

PREFACE

This study of the Jina-images of Deogarh, Central India, drew its inspiration from a suggestion made by Dr. U. P. SHAH whom I visited in Baroda in 1954. In the same year I travelled to Deogarh and was at once convinced that a study of the Jain temples there would be most rewarding. Two extended visits in the course of the years immediately following (1955 and 1956) gave me the opportunity to collect material for this study. The actual task of evaluating it only began following my return to Germany. It soon became evident that if the material were to be worked through *in toto* this would more likely result in a catalogue than a monograph, and for this reason only part of the material has been treated, i.e. *the Jina-images*. A fourth visit in 1963 served as the final check.

Unfortunately there have been many changes since 1957. In the year 1959 hundreds of images in many localities in Central India, including Deogarh, were mutilated by art-thieves. The main-figures were decapitated and in many cases the subsidiary figures appearing on the slabs had been removed altogether. As a counter-measure the Deogarh temples were locked and some images placed in the nearby "Dharmshala" (pilgrims' lodging). However much the efforts made by the Jain community responsible for the Deogarh temples may deserve our gratitude, there is no denying the fact that India's art treasures cannot be protected on the spot. Only effective measures against their illegal export can prevent them diminishing still further.

The present study was made possible because of a two-and-half-year scholarship granted by the Government of India and I should like to express my thanks for this at this point. In this connection my gratitude also goes to the Deccan College, where I was working, for their understanding in granting me leave of absence in order to further this project. Similarly, my thanks go to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft for their grant of a fifteen-month research scholarship following my return from India. The help given by the Archaeological Survey of India and its then Director, Shri A. GHOSH, was most valuable. Not only did I have the opportunity of obtaining numerous photographs from the various branches of the ASI, but a member of the Central Institute's Staff was assigned to me and he did the necessary work of taking estampages of the Deogarh inscriptions. In addition I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. H. V. TRIVEDI, who was at that time Director of Archaeology in Madhya Bharat, and to my colleague Prof. H. HÄRTEL, Director of the Museum für Indische Kunst, Berlin, for providing photographs. I was able to obtain copies from the rich collection in the Gwalior Museum from Dr. Trivedi, whilst Prof. Härtel made a considerable number of photographs available to me which had been taken in India but a short time before. In this connection I should also like to thank M. RAYMOND BURNIER¹ who made some of his rare photos — all hitherto unpublished — available for publication in the present work.

With regard to the research itself, my thanks first go to Dr. U. P. SHAH and Dr. D. C. SIRCAR. Dr. Shah did not only — as has previously been mentioned — inspire me to embark

¹ Burnier (*July 6th, 1912) met with an untimely death on September 29th, 1968 at Zagarolo near Rome

on the present work — he also aroused my interest in Indian iconography. The publication in 1959 of his monograph on the Akota bronzes was of the greatest importance with regard to this present study. Dr. Sircar who was at that time Government Epigraphist for India in Ootacamund not only allowed me to make use of the estampages of Deogarh inscriptions available in his Institute which supplemented my own material to some extent but he also helped me to read the Deogarh inscriptions. Thanks to the trouble he took, and to the efforts of his staff who were no less helpful, light was shed in more cases than one on lines that would otherwise have appeared hopeless. As the work progressed Dr. Sircar's doubts as to the *historical* value of the inscriptions proved to be justified. Nevertheless the inscriptions were of the utmost value with regard to the relative and absolute chronology of the monuments. My thanks for various suggestions with regard to the improvement of the present monograph go to my tutors, Professor SCHUBRING and Professor ALSDORF, and also to Professors E. WALDSCHMIDT and G. F. KOCH. I am especially grateful to Professor VAN LOHUIZEN - DE LEEUW, who included this book in the present series, went through the proofs and gave me the benefit of her advice on many points of detail. — The difficulties of translating this work are very obvious and I am greatly obliged to Mr. MICHAEL MC DONALD, B. A., F. I. L., for having undertaken this task. My thanks also go to Mr. C. S. PHATAK (Poona) and to Mr. HEINZ K. G. MAHNKE. Mr. Phatak went to Deogarh in 1956 to prepare the technical drawings (Figs. 392-94) which I required urgently. The engraver Heinz K. G. Mahnke has placed his entire skill at my disposal while preparing the drawings (Figs. 296-389) which form a vital part of this work. That this book could be published in its present form is due to MESSRS. E. J. BRILL (Leyden) who have spared neither trouble nor expense with regard to its printing.

Since I was largely thrown back on my own resources with regard to my fieldwork, the assistance given by the local Jain community not only facilitated the work, but also ensured that the preliminary tasks were concluded successfully. From the very first day the Shri Deogarh Managing Digambar Jain Committee gave their full support and I feel it a pleasant duty to express my sincere thanks to this body. I am also deeply grateful to the following gentlemen for their hospitality and advice, and for the support they gave me in many ways: Shri A. K. TARAIYA, B.A., LL.B. (Lalitpur and Jhansi), Shri PARAMESHTHI DAS JAIN (Lalitpur) and Shri PARAMANAND BARAYA¹ (Lalitpur). In addition I am obliged for their assistance to various other members of the Jain community in Lalitpur as well as to Shri KUNDANLAL JAIN, M.A., at Chanderi. Last but by no means least I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Shri RAM DAYAL JAIN, Pujari of the Jain temples at Deogarh, whose hospitality I enjoyed during the periods I spent in the village.

No book is better than its individual sentences. Nevertheless the author hopes to be excused if inaccuracies have crept in here and there due to frequent rewriting. That the monograph is largely free from misprints is due to the co-operation of several members of the Seminar für Indische Philologie (Freie Universität Berlin) who were so kind as to help in seeing the book through the press.

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¹ The restoration of the Jain temples will always be connected with the name of Barayaji. A note on his life will be found in the Hindi Monthly *Anekant* (October 1968, pp. 174-176).