

Temple Architectural Style in West Bengal (17th -19th century)

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Abstract

Temple culture has a long history in West Bengal. There is more than one and a half thousand-year-old temples scattered all over Bengal, of which only a few exist today. The design of Indian temples followed the construction of temples in Bengal, so this was an ongoing aspect of Indian temple culture. Numerous witnesses to Bengal's ancient history can be found in these temples. During the Gupta era, India's first temple was constructed (third century A.D.). Different types of temples were built in various parts of Bengal in the ninth and tenth centuries A.D., including the Siddheswar stone temple in Bahulara of Bankura district, the stone temple of Sonatpal village, the Telkupi temple in Purulia district, the Begunia shiv temple at Barakar in Burdwan district (Paschim Bardhaman), the Jater Deul of 24 Pargana district, the Mahasthangarh temples in Bangladesh, Baigram temples of Dinajpur district, etc. The different types of temples that have existed throughout the region are the state's most fascinating archaeological remnants. According to their size, shape, and construction, these temples are divided into several categories based on their design, structure, and formation. In general, structural varieties are classified as (A) *Deul*, (B) *Bangla*, or *Chala*, and (C) *Ratna types* (peak style), (D) *Dalan mandir* (Building type), (E) *Trikona mandir* (triangular temple), etc.

Keywords: *Terracotta, Ratna type (Peak style), Bangla style temple, Brhat Samhita, European Architecture*

The temple style of Bengal has been influenced by three eras, such as; the early Hindu Period (up to the end of the 12th century A.D.) this type of temple is mainly found in the Western Part of Bengal, and another era was the Islamic period (14th century A.D. to 16th century) and also seen Hindu revival period (16th century to 19th century) (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 1). All of the temple-building procedures

that were performed in Bengal were influenced by the Indian temple technique, i.e. the *Shikara* and *Pira riti* (style) (Kramrish, Stella. 1946: 146-147). In addition to this, a significant number of temples were built in Bengal that was well-known as *Chalariti* and *Ratnariti* (Sanyal, Hiteshranjan. 2012: 93). These were Bengal's original techniques. Denesh Chandra Sen called the temple building styles in Bengal a product of the "Pauranic Renaissance." (Sen, Denesh Chandra. 1920: Ch.IV). We are aware that the Brhat Samhita literature provides the following descriptions of the twenty different types of temple construction methods: as well as Meru, *Mandara*, *Kailasa*, *Hamsa*, *Vrta*, and *Ghata*. (Bhat, M. Ramakrishana. 1981: 541-544). It is evident that Bengali temple construction strategies adhered to mythological ideas, and that Orissa and North Indian techniques were appropriately used while this temple was being built prior to the thirteenth century (Sarswati, S. K. 1963:104). All of these temples were constructed in accordance with the Brhat Samhita's guidelines, including Siddheswar stone temple in Bahulara of Bankura district, Stone temple of Sonatpal village, Telkupi temple in Purulia district, Begunia shiv temple at Barakar of Burdwan District (Paschim Bardhaman), JaterDeual of 24 Pargana district, Mahasthangarh temples in Bangladesh, Baigram temples of Dinajpur district as well. In addition, the temples built in the post-sixteenth century such as; Krishana-Balaram temple (1616) at Kalna in PurbaBardhaman district, Lalji Temple (1793) at Kalna, Gopaljue Temple (1766) at Kalna, Sritheer temple (17th century) at Hatgovindapur in PurbaBardhaman district, Shiva temple (1690) at Ajhapur in PurbaBardhaman, Shiva temple (18th century) at Gram Kalna, Jora Shive temple Basatpur (1741) in Burdwan, Gopal Temple (1682) at Bainchigram in Hooghly, Shiv temple (1864) at Bolpur in Birbhum district, Kiritesvari Shiv Temple (19th century) at Nasbagram in Murshidabad district, Sarvamangala temple (1604) in Midnapore, Radha-Govindo temple (1659) at Bishnupur in Bankura district, Damodar temple (1765) at Arambag in Hooghly district, etc. having the influence of Islamic structure. These temples can be categorized into various major categories based on their style, formation, and structure. They range in size and structural formation. A.C.L. Carlyle and G.D.M. Begler, both archaeologists, have commended Bengal's temples (Archibald, C.C & Beglar, J.D. 1878: 203). In the design of the temple, the roof has served as the imaginative central focus. As can be seen, the temple has been classified based on the characteristics of the covering. The Bengal temple construction effort has made use of the temple construction methods stated in the Brhat Samhita literature. The main structural variations fall into the following categories, which are typically referred to as (A) *Deul*, (B) *Bangla*, or *Chala*, and (C) *Ratna type* (peak style), (D) *Dalan mandir* (building type), (E) *Trikona mandir* (triangular temple), etc. (McCutchion, David J. 1972:3-14). In addition to these temples, there are quite a few mosques spread around the area, which can also be seen as providing a unique aspect of Bengali culture.

(A) DEUL TYPE

A traditional ritual uses a *Deul-style* temple construction. Bengal has two different types of Deul temples: *RekhoDeul* and *PirhaDeul*. *PirhaDeul* of Orissa served as an inspiration for the construction of this temple in Bengal. There are now very few Gupta-era temples using this design in Bengal. Till the seventeenth century, Bengal had only a few temples. (Sanyal, Hiteshranjan. 2012: 93). These temples are more common in the west of West Bengal, particularly in the Burdwan-Birbhum area, although they are also dispersed as far north as the Dinajpur district, over into Bangladesh, and in the neighbouring

Midnapore-Hooghly region. The three Barakar temples from the 15th century are virtually replicas of one another, however they do have the distinctive tall shape of the Burdwan *deul*, central *rathas* and *pagas* that are ornamented

with niches, finials, and jumping lions, and a massive, flat crowing *amalaka*. (McCutchion, David J.1972: 22.). Only the Kanth temples in the Midnapore district have the vast arrangement of the upper half of the *pirhaDeul* that is visible in the Orissa temple pattern. The KeshiriSarvamangala temple in Midnapore was not built in the Orissan style, however. The term of baki, it is joined the temple's upper and lower halves, is missing, so Ghanta is holding an *Amlaka* there instead. This temple has a slightly unique structure. The shapes of the temples in Chandrakana, Garbeta, Egra, Keshira, and other locations vary only slightly. It is evident that Bengal has only recently experimented with the construction of this sort of temple, which is a fusion of both Orissan and Bengali traditions. The south-western region of Bengal is where Deul temples are most prevalent. (McCutchion, David J.1972: 81-85). According to popular belief, the ancient dual temples of Bengal were constructed as a complement to Orissa's temple culture. (McCutchion, David J.1972: 85). West Bengal has the following deul temples that between to the eighth to eleventh century. Deulghata in Puraliya district, JaterDeul in South 24 - Parghana district, BahularaRekhoDeul in Bankura district, (McCutchion, David J. Reprint 2015: 82) Deulghata in Puraliya district, *JaterDeul* in South 24 - Parghana district, Sat Deul at Ajhapur in East Burdwan, Ichhai Ghosh *Deul* in West Burdwan district etc. The *JaterDeul* temple has a square ground plan and takes the shape of a curving tower. The original building followed the standard *rekha* type of the North Indian nagara variety. The vertical panels of the *ratna* characteristics are still discernible in this construction. However, numerous modifications that were carelessly and hastily carried out by inexperienced organisations have completely destroyed the decorative ornaments that distinguished the temple in its original state. In the Bankura district's *Dihar*, a remote village, there is a temple called Sadeshvara that can also be considered a *rekha*-style building. Some scholars have asserted that this temple was constructed sometime in the 11th century AD. The vertical panelling of the *ratna* formulation distinguishes the temple, which is 20 feet high. An *amalaka* that is flat is placed on its top. In the West Burdwan area, the village of Barakar is the location of three stone *Rekhodeul* temples. This temple, which was constructed in 1461 A.D., has all of the distinguishing features of a *rekha* temple in the Nagara style. The building is shaped nicely, and the tower is magnificent. This temple and the smaller Orissan-style temples in Bhubaneswar might be directly compared. (Champakalakshmi, R. 2007: 15).

