ishavaku Vansh)	nya Dakshin	described in Ramayana &
				Koshala	Mahabharata Hindu Epic
П	3rd Century BC	Mauryan Dynasty	Mauryan Rulers Bindusar,	Dandakaranya	
	to 1st Century	(Magadh)	Chandra Gupta Maurya,	Dakshin	
	AD		Vikramaditya	Koshala	
III	106 AD 2nd	Satvahan Dynasty	(i) Satkarni	Bastar	Chinese visitor Huensang
	century			Plateaue	described the Kanker region

Г

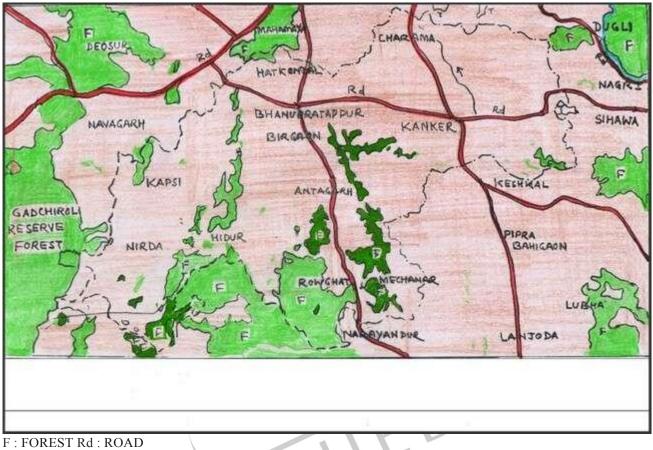
IV	Ce	d and 3rd ntury AD to Century AD	(B) (ii)	Gupta Dynasty Nal Dynasty Vakatak Nag Dynasty	<b>(iii)</b> Vakat Nal K (i)Vya (iii)Bh		(ii)V	Sen, Varahra	Kanker	ihava	Nal King Vyaghraj won the wholeregion of Dandakaranya and Mahana CatchmentVakatak, Narend Senattacked Bhavdatt, Bhavdatt lost Some part, again collected Kanker
V	Cei (50 288	to 8th ntury AD 00-788 AD) 8 Yrs		ukya Dynasty	(ii) \ (iii) (iv) \ (v)Kir	lkeshin II /ikramaditya Vinayaditya Vikramaditya tiverman	aII		Sihawa Kanker		Expanded the Region towards Orissa, A lot of Hindu Temples were constucted
	VI	8th to 12th Century AD		Kalchuri of Rata (Tripuri)Bran ch Vanshi				Sihawa Kanke 1125 A	r 788- .D	Gayak Singh	weak Rule of Kalchuri, arna had defeated by the Raj in 1125 AD, Victory NVansh
	VII	12th to Century (1125-1345 A	AI	Som Vansh (A H Vansh Branch	Pandu	(I)Singh Raj Chandra Ser		Sihawa Kankei			ructed Shiv Temple, Monuments
	VII I	14th Century (1345- 1385)		Kandra Dynasty Hindu Tribe lead Dandakaranya		(I)Dharm De (ii) Chhattar		Sihawa Kanker		Fort, V Tampl	tution of Gadia Mountain Vater Tanks, Hindu esYogmaya Temple r Hill Capital
	IX	14th Century to 20th Centu AD (1385- 1947AD)	ry	Chandra Dynast (Related to Som Rulers)Break (I)1809-1818 Maratha Bhosle Nagpur (ii)1853-1882 British Rule (19 (iii) British Prin State (1845-194	Yrs) cely	Veer Kanhar To Bhanu Pr Dev to Udai Pratap Dev	atap	Sihawa Kanker		Educa Samba Ponds Templ	ructed Hindu Temple, tional Schools, in Ilpur Orissa also, Water , Tanks, Fort at Dhamtari e at Rudri Sihawa, hadi River Bank

Based on various Literatures of South Kosala, C.G.)

