

GLOSSARY

<i>Adhikāra</i>	: The head of the <i>satra</i>
<i>Adhithāna</i>	: Plinth; Pedestal; Base
<i>Ālidhā</i>	: A particular <i>asana</i> for attitude of legs, in all respects similar to attitude adopted in drawing the bow charged with an arrow. The right leg is outstretched while the left is slightly bent
<i>Āmalaka</i>	: Gadrooned fluted oblate spheroid, resembling an <i>amalaka</i> fruit
<i>Antarāla</i>	: A covered passage adjoining a <i>vimāna</i> and its next <i>mandapa</i>
<i>Antariksasthāna</i>	: Aerial
<i>Apsarā</i>	: A heavenly nymph, commonly depicted in Indian sculpture as dancing and plying music
<i>Ardhamandapa</i>	: Porch; varanda
<i>Āsana</i>	: Seat; seating poster
<i>Ātoi</i>	: A venerable person; a celibate devotee attached to a <i>satra</i>
<i>Āyudha</i>	: A weapon, a symbolical instrument peculiar to a deity
<i>Bāda</i>	: A wall; the length of the vimana from the ground level to the springing line of the dome
<i>Bargita</i>	: A class of devotional songs attuned to classical Ragas

<i>Bātcharā</i>	: A gateway; an outhouse of the <i>satra</i> , (As, bāt= way, Carā= a hall)
<i>Beki</i>	: A component of a <i>mastaka</i> of a temple, also called griva or neck
<i>Bhajana</i>	: The ceremony or ordination after the first initiation to Vaishnavism
<i>Bhakat</i>	: A devotee (sk. Bhakta)
<i>Bhakti-mārga</i>	: Path of devotion
<i>Bhanga</i>	: Bodily flexion; bent or curved part
<i>Bhāonā</i>	: A religious performance; dramatic show of Vaishnavite dramas
<i>Bighā</i>	: A unit of measurement of land equal to 1600 sq. yds; about one third of an acre
<i>Bihu</i>	: Assamese national festival
<i>Brahmottara</i>	: Revenue free land grants to the Brāhmanas
<i>Buranji</i>	: The chronicles of the Āhom
<i>Cakra</i>	: Wheel or disc
<i>Carit-puthi</i>	: A biography of Vaishnavite saints
<i>Cellā</i>	: sanctum
<i>Dāo</i>	: A type of short common sword with crooked or straight ends
<i>Deul</i>	: Worship of Visnu in by constructing a earthen mound
<i>Deuri</i>	: A priest, a worshipper (sk. Devagrahika)
<i>Devakosthas</i>	: Niches in temple walls

<i>Devālaya</i>	: Temple
<i>Diksā</i>	: An initiation according to Tantric or Pauranic method.
<i>Dvārasakhā</i>	: A door-jamb
<i>Dvāra-Sirapatti</i>	: Door-lintel
<i>Dyusthāna</i>	: Celestial
<i>Ekasarana</i>	: The supreme surrender to one God.
<i>Gadā</i>	: Mace or club
<i>Gajathara</i>	: A plinth mould bearing elephant in a row
<i>Gajavyāāla</i>	: A lion (vyala) taming an elephant
<i>Garbhagriha</i>	: Sanctum of a shrine
<i>Garuda</i>	: Mythical bird, associated with Lord Visnu as his vehicle
<i>Ghar</i>	: A house
<i>Gosāin</i>	: A religious preceptor who is versed on the Vedas. The head of the Vaishnavite <i>satras</i> are popularly called Gosāin (Goswāmin)
<i>Gosāinghar</i>	: A house of God; a temple
<i>Gurulilā</i>	: A biography written by Rāmraya Dvija, narrating the life and activities of Dāmodaradeva and his disciples
<i>Hāti</i>	: Rows of huts where devotees are lodged in a <i>satra</i> are collectively known as Hati
<i>Janghā</i>	: A wall; the portion of a temple in between the <i>paubhāga</i> and <i>bārāndā</i>
<i>Kalasa</i>	: Ordinary water vessel of metal or terracotta

