Adi Shankara Goes To School
OM Holy Book #14

Mighty Majestic Monumental Miracle

Presented by
Murarilal Nagar

With photographs by
Linda Canestraight
Father Geo George Kannanayil
Ashish Dabral

OM Shanti Mandiram
Columbia, Mo 2014
Shishu Shishya subdues severe surge of Narmada and saves/serves his Guru
Preface

We begin our Preface to this publication
With the Introduction to our previous work entitled

*Adi Shankara at Mandhata and Mahishmati* (2012)

This is a collection of select email messages exchanged among some OM devotees on the subject for more than a decade. These have been presented here in their natural order and sequence as they occurred just to show the natural development of thought. No attempt has been made to bring any order or system.

A child may take even a moving rope as a snake. Even an adult has sometime a dilemma whether it is a man or just a stump.

India’s great poet Shri Bāṭa Bhaṭa said: Even the great divinities are made subject of wrong identification and degradation if not understood well. The identification of a highly significant mārti done earlier by us was wrong – dead wrong! Absurd!! Disgusting!!

Later on it turned out to be simply ridiculous. But we left the matter as it had developed. It was a case of Tamaso mā jyotir gamaya = O God, lead me from darkness to light.

The subject and object treated in this publication is the first attempt ever made in the history of Vedic Civilization as far as the divine life of Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavatpāda is concerned. We thought of giving the title to this publication as *Adi Shankara Goes to School*, but the subject covered here is much more intensive as well as extensive.

Shankaracharya acquired his basic knowledge at the feet of his Gurudeva Shri Govinda-Bhagavatpāda. Govindeshvara Gupha served as Shankara’s Gurukulam at Mount Mandhata.

And Mahishmati (today’s Maheshvara) emerged as his Advaita-Vedanta-Vijaya-Vaijayantī. The full history of this revolutionary occurrence is yet to be written.

Advaita Vedanta
Ours here is the first attempt of its kind. It is hoped that someone in the coming generation would continue and develop further what we have just begun by the Grace of OM: One God Universal.

Om Shanti. OMLN March 20, 2012.
Preface to Present Publication

Here is a Collection of **OMGod Devotees** Yahoo Group Emails, discussing and discovering Shankaracharya’s state of being disciple at the Govindeshvara Guphα, Omkareshvara, India.

*This is only a preliminary draft at its best. Much work is still required to complete it.*

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From: Dr Nagar  
Nov 30th 2006  
No 2459  
Advaita Vedanta Vijaya Vaijayanti

Advaita Vedanta Wins.

Tradition tells us that Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya subdued Mandana Mishra and established supremacy of his Advaita Vedanta Doctrine over Karma Mimamsa of his great opponent. It was Advaita Vedanta Vijaya Vaijayanti—a superb success.

If this phenomenon is accepted as a fact and not a fiction, we will have to admit that this super siddhi (achievement) must have taken place at some place on this earth.

Well, we searched it and found it. It is at an ancient sacred place called today as Maheshvara-Mandaleshvara near Omkara Mandhata.

We deputed some of our great devotees of OM to this sacred region and got photographs of the grandeur and glory of ancient Mahishmati—today’s Mandhata. The sacred spot in reference too was photographed. We have it! It will be featured soon in our OMGOD Yahoo Group—a Divine Spiritual Fellowship—a Divya Satsanga.

Advaita Vedanta
We have acquired not less than 200 photographs of this sacred land and its holy temples, sites and surroundings through the kind courtesy of Father Geo George Kannanayil and Shri Komal Goswami of Indore.

It has been a great blessing of OM: One God Universal.
From: Dr Nagar                                  Date: Sep 7th 2004
No 609
OMGOD: An Idea Becomes a Reality

Omkara Mandhata, a great center of learning

It is quite significant to note that one Māndhātā inscription records the grant of certain villages to the Brahmanas residing at Brahmapura located on this Māndhātā Parvata Dvīpa itself. There must have lived here a considerable learned population in ancient times. This sacred place must have had a long tradition of being a dharma-kshetra, a puṇyabhūmi. Shankaracharya would not have come here to acquire learning but for this fact and that he would not have found his guru here. Tradition tells us that the paramaguru of Shankaracharya, Shri Gauḍapāda too had sanctified this holy place by his stay and tapas.

Kanchi Kamakoti Pitha had announced a very ambitious plan of five crores of rupees to develop this holy land as a great center for study and research on Shankara Bhagavatpāda. Our endless letters of inquiry and requests for cooperation have brought no response from them at all, none whatsoever.

In any case, their interest is quite limited indeed, i.e. to Shankaracharya alone. Nothing wrong in that. But we believe there should be a general organization to take care of the whole complex—all the temples of all the gods and goddesses, belonging to all the religions, sects and beliefs, and all the other organizations, existing or operating at present there on Omkara Mandhata island. We visualize a kind of Umbrella organization, a model of sarva-dharma-samanvaya (sama’fi). We would call it Omkara Māndhātā: Group of Devotees –short form OMGOD.

The idea originated about 4 years ago in 2000.
Govindeshvara Mandira

Bøla Shankara became a sanyaasin here
Govindeshvara Mandira on the Bank of Narmada

Kotæ Tärtha

Advaita Vedanta
Divya Murti of Shankaracharya with an ancient Shivalinga
Along the sidewalk of shops selling souvenirs, you approach the stairs up to the main temple or down to Gupha.
From Dr Nagar
Subject: Govindeshvara gupha, Entrance

February 24th 2005

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

Advaita Vedanta
Sign announcing entrance to Cave temple of Guru Govinda Bhagvadpada

Board Identifying Gupha

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

Name Plate of the Gupha

Rededication of the Cave by Arjun Singh and Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Trust

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Murti of Shri Ganesha atop the Cave Entrance

Close-ups of Murti of Shri Ganesha

Vijaya Vaijayantī
From Dr Nagar

February 24th, 2005

Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha--Center bottom--A murti of Shri Govindeshvara, Guru of Shankaracharya

This is Govindeshvara
From: Dr Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 4:24 PM
To: 'Canestraight, Linda M.'
Subject: An image on the wall in Govindeshvara Gupha (Cave)

Our new home page contains your account of the Pilgrimage—21st century—Walking path journey. There are 98 pictures. No. 64 has on the wall some god with serpent hood, probably. Next to that there is a lady half female and half serpent.

Below that wall image, there is a newly installed image of Govinda Bhagavadpada, guru of Shankaracharya, wearing big marigold garland. We don’t know what the original ancient image is.

I have some idea. An ancient Sanskrit text studied by me and incorporated in our Holy Book No. 5 gives an account that Mandhata married five serpent queens and had five sons from them. One of them founded Omkara Mandhata as well as ancient Maheshvara. His name was Muchukunda, by whose name a gate still exists there on the mountain. They call it Muchukunda Dvara (=Gate). You have a picture of that too.

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Presently it is a wild guess, but the statue is highly significant to have occupied such an exalted position. I think it is made secure by a steel pole.

More when we meet.
From Dr Nagar

Subject: An image on the wall in Govindeshvara Gupha (Cave)

Shri Govinda Bhagvadpada-Guru of Shri Shankaracharya
From: Dr Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2005 8:11 AM
To: Canestraight, Linda M.
Subject: Primary objective of OMGOD

The primary objective and focus of OMGOD is the recovery and dissemination of India’s cultural heritage still enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Muktidhama. However there is a bombardment of dry discourses on all sorts of things by some drum beaters. The main objective is lost. This is terribly frustrating.

In any case we should try our best to send messages directed to the public and the government how we can all fulfill our goal. In a subtle manner we should tell our members that our primary objective is creating an awakening of all concerned.

Here is an example:

Please send a copy of Bhimeshvara Shiva—12th century—no. 83 in your journey account. It is a beautiful object still in full form and shape--intact. But it is in a terrible danger of falling down and getting broken to pieces. There is a wooden ladder on the right. Are they doing some work of preservation there?

Bhomeuhvare Shiva

The bottom says: Arjuna Mahraja ki jaya = Hail great king Arjuna! Nonsense and rubbish. It is Shiva in His terrible form ready for the destruction of evil forces.

May be one of a dozen jyotirlingas of Shiva Shankara Mahadeva-Bhema Shankara.

I see there is a black faced big monkey there with a long tail. It is not guarding the delicate art treasure. It won’t protect the sculpture from being fallen down.

