

GLOSSARY

An annotated glossary of terms.

A dhahpadma	Minor cyma-recta moulding
adhisthāna	mould base; Types: Kapōtabandha, Mañcabandha, Padmabandha, Padmaka, Padma- puṣkala, Puṣpabandha, Sun- darābja, etc.
āditala	ground floor
ālinda	aisle
ālinga-paṭṭika	alinga; fillet
alpanāsi(alpanāsika)	see nāsi
alpavimāna	small, single-storeyed shrine
ananku	the basic power within the female breast & loin
anarpita	with detached hāra
aṅga	"limb"; temple part(see śadāṅga)
ankaṇa	hall-bay
antarāla	covered vestibule set between ardha and mahamandapa
antari (antarita)	recess between mouldings
anukāya	constituent moulding of a principal architectural member
ardhamandapa	half-hall articulated with the vimana
ardhourka	shorts

arpita	with attached hāra
aṣṭa-parivāra	eight subsidiary deities around a central shrine; sub-shrines for such deities
Astāśra	octagonal śikhara-type
āvaraṇa	enclosure; wall enclosing the garbhagrha
avudaiyār	base or pīṭha of linga
āyatana	shrine
ayatāśra	rectangular
bāhyabhitti	outer wall
bhadra	central offset (wall division)
bhadrakōṣṭha	bhadra-niche
bhadraśāla	central śāla in the hāra
bhitti tōraṇa	tōraṇa-pattern above wall-niche
bhūta	goblin, dwarf
bhūtamāla	band of goblins (on projecting rafter-ends beneath the cornice of the architrave)
bhūtaḥvalabhi	bhutamāla
Birūḍa	title assumed by kings
Brahmacchanda	square śikhara-type
Brahmakanta	tetragonal column-type
Ṣaduram (Tamil)	cubical pillar-part
cakravāka (cakravāki)	Cakva-bird (decorative motif on kapōṭa corners)
candramaṇḍala	pattern of circles ("moon"-discs) around the edge of the cupola or along the lip of a cornice

candrasīla	moonstone
Cāpakāra (Cāpa)	apsidal (śikhara-type; vimāna-type)
caturāṅga	having four divisions: base, wall, cupola, finial
caturāsra	square śikhara-type
caturvarga	square kūta-type
citra-poṭika	poṭika-type with carved or painted central band
dvārapāla	door-guardian
dvārasāla (dvārasōbha)	śāla-roof over entry
dvitala	two-storeyed
ēkatala	one-storeyed
Gādha	large central cavity in a nāsi
Gajapṛstha	apsidal (elephant-backed) śikhara-type
gala	kaṇṭha; recessed moulding
galapāda	vertical block at intervals inside the gala
garbhagrha	womb-house; sanctum
gavākṣa	"cow's eye" motif; nasi
ghaṭa	vase, pot; cushion-shaped pillar-part (above lasuna)
grhapinḍi	wall of an upper storey
grīva	neck; recess between the cupola and the entablature
grīvadēvata	deities in the grīvakōṣṭha
grīvakōṣṭha	major niche on the grīva
guha	slit-niche

haṁsa	goose, gander (decorative motif)
haṁsamāla	haṁsa-band below the cornice of the architrave
haṁsavājana	haṁsa-patterned fillet underneath the cupola
haṁsavalabhi	haṁsamāla; haṁsa figures on rafter-ends
hāra	balustrade or cloistered parapet, in the superstructure, most often including kūta and śāla aediculae; connecting wall-segment
hārāntara	hāra-section between aediculae
hīraka	pillar-moulding
hōma (ōma)	basal-block of pillar
indrakanta	16-sided column-type
Indumaṇḍala	circular medallion (decorative motif)
iśakanta	round column-type
jagati	basal moulding of adhisthāna; plinth
jatā	lock of hair
jatābhāra	heavy locks of hair
jatā makūṭa	crown of lock of hair
kaḍalikakarana	corbelling
kal (Tamil)	stone
kāl (Tamil)	pillar-shaft
kalaśa	ghaṭa; vase-finial
kampa	rectangular fillet
kandhara	generally broad recess between mouldings

