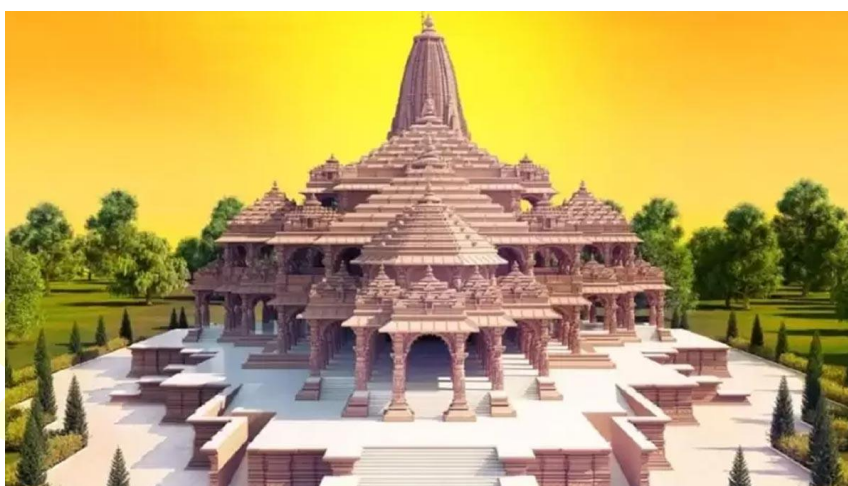


# Ayodhya's Ram Mandir

## Why In News

- **Ram temple in Ayodhya** will be inaugurated on **January 22** at a grand ceremony, which will be attended by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and other dignitaries. The event will be telecast live in many cities across India and devotees have been asked to attend it virtually too. After the consecration event, the temple will be open for **devotees from January 24**.



## 200 Years History

- **Ram Janmabhoomi movement** for a **grand temple at Ayodhya** has a timeline running over more than two centuries.
- **In 1751, the Marathas** appealed to the Nawab of Awadh – whom they had helped defeat Pathan forces in the doab region – to transfer control of Ayodhya, Kashi and Mathura to them, says former BJP Rajya Sabha MP Balbir Punj in his recent **book Tryst With Ayodhya**.
- **In 1756, too, when Nawab Shuja-ud-Daula** sought their help against an imminent Afghan invasion, the Marathas requested that the three sites be transferred to them.
- However, the Nawab switched sides later, and the Maratha demand became irrelevant. They also lost the Third Battle of Panipat soon afterwards in 1761 to Ahmed Shah Abdali.



- **On July 28, 1855**, there was a bloody clash between Hindus and Muslims at Hanuman Garhi temple near the Babri Masjid.
- By the end of the day, **Hindus – led by Naga Sadhus and Bairagis** – killed 70-75 Muslims. **Major General GD Outram** had informed Nawab Wajid Ali Shah that one Shah Ghulam Hussein had gathered a large force to destroy the Hanuman Garhi, but the clash could not be averted.



- **Fortified within Hanuman Garhi**, the Hindus not only defended Hanuman Garhi but also captured Janmasthan (the place where Lord Ram was believed to have been born) from the Muslims on that blood-stained day, says the **2019 Supreme Court judgment** on the Ayodhya title suit.
- **The judgment adds**, “It is said that up to that time the Hindus and Muhammadans alike used to worship in the mosque-temple. Since British Rule,

a railing has been put up to prevent the disputes, within which in the mosque the Muhammadans pray, while outside the fence the Hindus have raised a platform on which they make their offerings.”

- **In Hadiga-I-Shuhuda** written by one Mirza Jan, the writer records an attack on the Ram Janmabhoomi by one Amir Ali Amethawi in 1856, but the attacker was killed by British troops.
- **In 1885, the mahant of Janmasthan Raghubar Das** moved court to seek permission to build a Ram temple at the Ram Chabutra close to the Babri Masjid but within the complex.