Advaita Vedanta
This is the kind of message we have to give to the world at large. This is our ultimate objective. All our efforts should be directed in future—Save India’s cultural treasure! Om Shanti. OMLN

From: Dr Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2005 5:40 PM
To: 'Canestraight, Linda M.'
Subject: RE: Primary objective of OMGOD

OMGOD expands to Omkara Mandhata Group of Devotees. Its primary objective is the recovery and dissemination of India’s cultural heritage still enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama.

We can draw the attention of OMGOD members—those who are ready and anxious to work toward our primary goal-- to some rare objects not yet identified. For example, a king or a representation of some god, is shown sitting in squatted form in the cave named Govindeshvara Gupha. A lady serpent is standing next to the image. This was only an idea, the truth not yet discovered. What is the relationship? We see another lady with a whisker. That is the sign of royalty or divinity.

An image of Shankara Bhagavadpada, the guru of Shankaracharya, is installed in 1988 right under the image described above. Have they identified it?

Such ideas should be circulated. I want to make this medium a scholarly publication. For example, the three issues of Om Shanti journal have published very rich thought contents. They are classics.
Adi Shankara Goes to School

We are planning to publish such rare photos in OMGOD for information and action.
OMLN

From Dr Nagar

May 2nd 2006
Subject: Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama

Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama is the gurukulam of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya Bhagavatpada. It is rich in archaeology, architecture, art, epigraphy, history, legends, mythology, numismatics, sculpture, and tradition—everything!

Om Shanti Mandiram of Columbia Missouri has photographed at a very high cost the murti (image) of Shri Govinda Bhagavatpada, venerable guru of Shri Shankaracharya in Govindeshavara tapasya guha on holy mountain Omkara Mandhata and the murti of Shri Shankaracharya himself in Govindeshvara Temple on the bank of the Narmada below the Omkareshvara Jyotirlinga Temple. On this very sacred spot, it is believed, Shri Shankaracharya received his sanyaasa dikshaa. This is a first in the history of Vedic civilization.

These photos are presented, along with many others, in our photographic collection of OMGOD—a divine spiritual fellowship—a divya satsanga.

Our total collection of pictures relative to OM, Omkara and Omkara Mandhata and related graphics exceeds by now the number 15000! The total cost in this extensive search and research on Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama has come to around $100,000.
OMLN

Advaita Vedanta
From Dr Nagar
Subject: Images in Govindeshvara gupha
Dear OM Loves Me:

There are two female figurines caved on the pillars inside the Govindeshvara Tapasya Guha. Please post them along with the image of Govinda Bhagavatpada, guru of Shankaracharya. Tradition tells and we are asked to believe that the former practiced severe penance here. The figurines don’t fit the environment. These carvings must have been done at a later time, I guess. They cannot be anterior. They say that the ceiling has beautiful carvings. These have not yet been photographed.

Female Figurine columns inside the Gupha

Leaving all these questions aside, we can at least draw the attention of our readers to the large carving that stands above the newly installed image of Govinda Bhagavatpada. We see a dignitary, a king or some god. We cannot say who that figure is. But there is a serpent queen there. We are told (and I have quoted the source in our OM Book 5) that the father king of Muchukunda had married five serpent queens who bore for him five sons, one of them being Muchukunda.

This subject is totally untouched by any other scholar so far. We have done enough and enough is enough. We can only leave these questions for the posterity.

I am posting this message to OMGOD. OMLN
A View of the Entrance to the Cave from Inside
Inside View of the Gupha
From Dr Nagar

**New photos added: Govindeshvara Tapasya Gupha**

June 29th 2006

I have added a new photo album Govindeshvara Tapasya Gupha with images of Govinda Bhagavatpada, the guru of Shankaracharya. Dr. Nagar is identifying the large carving that stands above the newly installed image of Govinda Bhagavatpada; he believes it is the Father of King Muchukunda. *This was only an idea, the truth not yet discovered.*
From Dr Nagar

Subject: **FW: Images in Govindeshvara gupha**
RE: [omgod] FW: Images in Govindeshvara Gupha

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:
I share your thoughts.
Let all be happy here, there and everywhere.
Let all be healthy, here there and everywhere.
Let all see decent things here, there and everywhere.
Let nobody suffer any pain of any kind anywhere.
We can only pray for the welfare of all.

TIME will take its toll any way. That is natural and is bound to happen over a long period of time. All the destruction wrought all over Mount Mandhata visible today was not caused by the man-made blasts during dam construction. I have a mixed feeling. Dams will certainly bring some good to the land and the people there. It is like birth pangs.

Photographing of the remaining rare objects today will save at least the images for some more time to come. It is indeed a noble deed.

Please take special care and give attention to the sculpture still standing above the image of Shri Govinda Bhagavatpada, venerable guru of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya, in the Penance Cave—Tapasya Guha. I believe an attempt is made--some protective device is applied (steel bars)--to keep it intact and over and above. This sculpture is rare. We don’t know as yet what it depicts.

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Adi Shankara Goes to School

From Dr Nagar July 1st 2006
Subject: Govindeshvara tapasya guha
Dear Devotees of OMGOD:

Please view picture no. 2 of 9 posted by Om Loves Me on June 29. This figure is very important. We need its identification. Whose image is this? There is a male figure—a god or dignitary. Next to it is a serpent queen.

OMLN

From: Canestraight, Linda M. [mailto:CanestraightL@...]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2006 12:03 PM
To: Dr Nagar Media Com; Fr George
Subject: Bhimeshvara Shiva 12th Century

Dr. Nagar,

I have attached both images, one of Bhimeshvara Shiva 12th century statue and the other Bhairava statue, at the Bhim Arjun Gate. Both statues on the wall are in need of preservation and more photos are indeed needed.

We still need to identify the statues in the small shrines along the stairway to the main temple. Close pictures of the ruins at Veerkhala Rock, I have no pictures of the ceiling inside the Govindeshvara Gupha, I wasn’t allowed into the depths of the cave to view any of this. Outside view of the Kedareshvara shrine, only have one picture inside. I need to verify the bright orange statue lying on the floor; I think it

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is Vikata Hanuman at the small shrine at the Gauri Somnath. We need an image of the inside of the Ashapuri Mandira shrine on top of the mount Mandhata.

I have two statues images from that site, Goddess Narmada and Jaya Shri Dadaji, I think the later was inside the main temple but I need verification.

We have no images of inside the Shankaracharya red stone temple on the waterfront. The images I took of the Mamleshvar temple inscriptions of the Mahimnas Stotra turned out terrible (I’m not a professional photographer) I only managed to get one photo but it is poor and the script is hardly visible. I did not go see Virat Svarupa statue and have no close up pictures of that campus. There is a sangam at the western confluence which we do not have a pictures of either. The more we study the more we find we do not have images of these items. Again one could spend a life time researching and recording everything at this sacred island of Omkara Mandhata.

I hope that Father Geo in his many trips to the island will be able to photograph more and verify identity of some statues, etc. Someday I would love to return and spend all my time at Omkara Mandhata but at present I have family commitments that keep me close to home for now. In time I hope to return again.

Vijaya Vaijayanti
Thanks,
Linda Canestraight
Univ. of Missouri

From: Dr Nagar Media Com [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2006 3:18 PM
To: Canestraight, Linda M.
Subject: RE: Bhimeshvara Shiva 12th Century

A fruit takes time to get ripened. While working here you are gathering good background knowledge which will help you if and when you go back to the holy hilly island.

It is beyond the power of Father George to secure identification of all the pictures taken so far and yet to be taken.

It was a divine miracle that you met Dr. Yadav and he accompanied you to the holy land. We have to secure help from a person who knows.

I am told that five archaeologists are working on the mount. Contact should be established with them. It is a long and very arduous task.

You still have good relations with Komal. Try to get his self. He can get all this work done through a noble person like Father George. I am willing to pay.

Om Shanti.
OMLN
Advaita Vedanta
From Dr Nagar
Subject: FW: Bhimeshvara Shiva 12th Century

From: Canestraight, Linda M. [mailto:CanestraightL@...]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2006 10:59 AM
To: Dr Nagar Media Com
Subject: RE: Bhimeshvara Shiva 12th Century

Do you know who these archaeologists working on the mount are or how to make email contact? It was be to our best interest to work directly with someone who know only is there physically but also has some knowledge and can identify or verify identity of various items on our list.

I do not want to waste time asking Komal to go to site and try to find out whatever lies people speak, it would be best to go directly to the experts.