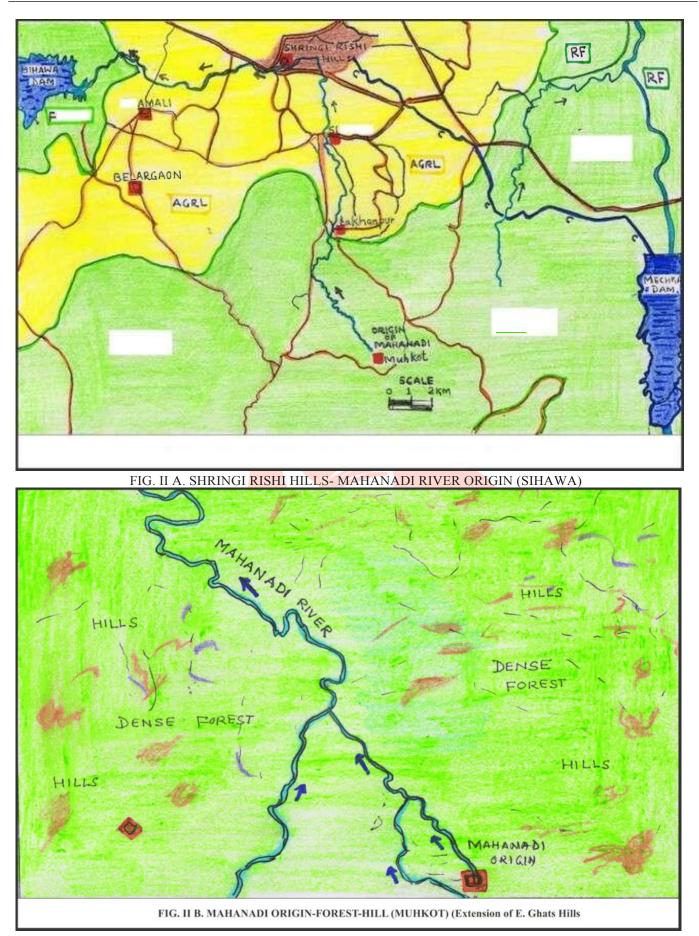
## TABLE IV Hindu Religious Temple and Monument Heritages in Kanker (Built By Som Dynasty and ChandraDynasty) King / Ruler/ Rais of Temple Monument Heritages Locality Kanker Sibaya Dhamtari

		Temp	le Monument Heritages	Locality Kanker, Sihawa, Dhamtari						
S.No.	Kanker State			Rudri, Mahanadi Bank						
	Som Dynasty									
т	Vyagh Raj	(i)	Maa KankalinDevi							
Ι	(1130-1161 AD)	(ii)	KalBhairav Temple	Near M.G. Road, Kanker						
	Krishna (Karna Raj)	(i)	Ram Nath Temple							
II	(1184-1206 AD)	(ii)	Shiv Temple	Sihawa						
III	Chandra Sen Dev	(i)	Shiva Temple	Up-Down Road Kanker						
	(1344-1345	(ii)	Hanuman Temple							
			Chandra Dynasty							
	Vasudeva			Started and Celebrated the						
Ι	(1461-1482 AD)		Lord Jagganath Rath Yatra Every Year	Rathyatra at Kanker						
	KapilNarendra Dev (1482	-		Mahanadi River Bank Rudri						
II	1502 AD)		Lord Shiva Temple Temple	(Dhamtari)						
	RudraDeo (1539-1588 AD)			Mahanadi River Bank Near						
III			Rudreshwar Temple	Bridge, Kanker						

	PadmaDeo	(i)	Goddess Durga DeviTemple	(i)	Kanker		
IV	(1839-1853	(ii)	Big Fort	(ii)	Dhamtari		
		(iii)	Two Tanks	(iii)	Dhamtari		
	NarharDeo (1882-1903 AD)	(i)	Maa Singh Vahini Temple	Raja Para Ka	nker		
V		(ii)	Shri Jagganath Temple				
		(iii)	Shri BalajiTemple				
	(i) Maa Tripur Sundari Temple (Nathia Nawagarh)						
VI	(ii) L	Lord Shri Krishna Temple (Daily Market Kanker)					
	(iii) N	Maa Shitla Devi Temple (Shitla Para, Kanker)					