kaṇṭha	neck; recess between mouldings
kapōṭa	roll-cornice; also overhanging cornice
kapōṭabhadra	upapitha-type
kapōṭanāsi	nasi-pattern on kapota
kapōṭapañjāra	pañjara-pattern on kapota
kāraṇḍa makuṭa	casket like crown
kati-sūtra	waist band
kiṅkiṇi	anklets
karna	corner; corner wall-division
karnakūta	corner aedicula, see kuta
katakāvṛta	ribbed; kumuda-type
kaṭṭu (Tamil)	striated, multi-faceted, or polygonal necking (pillar element)
khura	jagati moulding
kinnāri	half human bird motif
kīrtimukha	"face-of-glory" (decorative motif)
koḍikkaruku (Tamil)	patralata
koḍuṅgai (Tamil)	mrnalika, eve-street
kōṇapatta	ridge plate; decorative pattern at kapota corners
kōshṭa	niche; also equivalent to śāla
kōshṭa-pañjāra	pañjāra projecting from a śāla (kōshṭa)
kōvil (kōyil) (Tamil)	temple
ksudranāsi (-nāsika)	alpanāsi, nāsi
ksudrapañjāra	pañjāra-pattern
kucabandha	breast band

kuḍapaḍai (Tamil)	khūra, jagati
kūdu (Tamil)	nāsika
kūḍya	bhiṭṭi; wall
kūḍyalaṅgula	cantoning pilaster
kūḍyastambha	bhiṭṭistambha; wall pilaster
kumuda	torus moulding: katakāvṛta, tripatṭa, vṛtta
kūṭa	square aedicula: caturvarga, śadvarga
kūṭagāra	roofed chamber on a house-terrace
lalāṭbimba	crest figure a decorative motif
lalāṭanāsi	large gavakśa front of a vaulted, apsidal structure
lasuna	ridged, vase-shaped, pillar-part
lūpa	rafter
madakōvil (Tamil)	shrine with a tall podium forming a blind lower storey
maddala (madala)	strut, cantilever
mahāmandapa	large hall attached to ardhamandapa
mahanāsi	large nāsi; dormer
mahāpaṭṭi	broad fillet
mahāvājana	broad, oversailing fillet
makara	crocodile-monster; dolphin
makara-tōraṇa	tōraṇa-arch spewed from the mouths of makara, or formed from their tails
makaratunda	makara-snout projecting at temple-corners in gala and prastāra
māla	garland; decorative band

mālasthāna	pillar-part below the ghaṭa, decorated with pearl and floral festoons
malika	cloister
māna	measurement
mānasūtra	straight line marked by a measuring cord
mañca	platform; prastāra
mañca (mañcabandha)	adhithāna-type
mañcabhadra	upapīṭha-type
maṇḍapa	hall, generally with columns
maṇḍi	echinus; Types: pāli, padma, nāgadala
masuraka	griva-plinth; base
mātaṅganakra	decorative motif of elephant and crocodile combined
mēdhi	grīva-plinth; central platform
miśra (miśraka)	mixed type; changing from square to circular
mrnālika	eve-strut; cantilever of a faceted, lotus-stalk form
mukhamāṇḍapa	front hall; entry hall
mukhapatṭi	peripheral band defining the contour of a nasi
muktāvali muktasāra	pearl string (decorative motif)
nāgadala (nāga-dalakṛti)	maṇḍi-type made up of a circle of thickened petals simulating cobra-hoods
nakulapāda	framing split pilasters, paired pilasters, dwarf niche-pilasters
nāsi	gable-end of a wagon-vault; gavākśa, "horse-shoe," or "caitya-arch" motif

nāsika	diminutive of nāsi
nāsikōshṭa	miniature niche with nasi-top
nāsipañjāra	pañjāra
nētrakōshṭa	paired nāsikōshṭa
ōma	homa; basal-block of pillar or pilaster
pāda	1. wall; 2. wall-pilaster, pillar; Types: Brahmakanta, Viṣṇukanta, Indrakanta, Rudrakanta, Isākanta; Ajapāda, Bhūta-pāda, Citrakhaṇḍa, Mēśa-pāda, Nāgapāda, Padma-pāda, Simhapāda, Vyāla-pāda, etc.
padma	1. inverted cyma-recta moulding with lotus-petal pattern; 2. lotus-shaped maṇḍi-type; 3. lotus-shaped cupola cap
padmabandha	lotus-frieze
padmaka	adhithāna-type
padmakāra	maṇḍi-type
padmapāda	lotus-based column-type
padmapāduka	cyma-recta at base of adhithāna
padmapuśkala	adhithāna-type
padmopana	lotus-formed upana
pāduka	upana; sub-plinth moulding
pakśasīla	balustrade
pāli (pālyakāra)	dish-shaped maṇḍi-type
pañjāra	fronton of vaulted apsidal shrine (decorative motif)
pañjārakōshṭa	niche with pañjāra top

