

# Evolution of Bhumija Shikhara and Distribution of Bhumija Shrines in India

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## Abstract

The present paper begins with a brief on the meaning and essence of a Hindu temple. It talks about the types of classification of the Hindu temples in India, on the basis of its physical attributes. The authors then try to trace the evolution of the *Bhumija shikhara* chronologically. The paper examines the *Bhumija* mode with respect to its meaning and references in literature. Finally the paper mentions various *Bhumija* shrines in various states of the country chronologically. The description ends with maps showing spatial distribution of *Bhumija* shrines across India and a graph showing state wise *Bhumija* shrines with respect to their time-line.

**Keywords:** Temple, Bhumija, Shikhara, Shrine, India

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