Other *Deul*-type temples include Telkupi temple in Purulia district, Deulswar temple in Ajhapur in PurbaBardhaman district, and the brick temple in Deulia village of Bardhamana district. Siddhesvara temple at Bahulara in Bankura district and the brick temple in Deulia village are also worthy of mention as temples surviving from before 1660 A.D. All of these temples belonged to the *rekha* architectural style, which continued to evolve for practically the whole duration of the following four centuries. (Hiraskar, G.K. 1991: 118-120). These later temples, however, exhibit an increase in height and design complexity, but it is discovered that they have kept the fundamental elements of construction, such as a square ground plan, vertical towers with *ratha* projections carried along the towers, and horizontal mouldings, particularly at the base of the towers in a vase form and a cornice (*baranda*) where the base of the tower meets the top of the lower walls. The projections have niches that are periodically topped with pilasters and tower replicas. It is common to find chaitya mesh decorations on the curvilinear *sikhara*s, which are then crowned off with a sizable *amalaka* and *kalasa* finial and *bhumi*-*amalaka*s spaced evenly

along the corners. This style sometimes received a curved cornice in Midnapore and the surrounding areas of Hooghly in the nineteenth century. The district of Birbhum's temple was constructed without the use of *baranda*. There is no distinction between the *Sikhara* and the lower walls as the tower sweeps in from a relatively low position and becomes a rather pointed appearance. A few examples include the Shiv temple (1749) in

Mahammadbazar in Birbhum district, the Anadi Siva temple (1654) in Khayarasol in Birbhum district, the Dharmaraj temple (1643) at Rajnagar in Birbhum district, and others.

A Short list of Deul type temples has been prepared.

List of Deul Temple in Hoogly District of West Bengal

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Ghanteswar Shiva	Uvidpur (Khanakul, Hoogli)	19 th Century	Rekho Deul		Brick Temple
Dolmancha	Kankrakuli (Dhaniakhali, hoogli)	1755	Shikhar Deul	Sen Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Kanakeswar Shiva Temple	Kanpur (Arambag, Hoogly)	19 th century	Shikhar Deul	Roy Family	Brick temple
Ghanteswar Shiva Temple	Khanakul (Hooghly)	18 th century	Rekho Deul	Matuk Karak	Brick Temple with light terracotta decoration
Ramchandra Temple	Guptipara (balagarah, Hooghly)	18 th century	Shikhar Deul	Raja Harischandra	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Four Shiva Temple	Barasat (Chandannagar, Hooghly)	1880	Shikhar	Local Basu Family	Brick temple
Laxmijanardhan Temple	Jamgram(Pandua, Hooghly)	19 th crntury	Sikhara	Local Nandi family	Brick temple
Benimadhab Temple	Tribeni (Hooghly)	1841	Octagonal Sikhara	Chakuram Singh	Brick Temple
Jagadiswar Shiv Temple	Ala (Dhaniakhali, Hugly)	18 th Century	Octagonal Sikhara	Laha	Brick Temple
Hatteswar Mahadev Temple	Digsui (Magra, Hooghly)	1866	Sikhara	Local Niyogi Family	Brick Temple slight Terracotta panel
Shiva Temple	Bansbaria, Mukherjee road (Hooghly)	1859	Sikhara	Burdwan Raj Mahatabchandra	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration

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List of Deul Temple in Bankura district of West Bengal

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
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Ektesvara Temple	Ektesvara (Bankura)	16 th Century	Deul	-----	Laterite pirha Deul Renovated
Radha Damodara Temple	Ghutgheria (Barjora, Bankura)	17 th Century	Deul	Local Malla Family	Khiching style and Terracotta decoration
Ratnesvara Shiva Temple	Jagannathpur (Barjora, Bankura)	17 th Century	Deul	-----	Laterite Rekha Deul
Mallesvara Shiva Temple	Bishnupur (Bankura)	1622	Deul	Malla Bir Hambir	Laterite Temple
Twin Deuls Krishna and Balarama Temple	Bishnupur (Bankura)	18 th Century	Deul	Malla raj Gopal shingh	Brick Rekha Deul with Trracotta Decoration

List of Deul type Temple in Burdwan District (Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Bardhaman)

Siva Temple	Dainhat (Katwa, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	Deul	Karmakar family	Brick temple with terracotta deity and figure panels
Siva Temple	Bahadurpur (Ausgram Barddhaman)	Early 18 th century	Deul	Acharya family	Brick temple with rekha tower and terracotta decorated facade
Siva	Dignagar (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 18 th century	Deul	Roy family	Brick temple with rich terracotta façade
Homeswara and Parameswara	Kalikapur (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1839	Deul	Roy family	Brick rekha deuls with rich terracotta facade
Siva	Maukhira (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Late 18 th century	Deul	Roy family	Brick rekha deal with terracotta decorated facade, vegetal and figural motifs

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Abandoned	Maukhira (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1846	Deul	Meta family	Brick temple with rich terracotta
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					facade, vegetal and figural motifs
Abandoned	Maukhira (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1844	Deul	Meta family	Brick temple with rich: terracotta facade, mainly figure and animal panels
Siva	Sar (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Late 18 th century	Deul	Roy family	Brick rekha deul with rich terracotta facade
Siva	Sar (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	18 th century	Deul	Roy family	Brick rekha deul with rich terracotta facade
Abandoned	Takipur (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	19 th century	Deul	Bhattacharya	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, mainly vegetal motifs
Gopesvara Siva	Baikunthapur (Barddhaman, Barddhaman)	1732	Deul	Bardhaman Raj	Large brick rekha deul with ridged tower, fargely plain

Source: Field Survey and Literature Survey

(B) BANGLA OR CHALA TYPE (Shed):

The Bengal's own traditional temple architecture is known as a *chala* type temple. (Sanyal, Hiteshranjan. 2012: 38). Temples in the *Chala* style were constructed in exact replication of the common people in Bengal. The *Ek-chala* temple is the simplest and most basic example of the *chala* style. There is only one rectangular courtyard in the *ek-bangla* temple. Three finials that display the insignia of the deity present in the temple are typically seen atop the roof of such temples. The front of the fully built *ek-bangla* temple may feature a single arched entrance or a triple entrance with three arched openings supported by two standard columns in the centre. Some of these temples can be found in the districts of Burdwan, Bankura, Purulia, Birbhum, Nadia, etc., including the Madanlal temple in Lalbagan in the Hooghly district, the Gopal temple in

Gram Kalna in the PurbaBardhaman district, the Kali temple in Gonpur in Birbhum, the Malleswar temple in Mallerpur in Birbhum, (Hunter, W.W. Reprint 2001: 141.) and the Baranagar temple in Murshidabad etc. The most basic domestic hut design has two sides to the roof, gable ends, and an elongated base. The most typical version has a bamboo frame covered in jute stalks, reed or latticework,

and a thatched roof with curves on the ridge and bottom borders to give it a humped appearance. In brick or stone temples, the struts supporting the gable ends are frequently replicated as a decorative element. (Dani, A.H. 1961: 14). On the inner vault and the supporting poles on the inner walls, even the bamboo rafters upon which the thatch rests may be imitated. The name "*Ek-bangla*" is given to this pattern.

A list of Dochala Temple in Purba Bardhaman District of West Bengal (Adjoin two shed)

Temple name	Place/Location	Date/period	type/ style	Patron/funding Authority	Description
Durga Temple	Amaragarh (Aushgram, Barddhaman)	19 th century	Do Chala	Roy Family	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Takipur (Aushgram, Barddhaman)	18 th century	DoChala	Roy Family	Brick Temple
Abandoned Temple	Kanchannagar (Barddhaman)	18 th century	DoChala	Burdwan Raj Family	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Belkash (Barddhaman)	19 th century	DoChala	-----	Brick Temple
Kali Temple	Bankati (Barddhama)	19 th century	Do Chala	-----	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Amadpur (Memari, Barddhaman)	18 th century	Do Chala	-----	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Masagram (Jamalpur, Barddhaman)	19 th century	DoChala	Local Mukherjee family	Brick Temple
Jora Shiva Temple	Panchra (Jamalpur, Barddhaman)	19 th century	Do Chala	Local Bandhpadhayoy Family	Brick Temple

List of Ek Bangla/ Dochala Temple Bankura district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Madan Mohan Temple	Bishnupur (Bankura)	17 th century	Ek Bangla/ Dochala	Malla Durjan Singha	Brick structure with terracotta decoration

Source: Field Survey.