- **Historian Meenakshi Jain** offers details about this case in her book Rama and Ayodhya. The petition was dismissed on the grounds that historical justice could not be delivered after so long a time and that there could be a law and order problem if the status quo was disturbed.
- **On January 7, 1993**, Parliament passed the Acquisition of Certain Area at Ayodhya Act, which gave the government the authority to acquire 67.03 acres of the disputed Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land. It also asked the Supreme Court via a presidential reference under Article 143 (1) of the Constitution to determine whether there was a pre-existing temple at the site before the Babri Masjid was built.
- **The Justice Liberhan Commission report** was submitted on June 30, 2009. It said that the events of December 1992 were neither spontaneous nor unplanned. In April 2017, a special CBI court framed criminal charges against Advani, Joshi, Uma Bharti, Vinay Katiyar and others. On September 30, 2020, the court

acquitted all 32 accused on grounds of inconclusive evidence, and the judge SK Yadav ruled that the demolition wasn't pre-planned.



- In 2010, a special bench of the Allahabad High Court under Justices SU Khan, Sudhir Agarwal and Dharam Veer Sharma in its Ayodhya title suit judgment divided the land in a 2:1 ratio, with two-thirds of the 2.77-acre, including the garbha griha, going to litigants for a Ram temple – Shri Ram Lala Virajman and Nirmohi Akhara. One-third of the land was given to the Sunni Central Waqf Board.
- The verdict was challenged in the Supreme Court by both the Hindu and Muslim litigants.



- The apex court stayed the Allahabad High Court verdict. On November 9, 2019, a five-judge bench of the Supreme Court unanimously awarded the entire

disputed land to the Hindu petitioners for a Ram temple at Ayodhya. It also decided to give land elsewhere for the construction of a mosque.

