

A little further west to Muktimandapa is the Rohini Kunda with the images of Sudarsan Chakra and Bhusunda Kaka. To the faithful these are objects of great interest and to the priests a source of a steady income. Close to the Muktimandapa is the temple of Nrusimha which is regarded to be one of the earliest shrines in the compound of the temple of Jagannath. To the west of Rohini Kunda is the shrine of Bimala. Mention of this temple is found in the Matsya Purana and the Kapila Samhita. Once in a year, on the eighth day of the waxing moon in the month of Aswina (Mahastami day), a goat is sacrificed before the goddess at midnight.

Towards the north of the temple of Bimala there are smaller temples containing the images of Benumadhaba, Rama, Sakhigopala, Kanchi Ganesha, Bhubaneswari and Nilamadhaba.

The temple at the north-west corner is an old one and contains beautiful carvings. It is dedicated to Lakshmi, the immaculate wife of Jagannath. The conservation work of this temple has been undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India.

To the left of the Lakshmi temple is the shrine of the Navagrahas. Adjacent to it is the temple of *Surya*. Next follow the shrines of Lakshmi-Narayana, Dadhivamana, Rama-Sita, Pataleswara, etc. Ananda Bazar, where Mahaprasada is sold daily, is situated in the north-east corner of the outer-enclosure. On the eastern side of the Ananda Bazar there is the Devasnana Mandapa where the deities are ceremonially bathed on the full-moon day of Jaistha (May-June). Close by it is a small pavilion where the goddess Lakshmi takes her seat to see the Snana Yatra. There is a corresponding pavilion on the other side of the eastern gateway to which Lakshmi resorts to welcome Jagannath on his return from Gundicha Ghara during the Car festival.

The tower is Pancharatha in plan. The ground plan is a square of 80 feet and the height is 192 feet from *upana*. The tower starts from a plinth of 5 feet 2 inches in height. The height of the *jangha* is 11 feet. The *Sardula* between the *konaka* and *anuratha-pagas* is a figure of lion standing over a crouching elephant with its head turned back. The spiral structure (*Vimana*) consists of several sections superimposed one over the other tapering to the top where the great *amalakasila* and *kalasa* are placed. The *amalakasila* is meant to keep the structure properly balanced. The huge lions and other deities which occur below the *amalakasila* serve as the

The Tower