It is so sad that Dr. Yadav does not have email as he was a good source I would have like to have started with. But perhaps Prof. Ali knows who we can email and communicate our needs for verification. Then we could send Srinivvas to photograph more either with a professional like Fr Geo or Mr. Sharma from Indore. Not only would Srinivas be allowed to enter the temples, etc. he would be not have any communication problems or religious issues. We could get an introduction with Svami Tej Anand and permission for him to enter the cave back rooms to record the ceiling carvings, etc.

We know so much more now, with knowledge comes more research and the rewards will be even more knowledge. I think sending Srinivas is a very good idea, if he has the desire to go and seek knowledge.

Thanks,
Linda Canestraight
Univ. of Missouri
Adi Shankara Goes to School

Gupha Ceiling reveals intricate details

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Guru Govinda Tapasyā Guphā

Pillar Carvings inside the Gupha #1

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Pillar Carvings inside the Gupha #2

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Guru Govinda Tapasyā Guphā

Pillar Carvings inside the Gupha #3

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Pillar Carvings inside the Gupha #4

Advaita Vedanta
From Dr Nagar                      July 12th 2006
Subject: Cakravarti Samrat Mahan Mandhata and his worthy son Muchukunda.

On pages 229-232 of our Om Holy Book #5 we have cited certain verses from Harivamsha and Shrimad Bhagavata showing deep relation of the above two with Omkara Mandhata. That refutes the view of those biased critics who deny their association with the holy hilly island.

We have presented in our Yahoo Omgod album a photo from the Govindeshvara Gupha showing a dignitary (king or saint?) and a serpent queen. We have no knowledge of their identity.

It is very disheartening to realize that this ancient holy land still remains unstudied and unexplored.

We have made a humble beginning. We can only hope that a sincere soul shall get inspired by what we have done so far and carry forward the torch of learning.

Ours has been a “Search for Truth.”

OMLN
From Dr Nagar

Subject: **Ravana uplifting Kailasa**

Dear Devotees of OMGOD:

OmLovesMe had herself taken a photo of a rare sculpture deposited and exhibited at Indore Museum while she had the good fortune to be there. It was posted by her to OMGOD on June 7, 2006. It is shown in the album named Ravana. This specific photo is numbered 2 of 3.

The next or the following frame numbered 3 is an extract from Shiva Mahimnas Stotra. There is the original Sanskrit text followed by its transliteration and then translation.

It is only through the Grace of OM: One God Universal that we are able to sing the Glory of Shiva Shankara Mahadeva. OMLN
By the way, the first picture in this album is a photograph of the same kind of sculpture seen inside the Govindeshvara Tapasya Guha. The episode is the same. An ignorant jiva had identified this (on the back of the print) as Lakshmi Narayana. We are told that an ass does not have horns. Murari.

Ravana Lifting Kailasa--Home of Lord Shiva

From: Canestraight, Linda M. [mailto:CanestraightL@...]
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2007 5:48 PM
To: Nagar, Murari l. (Emeritus)
Subject: Here is the translation for fig 35 image from Gupha

Au cours d’une mousson exceptionnellement forte, l’eau commença à inonder l’ashram et à pénétrer dans la grotte de Govindapada, immergé dans la béatitude du samâdhi*. Immédiatement Shankaracharya plaça une cruche de grès à l’entrée et, miraculeusement, le fleuve incontrôlé changea de direction (Fig. 35). Lorsque le
maître apprit ce qu’il s’était passé, il bénit son disciple en ces termes : “Mon fils, ta renommée sera impérissable. De la même façon que tu as pu contenir l’eau tumultueuse dans une cruche, tu seras capable d’écrire un livre de commentaires contenant l’essence de tous les védas”. Puis il initia son disciple, lui donna le nom de Shankaracharya, et lui conseilla, lorsqu’il le jugerait bon, de répandre la sagesse qu’il avait acquise à Kashî, la moderne Bénarès. Il y parvint à l’âge de douze ans (Coquet, 2002).

During an exceptionally strong monsoon, water started to flood the ashram and to penetrate in the cave of Govindapada, immersed in the bliss of the samâdhi *. Immediately Shankaracharya placed a stoneware pitcher at the entry and, miraculously, the uncontrolled river changed direction (fig. 35). When the Master learned what it had occurred, it blesses its disciple in these terms: "My son, your fame will be imperishable. In the same way that you could contain tumultuous water in a jug, you will be able to write a book of comments containing the gasoline of all the Vedas " . Then it initiated its disciple, the name of Shankaracharya gave him, and advised to him, when it would judge it good, to spread the wisdom which it had acquired in Kashî, modern Bénarès. It arrived there at the twelve years age (Vain, 2002). [source ?]

Fig. 35 : Bas relief taillé dans le mur de la "Govindeshwar Gufa", illustrant la scène mythique où Shankaracharya sauva son gourou de la monté subite des eaux de la Narmada. Source : Université de Missouri-Columbia, février 2005.

**English Translation:**

*Fig. 35: Low relief cut in the wall of "Govindeshwar Gufa", illustrating the mythical scene where Shankaracharya saved its guru of assembled sudden of water of Narmada. Source: University of Missouri-Columbia, February 2005.*

Thanks,
Linda Canestraight
Univ. of Missouri

From Dr Nagar

February 17th 2007

Subject: **FW: Here is the translation for fig 35 image from Gupha**

Dear friend:

You don’t have full facilities right now to enter into due correspondence with me. You may be busy in some other field work in Assam relative to your field and

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interest. However, since I am studying your work right now to the extent it is possible for me, I am faced with certain questions and I come across certain observations which I would like to share with you. I will continue to send them to you. You may work on them when you have time and opportunity.

You have reproduced one of our illustrations found in Govindeshvara Gupha (fig 35). There is no intrinsic or internal connection between the mythological story of Shankaracharya and his Guru Govinda Bhagavatpada on one hand and the theme depicted on the related carving on the other. There is a Naaga Kanyaa there—a serpent queen—in attendance to a king or saint or god!

This slab does not seem to have been cut IN the wall of the cave but attached to it! This picture was taken by one of our friend-photographers. It needs a systematic and deep study by a scholar who has specialized in this field of knowledge.

OmShanti.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar

Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha

Govindeshvara Gupha

During an exceptionally strong monsoon, water started to flood the ashram and to penetrate Govindabhagavadvadpada cave, immersed in the bliss of the samâdhi*. Immediately, Shankaracharya placed a stoneware pitcher at the entry and, miraculously, the uncontrolled river changed its direction (Fig. 35). When the master learned what had occurred, he blessed his disciple in these terms: “My son, your fame will be imperishable. Just as you could contain tumultuous water in a jug, you will be able to write a book of commentaries containing the essence of all the Védas.” Then he initiated his disciple; the name Shankaracharya was given to him. He advised him, when he would judge it proper, to spread the wisdom which he had acquired in Kashî, which is now Bénarès. He had arrived there at the age of twelve (Coquet, 2002).

Insert new picture HERE
Fig. 35: Low relief cut in the wall of “Govindeshwar Gufa,” illustrating the mythical scene where Shankaracharya saved his guru from sudden mounting waters of the Narmada. Source: University of Missouri-Columbia, February 2005.
From Dr Nagar                                      September 30th 2007
Govindeshvara Gupha
Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

I have posted a message on Govindeshvara Gupha with an illustration to Omkara
Mandhata Google Group. Much can be said about this. I hope I will be able to
write and submit.

Emilie’s statement and ascription leave much to be desired. It is only a myth and is
to be taken as it is.

I have discussed this subject of myth in our OM Holy Book 5 here, there and
everywhere.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar                                      February 15th 2008
(No Subject)

I think there is an expression reading something like this:

You have come along a long way baby!

I am going to send you a copy of my appeal for help addressed to the Kanchi
Kamakoti Peetha Seva Trust at Omkara Mandhata as early as 2000! I did not
receive even an acknowledgment from them. Yet they have rendered a great
service to our common cause there. They had many plans. I don’t know how far
they have advanced. The Govindeshvara Gupha is now their property. They say
they have restored it and have renovated it. You know that the image of the
Gurudeva of Shri Shankaracharya, Shri Govinda Bhagavatpada, is installed there
by this Trust and also the image of Shri Shankaracharya in
Govindeshvara Temple on the holy bank of the Narmada.

We have photographs of all of them.

OMLN

Vijaya Vaijayantī
From Dr Nagar: Date February 23rd 2008

One of our objectives has been
To correlate
Ancient Indian sacred scriptures
With mediaeval architectural sculptures
Through modern electronic moving pictures.