### FIG. I - BHANUPRATAPPUR-KANKER-NAGARI-SIHAWA



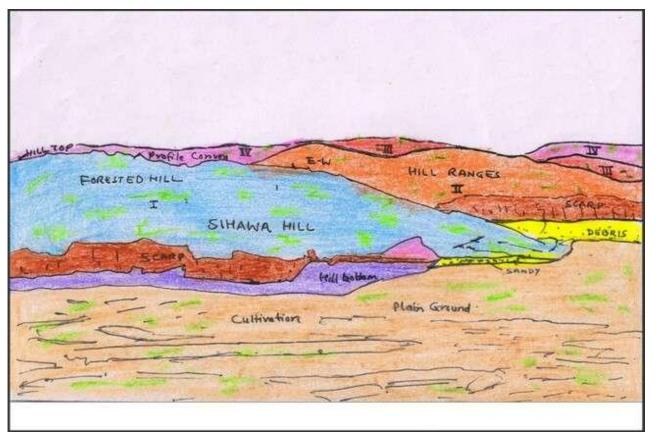
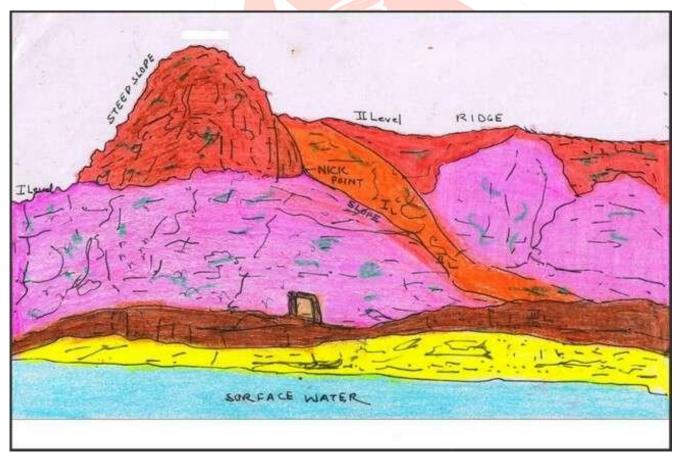


FIG. III . SIHAWA HILL RANGES (STRETCHED IN E-W)



FI G. I V. SI HAWA H I LL TOP AN D LEV ELS (SH R I NGI R IS HI A SH RAM, M A H ANAD I)