(ii) Jor-Bangla (Adjion two shed):

In Bengal temple architecture, particularly in south Bengal, the *Jor-bangla* design can be seen. There is at least one or more example in each district south of the Ganges and west of Padma. (McCutcheon,

David J. 1972: 5-8.) Bengal's highly particular addition to Indian architectural conceptualization, the *Jor-bangla* style, reveals a very important feature. They are made of two Bengali hut-style buildings with sloping roofs that are brought together to create a single structure. On the summit of these constructions, a *char-chala* tower can occasionally be seen. Most of these buildings have a front porch with three arched openings and frequently have a side entrance leading to the rear chamber. Each of the sloping roofs has three finials with the insignia of the deity put inside each one. The majority of these *Jor-Bangla* temples can be found in the Siddheswar Temple (1740) at Kalna in Bardhaman District, (Peterson, J.C.K. 1997: 151-152). the Nara-Shingha Temple (1861) at Nabasta in Burdwan, the Abandoned Temple (17th century) in Dakshinabazer in Midnapore, the Varaha-Vishnu Temple (early 18th century) at Kaigram in PurbaBardhaman District, the Dayamaye Temple (1759) at Berhampore in Murshidabad, the Itanda Kali Temple (19th century) in Birbhum district, the Mahaprabhu temple (1734) Bishnupur in Bankura dsistrict, the Durga temple (19th century) at Bali in Howrah district, the Madhangopal temple(17th century) at Gramkalna, Jamalpur, in PurbaBardhamabn district etc. Chandrakona in Medinipore, Guptipara in Hooghly, Baranagar in Murshidabad, and other such locations all include a few simple *Jor-bangla* temples. In the realm of Bengal temple architecture, *Jor-bangla* temples with a single tower might be considered a distinctive form. These temples are made of two hut-like buildings, each with two sloping roofs, connected together to form a single temple, with the *char-chala* tower placed on top. On the front porch and all three sides of these temples, clay decoration is frequently quite lavishly embellished. The *Keshta-Raya* temple in Bishnupur is the most famous example. It was constructed in the year 1655 AD and measures around 38 square feet at its base. The *Keshta-Raya* temple has been very widely known for its structural formation and exquisite terracotta carvings. It is extensively decorated with terracotta ornamentations upon the front porch and in all three sides.

List of Joebangla Temple in Hooghly District of West Bengal

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Chaitanya Temple	Guptipara (Balagarah, Hooghly)	16 th Century	Jorbangla	Biswaswar Roy	Brock Temple with terracotta images
Durga Temple	Bali- Dewanganj, Rautpara (Hooghly)	19 th century	Jorbangla	-----	Brick Temple with Thirteen turrets and rich terracotta decoration facade

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List of Jor Bangla Temple Bankura district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Keshta Raya Temple	Bishnupur (Bankura)	1655	Jor Bangla	Malla Raghunatha Singha	Brick temple with charchala tower, rich terracotta

					decoration
Mahaprabhu Temple	Bishnupur (bankura)	1734	Jor Bangla	Malla Gopala Singha	Brick temple similar to Kestha raya Temple.

Jor Bangla Temple in Purba Bardhaman District

Temple Name	Location/place	Date/period	Type/Style	Patron	Description
Radhakanta Temple	Singarkon(Kalna, Bardhaman)	17 th century	Jor Bangla	Bandhayapadhyay Family	Brick Temple
Siddheswari Temple	Kalna (Bardhaman)	1740	Jor Bangla	Burdwan Raj Family	Brick Temple
Madan Gopal Temple	Gram Kalna (Jamalpur, Bardhaman)	17 th century	Jor Bangla	Roy Family	Brick Temple
Vishnu Baraha Temple	Kaigram (Manteswar, Bardhaman)	18 th century	Jor Bangla	Roy Family	Brick Temple
Raghunath Temple	ChotoDighari(Hirapur, Bardhaman)	18 th century	Jor Bangla	Sarkar Family	Brick Temple
Abandoned Temple	Kanchannagar (Bardhaman)	18 th century	JorBangla	Burdwan Raj Family	Brick Temple
Damodara Temple	Amadpur (Memari, Bardhaman)	18 th century	Jor Bangla	-----	Brick Temple
Nara Singha Temple	Nabastha(Memari, Bardhaman)	1861	Jor Bangla	-----	Brick Temple
Jogadiya Temple	Khigram (Mangalkot, Bardhaman)	18 th century	Jor Bangla	-----	Brick Temple

Source: Field Survey and Literature Survey

(iii) Char-Chala (Four shed type):

Char-chala temples are primarily located in the districts of Nadia, Burdwan, Birbhum, and Murshidabad. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 29). Typically, they are moderately sized, simple, or adorned, and frequently found in clusters. The *Char-chala* temples were mostly square in shape, such as the Jaleswar temple (early 18th century) at Santipur in Nadia district, the Ramnatheswar temple (1741) at Jiaganj in Murshidabad, the Raghaveswar temple (1669) at Krishanagar, the Raghunatha Siva temple

(1633) at Ghurisa in Birbhum district, the Jotekubir Shiv temple (18th century) in Purbabardhaman district, Abandoned temple (1886) Ukhara in Burdwan, Madhab temple (18th century) at Dainhat in PurbaBardhhaman, Buroshiva temple (19th century) in Mashagram, Burdwan, Jora Siva temple (18th century) Sarul in PurbaBardhhaman, etc., all these have single entrance in the facade and often a side entrance as well, only very rarely does the facade of a *char-chala* temple have a porch on a triple entrance. *Char-chala* roofs can be either rounded or straight-edged pyramidal. Some, nonetheless, are found to be decorated with several ornaments. Larger examples of this type may be quite embellished decorated, such as those at Ghurisa in Birbhum or Dignagar in the Nadia district, the 19th-century Buroshiva temple in Mashagram, etc. In the West Dinajpur area, some very large temples of this sort were constructed at Bhikhahar. The *char-chala* temples are typically found equipped with a porch with triple entrance and frequently with a side entrance. The following temples are notable examples of the *char-chala* variety and are of considerable interest. These are categorized here into seven different types (i) *Char-chala* has a single large entrance, (ii) large triple-entrance *char-chala*, (iii) Small, standard *char-chala*, (iv) with tall facade, (v) spired with tall facade, (vi) rath projections, and (vii) with straight cornice. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 31).

List of char chala Temple Bankura district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Vasudeva Temple	Basudebpur (Bishnupur, Bankura)	1626	Char chala	Malla Bir Singha	Laterite temple on square base.
Shiva temple	Supur (Joypur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Char Chala	Local Roy Family	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Rampur (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th century	Char Chala	Local Goswami Family	Brick Temple, Octagonal.