Dear Ashish:

Through the Great Grace of OM: One God Universal you have achieved much more than I expected. You have a great and a very bright future.

I am glad that you met two pillars of the great edifice. Much can be achieved through their support and cooperation.

Your visit to the Gupha and its description is highly valuable and enlightening.

You are truly my vidyottaraadhikaarin.

With plenty of blessings from OM, OMLN

From: Ashish_Dabral@... [mailto:Ashish_Dabral@...]
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2008 12:07 PM
To: nagarm@...
Subject: Visit of Omkareshwar

Dear Guruji,

Here is a brief document about the visit. There is a lot more to describe and discover as the visit was very short (around 7 hours). I took images and few of them are in the file attached and other images (more clear) I will send next day.

There is much more to discuss but right now I am going to home... as it is already 10:30 PM.

Advaita Vedanta
(See attached file: OM.pdf)
With All the best Regards,
Ashish

From: Ashish_Dabral@...[mailto:Ashish_Dabral@...]
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2008 8:02 AM
To: Murari Nagar
Subject: RE: Visit of Omkareshwar

Dear Guruji,

That document is just a draft one (there are many spelling mistakes etc...)
There is a lot more to tell about Omkareshwar... and a huge opportunity
is there to do something better for human kind.

With all the best Regards,
Ashish

(Continuation from previous email)

Ashish,

I had the pleasure of looking at your journal and wonderful new photos of Omkara Mandhata. I am sure Dr. Nagar has spoken praise for your capturing certain photos and solving some questions about identities. Shankaracharya offering water of Mother Narmada to his holy guru Shri Govindacharya. This image was hard to identify from previous pictures, but you captured a very close image that showed the details needed to understand the image we were viewing. Then the images of Pataleshvar Mahadeva which I was never escorted to by the guide provided by Svami Tej Anand.

I believe you now understand our service to this holy island, this holy temple. I was moved by its beauty and by its neglect and understood the grandeur of the undertaking yet to be done for preservation work. The archaeologists have a lifetime of work at this one holy site and the need for a local museum is a must as well.

I am so glad you experienced the holy journey and let Om embrace you even more than before.

May Om bless you and your family, Linda

Vijaya Vaijayantī
May OM... Guide us towards the path of truth... May OM give us the strength to give up our ego...? May OM make our heart pure...? May we attain a mental state of tranquility...And May our Guru bless us...so that we can recognize our true self...

OM...

May we use this day as a step towards our GOAL...With All the Best Regards,

Ashish
From Dr Nagar 

March 12th 2008

Subject: Re: Greetings for the day...

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal!

In the area of photographing, if Shri Ashish Dabral had done nothing but capturing only the specific image we had been trying to identify for a long time, I would have regarded his holy journey fully successful and truly fruitful.

Now the archaeological evidence has proved that this specific Gupha is truly the Govindeshvara Gupha!

Shankaracharya is not offering holy water of Narmada to his guru! He is containing—controlling—subduing—the surging fierce furious flooding water of Narmada and saving everything all around! The image is validating the traditional tale.

The value of this photograph defies description. It is the fruit of the good deeds done by the photographer.

I feel fully fulfilled.

Om wants us all to do some good work for the benefit of human kind for a long time to come.

OMLN
From Dr Nagar  
March 26th 2008

Subject: Omkara Mandhata: A great center of learning
Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

For the first time in the history of our civilization it has been established by means of a direct evidence that the Govindeshvara Gupha is a fact and not a fiction. And the credit goes to our rising star of Om devotees named Ashish Dabral. He is truly a blessing to us from OM.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar  
March 27th 2008

Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha at Omkara Holy Hilly Island
My dear devotee of OM: One God Universal:

One photograph taken by Ashish Dabral through your kind generosity has highly proved the value and worth of Govindeshvara Gupha.

You have rendered a great service to the holy land by photographing it not only from the land but from the air as well. The most important thing about the fruits of your generous service is that your valuable work is being shown to Om devotees all over the world.

We, all of us, shall remain grateful to you forever if you spare some of your valuable time and yourself photograph the interior of the Gupha most extensively and intensively. It has many unique gems.

May OM bless you with full success in all your generous undertakings.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar  
April 13th 2008

Subject: The glory and grandeur of Shankaracharya at Omkareshvara and Maheshvara
Dear Ashish:

Advaita Vedanta
This work can be done only through the cooperation of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha Seva Trust at Omkareshvara.

We have to raise substantial funds and for that we have to try various means and methods.

I have received many fresh ideas from OM: One God Universal. I will transmit them to you.

We have to create powerful public opinion—a kind of deep awareness-- in favor of the great goal. There are various ways, means and methods.

I see that every temple there has a donation box. It should be possible to have a locked donation box right at the entrance of the Gupha. There should be a kind of booklet telling the value and importance of the Gupha and an appeal for donation.

This appeal may be circulated throughout the world.

The idea is to find all kinds of means and methods to raise funds.

You may know that we have secured hundreds of pictures of Maheshvara. One rare picture is that of the spot where Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya had the famous debate with Mandana Mishra and where he established the superiority of his doctrine of Advaita Vedanta over Mimamsa Shastra—the principal system of Mandan Mishra.

We also have some information of the Gupha where the body of Shankaracharya was kept under guard while he had managed para-kaaya-pravesha –entering into the body of a king.

We should prepare good reproductions of the photos of such significant events and places and sell them through the booksellers throughout the world. South Mandhata itself has many stalls where such things are sold.

Shri Ramesh Mittal of D. K. Agencies may show us the way.

With bundles of blessings from OM: One God Universal.

OMLN
From Dr Nagar

May 28th 2008

FW: [omgod] An Objective of Om Shanti Mandiram

For example, Shri Govindeshvara Tapasyaa Gupha at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama--Holy Hilly Island-- has a large murti—-we don’t know its dimensions—-that depicts RaavaNa-darpa-dalana. Shiva and Parvati are pleasantly seated on Kailasa. Ravana tries to uplift the mountain to carry it to his capital—-suvarNamayii Lanka. Shiva just pushes him down by his right toe! He is dumped down to the lowest level of Paataala. Cf. Amushya tvatsevaa---Shivamahimnas stotra.

Tremendous challenging work is waiting for the succeeding generations.

OMLN

From: omgod@yahoogroups.com [mailto:omgod@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Murari Nagar

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 3:40 AM

To: omgod@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [omgod] An Objective of Om Shanti Mandiram

An Objective of

Om Shanti Mandiram

To correlate ancient Indian scriptures
With mediaeval cultural heritage sculptures
Through modern moving electronic pictures.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar

May 29th 2008

Subject: Fw: [omgod] An Objective of OmShanti Mandiram

FW: [omgod] An Objective of Om Shanti Mandiram

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

Advaita Vedanta
We have already stated that one of our objectives here at Om Shanti Mandiram is to be an instrument in preserving and serving India’s cultural heritage enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama—a Holy Hilly Island—a Paradise for Pilgrims.

We have just made a Shri Ganesha. The succeeding generations will have enough to carry forward in the future. We are happy.

We have already presented below a murti depicting RaavaNa-darpa-dalana by Shiva Shankara Mahadeva.

Here is another image much bigger, more detailed and exquisitely a rare piece of art. This is preserved at the State Museum of Indore and was photographed by OM Loves Me (Linda Canestraight) during her visit there in the year 2003.

The description appearing below is done by a non-specialist—only a servant of OM.

*It is much more elaborate. It may be made of marble. It is much larger. Shiva and Parvati are seated in the center.*

*Top left we see Brahma—Prajapati. Top right displays Shri Vishnu.*

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

RavaNa is seated at the bottom center trying to uplift Kailasa.

To the left we see Skanda-- Svami Kartikeya. There is his vehicle swan too.

To the right is Shri Ganesha. There must be somewhere there his vehicle mouse.

A little above we see on the left the Nandin and to the right the lion.

On the very top must be some gods and the gandharvas as well in prayer and worship.

We invite a specialist to provide further description.