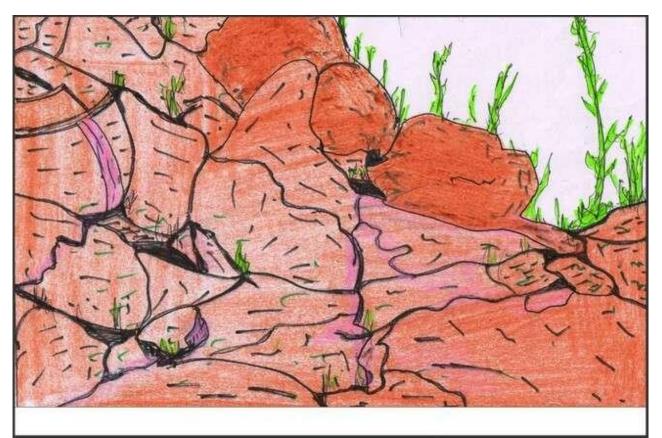


FIG. V GRANITIC BOULDERS WITH SCANTY

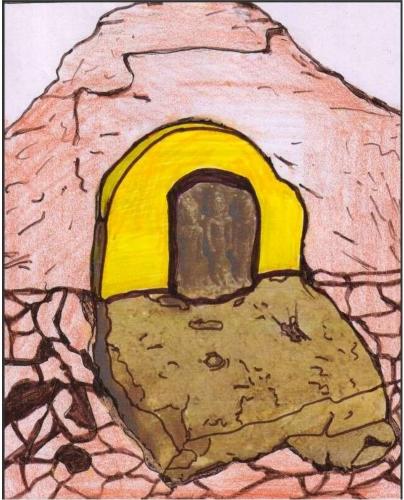


FIG. VI A. SIHAWA-MONUMENTS IN SHRINGI HILLOCK

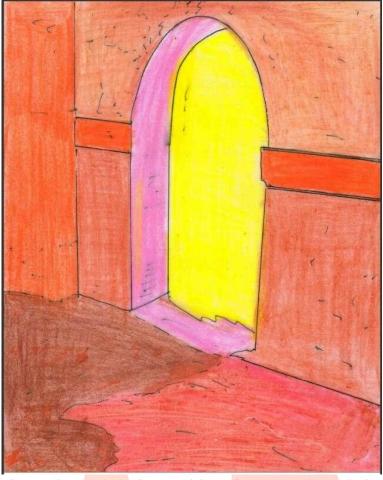
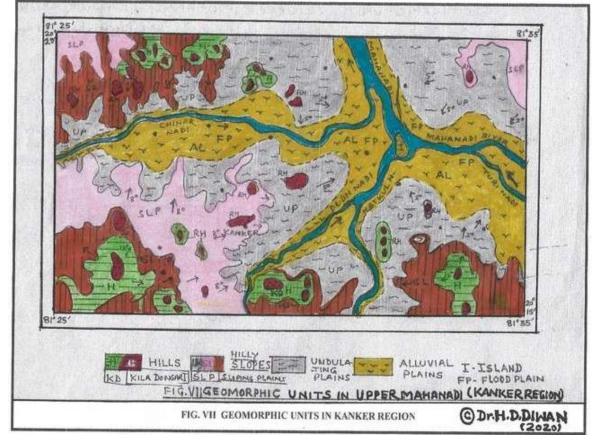


FIG. VI B SIHAWA-ARCHED DOOR MONUMENT (HILL SLOPE)



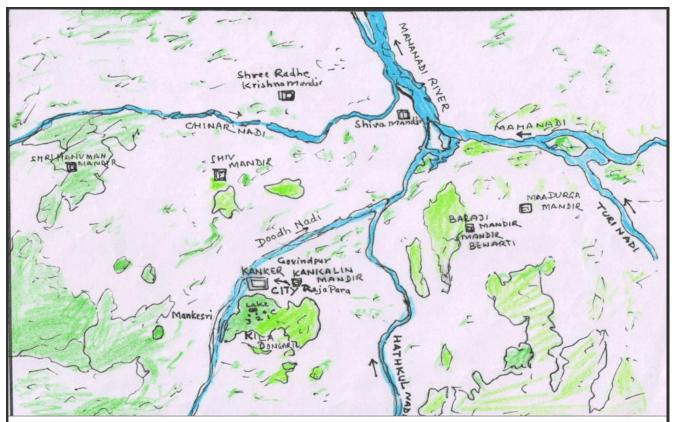


FIG. VIII KANKER CITY-GADIA KILA DONGRI (FORT REMAIN) CAVES 1,2,3, DOODH NADI, TEMPLES MAHANADI RIVER

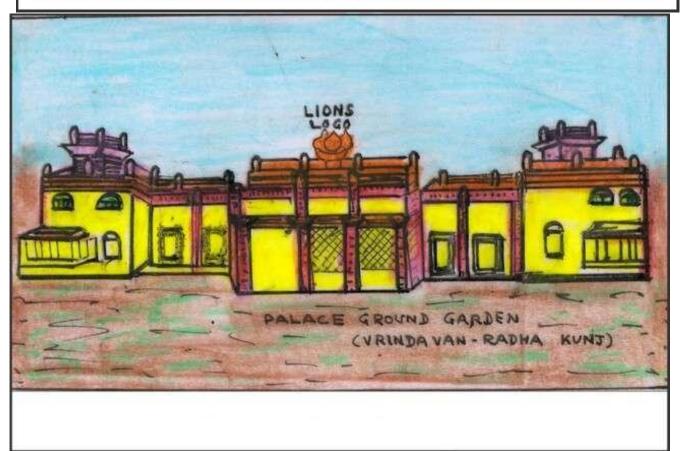


FIG. IX KANKER PALACE (CHANDRA DYNASTY) (PALACE VIEW) (SCHEMATIC)