List of Temple in Hooghly District Chala Type: Char-Chala Temple

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Siva Temple	Bakharpur (Pursura, Hooghly)	18 th Century	Char Chala	Local Bhattacharya family	Abandoned, Brick Temple
Siva temple	Selanpur (Goghat, Hooghly)	19 th century	Char Chala	-----	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Siva temple	Syambazar (Gogat, Hooghly)	18 th century	Char Chala	-----	Abandoned, Plain brick Temple
Buro Shiva temple	Ithannagar (Dhaniakhali, Hoogli)	1808	Char Chala	Shil Family	Brick Temple
Bishalaxmi	Ithannagar	1807	Char Chala	Radha Charan	Brick temple

Temple	(Dhaniakhali, Hoogli)			Shil	with Terracotta decoration
Dolmancha	Konchmali, Majherpara (Panduah, Hoogly)	19 th Century	Charchala	Majumdar Family	Plain brick Temple

List of Char-Chala Temple in Burdwan District (Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Bardhaman)

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Syama Raya	Ukhra (Andal, Barddhaman)	1686	Char Chala	Handay family	Laterite temple with stucco porch
Siva	Ukhra (Andal, Barddhaman)	18 th century	Char Chala	Panday family	Laterite temple, plain
Siva	Ukhra (Andal, Barddhaman)	18 th century	Char Chala	Chatterjee family	Laterite temple, plain
Siva	Ukhra (Andal, Barddhaman)	19 th century	Char Chala	-----	Stone Temple
Siva	Ukhra (Andal, Barddhaman)	19 th century	Char Chala	-----	Laterite temple, plain
Mahadev	Dainhat (Katwa, Burdwan)	18 th century	Char Chala	Mukherjee Family	Brick Temple, no terracotta ornamented
Siva	Dainhat (Katwa, Burdwan)	18 th century	Char Chala	Local Roy Family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration on the three side wall

(iv) At-Chala (Eight Shed type):

The *At-chala* temple's structure was designed in a unique Bengal architectural style that is a modified version of the *Char-Chala* temple style. (Sanyal, Hiteshranjan. 2012: 128). It is clear that the *char-chala* style temple served as the inspiration for the *at-chala* type temple. The *at-chala* temple's roof structure typically has a square shape. In the latter half of the sixteenth century, there was a propensity to build *at-chala* temples. From the second half of the seventeenth century, in Bengal, there was the construction of a large number of *at-chala* temples. (Roy, Pranab. 1986: 56-57.) Bengal has had two different types of

at-chala temples: (i) a little *at-chala* with a single entrance and (ii) an *at-chala* with a porch on a triple archway. Syamchand temple (1726) at Santipur in Nadia, Radhaballabh temple (1764) Mahesaim Hooghly, Syamsundar temple (18th century) Khardha in 24 Pargana, Ananta- Vasudev temple (1757) Kalna in Burdwan, Madan Gopal temple (1651) Bagnan in Howrah, Sridhara temple (17th century) Hatgovindapur in Burdwan, Radhagobondo temple (1659) Bishnupur in Bankura district, Radha-syama temple (17th century) Suri in Birbhum, etc. and another types of temple is Raghunath temple (17th century) Pandua in Hooghly, Two shiva temple (1738) Jangipara in Hooghly, Nandakisora temple(1743) Bijpur in 24- Pargana, Jora shiva temple (1741) at Basatpur in PurbaBardhaman district, Siva temple (1793) Kalna in Burdwan, Jora Shiva temple (18th century) Nanur in Birbhum district, Siva temple (18th century) Kamarpara in Burdwan etc. The edges of the roof, similar to *char-chala* temples, may be rounded or straight; examples from the 18th century in Burdwan are often straight, while those from the 19th century in Midnapore are generally rounded. The larger examples of these constructions typically have a porch in front and three entrances. Typically, the smaller ones are observed to have just one entrance and one interior chamber. This sort of temple is occasionally very modest and is typically supported by an extended base. Even though these temples are often older, the number of examples of this type has surpassed all others. Several well-known temples in Bengal, such the Tara temple (1818) in Tarapith in the Birbhum district, the Lalji temple (1655–56 A.D.) of Chandrakona, Ghatal in the Medinipur District, (Roy. Pranab.1986: 56-57.) etc., belong to this specific version. The Syamchand temple at Santipur in the Nadia district, it was built in 1726–1727 A.D., and has a height of 72 feet, which is the largest temple of this type and is well-known for its big size. The temple is embellished with several terracotta carvings, such as the Dasavatara panel, scenes from the Puranas, representations of Puranic divinities, and Kings with their courtiers that are shown in an innovative way.

List of At-Chala Temple in Burdwan District (Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Bardhaman)

Temple Name	Location/Place	Date/period	Type/style	Patron/funding Authority	Description
Siva	Akulia , (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Roy family	Brick temple with slight terracotta
Siva	Amaragarh (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Mukherjee family	Brick temple with some terracotta decoration on facade, decaying

Abandoned Siva Temple	Amaragarh (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Late 18 th century	At Chala	Roy Mondal family	Brick temple with single arched entrance. terracotta decorated
Siva Temple	Amarpur (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Karmakar family	Brick temple, terracotta decorated with figural and vegetal panels
Jora Siva Temple	Amarpur (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1836	At Chala	Karmakar family	Brick temples. plain
Siva	Belgram (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Bhattacharya	Brick temple with terracotta decoration on facade
Siva	Belgram (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Banerjee family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration on facade
Siva	Belgram (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Acharya family	Brick Temple
Loknath Siva	Chowari (Ausgram,) Barddhaman)	19 th century	At Chala	Bhattacharya family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, vegetal and figural motifs
Jora Siva	Chowari (Ausgram,) Barddhaman)	19 th century	At Chala	Bhattacharya family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, vegetal and figural motifs
Abandoned	Dignagar (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 18 th century	At Chala	Roy family	Brick temple with terracotta

Five Siva Temple complex	Eral (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Early 19 th century	At Chala	Ganguly family	Brick temple, plain
Siva	Kalikapur (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1814	At chala	Chakraborty family	Brick temple, plain
Siva	Maukhira (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Late 18 th century	At Chala	Roy family	Brick rekha deal with terracotta decorated facade, vegetal and figural

					motifs
Siva	Maukhira (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	1793	At Chala	Roy family	Brick temple with decorated facade
Abandoned	Sar (Ausgram, Barddhaman)	Late 18 th century	At Chala	Chatterjee family	Brick temple with some terracotta decoration, vegetal and figural panels
Ashtanayaka Durga Temple	Hat Gobindapur (Barddhaman)	18 th century	At Chala	Bhattacharya family	Brick temple with rich terracotta decoration, mainly vegetal and floral motifs
Shiva Temple	Hat Gobindapur (Barddhaman)	1752	At Chala	Chakraborty family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration.
Shiva Temple	Kumarpara (Barddhaman)	18 th century	At Chala	Roy family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, mainly vegetal and floral motifs
Manasa Temple	Palasi (Barddhaman)	18 th century	At Chala	Chakraborty family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, mainly vegetal and figural panels.
Buro Shiva temple	Palasi (Barddhaman)	18 th century	At Chala	Roy family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, mainly vegetal and floral motifs

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List of Atchala Temple Hoogli district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Baydanath Shiva Temple	Damdama (Pandua, Hoogli)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Bhattachariya family	Brick T+emple
Bisalakkhi Temple	Eloma (Arambag, Hoogli)	1733	Atchala	Local ray family	Brick Temple, ruined
Siva Temple	Alipur (Haripal, Hoogli)	1759	Atchala	SinghRai Family	Brick temple with Terracotta

					decoration
Siva temple	Ichapur (Arambag, Hoogli)	19 th Century	Atchala	SinghRai Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Eloma (Arambag, hoogly)	1773	Atchala	-----	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Kalimba (Khanakul, hoogly)	1798	Atchala	Laha family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Ilchoba (Pandua, Hoogli)	1726	Atchala	Ghosh Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Shiv Temple	Senhat(Pandua, Hoogli)	18 th century	Atchala	Bandhyapadhyaya Family	Brick Temple
Tarama Temple	Uttarpara(G.T. Road, Hooghly)	1794	Atchala	Ramnarayan Mallick	Brick Temple With Terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Kalimba (Khanakul, Hoogly)	1773	Atchala	Local laha family	Brick Temple With Terracotta decoration
Two Shiv Temples	Uttarpara(G.T. Road, Hooghly)	19 th Century	Atchala	-----	Brick Temple With Terracotta decoration
Parshanath Jain Temple	Uttarpara(G.T. Road, Hooghly)	1894	Atchala	-----	Brick Temple
Rameswar Shiv Temple	Uttarpara, Ramghat, (Hooghly)	1847	Atchala	Ramtanu Chattopadhyay	Brick Temple
Kali Temple	Udaypur (Arambag, Hooghly)	1815	Atchala	-----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Raghunath Temple	Udaypur (Arambag, Hooghly)	1856	Atchala	-----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Kalachara (chanditala, Hoogly)	17 th century	Atchala	-----	Brick Temple
Laxmi Janardan Temple	Kankrakuli (Dhaniakhali, Hoogly)	1733	Atchala	Chandrashekhar kar	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Sita Ram temple	Kankrakuli (Dhaniakhali,	18 th century	Atchala	Kar family	Brick temple, ruined