Om Shanti. OMLN
From: Murari Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 5:13 AM
To: 'Canestraight, Linda M.'
Cc: 'Hesler, Erin Alice (MU-Student)'
Subject: FW: [omgod] An Objective of Om Shanti Mandiram

Dear Linda:

You had taken a picture of this kind of statue seen at the Indore Museum. Please feature it along with the one described below on to OMGOD. Show the way to Erin. She will help me to feature such photos quite frequently. That is an important part of our program. OMLN

From: Murari Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 4:01 AM
To: 'omgod@yahoogroups.com'
Subject: FW: [omgod] An Objective of Om Shanti Mandiram

For example, Shri Govindeshvara Tapasyaa Gupha at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama--Holy Hilly Island-- has a large murti—we don’t know its dimensions—that depicts RaavaNa-darpa-dalana. Shiva and Parvati are pleasantly seated on Kailasa. Ravana tries to uplift the mountain to carry it to his capital—suvarNamayii Lanka. Shiva just pushes him down by his right toe! He is dumped down to the lowest level of Paataala. Cf. Amushya tvatsevaa---Shivamahimnas stotra.

Tremendous challenging work is waiting for the succeeding generations.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar

July 27th 2009
Subject: FW: Ravana subdued by Shiva Shankara Mahadeva

From: Murari Nagar [mailto:nagarm@...]
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2008 6:01 AM
To: 'Canestraight, Linda M.'
Subject: Ravana subdued by Shiva Shankara Mahadeva

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Dear Linda: I am not sure the following write-up was sent to you earlier or not. Please see and try to improve. It may be shown along with the one at gupha in OMGOD Yahoo group. Om Shanti. OMLN

RaavaNa-darpa-dalana

Our objective here at Om Shanti Mandiram has been
To correlate ancient Indian sacred scriptures
With India’s medieval cultural heritage sculptures
Through modern moving and singing electronic pictures.

We have already presented through our multi-media publications a large murti depicting RaavaNa-darpa-dalana by Shiva Shankara Mahadeva preserved and served at the Govindeshvara Gupha on Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama—a holy hilly island—garlanded by two pious rivers—Narmada and Kaveri—a Paradise for Pilgrims.

Here is another depiction of the same theme sung by Yaksharaja Pushpadanta in his immortal prayer hymn famed as Shivamahimnas Stotra—Amushya tvatsevaa....

This large murti is preserved and displayed at the Indore Museum and was photographed by Linda Canestraight (Om Loves Me) during her visit to the Museum in March 2003.

This is much more elaborate as compared to the one seen at the Govindeshvara Gupha. We don’t know its dimensions but it must be quite large.

Shiva and Parvati are shown seated in their full glory at the center. Ravana is shown below as subdued while trying to uplift Kailasa and carry it to Lanka, his kingdom.

To his right (our left) we see Svami Kartikeya and his vehicle the swan. And to the left is Shri Ganesha. There must be his vehicle too, the mouse, somewhere.

We see the faces of Nandin and Lion, the vehicles of Shiva and Parvati on two sides.

On the top we see Brahma as well as Vishnu.
Shiva and Parvati are worshipped by all.

OM Shanti OMLN

Advaita Vedanta
From Dr Nagar

August 30th 2008
Subject: Fw: Your visit to Omkareshvara
Govindeshvara Gupha—Glory and Grandeur of Shri Shankaracharya

From Dr Nagar

September 1st 2009
Subject: FW: Your visit to Omkareshvara
RE: [omgod] FW: Your visit to Omkareshvara

It is not a flattery but an undeniable fact that you have rendered an immortal service to the human kind in many ways. Om Shanti Mandiram now has the largest and best collection of pious plentiful photographs of Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dham: A Paradise for Pilgrims. They are being displayed and viewed by the devotees of Om all over the world. OMLN

Sat, 30 Aug 2008 Murari Nagar wrote:
Govindeshvara Gupha—Glory and Grandeur of Shri Shankaracharya

From: Nagar, Murari l. (Emeritus) [mailto:NagarM@missouri.edu]
Sent: Saturday, August 30, 2008 6:25 AM
To: Nagar, Murari l. (Emeritus)
Subject: Your visit to Omkareshvara

My dear Ashish:

I have written to you already, but would like to repeat it once again with full force that you visited the holy hilly island at my request. You were there only for seven hours. You have had a holy darshana of Omkareshvara Jyotirlinga of Shiva Shankara Mahadeva and an equally holy bath in the Mata Narmada. It was a plentiful pious performance. However, if we keep this unseen virtue aside, if you had done nothing but the virtuous visit to and brief exploration of the Govindeshvara Gupha, I would regard it as one of the greatest contributions one has ever made with regard to this holy land.

I did not know even the name of Omkara Mandhata until this century started and we began its study. Yes, I knew the name of Omkareshvara Mahadeva through the Dvadasha Jyotirlinga Stotra (Saurashtre Somanatham ca), as one of a dozen jyotirlingas of Shiva Shankara Mahadeva, but it was a name only.

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

I did not know even the location—where it was situated! Mandhata? Never heard of as the holy hilly island!

Now the whole wide world knows this holy temple through our publications. We have collected the largest number of its photographs. We have spread its mighty effulgence through our publications all around the globe.

Now coming back to the Govindeshvara Gupha. Until the year 1988 this was not known to the world at all. Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha deserves great credit for its recovery, restoration and glorification.

However, it still remains un-explored. I did not know at all what a specific architectural wonder it constituted. I had some wild ideas. Today I myself laugh at them. You enabled me so very kindly to identify it – Idam > Ìthah-This is it.

You were there only for seven hours. However, seven is the most significant number. Some say it is God. If you want to know its full significance, read our writing entitled ISHTA-India's Seven Holistic Temples in America.

You established personal contacts with Raja Devendra Singh as well as Shri Mahajan. They are the two great pillars of that edifice. It is good for our future work in this field.

There are many stories about Shri Shankaracharya that sound like fables. But one thing is certain. Now we have found a physical concrete evidence that Mount Mandhata was the gurukulam of Shri Shankaracharya.

This Govindeshvara Gupha needs scientific systematic extensive as well as intensive exploration and study. How deep is it? I mean its interior? We are told that there is always water on the floor. Where does it come from? How deep? Why not more? Legend tells us that it was flooded furiously when young Shankara arrived there. Is it possible that Narmada herself had flooded it to wash the holy feet of the Gurudeva of Shankaracharya?

We are told that the walls of the gupha are decorated with exquisite carvings. So is the ceiling. We have some photos of the puttalikas-damsels. But not all.

All this exploration and study needs time, money, energy and perseverance.

Advaita Vedanta
May OM enable all of us to render this service to the pious world.

With blessings from OM: One God Universal. OMLN

(Repetition of forwarded email)

From Dr Nagar  
October 2nd 2008

Subject: Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya--make this as your immediate field of work

Dear Ashish:

Coming and going—this is the world.

I am at the last stage of my life. I am fully satisfied with what OM has enabled us to accomplish.

You are just beginning. Great work lies ahead of you.

I have invested a great deal of my earnings in this holy operation. However, there is only one way to continue this pious work. And that is to raise funds by all possible legitimate means and methods.

We have to approach rich sources of resources. Sarvaarambhaah tand/.ula-prasthamuulaah; all undertakings are rooted in a bushel of rice.

We have been doing some work relative to Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya. Now there are many mat/.has (monasteries) run after his name. There is even a university named after him in his birth place. Kanchi Kamakoti Pitha leads. That is so close to you.

A great deal of my work got financial support in the form of grants. But for that you need a specific project.

I would like you to concentrate on one area—one field, i.e. Shankaracharya, specifically the Govindeshvara gupha to begin with.

Float a journal in cooperation with Kamalee. Collect and publish all the information that you could find.

If nothing else, you will be earning a great virtue.

This is my upadesha—teaching coming directly from OM: One God Universal.

This will bring you all that you desire.

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Advaita Vedanta

Adi Shankara Goes to School

Make this as the eye of the bird of Arjuna.

PS. We have some highly significant photographs and data on Shri Shankaracharya still preserved at Maheshvara—ancient Mahishmati.

Combined with these the work on gupha gets tremendously enriched. OMLN

From Dr Nagar  
October 2nd 2008
Subject: FW: Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya--make this as your immediate field

Dear Ashish:
This is a follow up the earlier message on the subject.

Our total literary output in all the subjects by now exceeds 12,000 pages in 47 volumes embellished by at least 15,000 photographs!

What to do and what not to do was a big question. OM has given me the insight and direction.

I have written to you more than once that you visited Omkareshvara only for seven hours. Seven is the most valuable and significant number. Kamalee and I have done some work on it. However, let us keep it aside.

Keeping the Omkaradarshana aside, if you had done nothing but the visit to the Govindeshvara gupha, I would regard your visit tremendously successful and fruitful.

