List of Plates

1. 'Yaso Mādhav'. Height around 4 1/2 feet. It's a modern replication of an earlier specimen (now perished), which was related to Yaso Pal, a local chieftain of the pre-Islamic era (c 724-726 AD). Dhamrai, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

2. 'Śhircakra Maṛuśīt'. Measurement 137 x 40.5 cm (i.e., 54 x 16 inches). Dated c 11 cent AD. It was hailed from Rampal of Munshigunj, Dhaka, Bangladesh and is presently kept at Bangladesh National Museum, Dhaka (accession no E-188).

3. 'Bodhisattva Loknāth'. Measurement 49 x 17 inches. Dated c 11 cent AD. It was hailed from Tongibari of Munshigunj, Dhaka, Bangladesh and is presently kept at Bangladesh National Museum, Dhaka (accession no E-189).

4. 'Viśnū-on-Gur'. Dimensions 83 x 7 x 9 inches, while the presently detached pedestal measures 21 x 17 inches. Dated c 12-13 cent AD. It was hailed from Goda, Bardhaman and is presently kept at State Archaeological Museum, Behala, Kolkata (accession number unknown).

5. 'Balarām'. Height around 11 feet. Dated c 14-15 cent AD. Boro, PS Raina, Bardhaman. The present day wooden idol is presumed to be an exact replica of the original one (now perished).

6. 'Krṣṇā' (accompanied by Rādhā, a later addition). Height around 2 feet. Dated c late 15-cent AD. Śrīpāṭ of Raghunath Das Goswami, Krṣnapuri/Kestapur (Saptagram), PS Magra, Hooghly.

7. 'Śrīhābāhīnī'. Height around 5 1/2 feet. It's a wooden replication (made in c 1790 AD) of the original version also in wood, assignable to c 15-16 cent AD (now perished). Nijabalia, PS Jagatvallabhpur, Howrah.

8. 'Balarām-Subhadrā-Jagannāth'. Height around 3 feet, 1 1/4 feet and 4 1/4 feet respectively. Dated c 15-16 cent AD. Jagannāth Temple, Mahesh, PS Srirampur, Hooghly. Presumably, the wooden idols of Balarām and Subhadrā were added a bit later.


10. 'Gaurāṅga' (said to be worshipped by Viṣṇupriyā). Height around 5 feet. c early 16 cent AD. Dhāmeśvar Mahāprabhu Temple, PS Nabadvip, Nadia. Navinananada Bhaskar of Dainhat, PS Katwa, Bardhaman, was the sculptor.

11. Nadia Nāgār image of 'Gaurāṅga'. Height around 5 1/2 feet. c early 16 cent AD (some are of opinion that it was installed sometime between 1564-65 and 1574-75 AD). This is the largest among the three wooden idols of Gaurāṅga, distributed by Narahari Sarkar of Srikhanda to three different places.

12. Nadia Nāgār image of 'Gaurāṅga'. Height around 1 1/2 feet. Same date as plate 11. This is the smallest among the three images of Gaurāṅga distributed by Narahari Sarkar of Srikhanda.

13. 'Madangopāl'. Height around 2 1/4 feet. Dated c mid-16 cent / 1553-54 AD (BS 960). Goswami-pāṭā (Bhata), PS Memari, Bardhaman. An exact replica (assignable to a later date), with the same name, could be found in a nearby temple at Palsit (see ch II of this book).

14. 'Gaurgopāl' (in the centre). Height around 2 1/4 feet. c mid-16 cent AD. Said to be carved by Krisnananda Puri, a Vaiṣṇav hermit. 'Nityananda' (left). Height around 3 feet. c 17-18 cent AD.

15. 'Rādhāvīnodd' (right). Height around 2 1/4 feet. c 17-18 cent AD. Śrīpāṭ of Krisnananda Puri, Dvīpa (Rath-talā), PS Haripal, Hooghly.
15. 'Gauranga'. Height around 2 feet, c mid-16 cent AD. *Mahāprabhu* Temple (Śrīpāt of Basudeb Ghosh), near Tamluk Police Station, East Medinipur.

16. 'Nitai-Gaur'. Height around 4½ feet, c mid-16 cent AD. *Śrī Manmahāprabhu* Temple (Śrīpāt Atīsa), PS Baruipur, South 24 Parganas.

17. 'Gopināth' (on right): Height around 1½ feet. Dated c mid-16 cent AD (sometime before 1575-76 AD).

18. 'Śyamsundar'. Height around 4½ feet. Dated c late-16 cent AD (some are of opinion that it’s an exact replica of the wooden idol of *Śarveśvar* of Bajitpur). Hilara, PS Suti, Murshidabad. The lord stays at Hilora between the Bengali months of *Aṣṭārh* and *Kārtik*. For the rest of the year he travels around various places of Maldah, Murshidabad and Birbhum; and hence is considered as a *Calavera* or traveling deity. On 29.01.2012, we found him at the residence of Sasthi Das of *Rathtalā-pāra* (Purki-pāra), PS Sainthia, Birbhum.

19. 'Śarveśvar' (in the middle). Height around 4½ feet. Dated c late-16 cent AD (some are of opinion that it’s an exact replication of *Śyamsundar* of Hilora).

20. 'Rādhāvallabhjī' and 'Rādhikā'. Height around 5 feet and 3¼ feet respectively. Dated c late-16 cent AD. It’s said to be originally installed at Jessore, Bangladesh, and then shifted to South 24 Parganas — first at Khari (PS Raidighi) and then to the present location at Jainagar.

21. 'Rādhāmādhav' and 'Rādhārāṇī'. Height around 5 feet and 3¼ feet respectively. Dated c late-16 cent AD / 1559-60 AD.