	Hoogly)				
Shiva Temple	Kankrakuli (Dhaniakhali, Hoogly)	1755	Atchala	Dutta Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Sita Ram Temple	Kankrakuli (Dhaniakhali, Hoogly)	1822	Atchala	Kar Family	Brick temple
Shiva Temple	Kankrakuli , uttarpara (Dhaniakhali, Hoogly)	19 th Century	Atchala	Dutta Family	Brick Temple
Vishnu Temple	Kamarpukur (Hoogly)	19 th Century	Atchala	Laha Family	Brick temple with Terracotta Decoration
Shiva Temple	Kamarpukur (Hoogly)	19 th Century	Atchala	Yogi Family	Brick temple with Terracotta Decoration
Rajrajaswar Temple	Kalikapur (Dhaniakhali, Hoogly)	18 th Century	Atchala	-----	Brick temple with Terracotta Decoration

List of Atchala Temple Bankura district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Balarama Temple	Simlapal (Bankura)	1662	Atchala	Local Samanta Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara Temple	Bamanpara (Bankadaha, Bankura)	1845	Atchala	Local Tanti Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Radha Binoda	Kharbangla (Bishnupur, Bankura)	1659	Atchala	Malla Raghunath Singha	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Radha Ramana	Goswamipara (1687	Atchala		Brick Temple

Taemple	Bishnupur, Bankura)			-----	with slight Terracotta decoration
Radha Ballabha Temple	Dongalan (Indas, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	-----	Brick temple
Radhakanta Temple	Supur (Joypur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	Local Roy family	Laterite Temple
Krishna Raya temple	Bhalgalpur (Kotulpur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	Local Ray family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Laxmi Narayana Temple	Majkuripara, Balsi (Patrasayer, Bankura)	1652	Atchala	Local Malla Family	Bishnupuri style With Terracotta decoration. Renovated
Shiva Temple	Purbapara, Balsi (Patrasayer, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	Local Modak Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Abandoned	Balsi (Patrasayer, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	-----	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara Temple	Birsingha (Patrasayer, Bankura)	1860	Atchala	Sebaram pal	Brick Temple
Damodara Temple	Moyrapara, Krishnanagar (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Nag Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Damodara Temple	Krishnanagar (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Kundu Family	Brick Temple
Raghuvira Temple	Patrasayer (Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Ghosal Family	Laterite Temple in Bishnupuri style and Terracotta Decoration
Sridhara Temple	Patrasayer (Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local ghosal Family	Laterite Temple with Terracotta Decoration
Abandoned Temple	Patrasayer (Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Karmakar Family	Laterite Temple with Terracotta Decoration
Shiva TEMple	Rampur (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th century	Atchala	Local Goswami Family	Brick Temple
Radha Krishna	Bikrampur	19 th Century	Atchala		Brick Temple

Temple	(Simlapal, Bankura)			-----	with Terracotta decoration
Radha Krishna Temple	Jorsya (Simlapal, Bankura)	1873	Atchala	-----	Brick temple in Bishnupuri style
Rama Krishna Temple	Sabrakan (Taldangra, Bankura)	1677	Atchala	Bir Singha II	Laterite Temple in Bishnupuri style
Giri Govaradhana Temple	Ajodhya (bishnupur, Bankura)	18 th century	Atchala	Local Bandyopadhyay Family	Brick Temple
Sridhara Temple	Patit (Indas, Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Rakshit Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Radha Krishna	Tejpal (Bishnupur, Bankura)	1672	Atchala	Bir Singha II	Bishnupuri Atchala Temple
Madan Mohan Temple	Raniara (Gangajalghati, Bankura)	1670	Atchala	Bir Singha II	Laterite and Brick Temple, Bishnupuri Atchala Renovated
Jora Shiva Temple	Somsar (Indas, Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Mukhopadhyay Family	Brick Temple with slight Terracotta decoration
Giri Govardhan Temple	Rajagram (Joypur, Bankura)	19 th Century	Atchala	Local Raha Family	Brick Temple on Laterite base with Terracotta Decoration
Jagadgauri Temple	Rautkhanda (Joypur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Atchala	Local Mondal Family	Brick Temple Renovated

(v)Baro-Chala (Twelve Shed type):

Construction of the *Baro-Chala* temple has only taken place in Bengal. This temple's construction is shaped like a square. The varanda encircles the sanctum. The districts of Hooghly, Midnapore, Howrah, etc., have temples in this style. They can be divided into two groups: (i) *at-chalas* with *ratha* projections, which appear to have grown in the Midnapore-Hooghly district, and (ii) low-tower Burdwan *at-chalas* with minimal space between the roof portions. Temple of Siva (18th century) In Hooghly, Pandua, (Hunter, W.W. 1997: 71-73), another example is Ramachandra (1843) Egra in Midnapore and the Siva temple (1880) Panchla in the Howrah district.

List of Baro- Chala Temple In Hooghly District (Twelve Shed type)

Temple Name	Location/Places	Time/Period	Type/Style	Funding/Patron	Description
Shiva Temple	Pandua (Hooghly)	19 th century	Baro Chala	Local Banerjee Family	Brick Temple with some terracotta design
Ramchandra Temple	Egra (Midnapore)	1843	Baro Chala	-----	Brick Temple with some terracotta design, Ratha projection and stucco
Shiva Temple	Deulpur, Panchla (Howrah)	1880	Baro Chala	Local Ghosh Family	Brick Temple with ratha projections
Shiva Temple	Jalsara, Ghatal (Midnapore)	19 th century	Baro Chala	-----	Plain Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Senhat (Arambag, Hooghly)	19 th century	Baro Chala	-----	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration

(C) RATNA TYPE TEMPLE (Peak style):

It was unable to determine today when, where, or how the *Ratna* temple was first constructed. Many specialists on temples concur that the Mahabodhi temple in Buddhagaya served as an inspiration to the Bengali artisans who created the *Ratna* temple. (Choudhuri, J. 2019: 121). Some experts believe that the *Ratna* Temple was built using the Kadamrasul Mosque's architectural style, combining Hindu and Islamic design elements. Again, according to some experts, Bengali artisans were inspired to create the *Ratna* Temple in Bengal by the splendor of the Khajuraha, Amarkantak, (Champakalakshmi, R. 2007: 15). and Mahabodhi temples. During that time, Bengali temple builders created a unique, carefully thought-out form of temple construction that

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is particularly deserving of praise. Though certain similar structures of the *chala* type may be seen in some other parts of the Indian Sub-continent, the *chala* style is regarded as a native conception of the sthapatis of Bengal. The temple of the *ratna* variety, however, can be said to be native to Bengal. This novel form of *ratna* temple origin is incredibly obscure. It is well known that diverse parts of India gave rise to various cultures, and the results may be seen in a variety of artistic expressions. The development of many architectural styles in temple construction, including the Nagara, Dravida, and Vesara styles, is a result of the geographical context and structural conception. Bengal has so far produced seven different varieties of *Ratna* temples, so the temples include; (i) *Eka-Ratna* Temple (ii), *Pancha-Ratna* Temple, (iii) *Nava-Ratna* Temple, (iv) *Trayodasa-Ratna* Temple (v) *Saptadasa-Ratna* temple (vi) Temple of *Ekavimsati-Ratna* (vii) Temple of *Ratna* at Panchavimsati. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 41-56.)