We have been studying Omkara Mandhata for many years. There are many subjects and objects worthy there to be studied. However, we can do only one thing at a time. We have to begin our deeper study with some specific subject and object.

Om wants us to concentrate on the life and works of Shri Shankaracharya, his Guru Govinda Bhagavatpada and his Guru Gaudapada as our next major objective. This is a very important subject and shall be appreciated by all throughout the world.

One thing at a time. I will write to you more and more about it—what, how and why.

OMLN

Advaita Vedanta
When a child has accumulated too many toys at one and the same time, he is lost as to with which to play first!

I was bewildered as to what to do and what not to do.

Our objective has been from the very beginning--Recovery and dissemination of India's cultural heritage enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama--A Paradise for Pilgrims.

Om has now directed that all of us give top priority to Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavatpada with special reference to Shri Govindeshvara Tapasya Guha at Mandhata and many of his memorials at Mahishmati, present day Maheshvara.

We seek kind cooperation of all devotees of OM: One God Universal.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar Jan 15th 2009
Subject: FW: FW: Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya--make this as your immediate field of work

from: nagarm [mailto: nagarm@...]
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 8:01 AM
To: AshishDABRAL@
Subject: Fw: FW: Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya--make this as your immediate field of work
Adi Shankara Goes to School

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Kathy Strickland" <kamalee7@...>
To: "Murari Nagar" <nagarm@...>
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 11:47 PM
Subject: Re: FW: Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya--make this as your immediate field of work

Dr. Nagar,

Have you heard back from Ashish on this subject?

I have great respect for Shri Shankaracharya from the little I know of him. He was in an early prakasha of Om Shanti journal, and would be an excellent subject for an article of greater scope in our next journal.

This is a personality worthy of further study. Shri Vivekananda is another.
Om Shanti,
Kamalee

(Repeated)

From Dr Nagar
(No Subject)  
February 8th 2009

Govindeshvara Gupha at Omkara Mandhata
Recovery and Dissemination of India’s Cultural Heritage
Enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama.

We here at Om Shanti Mandiram have just received a collection of excellent photographs of Shri Govindeshvara Gupha through the kind courtesy of our benevolent benefactor Father Geo George of Indore. This valuable collection supplements the one already obtained last year by the kind efforts of Shri Ashish Dabral, a rising star among the dedicated devotees and workers of the OMGOD group.

Advaita Vedanta
It is a matter of great satisfaction to realize that this surviving specimen of the ancient cultural heritage of India is well taken care of by the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha Seva Trust at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama.

The gupha is fully lighted and made accessible with ease and comfort to the devotee visitors. We were told that the floor of the gupha is always filled with water. We did not know of the source of water. Now we have found that there is a tunnel which goes all the way down to the sacred river Narmada! May be Shri Govinda Bhagavatpada used to use this passage for taking his daily darshana and bath in holy Narmada.

It is hoped that someone some day from somewhere will make a scientific, systematic and scholarly intensive as well as extensive study of this sacred spot.

OMShanti.

OMLN

Tunnel from the Gupha to Narmada #1
Tunnel from the Gupha to Narmada #2
From Dr Nagar

February 8th 2009

Subject: **Fw: A cave located on the top of a mountain gets flooded!**

My dear devotee of OM: One God Universal:

I hope you are a member of OMGOD and receiving all the holy messages circulated through it.

You have rendered a great service to our common holy cause. This is not just a flattery but a verified fact.

The note made by you under the photograph of the tunnel in Govindeshvara gupha has solved a serious long-standing problem. It is really remarkable to realize its value and importance.

May OM fulfill all your good desires.

OMLN

----- Original Message -----

From: Murari Nagar
To: omgod@yahoogroups.com ; omkara-mandhata@googlegroups.com
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 6:11 AM
Subject: A cave located on the top of a mountain gets flooded!

The cave was flooded! How? This may be the answer!!
Emilie Cremin writes:
[Her French thesis tr. by machine!]

During an exceptionally strong monsoon, water started to flood the ashram and to penetrate Govindabagavatpada cave, immersed in the bliss of the *samâdhi*. Immediately, Shankaracharya placed a stoneware pitcher at the entry and, miraculously, the uncontrolled river changed its direction (Fig. 35). When the master learned what had occurred, he blessed his disciple in these terms: “*My son, your fame will be imperishable. Just as you could contain tumultuous water in a jug, you will be able to write a book of commentaries containing the essence of all the Védas.*” Then he initiated his disciple; the name Shankaracharya was given to him. He advised him, when he would judge it proper,
Adi Shankara Goes to School

to spread the wisdom which he had acquired in Kashî, which is now Bénarès. He had arrived there at the age of twelve (Coquet, 2002).

There are two types of people in this world: aastika and naastika. Those who believe in the existence of God are in the first category. Those who do not are in the second category.

There is a popular saying in Hindi which means: If you believe It is God. If not, it is stone.

Myths and Legends and traditions are built around some facts—actual occurring. Earlier we were wondering how an ashram situated on the top of a mountain could get flooded? The answer is here: The TUNNEL!

Om Namah Shivaya.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar

March 13th 2009

Subject: Identification of Murtis

They say:

A picture equals 1000 words. Also, if animated it equals 10,000 words.

However, if not correctly identified--if it does not say what it is--its value is miserably minimized. It is mute. It is dumb.

Murtis are identified by their icons. If we see a trident, we know that the murti is a manifestation of Lord Shiva. If there is a cakra (disc), for example, it is identified as Lord Vishnu.

A specific murti (plaque) in Govindeshvara gupha was photographed by Linda Canestraight as early as Feb. 2003. It remained obscure for a long time. Ignorance is no bliss. We made many guesses which now seem to be silly and absurd. Why? No specific symbol or identifying icon was visible there! It was covered by flowers!

Advaita Vedanta
An artist looks at a murti from his own specific point of view. On the other hand to a devotee it is God to be worshipped.

Shri Ashish Dabral photographed the same murti in Govindeshvara gupha in the year 2008. The specific symbol or identifying mark hidden earlier was visible now. It was a daNDa of a snyyaasin!

Now we could see therein Guruvara Shri Govindeshvara and his deserving disciple young Shankara. The representation became really true and meaningful. No more guesswork.

One photograph taken by Linda Canestraight reads on the back Lakshmi Narayana. It is really Shiva and Parvati seated on Kailasa and Ravana trying to uplift the whole mountain--Shiva Lila Lahari--RavaNa-darpa-dalana! How do we know it? There is below the Ten-armed Ravana!

OMLN

From Dr Nagar            March 14th 2009
Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha at Mount Mandhata

It is interesting and illuminating to observe that we have been blessed with three series or sets of the photographs of the exterior as well as the interior of Govindeshvara gupha. In many cases they are exclusive--not identical or duplicate.

This proves the fact that the gupha is highly rich in our cultural heritage. Since it has been a gupha, the ravages of time and weather, etc. have not done much harm to the grandeur and glory and richness of India's ancient past.

OMLN
From Dr Nagar Apr 22nd 2009

Subject: **Govindeshvara Penance Cave**

Nathan has been working on this. His is a highly promising work.

What he has taken so far is the latest series of photographs of the cave kindly given to us by Father Geo George of Indore.

You had taken some photographs back in 2003.

And Ashish had taken some last year.

All these should be consolidated and brought into one DVD—Divine view of the divinities.

There should be some calm soothing background music.

With blessings from OM: One God Universal.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar April 22nd 2009

Subject: **Omkara Mandhata Mahatmya**

The greatness, value and virtue of Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama—What it is?

The answer is straight and instantaneous: Omkareshvara Jyotirlinga—one of a dozen dazzling jyotirlingas of Shiva Shankara Mahadeva. This cannot be disputed.

However, the next question is: What comes next? The undisputed answer is: Shri Govindeshvara tapasya guha.

The more we study this the more we realize that it represents a highly holy history and tradition—It is a great cultural treasure.

We have been studying Omkara Mandhata for more than a decade. We have invested an enormous amount of our time, energy, matter and mind into it.

Advaita Vedanta
If one were going to ask us today: What is our greatest gain? Our immediate and indisputable answer will be the Govindeshvara tapasya guha--the gurukulam of Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavatpada. This gupha has preserved and is displaying even today an earliest representation of an ideal disciple of an ideal gurudeva.

