

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2015
Asia's Storied Traditions
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Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, PhD, Mills College

Puranas

Inspiration for Mythic Tales Carved on Ancient Hindu Monuments

Gupta Period: 4th-6th Centuries CE (Northern India)

Candragupta I (c. 319-335)
Samudragupta (c. 335-376)
Ramagupta (c. 376-380)
Candragupta II (c. 380-415)

Udayagiri, Madhya Pradesh

Cave 6, c. 401 CE: Ganesha, Mahisasuramardini
Cave 5, c. 401 CE: Vishnu Varaha (Boar *avatar*)

Deogarh

Dasavatara Temple, c. late 5th century CE
Ganesha
Vishnu Anantasayin
Nara and Narayana
Gajendramoksha

Pallava Period: 6th-8th century CE (Southern India)

Mahendravarman I (r. 600-630 CE)
Narasimhavarman I took the title of 'Mamalla' (r. 630-670).
Narasimhavarman II Rajasimha (r. 700-728)

Mamallapuram

Mahisasuramardini Cave (Durga Cave)
Great Relief, at least two interpretations:

- Descent of the Ganges
- Penance of Arjuna (Pandava hero of the epic *Mahabharata*)

References

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