(i) Eka-Ratna (One Peak):

In a few places, *Eka-ratna* temples have been constructed. Currently, the *Eka-ratna* temple may be found in the Midnapore, Hooghly, and Bankura districts. The Malla Kings of Bishnupur constructed the largest and most spectacular of these temples. At Bishnupur in the Bankura District, there are several temples worth visiting, including the Kalachand Temple (1656), Lalji Temple (1658), Joramandir (1726), Radhagovindo Temple (1729), Radha-Madhav Temple (1737), Madhanmohan Temple (1694), and Radhasyama Temple (1758) etc., at Bishnupur in Bankura district. Midnapour district's Raghunath (18th century), Siddheswar (19th century), Radhamadhav (19th century), Jagannath (18th century) temples etc.; Hooghly district's Vasudev (1679), Ramachandra temples (17th century), etc. These enormous constructions typically have a corridor behind them and pillared porches on three sides. The Kalachand temple, the first of the *eka-ratna* temples, was constructed in Bishnupur in 1656 AD by a Malla King. All of these *eka-ratna* temples have diminutive *rekhadoul*-style towers with distinct *ratha* projections and ridged *sikhara*. (Hiraskar, G.K. 1991:127-128). The towers can occasionally be of the *chalavariety*. The Vasudeva temple in Bansberia, Hooghly district, was built in 1679 AD, and it is topped by an octagonal *chala* tower. The temple faces east and has intricately sculpted terracotta panels on its two north and south sides. The ceramic artwork in this temple is renowned.

(ii) Pancha-Ratna (Five Peak Type):

The *Pancha-ratna* Temple is particularly important to Bengal architecture. The Pancharatna temple was created by combining four smaller peaks with the four corners of the *Ek-ratna* temple's roof. The number of *pancha-ratna* temples in all of Bengal has not yet been precisely counted. The Malla monarchs of Bishnupur encouraged the establishment of *pancha-ratna* temples. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 44). The three earliest *pancha-ratna* temples—Syamray, Madamgopal, and Gokulchand—were constructed for the benefit of Malla monarchs. (Biswas, S.S. 2003: 16). Early Bishnupur *pancha-ratna* temples had octagonal central towers and ridged

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pyramidal *sikharas* on their towers, while later versions had curvilinear central towers that were enormous replicas of the corner ones. The temples in this variety are found to be equipped with five towers on the roof, one tower in the middle, and four additional towers of lesser height in each of the four corners. The term "*pancha-ratna*" refers to the number of towers. These temples' turrets are always seen to be in the form of small *Rekha Deuls* in West Bengal. Few example Syam-Raya temple (1643) Bishnupur in Bankura, Madana – Gopal temple (1665) Bishnupur, Gokul- Chand temple (1639) Gokulnagar, Syam- Chand temple (1660) Joypur, Vasul temple (1871) Chhatna etc. in Bankura District, Radha- Madhav temple (1721) Andal, Govindatample (1673) Khandghosh, etc. in Burdwan, Old Gopinath temple (18th century) Pursura, Syam- Sundaratemole (17th century) Goghat etc. Hooghly district, Malleswar temple (18th century) Chandrakona, Madhan – Mohan temple (1817) Chandrakona, Syamsundar temple (19th century) Daspur etc. in Midnapore district, Laxmi- Janardhan temple (19th century) Ilambazar, etc. Birbhum district. In Bishnupur, there are few prominent examples of the *pancha-ratna* type. The oldest temple of this type dates back to 1643–1644 AD and was constructed of brick. This temple has a sloping roof of the Bengali *chala* style and five enormous towers. Each of the four

porches has three ornate arches on its four sides, as well as extremely artistic carvings in terracotta on the walls and ceiling.

List of Panchar- Ratna Temple in Burdwan District (Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Bardhaman)

Temple Name	Location/Place	Date/period	Type/style	Patron/funding Authority	Description
Radha Madhab Temple	Khandra (Andal, Burdwan)	1712	Pancharatna	Local sarkar family	Laterite temple with varandh, Bishnupur style
Laxmi Narayan Temple	Khandra (Andal, Burdwan)	1902	Pancharatna	Local sarkar family	Laterite Temple with terracotta decoration
Sita Ram Temple	Ukhra (andal, Burdwan)	1740	Pancharatna	Handay Family	Laterite Temple Plain
Laxmi Janardhan Temple	Moukhira (Aushgram, Burdwan)	1801	Pancharatna	Local Roy family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, triple arch entrance
Mitraswar Shiva	Bardhaman (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	-----	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration,
Shiva Temple	Hat Gobindapur (Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Chakrabprty familr	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, signal entrance

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Shiva Temple	Kanchannagar (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Burdwan Raj family	Brick Temple some terracotta decoration, figure panels
Panchanan Shiva temple	Kanchannagar (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Goswami family	Brick temple with some terracotta decoration
Dakshineswar Temple	Rayan (Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Local Nandi family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, triple arch entrance
Shiva Temple	Saktigarh (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Adhikari family	Plain brick temple
Narayan Temple	Bamannara (Bhatar, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Dar family	Brick temple with some terracotta

					decoration
Radha Krishna Temple	Eruar (Bhatar, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Bhattacharya family	Brick temple with some terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Eruar (Bhatar, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Pal family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, signal entrance
Damodar Temple	Amaragarh (Aushgram, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Roy family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Amaragarh (Aushgram, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Local Mukherjee family	Brick temple with some terracotta decoration
Narayan Temple	Orgram (Bhatar, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Local Kar family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, signal entrance
Laxmi Temple	Mankar (Burdwa)	19 TH century	Pancharatna	Kar family	Plain Brick Temple
Shiva Temple Abandoned	Mankar (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Local Goswami family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration

Sridhar Temple	Hiranyagram (Jamalpur, Burdwan)	1749	Pancharatna	Local Panja family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Remeswar Temple	Masagram , Praneswartala (Jamalpur, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Chowdhuri family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration , Single arch and entrance
Radha Govinda Temple	Sadipur (Jamalpur, Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Laha family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Baidyapur (Kalna, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Nandi family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Kalna (Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Bardhaman	Brick Temple

				raj family	with terracotta decoration
Gopeswar Shiva	Bankati (Burdwan)	1832	Pancharatna	Roy family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration, signal entrance
Shiva temple Abandoned	Singarkon (Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Kundu family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple Abandoned	Panagarh (Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Nayak Family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Damodar Temple	Panagarh (Burdwan)	1790	Panchayaratna	Konar Family	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Aseswar Shiva Temple	Prayagpur (Kankasa, Burdwan)	18 th century	Panchayaratna	Local Boral Family	Brick temple with triple arched entrance , terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Bhadurpur(Aushgram, Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna, Abandoned	Ganguly family	Brick Temple
Shiva Temple	Belgram (Aushgram, Burdwan)	19 th century	Pancharatna	Mukherjee family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration, single entrance
Sridharjiu Temple	Eral (Aushgram, Burdwan)	18 th century	Pancharatna	Day family	Plain Brick Temple
Radha Govinda Temple	Jagadanandapur (Katwa, Burdwan)	1839	pancharatna	Ghosh family	Stone Templr

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List of Panchayaratna Temple in Hooghly District (Five Peak Type):

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Raghunath Temple	Udaypur (Arambag, Hooghly)	1816	Pancharatna	Damador Sath	Brick Temple with terracotta decoration
Dolmancha	Ala (Dhaniakhali, Hugly)	1765	Pancharatna	-----	Brick
Shiva	Ichapur (Arambag, Hoogli)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Singha Rai Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Shiv Temple	Uttarpara(G.T. Road, Hooghly)	1794	Pancharatna	Panchanan Bandhapadhayay	Brick Temple With Terracotta

					decoration
Shiva Temple	Koyapat (Goghat, Hoogly)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Mandal family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Ilchoba (Pandua, Hoogli)	18 th Century	Pancharatna	Bandhyapadhyaya Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Krishnapur (Polba, Hoogly)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Ghosh family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Shiva temple	Kolagachiya (Gogat, Hooghly)	1762	Panchayaratna	Local Das Family	Brick Temple
Two Shiva temple	Gurap(Hooghly)	19 th century	Panchayaratna	Nag Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Sridhar Temple	Gopalpur (Dhaniakhali, Hooghly)	19 th Century	Panchayaratna	Local Ghosh Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Dolmancha	Gaurhati (Arambag, Hooghly)	19 th century	Panchayaratna	Local Dalal Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Ramgopal Temple	Gaurhati (Arambag, Hooghly)	19 th century	Panchayaratna	Local Mondal Family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration

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List of Pancharatna Temple Bankura district