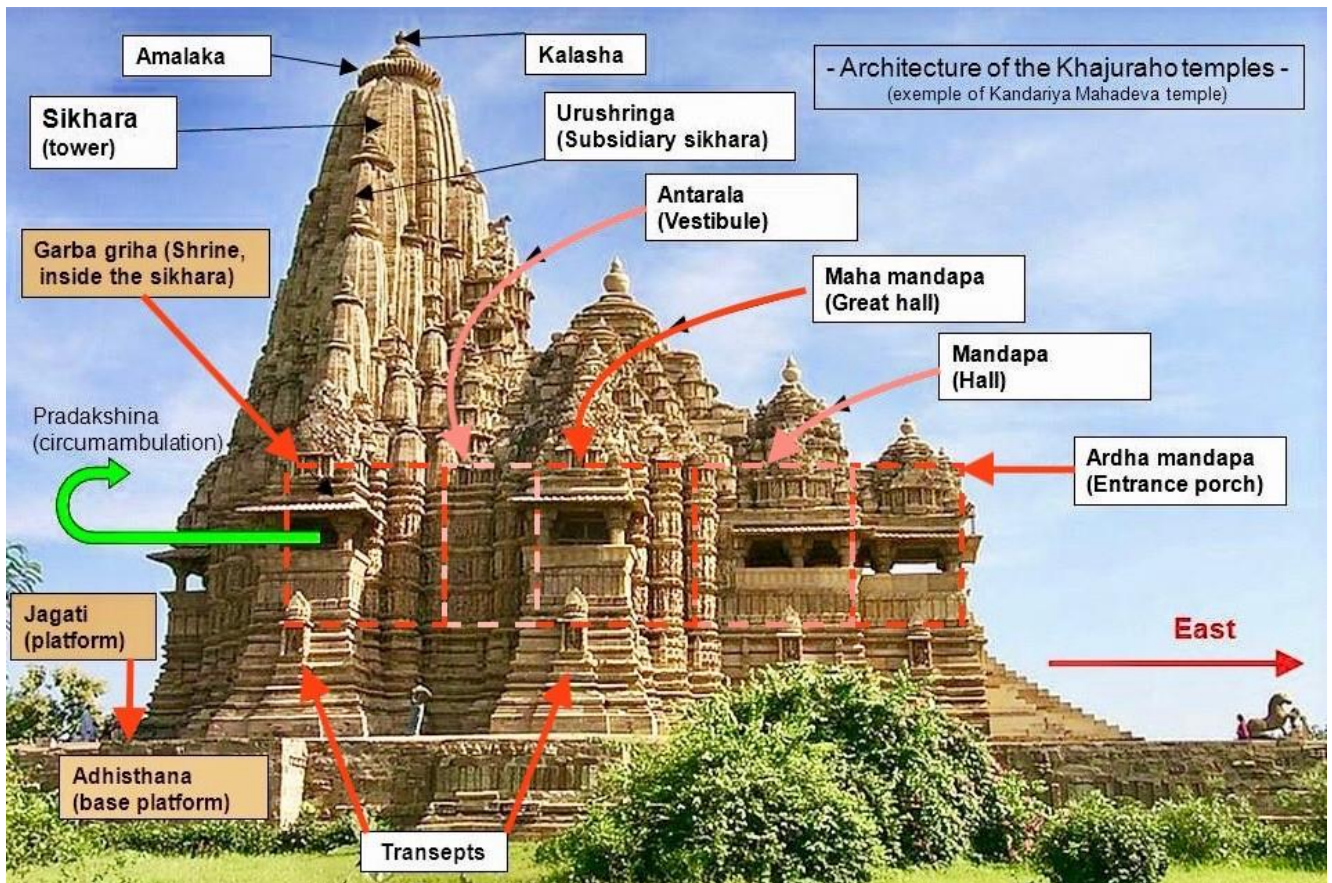
## All About Infrastructure

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone for the **Ram Mandir on August 5, 2020**. The affairs of the temple are managed by **Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra**.



- According to the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, the temple has been constructed in the traditional Nagar style. It has a length (east-west) of 380 feet, a width of 250 feet, and a height of 161 feet.
- The temple is three-storied, with each floor being 20 feet tall. It has a total of 392 pillars and 44 doors. There are **five Mandaps or halls**, and their names are Nritya Mandap, Rang Mandap, Sabha Mandap, Prarthna and Kirtan Mandaps.
- The entry is from the east, and devotees will have to climb 32 stairs through the Singh Dwar.
- The trust also said that there are provision of ramps and lifts for the convenience of the differently-abled and elderly.
- Interestingly, no iron is used anywhere in the temple, claimed the trust. At the four corners of the compound, **there are four temples** - dedicated to the Sun god, goddess Bhagwati, Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva. The temple of Maa Annapurna is on the northern side, while a Hanuman temple on the southern side.

- The foundation of the Ayodhya Ram temple has been constructed with a **14-metre-thick layer of roller-compacted concrete (RCC)**, giving it the appearance of artificial rock. A 21-foot-high granite plinth acts as a shield against ground moisture, ensuring the longevity of this sacred structure.



**AYODHYA'S  
RAM MANDIR**

Designed by the **Sompura Family**, it is India's largest temple, reaching a height of about **161 feet**, covering **28,000 square feet**

The advertisement features a portrait of a man in a white shirt and glasses. To his right is a stylized, golden temple structure with a deity on top. The background is orange with a subtle temple motif.

## AYODHYA'S RAM MANDIR

**Chandrakant Sompura,**  
assisted by his sons  
Ashish and Nikhil,  
serves as the  
chief architect  
for temple



## AYODHYA'S RAM MANDIR

**Sculpting Devotion**  
The intricate task of sculpting  
the Ram idols involved three  
skilled artisans — Ganesh  
Bhatt and Arun Yogiraj  
from Karnataka, along  
with Satyanarayan Pandeya  
from Rajasthan



## AYODHYA'S RAM MANDIR

Construction  
adheres to Vastu  
Shastra and  
Shilpa Shastras,  
following the  
**Chalukya style**  
of temple  
architecture



## AYODHYA'S RAM MANDIR

The first floor depicts Lord Ram's Darbar; construction utilises **Bansi Paharpur**, a pink sandstone from Bharatpur in Rajasthan



The Ram Mandir has exclusively relied on stones, with **no use of steel or iron**

Spanning at **2.7 acres**, the temple stretches **360 feet** in length and **235 feet** in width

Ground floor has **160 columns**, while first and second floors have **132 and 74 columns** respectively

The temple has three floors, each towering at **20 feet** with a total height of **161 feet**





## AYODHYA'S RAM MANDIR

Spread across  
**2.7 acres,**  
spanning a length  
of **360 feet** and  
a width of  
**235 feet**



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