patra-tōraṇa	vine-patterned tōraṇa-arch
patralata	vine, leaf, or floral-band motif
paṭṭa	broad rectangular fillet
paṭṭika	kampa; rectangular fillet; often top slab of adhisthāna
phalaka	abacus (pillar-part supporting potika)
pīṭha	pedestal, platform
potika	bracket-capital; Types: citra, taraṅga, puśpa
praṇāla	nāla; water-chute for draining lustral waters
prastāra	entablature
prati	plank-moulding
pratibhadra	wall-projection between bhadra and karna parts, flanking bhadra
pratikarna	wall projection flanking karna
puśpabandha	adhisthāna-type
puśpapotika	flower-blossom (or bud) extension of potika
rathakāra	temple-car-like vimāna-type (with wheels and horses)
rudracchanda	round śikhara-type
rudrakanta	round column-type
sabhākāra	rectangular, keel-roofed śikhara-type (without gable-ends)
śadaṅga	six members; or six constituent mouldings
śadvarga	six divisions: base, wall, entablature, vertical recess, cupola, finial

śaktidhvaja	shovel-shaped nāsi finial
śāla	rectangular hall with wagon-vault roof; miniature śāla-shaped aedicula in the hāra
śāla-śikhara	rectangular, wagon-vault śikhara
śālakāra	wagon-vault śikhara-type
śālakōṣṭha	niche with śāla top; śāla
salīlantara	recess between wall-bays
śikhara	crowning cupola; Types: Brahmachanda (Caturāśra), Viṣṇucchanda (Aṣṭāśra), Rudracchanda (Vṛtta), Gaja- prstha, Sabhākāra, Śālakāra
śimha-lalāta	śimhavaktra; lion-head nāsi-top
śimhamukha	lion's mouth holding water-chute
śimhapāda	lion-based column-type
śimhavaktra	lion-head nāsi-top
stambha	pāda; column
stambha-tōraṇa	gate pattern; see also makara-tōraṇa
stūpi (stūpika)	jar-finial
subhadra	central offset of bhadra
sundarābja	adhithāna-type
sundōbhēda	split; fluted
tala	floor, storey
taraṅga	wave (poṭika-type)
taḍi	minor dish-moulding over lasūna
tirumāligai (Tamil)	mālika; cloister
tribhaṅga	the triple body flexion or S curve

tripatṭa	tri-faceted (kumuda type)
tritala	three-storeyed
udārabandha	waist band
upana	sub-plinth moulding
upapīṭha	platform or socle beneath the adhis- thane; Types: Mañcabhadra, Kapōṭabhadra, Kapōṭāsana, Vēdibhadra
urdhvapadma	minor inverted cyma-recta with lotus- petal pattern
utsava bēra	subsidiary ritual image of main image used in festivals and always movable
uttara	architrave of the entablature; lintel, beam
uttariya	upper garment
vājana	projecting upper band, above kampa or paṭṭika
valabhi	rafter-ends
valli-maṇḍala	conventionalised scroll carved on the kapōṭa-lip
vēdi	altar; group of wall mouldings (above the adhithāna)
vēdika	railing
vimāna	shrine, temple
virakanṭha	square or rectangular tenon-moulding between the abacus and the capital of the pillar
viṣṇucchanda	octagonal sikhara-type
viṣṇukanta	octagonal pada-type
vr̥sa	1. circular temple-type; 2. bull figure on roof

vṛtta	circular (kumuda type; śikhara-type)
vṛttasphūṭita	round pillarette with pot base and nasika top (wall-ornament)
vṛttāyata	elliptical temple-type
vyāla	composite fantastic animal
vyālamala	band of vyāla figures
vyālāvāri	