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Radha – Ballabha Temple	Pathakpara (Bankura)	18 th Century	pancharatna	Local Pathak Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Srirampurpara (Rajagram, Bankura)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Local kundu Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Kadasol (Barjora, Bankura)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Local Gharui Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Kala Chand Temple	Saharjora (barjora, Bankura)	1819	Pancharatna	-----	Brick Temple

Sridhara Temple	Bhadrapara (Kotulpur, Bankura)	1833	Pancharatna	Local Bhadra Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Girigobardhan Temple	Bhadrapara (Kotulpur, Bankura)	19 th Century	Pancharatna	Local Bhadra Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Purbapara (Kotulpur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Pancharatna	Local Bandyopadhyay Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Abandoned	Balsi (Patrasayer, bankura)	18 th Century	Pancharatna	Local Chandra Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Damodar Temple	Hadai Narayanapur (Patrasayer, Bankura)	1860	Pancharatna	Mandal (Bara Taraphder)	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Girigobardhan Temple	Sonamukhi (Bankura)	19 th Century	pancharatna	----	Brick Temple
Brindaban Chandra Temple	Birsingha (Patrasayer, Bankura)	1638	Pancharatna	Malla Raghunatha Singha	Laterite temple In Bishnupur style.
Damadora Temple	Jibta (Kotulpur, Bankura)	1833	Pancharatna	Local Ray Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Abandoned	Raukhanda (Joypur, Bankura)	18 th Century	Pancharatna	Local Dey Family	Brick Temple with Terracotta decoration
Gokul Chand temple	Gokulnagar (Joypur, Bankura)	1639	Pancharatna	-----	Laterite Temple

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(iii) Nava-Ratna (Nine Peak Type):

The name "*Nava-ratna* Temple" refers to the temple's nine towers. The *nava-ratna* is a well-known design that undoubtedly adds status to the owner. It is essentially a *pancha-ratna* with an additional storey and has a distribution that is quite similar to that of a *pancha-ratna*, even if there are less of them. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 50). It varies in size and usually always has three arches, each with a porch. These temples are discovered to have two roofs, one of a smaller size above the lower roof, each of which is discovered to be equipped with four towers at each of its four corners and one enormous tower at its top centre. The districts of Burdwan, Bankura, Hooghly, Midnapore, Howrah, and Dinajpur, among others, have temples of this style. Kantaji temple (early 18th century) at Kantanagar in Dinajpur district, Damodar temple (1810) Goghat, Sridhara temple (1807) Goght, Rqaghunath temple (1793) Baksa, etc. in Hooghly district. Kankali temple at Kanchannagar, Gopal temple (18th century) Faridpur, Sridhar temple at Gopalpur, Burosiva temple (1828) Singi, Siva temple (1802) Baidyapur, Vishnu temple (1721) at Maro,

Laxmi- Janardhan temple (19th century) at Dignagar etc. in PurbaBardhaman district. For example Vasudev temple (19th century) Rajagran, Radha- Damodara temple (1855) Patrasayer, etc. in Bankura district, Sridhar temple (1789) Amta in Howrah district etc.

List of Navaratna Temple Bankura district (Nine Peak type):

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Basudeva Sridhara Temple	Hattala, Rajagram (bankura)	19 th century	Nava Ratna	Local Dutta Family	Brick temple with terracotta and stucco decoration
Sridhara Temple	Basupara (Bishnupur, Bankura)	19 th Century	Nava Ratnan	Local Basu Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Damodara Temple	Krishnabatipara (Indas, Bankura)	1671	Nava Ratna	Gadhadhar Das	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara temple	Sarkarpara (Indas, Bankura)	1796	Nava Ratna	Local Sarkar Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Duttapara (Joypur, Bankura)	19 th Century	Nava Ratna	Local Dutta family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Damodara Temple	Benepara (Kotulpur, Bankura)	18 th century	Nava Ratna	Local Nandi Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple	Dakshinpara, Bamira (Patrasyer, Bankura)	18 th Century	Nava Ratna	-----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara Temple	Hadal Narayanpur (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th Century	Nava Ratna	Choto Taraphdar (Mondal Family)	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara Temple	Tantipara, Krishnanagar (Patrasyer, Bankura)	19 th century	Nava Ratna	Local Pramanik Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Radha Damodarajiu Temple	Birsingha (Patrasyer, Bankura)	1855	Nava Ratna	----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Radha Damodara Temple	Hadal Narayanpur (Patrasayer, Bankura)	19 th century	Nava Ratna	Mejo Taraphdar (Mondal Family)	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Vishnu Temple	Depara (Joypur, Bankura)	19 th century	Nava Ratna	Local Dey Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration

List of Nabaratna Temple in Hoogly District

Temple Name	Location/ Place	Date / Period	Type/Style	Patron/Funding Authority	Description
Shiva Temple	Ichapur , Atabari (Arambag, Hoogli)	19 th century (1953 renovateed)	Nabaratna	Singhroy Family	Brick, Shikhar with Terracotta
Shreedhar Temple	Koyapat (Goghat, Hoogly)	1807	nabaratna	Mandal family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Damodar Temple	Kolagachiya (Gogat, Hooghly)	18 th Centyru	Nabaratna	Local Dalal Family	Brick Temple with light Terracotta decoration
JhulanManc he	Krishanagarah (Khanakul, Hooghly)	1774	Nabaratna	Nasiran Shangha	Brick temple
Sridharjiu Temple	Kherkundi (Pandua, Hopghly)	1770	Nabaratna	Local Paul family	Brick Temple with rich terracotta decoration
Shiva temple	Gurap(Hooghly)	1788	Nabaratna	Mukhopadhay family	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Ramnath Shava Temple	Gopinagar (Dhaniakhali, Hooghly)	18 th Century	Nabaratna	Ranchandra Tarkalankar	Brick temple with Terracotta decoration
Dolmancha	Chandannagar, Dharapara (Hooghly)	18 th century	Nabaratna	-----	Brick temple
Buroshiva Temple	Chuchura, Buroshivatala (Hooghly)	18 th century	Nabaratna	-----	Brick temple with Terracotta
Rasmancha	Jamgram(Pandua, Hooghly)	19 th century	Nabaratna	Local Nandi Family	Brick temple
Shiva Temple	Digsui (Mogra, Hooghly)	1792	Nabaratna	Ramkanta Roy	Brick Temple with light Terracotta Design
Raghunath Temple	Baksa (Chanditala, Hooghly)	1792	Nabaratne	Brukutram Mitra	Brick Temple
Rashmancha	Bali-Dewanganj, Palpara(Hooghly)	19 th century	Nabaratna Octagonal	Ramchandra Pal	Brick Octagonal structure with nine pinnacles and large terracotta figures

(iv) Trayodasa-Ratna (Thirteen Peak Type) :

The construction of the *Trayodasa-ratna* temple in Bengal, and a small number of similar temples have been built in the south Bengal areas, is another famous example of Bengali architecture. The *nava-ratna* is given another level to create the typical thirteen-pinnacled version. The majority of these have unique structural features, and some of these temples have particularly fine wall decorations. The top tower at the centre of the inner area's square shape is significantly larger than the other side towers. These may be of a varied nature, created by following the *sikhara*, *ratna* and *chala* formulation, For example Sita-Ram temple (1865) Ghatal, Kala- Chand temple (1856) Binpur etc. in Midnapour district. Bonnabagram temple at Aushgram in Burdwan, Siva temple (1874) Dubrajpur, Siva temple (1867) DubrajpurNandipara, etc., Birbhum district. Here, eight more turrets have been added to the *pancha-ratna* design of the temple, which has a single entrance. The central tower is surrounded by a low platform with two of these turrets on either side.