<i>Kāla samhati</i>	: A sub sect of the Mahāpurusiyā cult initiated by Gopāl Āta
<i>Kalpavrksa</i>	: A motif representing the proverbial wish fulfilling tree
<i>Kamandalu</i>	: A spouted water pot carried by Brahmā and also by <i>rishis</i> (seers)
<i>Karāpat</i>	: Vide Bātcharā; a gate-house
<i>Kewaliyā</i>	: A celibate devotee; on whose occupation of life is the rendering of service to God. (sk. Kevalin)
<i>Khopri</i>	: The skull; a semicircular component of the <i>mastaka</i>
<i>Kirtana</i>	: The act of chanting prayers; it is the name of a devotional <i>kavya</i> by Sankardeva
<i>Kirtimukha</i>	: The grinning lion face popularly used as a decorative motif on the medieval temple
<i>Lalatā-bimba</i>	: The central niche of a door-linted
<i>Linga</i>	: An anionic presentation representation of Hindu god Siva
<i>Magara or makara</i>	: A crocodile motif
<i>Mahanta</i>	: A noble man; non-Brahmin heads of <i>satras</i> were popularly called Mahanta
<i>Mahāpurusha</i>	: Literally the Great being, i.e. God; Sankaradeva is popularly known as Mahāpurusha.
<i>Mandir</i>	: Temple
<i>Manikut</i>	: The shrine where the sacred scripture or the idol of the deity is installed

<i>Matha</i>	: A rekha deul in a <i>satra</i> campus
<i>Mukhamandapa</i>	: The vestibule of a temple
<i>Mukhā</i>	: Mask
<i>Mouzā</i>	: A division of a district in Assam in charge of a fiscal officer called Maujādar
<i>Nāga</i>	: Serpent
<i>Nagara</i>	: A temple of the North Indian style
<i>Nām (Nama)</i>	: Names and attributes of god
<i>Nāma-prasanga</i>	: Devotional services consisting of prayers, recreations and religious discussions
<i>Nāmghar</i>	: A prayer hall
<i>Nātamandapa</i>	: A Mandapa meant for performing chorus, music, opera, etc.
<i>Natarāja</i>	: Siva as lord of dance
<i>Nikā samhati</i>	: Sub-sect, organized by Padma Ata, and Mathuradasa
<i>Nupura</i>	: Anklet
<i>Ojā</i>	: An expert; the leader of choral singers
<i>Ojā-pāli</i>	: Choral singers; a choir; a kind of dance performed in the <i>satras</i>
<i>Pācati</i>	: A festival celebrated on the fifth day of the birth anniversary of Krishna. (sk. Pancatika)
<i>Padma</i>	: Lotus
<i>Pāik</i>	: An enrolled adult male subject of the Āhom government having to render specific duties to the State

<i>Pancaratha</i>	: A ground plan with five walls in each cardinal direction
<i>Panchāyat</i>	: A traditional court of arbitration
<i>Pāubhāga</i>	: A plinth
<i>Pranāla</i>	: An outlet , a drainage channel in a shrine
<i>Prithvisthāna</i>	: Terrestrial
<i>Pūjāri</i>	: Priest
<i>Pukhuri</i>	: Water tank
<i>Purush samhati</i>	: The sub sect organized by Purosattam Thakur
<i>Rāj Vamsāvali</i>	: Royal chronicle
<i>Ratha</i>	: Each projection wall of a <i>ratha</i> -type plan.
<i>Sabāh</i>	: Religious congregation where prayer services are held (sk. <i>Sabhā</i>)
<i>Sakhā</i>	: A decorative band of a door-frame.
<i>Samapada-sthānaka</i>	: Standing posture in which legs are firm and strength without any bent and two vertical halves of the symmetrically disposed with the plumb lines along the middle of the body corresponding to its vertical axis
<i>Samhati</i>	: Association; a sect
<i>Saptaratha</i>	: A <i>ratha</i> temple having seven projections on each side of its plan
<i>Sarana</i>	: The initiation ceremony in which a neophyte is required to surrender himself absolutely to the four fundamental principles
<i>Satrādhikār</i>	: The pontiff of a vaisnava <i>satra</i>

<i>Satriyā</i>	: The head of a <i>satra</i> holding a limited authority
<i>Sikhara</i>	: Spire or tower of a temple
<i>Sirapatti</i>	: A lintel
<i>Sthān</i>	: a place
<i>Sihānaka</i>	: A standing posture
<i>Thān</i>	: A place of worship (expression used in Assamese)
<i>Thāpana</i>	: Holy alters where the sacred scripture is kept.
<i>Tithi</i>	: Literally a lunar day; it denotes birth and death anniversaries of Vaishnavite saints.
<i>Torana</i>	: A gate
<i>Vāhana</i>	: The vehicle or mount of a deity
<i>Viswapadma</i>	: The lotus motif.
<i>Yonipitha</i>	: An aniconic representation of Sakti or the female creative energy