IJEDR2202001

#### REFERENCES

- [1] AchhiGyan.com-Fort
- [2] Gaikwad D., Hemant Raje, (2019), Shivaji Maharaj the Greatest, Parbat Prakashan.
- [3] http://en.Wikipedia.org/satellite Imagery Google. (2020)
- [4] http://en.Wikipedia.org/Forts of C.G.(2019)
- [5] Sidney Toy (1961), The Fortified Citiess of India, Heinemann Educational, London, //archive.org
- [6] Virginia Fassi, Rita Sharma (1986) The Fort of India, William Collins Sons, London
- [7] Yule, Paul. (2009), Early Forts in Eastern India, Antiquity Vol 82 Issue 316, Virtual project Gallary, Http://web.archive.org/web antiquity.ac.uk
- [8] CGWB (2013), DISTRICT REPORT, G.W. brochure Kanker dist, Chhattisgarh, pp.18
- [9] Kanker State (ESA), Administration Report, 1944 Laxmi Printing Press, Raipur, C.P. 146p
- [10] Diwan, H.D., et.al (2020), strategic Military Importance and Rock Fort of
   [10] Architecture of Ancient Rani Durgawati Monolithic Gondwana Kingdom, Madan Mahal Hills Jabalpur India IJCRT, Vol. 8 Issue 10,pp 1110-1121
- [11] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Ancient Hindu Rock Monuments, Configuration and Architectural Features of Ahilya Devi Fort of Holkar Dynasty, Mahismati Region, Maheshwar, Narmada Valley, Central India IJSDR Vol. 5 Issue 11, pp 134-149
- [12] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Sustainable Safety, Security and Strategic structure in precincts of Ancient Hindu Architectural Chittorgtarh Fort, Rajasthan, India, IJSDR, Vol. 5 Issue 10, pp 231-250
- [13] Diwan H.D. Bhadauria S.S., et.al. (2020) Geologic-Geomorphic characteristics, Fortification and Architectural Elements of Ancient Hindu Military Check Post, Shivneri Hill Fort, Junnar, MH, India, JETIR, Vol. 7, Issue 10, pp 3414-3430
- [14] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Study of Architectural Features and Stability of Ancient Military Defence Type Island Fort of Medhakot in Kokan Coast of India, IJAH, Journals Pub. Vol. 3, Issue 2, pp 31-37
- [15] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Geomorphic Terrain Conditions of Precincts and Stone Monuments of Kaktiya Architecture in Warangal Fort, Telangana, India IJAH, Journals Pub. Vol. 3 Issue 2, pp 17-23
- [16] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Evolution and Histo-archeological Importance of Indian Heritage Island Betdwarika/Shankhodhar Island, IJSDR, Vol. 5, Issue 8, pp. 78-86
- [17] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), Need of Architectural Restoration and conservation of Ancient Coastal Manora Fort in Thanjavur, Tamilnadu, India, IJAIP, Pub. Vol 7, Issue 1, pp. 16-20
- [18] Diwan H.D.(2020), Researches in Forts of India, Vol. I, Satya Pravah Publishers, pp 140
- [19] https//en.wikipedia. org/dhamtari district pp-4
- [20] Lilisand and keifer (1980) Remote Sensing Interpretation
- [21] Diwan H.D., et.al.(2020), sustainable conservation of Rock monuments and Fort Remains of Ancient Kandra Dynasty, Granitic Godia Mountain, C.G. India, IJIRMF, Vol. I, Issue 10, pp 258-268
- [22] https/en./wikipedia.org/mahanadi, 2021, p. 16
- [23] India River Week Report Chhattisgarh- (2016), Mahanadi River, NGO Work, pp. 140
- [24] https/en.wikipedia.org/Kanker (2020) p. 5
- [25] Bulletin (2018)- Archaeological Survey of India, Central India Monuments of Chhattisgarh, pp. 12
- [26] Varlyani J.R. and Sahasi V.D., (1998), Bastar ka Rajnitik avam Sanskritik itihas, including the Kanker Riyasat, (Prarambh Se 1947 AD), Divya Parkashan, Kanker pp. 196
- [27] https/en.wikipeia.org/Sihawa, 2020, p. 6
- [28] Ramchandra HM, et.al. (2001), A critical review of Tectono thermal evolution of the Baster Craton, Geol. Surv. India, Spec. Publ. 55 pp 161 180
- [29] Google Satellite Image Scene, 2020
- [30] Ramkrishnan, M. (1990) Crustal Development in Southern Baster Central Indian Craton, Geol. Surv. India Sp. Publ. 28, pp. 44-66
- [31] Croockshank H. (1963), Geology of Southern Baster and Jeypore from the Bailadila Range to Eastern Ghats. Mem. Geol. Surv. India pp. 87-150
- [32] Diwan H.D., Sanyal D., Mehrotra N., (2022) Hindu Rajputana Architectural Features and Unique Defence Battlement of Silver Balls in Uncomquerable Historical Churu Fort, Thar Desert Region, Aravalli Tract, Rajasthan, India, International Journal of Creative Research Toughts (IJCRT), Vol-10, Issue 2, February, pp. c 250-265