Quite a lot can be written on the above subject. It is hoped that some young scholar would take up this task as his/her future goal of study and research. The result and outcome will be enormous.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar  
Subject: Govindeshvara Mandira

We have just posted onto our Omkara Mandhata Google Group Forum a photograph of Govindeshvara Mandira, constructed ages ago, commemorating the sacred spot on the bank of the holy river Narmada named KoTitiirtha whereon Shankara as a shishya was awarded the sanyaasa diikshaa.

In the year 1988 a divya murti of Jagadguru Adi Shankar Bhagavatpada was installed therein by the Kanchi Kamakoti Pitha.

All these were photographed by our great benevolent benefactor photographer Geo George of Indore. May OM bless him.

OMLN
Adi Shankara Goes to School

From Dr Nagar April 27th 2009
Subject: EUREKA

Govindeshvara Mandira can also be viewed on OMGOD Yahoo Group! OMLN

From Dr Nagar May 7th 2009
Subject: Govindeshvara tapsya guha

Shri Govindeshvara Bhagavatpada was the guru of Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavatpada.

Omkara Mandhata Muktidhama served as the gurukulam of Shri Shankara.

Govindeshvara tapasya guha is a fact and not a fiction. We have been studying it.

We have been working on Omkara Mandhata for more than a decade. We have learnt quite a good deal. Our findings are being posted to OMGOD Yahoo Group as well as Omkara Mandhata Google Group.

If we had found nothing but the Govindeshvara Tapasya Gupha and the Govindeshvara Temple on the bank of the Holy River Narmada, we would have regarded ourselves as kritartha and kritakritya. This latter sacred spot is the holy site where Shankara had received his diksha to become a sanyasin.

And, by the way, Shankara acquired his knowledge at Omkara Mandhata and applied it at Mahishmati--present day Maheshvara Mandaleshvara.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar May 11th 2009
Subject: Alma Mater of Shankaracharya

Govindeshvara gupha--the alma mater of Jagadguru Shankaracharya is the greatest blessing to us from One God Universal. If we had found nothing but this HIDDEN cave, I would have regarded myself as one who has fulfilled the mission of his life. OMLN

Advaita Vedanta
From Dr Nagar

Subject: Fw: Alma Mater of Shankaracharya

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

We have named our OM Holy Book #5 as a source book. We did our best to collect and report most of the earlier writings—good bad and ordinary. But we did not find any detailed information on the Govindeshvara gupha.

Until the venerable Shri Paramacharya Chnadrashhekarendra Sarasvati of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha had had a dream of this rare treasure of ancient Indian tradition and mythology—we mean this Gupha—it was unknown to the outside world.

It has been briefly described in the souvenir volume published by the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha celebrating the 12th centenary of Jagadguru Shankara Bhagavatpada.

It was photographed by OM Loves Me in the year 2003 for the first time and briefly described in the Home Page of OM Shanti Mandiram.

It was noticed by Emilie Cremin. One very significant—probably the most significant—photograph was reproduced by Emilie Cremin in her learned thesis on Omkareshvara with some good meaningful explanation.

Later on it was photographed by Father Geo George several times at our request.

Ashish Dabral—a budding genius and a great devotee of OM: One God Universal visited the gupha and photographed it further in the year 2008. He described it well in his learned report of his holy visit to this sacred spot.

It was once again photographed at our request by Father Geo George.

By now we have a good collection of its photographs. We are putting them together. Yet the collection is not exhaustive. The series and sets of photographs taken earlier by OM devotees and described above are not mutually exclusive leading us to conclude that some substantial work is yet to be done.

It is hoped that OM will enable some enterprising devotee to continue our work and complete it. OMLN

Vijaya Vaijayantī
During an exceptionally strong monsoon, water started to flood the ashram and to penetrate Govindabhagavadpada cave, immersed in the bliss of the samādhi*. Immediately, Shankaracharya placed a stoneware pitcher at the entry and, miraculously, the uncontrolled river changed its direction (Fig. 35). When the master learned what had occurred, he blessed his disciple in these terms: “My son, your fame will be imperishable. Just as you could contain tumultuous water in a jug, you will be able to write a book of commentaries containing the essence of all the Védas.” Then he initiated his disciple; the name Shankaracharya was given to him. He advised him, when he would judge it proper, to spread the wisdom which he had acquired in Kashî, which is now Bénarès. He had arrived there at the age of twelve (Coquet, 2002).
Fig. 35: Low relief cut in the wall of “Govindeshwar Gufā,” illustrating the mythical scene where Shankaracharya saved his guru from sudden mounting waters of the Narmada. Source: University of Missouri-Columbia, February 2005.

(Repeated)
From Dr Nagar August 3rd, 2009
Attachment: Govindeshvara Mandira.doc

Govindeshvara Mandira

We have just posted onto our Omkara Mandhata Google Group Forum a photograph of Govindeshvara Mandira, constructed ages ago, commemorating the sacred spot on the bank of the holy river Narmada named KoTitiirtha whereon Shankara as a shishya was awarded the sanyaasa dikshaa.

In the year 1988 a divya murti of Jagadguru Adi Shankar Bhagavatpada was installed therein by the Kanchi Kamakoti Pitha.

All these were photographed by our great benevolent benefactor photographer Geo George of Indore. May OM bless him.

OMLN

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

From Dr Nagar October 21st, 2009
Subject: Govindeshvara gupha and Siddheshvara Temple
Attachments: Doc1_.docx

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

We have been working on Omkara Mandhata for about a decade. It is quite rich from the point of view of art and architecture as well. Its surviving monuments may be placed in two categories—sacred and secular.

Among all the treasures of the sacred nature Govindeshvara Gupha may be placed at the top.

And the Siddheshvara—Siddhanatha would lead in the field of art and architecture of the secular nature.

Yet both of them are sacred as well as secular! In India it is difficult to draw a line between the two.

We have photographed both of them quite extensively, yet much more still remains to be done.

Om Shanti. OMLN

From Dr Nagar October 27th, 2009
Subject: Re: Our work on Govindeshvara Gupha

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:

I have written quite a lot on this valuable subject and have posted all of it to Omkara Mandhata Google Group. OMLN

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Nagar, Murari l. (Emeritus) 
To: Nagar, Murari l. (Emeritus) 
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2009 7:02 PM 
Subject: Our work and works on Omkara Mandhata  

Om devotees caring to read our holy Om messages are fully aware of the nature, quality, quantity and value of what we have collected so far with regard to Omkara Advaita Vedanta
Mandhata Mukti Dhama. I would have regarded myself fully fulfilled if we had found nothing but one rare cultural treasure there. And that is the Govindeshvara Gupha.

It was photographed for the first time by Om Loves Me in the year 2003. Our great benefactor Father Geo George has photographed it at least twice a little later.

It was extensively photographed by Ashish Dabral in 2008.

The most important picture of this collection was reproduced and discussed by Emilie Cremin in her thesis on Omkareshvara.

Presently we are working on this in a systematic and extensive manner.

Om Shanti. OMLN

From Dr Nagar
2009
November 10th,
Subject: Govindeshvara Mandira

George March 06 #56 is the Govindeshvara Temple. We read these words below the picture. However, they don't print!

#55 is the interior. Shivalinga may be as old as the time when it was installed--8th century A.D.

The murti of Shri Shankaracharya was installed there by the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha in the year 1988 when a great celebration was organized to honor the 12th centenary of Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavatpada.

OMLN

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Adi Shankara Goes to School

From Dr Nagar  November 26\(^{th}\), 2009
Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha

It is highly and really remarkable to realize that until Paramacharya Shri Chandrashekarendra Sarasvati of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha was blessed with a divine dream of Kotitirtha and Govindeshvara gupha this extremely rich cultural treasure was totally unknown to the world. This Peetha deserves our veneration. Let us say: jaya jaya. OMLN

From Dr Nagar  November 26\(^{th}\), 2009
Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha

Govindeshvara Gupha on Mount Mandhata is a great treasure of India's supreme art and architecture as well as of culture and tradition.

We are immensely thankful to OM: One God Universal who has enabled us to explore it and disseminate its glory and grandeur throughout the world.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar  November 26\(^{th}\), 2009
Subject: Shri Ganesha atop entrance to Govindeshvara Gupha

The art and architecture enshrined into the shrine of Govindeshvara Gupha defy description.

It was photographed by OM Loves Me (Linda Canestraight) for the first time as early as 2003.

It was an initial attempt limited by many extraneous circumstances. Yet it was a pioneering enterprise.

Our Rising Star Om devotee Shri Ashish got it photographed in 2008 through the grace of Father Geo George, our great benefactor.

