

## EASTERN GROUP.

The Eastern group of temples is situated in close proximity to the village of Khajuraho. It comprises three Brahmanical or Hindu and three large Jaina temples, viz., the Ghantai temple, the temple of Adinatha and that of Parsvanatha. The Hindu temples are those of Brahma, Vamana and Javari.

### COLOSSAL STATUE OF HANUMAN.

This statue is enshrined in a modern temple situated about half way between the Western group of temples and Khajuraho village. The Monkey God, Hanuman, also known as Maruti or the son of the Wind God, played an important part in the great war waged by Rama against Lanka to recover his wife Sita, who had been treacherously carried off by Ravana, the king of that island. In Northern India the cult of Hanuman is especially popular. The image, now covered with red lead and *ghi*, is of the usual type but is interesting on account of a short dedicatory inscription cut on its pedestal, which is dated in the year 316 of the Harsha era (922 A.D.) and is the oldest of the known inscriptions at Khajuraho.

### BRAHMA TEMPLE.

This temple occupies a fine position on the bank of the Khajuraho Sagar. The name, Brahma temple, by which it is now locally known, is, however, erroneous. The four-faced (*chaturmukha*) image inside the sanctum is definitely a Siva-*linga*, which has been mistaken by the local worshippers for an image of Brahma, who also has four faces. This image with its pedestal is in its original position and is undoubtedly the image first installed in the temple. It is true that the central positions on the lintels of the sanctum and west window are occupied by figures of Vishnu. But the stone of which the doors are made, is different from that employed in the rest of the temple, and there can be little doubt that they were brought here from some other temple.

The temple consisted originally of a sanctum and a portico, the latter of which has now disappeared. On three sides of the sanctum are