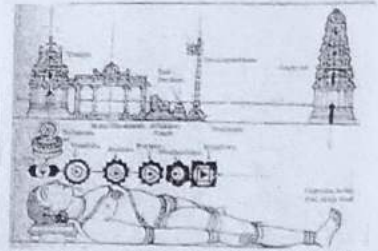


Indian Temples- Significance and Meaning

Temples as we all know is the main place of worship for majority of the Indian Population. The significance of the temple is that the various portions in the temple signify the various parts of human body. The human body is the dwelling for the spirit of God (Antarayamin). The structure of the temple is the physical body (sthoala Sarira). Its presence highlights the importance of the divine in the world. The Main entrance and the portion thereof or Prakaram is the body of the Lord. As a mark of respect one leaves their footwear far from the entrance to pay their respect while entering itself. The various portions so named represent the parts of the human body namely Garbhagriha is head, Inner Parikrama is the face, Wall outside parikrama is the chest, Namaskara Mandapa is the neck and Ballmantapa is waist and the main entrance with Gopuram is the feet. The temple symbolizes the human physical form.



Temples and Human Body - Symbolism

In Bhagavad Gita, Lord Krishna says that "idam sariram kaunteya ksetram ity abhidhiyate". This body is a temple.



The Pictorial cancellation shows that of the Temple at Mandarthi , Karnataka dedicated to Devi.



Ahilyabai Holkar 1979



Rameshwaram 2001



Aundha Naginath 2001



Triyambakeshwar 2001



Thirumala Vimanam 2002



Jagannath Puri 2003



Srisailem Temple 2003



Brahadeeswarar Temple 2010