Advaita Vedanta
Om wanted to spread the glory and grandeur of this art treasure more extensively. Father George visited this art monument once again this year and performed a fully professional extensive job.

We see in this latest collection the objects more closely and in greater details. They are numerous.

We see the grand entrance more vividly here. There is the murti of Shri Ganesha on the top.

However he is shown not just seated, but in a temple of His own!

Only the lucky artists create such wonderful objects to be seen and admired by the lucky critics.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar

November 26th, 2009
Subject: FW: Emailing GEO_2914
Original Message

From: Murari Nagar
To: Canestraight, Linda M.
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2009 11:44 AM
Subject: Emailing: GEO_2914

Please post this as the frontispiece to OMGOD Yahoo Group.

Label it as -- Enter Govindeshvara Gupha.

Have a holy view of Shri Ganesha on the top.
Attachment: GEO_2914.jpe
From Dr Nagar December 8th, 2009

Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha

Govindeshvara Gupha is not just a cave; it is a Museum of Art and Architecture. One has just to see it to believe it. OMLN

From Dr Nagar December 26th, 2009

Subject: Shri Ganesha atop Govindeshvara gupha entrance

We are highly delighted that Father Geo George has given us quite recently the photograph of the entrance to the Govindeshvara Gupha. This entrance -- praveshadvaara--was also photographed earlier by some other Om devotees too, but the holy murti of Shri Ganesha was not distinctly visible there!

Further research and writing is desired relative to this picture. We will try to do it Shri Ganesha willing.

Currently it is featured as the frontispiece of our OMGOD--Divine Spiritual Fellowship--A Divya Satsanga (Yahoo forum).

OMLN

From Dr Nagar January 12th, 2010

Subject: Re: omshantimandiram.org

Govindeshvara Gupha is a highly valuable find. Our collection of the photographs by now exceeds the total number of 15,000. If we had found nothing but this I would regard ourselves real lucky. OMLN

Advaita Vedanta
Guru Govinda Tapasyā Guphā

From Dr Nagar February 21st, 2010
Subject: Emailing Copy of Amith George Linda 034

This murti in Govindeshvara is yet to be identified. Totally covered! OMLN

Attachment: Copy of Amith George Linda.jpeg

From Dr Nagar April 17th, 2010
Subject: Omkara Mandhata

Omkara Mandhata

We have been studying Omkara Mandhata for a decade by now.

Govindeshvara Gupha is the richest treasure in the religious sector.

And Siddheshvara Mandira is the best surviving art treasure there.

We seek financial assistance to continue our work on these.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar Apr 17th, 2010
Subject: Fw: Omkara Mandhata

This is a fervent and earnest appeal to all the devotees of OM: One God Universal.

Bhuukhe bhajana na hoi Gopaalaa.

All undertakings are rooted in a bushel of rice.

OMLN

Vijaya Vaijayantī
From Dr Nagar  
June 27th, 2010  
Subject: Our writings and Notes

Omkara Mandhata Google Group of Om Shanti Mandiram features as many as 41 notes and contributions from us on Govindeshvara Gupha!  

OMLN June 27, 2010.

From Dr Nagar  
June 30th, 2010  
Attachment: Govindeshvara Mandira.docx

Govindeshvara Mandira

We have just posted onto our Omkara Mandhata Google Group Forum a photograph of Govindeshvara Mandira, constructed ages ago, commemorating the sacred spot on the bank of the holy river Narmada named Kotitiirtha whereon Shankara as a shishya was awarded the sanyaasa dikshaa.

Photo by OMGod devotee: Ashish Dabral

Advaita Vedanta
In the year 1988 a divya murti of Jagadguru Adi Shankar Bhagavatpada was installed therein by the Kanchi Kamakoti Pitha.

All these were photographed by our great benevolent benefactor photographer Geo George of Indore. May OM bless him.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar October 9th, 2010

Earlier we have stated that Govindeshvara Gupha at Omkara Mandhata is our best finding.

It is sacred.

Siddheshvara Siddhanatha tops all our findings in the field of the secular monuments.

OMLN

From Dr Nagar January 24th, 2011

Sent: Monday, January 24, 2011 12:00 PM
Subject: Govindeshvara Gupha and Siddheshvara Temple

OM: One God Universal wants us to concentrate on Shankaragurukulam
Alma Mater of Shankaracharya.

OM has enabled us to do quite a lot on OM, Omkara and Omkara Mandhata. The most valuable find in the field of religion is the Govindeshvara Gupha.

And the best find in the secular field is the Siddheshvara Temple.

If we had found nothing but the above two we would have regarded ourselves as fully fulfilled and kritakritya.

These are the two objects or subjects that may generate some funds to continue our work beyond.

Vijaya Vaijayantī
Let us concentrate on them.

Om Shanti. OMLN

From: Dr Nagar       Jan 25th, 2011

Dear devotees Om: One God Universal:

A Buried treasure is of no use. Let us unearth it and present it to the wide world.

It is really remarkable to realize how much work has already been done by us on Govindeshvara Gupha and Jagadguru Adi Shankara Bhagavadvipada. It is all a buried treasure let it be repeated for emphasis.

Let us give it the priority number one.

We have plenty of words as well photographs.

Let us work on that.

Om Shanti. OMLN

From: Dr Nagar       March 9th, 2011

Attachment: An unidentified sculpture in Govindeshvara Gupha.pdf

Fig. 35: Low relief cut in the wall of “Govindeshwar Gufa,” illustrating the mythical scene where Shankaracharya saved his guru from sudden mounting waters of the Narmada. Source: University of Missouri-Columbia, February 2005.

From: Dr Nagar       Date: March 9th, 2011
Attachment:

Govindeshvara Gupha at Omkara Mandhata.doc

Govindeshvara Gupha at Omkara Mandhata

Recovery and Dissemination of India’s Cultural Heritage

Enshrined at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama.

Advaita Vedanta
We here at Om Shanti Mandiram have just received a collection of excellent photographs of Shri Govindeshvara Gupha through the kind courtesy of our benevolent benefactor Father Geo George of Indore. This valuable collection supplements the one already obtained last year by the kind efforts of Shri Ashish Dabral, a rising star among the dedicated devotees and workers of the OMGOD group.
Adi Shankara Goes to School

Ashish’s Offerings - Images of Gupha.

Gupha Entrance

Murti of Shri Govinda Bhagavatpadacharya

Adwaita Vedanta
Bāla Shishya subdues severe surge of Narada and saves his Guru.
Newly discovered section inside Gupha, much work yet to be done.

Anonymous aged leaves kept inside Govindeshvara Gupha, believed as related to Govinda Bhagavatpadacharya, the Guru of Shri Adi Shankaracharya
It is a matter of great satisfaction to realize that this surviving specimen of the ancient cultural heritage of India is well taken care of by the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha Seva Trust at Omkara Mandhata Mukti Dhama.

The gupha is fully lighted and made accessible with ease and comfort to the devotee visitors. We were told that the floor of the gupha is always filled with water. We did not know of the source of water. Now we have found that there is a tunnel which goes all the way down to the sacred river Narmada! May be Shri Govinda Bhagavatpada used to use this passage for taking his daily darshana and bath in holy Narmada.

It is hoped that someone some day from somewhere will make a scientific, systematic and scholarly intensive and extensive study of this sacred spot.

OM Shanti. OMLN

From: Dr Nagar Date: March 9th, 2011

Vaade vaade jaaya tattvabodhah.

By a series of discussions the reality is realized.

OMLN. 3-9-11

Attachment: Govindeshvara Gupha.pdf

Dear devotees of OM: One God Universal:
I have posted a message on Govindeshvara Gupha with an illustration to Omkara Mandhata Google Group. Much can be said about this. I hope I will be able to write and submit. Emilie’s statement and ascription leave much to be desired. It is only a myth and is to be taken as it is.
I have discussed this subject of myth in our OM Holy Book 5 here, there and everywhere.
OMLN
Adi Shankara Goes to School

From: Dr Nagar
Date: May 7th, 2011

A great deal of valuable information on Shankaracharya is presented in the Souvenir volume prepared and published by Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha celebrating the 1200th Shankara Jayanti, especially as it relates to Omkara Mandhata, Govindeshvara Gupha and Govindeshvara Mandira, etc. It is a worthy mine of information.

We hope we are able to organize, edit and publish all the rare information and photographs that we have collected so far relative to this cultural heritage of Bharatavarsha.

We need financial assistance from the devotees of OM: One God Universal.