#### **DEOPHAR**

Prepared by: Dhanya Ram Roy

The Deopahar (Assamese: দেওপাহাৰ, meaning " The Hill of the God") Archaeological Site is situatedin Numaligarh, Golaghat district, Assam , India. It is a protected archaeological park and has a site-museum under the Directorate of Archaeology. On top of the hillock, there is an ancient stone temple whose construction is either incomplete or was damaged during the Assam earthquake of 1897.

## LOCATION

 The Deopahar hillock, also called Deoparvat, is by the side of the Asean Highway 1(NH39) in Numaligarh, Golaghat district, Assam, India. The Deopahar hillock is a part of the Deopani reserve forest. The Deopahar Archaeological Site is a tourist destination in Assam. The distance of the Deopahar archaeological site is about 5 km from the Numaligarh Refinery, 61.8 km from Kaziranga National Park, 255 km from Guwahati and approximately 5 km by aerial distance from Brahmaputra River

### **HISTORY**

 The intricate architectural style of the Deopahar stone temple is indicative of the fact that it belongs to the period somewhere between 10th and 11th century AD. [3] The Deopahar temple was may be a temple of Lord Shiva. Legends says that the Shiva Linga from the Temple was shifted and the Baba Than, Numaligarh temple was established in the 19th century near the Deopahar hillock. As per the Satsari Buranji, there was a burial site of a Chutia king(Khunta raja)

# Architecture

- The stone temple was erected on a monolithic floor. The temple has a big ceiling slab engraved with a large lotus bearing a relief of Vidyadhara holding a scarf and a necklace by both hands. The vast range of sculptured stone blocks were curved out of Precambrian rocks. The stone blocks in the base of the temple were stabilised together with iron hinges which can be clearly seen.
- The overall creative style and design of the building blocks strongly reflects influences of the later <u>Gupta era</u>. There are huge door jambs with foliage of drooping petals, encircling creepers with animal and sculptural representations of female door keepers with coronets and huge perforated Patrakundalas. Other sculptural representation found are of <u>Kirtimukha</u>, Kalamakaras, Fangananm Shiva, Sridhar Rudra, Lakshi- Narayana, Hara Gauris Rashlila, Sarpadevata, Pranayam dhyan, Padma Sakra, Ram and Ravana, Sugriba etc. and panels with curvings of figures depicting episodes from the <u>Ramayana</u>, the <u>Mahabharata</u> and the <u>Bhagavata Purana</u>.

# THANKYOU