List of Trayodasa-Ratna Temple

Name of Temple	Location/Places	Time/Period	Type/Style	Patron	Description
Sitaram Temple	Kharar, Ghatal (Midnapore)	1865	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	Local Majhi Family	Learg shape temple with terracotta decoration and stucco
Kalachand Temple	Ramghar, Binpur (Midnapore)	1865	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	Local Roy Family	Brick temple with plaster on each wall
Shiva Temple	Dubrajpur (Birbhum)	1874	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	Local Nandi Family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple Mudipara	Dubrajpur (Birbhum)	19 th century	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration
Shiva Temple Nandipukur	Dubrajpur (Birbhum)	1867	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	Local Nandi family	Brick temple with terracotta decoration and small panel
Shiva Temple Ojhapara	Dubrajpur (Birbhum)	19 th century	Trayodasa-Ratna Temple	----	Brick temple with terracotta decoration

(v) Saptadasa-Ratna (Seventeen Peak Type):

The *Saptadasa-ratna* temples are quite huge, and Bengal has very few of these types of structures. This temple's structure is attractive, and two towers can be seen at each corner of the bottom storey's four-

sided roof. The higher, next floor is octagonal in shape and has a tower at each of its four corners. The big tower that occupies the top centre and is surrounded by the others appears to be grouped together. The temple is lavishly ornamented with reliefs made of stucco and carvings in terracotta. For example, the 19th-century Parvatinatha temple at Chanrakona, Midnapore, the ruin of a temple in Ichhapur, 24-Parganas, etc.

List of Saptadasa-Ratna (Seventeen Pinnacled) Temple

Name of Temple	Location/Places	Time/Period	Type/Style	Patron	Description
Parvatinath Temple	Chandrakona (Midnapore)	19 th century	Saptadasa Ratna	----	Learg shape temple with terracotta decoration and stucco

(vi) Panchavimsati-Ratna (Twenty Five Peak Type):

The *Panchavimsati-ratna* Temple is fairly huge, and its shape and construction are both exquisite and unique. The huge standard three-story style places its turrets in groups of three at the corners of the first floor, two at the corners of the second storey, and one at the corners of the third storey, which is crowned by the tallest tower. Only six of the twenty-five peak temples built throughout Bengal and India were known to me at the time. (McCutchion, David J. 1972: 56). There is just one temple in Bankura, SonamukhiSridharji Temple, three in Kalna, Burdwan

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District, and one in Hooghly at Somrabazar, Ananda Bhairabi Temple. Another one is in the Kaatgola Vishnu Temple in Murshidabad. Although not all of these temples were constructed at the same period, they are all similar in terms of architecture, sculpture, style, and structure. Both Somrabazar in the Hooghly district and Kalna in Bardhamana are home to spectacular collections of temples. The three turrets are supported by corner with projecting angles on the Lalji and Gopalji temples in Kalnia. The 1751 A.D. Krishnachandraji temple has a square floor plan. There is a sizable cluster of temples at Kalna, each of which has a porch in front and a *char-chala* roof. Two enormous decorative pillars are placed in between each of the front arch openings. These temples have elaborate decoration on its side walls and architraves. In the Bankura district, the Sridhara temple in Sonamukhi was constructed in 1845 (Bengali era 1252 saal). The eastern side wall has one slate inscription fastened to it. It is a significant document to us and contains sculptures written in an early form of Bengali, dates of establishment, and other information. The temple is almost twenty-five feet tall overall. The base is length and has a width that is eighteen feet wide. These Bengal temples are extraordinary.

A list of the Twenty five peak temples:

Temple Name	Location/	Date /	Type/Style	Patron/Funding	Description
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	Place	Period		Authority	
Lalji Temple	Kalna (Burdwan)	1739 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Burdwan Raj Kirtichand Roy	Large Brick Temple with rich terracotta desigh
Krishanachandra Temple	Kalna (Burdwan)	1751 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Burdwan Raj Trilokchand Roy	Brick temple with rich terracotta decoration, inscription
Gopal Temple or Gopal Bari	Kalna (Burdwan)	1766 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Krishanachandra Barman	Brick Temple with terracotta design
Ranchandra Temple	Katgola (Murshidabad)	1776 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Debi Shingh	Brick Temple with four side varanda, larg temple,
Ananta Vasudev Temple	Sukharia (Hooghly)	1813 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Bireswar Mustaufi	Brick Temple with rich terracotta decoration
Sridharji Temple	Sonamukhi (Bankura)	1845 A.D.	Panchavimsati Ratna (Twentyfive Pinnacled)	Bhairab Rudra	Brick Temple with rich terracotta decoration

Source: Field survey and Literature survey

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(D) Dalan Temple

In several parts of Bengal, *dalantemples* were constructed in the nineteenth century. Brick was initially used to construct these temples, which combine European and Indian design elements. Chandni is the name of a small, flat-roofed temple, whereas *Dalan* is the name of a temple with a large roof. In the majority of cases, it has been noted that *Pancha-ratna* and *Nava-ratna* temples have also been constructed with a flat roof, as seen at the Dighalgram Durga *Dalan* Mondir in the PurbaBardhaman district and the PurbaBardhamanJotekubirDalan temple. The Hooghly district's BhanderhatiChoudharibariDalanmondir, etc. Most of these temples have a square cell design with a poich in the front supported by two or more pillars. These temples are mostly situated in the Medinipur district's Chandrakona area and its surrounding areas. As a prime example of the flat-roofed variety, one might consider the Rupeswara temple in the Kalna group of temples (1765 A.D.), as well as the Dighalgram temple in the Bardhamana area (PurbaBardhhaman).

(E) Ras – Mancha

Ras- mancha was a unique style of temple that was unique to Bengal. *Ras-mancha* is practically ubiquitous in Bengal. Burwean, Bankura, Birbhum, and other districts may all view it. These buildings are utilised during the Ras Festival, a Vaishnava sect holiday held on the full moon day of Kartika with tremendous enthusiasm. At Vrindavana, it is said that Sri Krishna danced with the *gopinis* on this occasion. The Puranas say that Shree Krishna merged himself with all of *Vrindavana'sgopinis* on this occasion of the Ras festival. The *ras-manchas* are typically *ratna*-type buildings with eight turrets circling a big centre tower to make a total of nine towers. The *ras-mancha* outside the Bishnupur fort has a fairly unusual shape. It is discovered to rise in the form of a pyramid, encircled by long, curved verandahs with 10 arched entrances on each side.

(F) Dol - Mancha

Dol-mancha has been split into many architectural style categories, such as *Char-chala*, *At-chala*, *Shikara*, *Pancha-ratna*, *Nava-ratna*, etc. The *ratna* towers might be ridged-sided *rekha* formation structures. *Dol-mancha* can be found in the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly, Bankura, etc. 18th-century *Char-chala Dol-Mancha*, *Kalna*, *GramkalnaPancha-rattna*, *Kuchut's Dol-moncha* (18th century), and *Rekho-Deul Dol-mancha* (19th century) Burdwan district, *Dol-Mancha* (19th century), *Raina*, etc. A 1755 A.D. construction at Kankrakuli in Hooghly is one such example of a *dol-mancha* structure. The walls of this building are decorated with terracotta art. One example is the 18th-century *dol-mancha* at Gurup in Hooghly, which is renowned for its ceramic ornamentation. Some locations in the Hooghly, Bankura, and Medinipur districts have 31

modified *ratna* patterns. The Hanseswari temple in Bansberia, Hooghly, built in 1814, is one of these oddly shaped buildings and is renowned for its lotus-capped towers. These have a very distinct personality and appearance. In some locations, there are clusters of temples. The group of 108 temples at Kalna in Bardhamana and another such group of 108 temples nearby are extremely distinctive in their formation among such broadly shaped groups of temples.

We are aware that the differences in the architectural design of this Bengali temple are given particular weight while studying social history. The first temple built in Bengal is not yet known, and no adequate research has been done on the subject. It can be argued that the architectural style of temples of various shapes and styles can be seen only in Bengal perspective of the entire India. Dinesh Chandra Sen described this work as a "Puranic Renaissance" because Bengal had thousands of temples up till the nineteenth century. Though it is true that experts on temples such as David McCutchen, Tarapada Santra, Amiyo Banerjee, Nirmal Kumar Bose, Jaineswar Choudhuri, and others have studied Bengal's temples, their research is insufficient given the hundreds of abandoned temples that are still dispersed throughout different villages and which have not yet been included in historical studies. Despite the fact that the Archaeological Survey of India has created a statistical database of Bengali temples, it is either very brief or very few. These Bengali temples are regarded as the main source for research on modern social and economic history. Therefore, in-depth research of these temples is required.

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