22. 'Śyamsundar' and 'Rādhikā'. Height around 3¼ feet and 2¼ feet respectively. Dated c late-15 cent AD.

23. 'Nitai-Gaur'. Height around 3½ feet each. Dated c 16 cent AD. Madanpur, PS Kalyani, Nadia. It’s said that this dual-effigy was originated at Kaila and then has traveled various places of Bangladesh and West Bengal before reaching the present location.

24. 'Kāli'. Height around 5 feet. Dated c 16 cent AD (or earlier?!). *Ādi Mahākāli* Temple, Sardar-pāra (Garia-Fartabad), PS Sonarpur, South 24 Parganas. Around 200 years ago, the effigy was found from a local pond and then re-installed for worshipping.

25. 'Bankim/Bāṅkā Rāy' (in the right). Height around 2¼ feet. Dated c 16-17 cent AD.

26. 'Vṛndāvancandra'. Height around 2 feet. Dated c 16-17 cent AD. *Vṛndāvancandra* Temple, Guptipara *Māth*, PS Balagarh, Hooghly. The wooden idol was said to be brought from Santipur, Nadia.

27. 'Balarām-Subhadrā-Jagannāth'. Height around 2¼ feet, 2 feet and 3½ feet respectively. Dated c 16-17 cent AD. *Vṛndāvancandra* Temple, Guptipara *Māth*, PS Balagarh, Hooghly.
28. 'Jaycandi'. Height around 3½ feet. Dated c 16-17 cent AD. Jaycandi Temple, PS Jainagar, South 24 Parganas.

29. 'Sarabhuj: Gauranga and Nityananda'. Height around 4½ feet and 5 feet respectively. Dated c early-17 cent AD. Residence of Late Virendra Nath Singha, Rāj-bārī, Rājdarbar, PS Visnupur, Bankura, West Bengal (previously they were installed in a temple at Teijpal, near Visnupur).

30. 'Nityananda-Sarabhuj-Gadadhar'. Height around 2½ feet, 3 feet and 2 feet respectively. Dated c mid-17 cent AD. Śrīpāt of Uddharan Dutta, Saptagram, PS Magra.

31. 'Dhanvantari Kālī'. Height around 4½ feet. Dated c late-17 cent AD. Majilpur, PS Jainagar, South 24 Parganas.

32. 'Nitai-Gaur'. Height around 4½ feet and 4 feet respectively. Dated c 17 cent AD. Śrī Śrī Nitai Gaur Rādhārāni Vrndābanandrer Sevākurnja, Saptagram, PS Magra, Hooghly. Originally the conjugate-image was installed at Bangladesh and after partition in 1947 has traveled various places before reaching the present address.

33. 'Nitai-Gaur'. Height around 4½ feet each. Dated c 17-18 cent AD. Gauranga Temple, Gopalgunj-Jogipara, PS Visnupur, Bankura.

34. 'Dadhibaman' (Jagannath). Height around 1½ feet. Dated c 17-18 cent AD. Rādhā-Syam Temple, Rāj-bārī complex, PS Visnupur, Bankura.

35. 'Sarabhuj: Nitai and Gaur'. Height around 5½ feet each. Dated c 17-18 cent AD. Sarabhuj Temple, Kadakuli, PS Visnupur, Bankura.

36. 'Gaur-Gadadhar'. Height around 4 feet and 3½ feet respectively. Dated c 17-18 cent AD. Rādhāmādhav Temple (Śrīpāt Kumapara), PS & Dist Murshidabad. Originally, the conjugate-image was being worshipped somewhere else and later shifted to the present one.

37. 'Advaita Prabhu' and 'Sita Devi'. Height around 5½ feet and 4½ feet respectively. Dated c 17-18 cent AD. Śrī Śrī Advaita Prabhu Temple, Mahāprabhu-pārā, PS Nabadvip, Nadia.

38. 'Siddhesvar-tālā'. Height around 6 feet. Dated c 1740 AD. Siddhesvar-tala, PS Kaila, Bardhaman.

39. 'Jaycand'. Height around 4½ feet. Dated c 1750 AD. Jhikhira-Sarkelpara, PS Amta, Howrah.

40. 'Balarām-Subhadra-Jagannāth'. Height around 4½ feet, 3½ feet and 4½ feet respectively. Dated c mid-18 cent AD. Jagannāth Temple, Padumbasan, PS Tamluk, East Medinipur.

41. 'Krṣṇā'. Height around 2 feet.
   'Raghunāth'. Height around 3½ feet.
   'Śītā' (Rādhā?). Height around 1½ feet.
   Dated c late 18-cent AD. Raghunāth-tala (Pāth Mahā), Guptipara, PS Balagarh, Hooghly.

42. 'Mahāmāyā'. Height around 4½ feet. Dated c 18 cent AD. Mahāmāyātālā-Garia, PS Sonarpur, South 24 Parganas.

43. 'Viśālākṣṭ'. Height around 5½ feet (including the pedestal). Dated c 18 cent AD. Viśālākṣṭ-talā, Baruipur, PS Baruipur, South 24 Parganas.

44. 'Basudhabasīmī' (Durgā). Height around 1½ feet. Dated c 18 cent AD. Basua/Boso, PS Dhaniakhali, Hooghly.

45. 'Hanumān'. Height around 2½ feet.
   'Śākṣī Gauranga'. Height around 3 feet.
   'Śarabhuj Gauranga'. Height around 5 feet.
   'Krṣṇā-Rādhā'. Height around 2½ feet and 1½ feet respectively.
   Dated c 18 cent AD. Śarabhujā Bājī, Gauranga-pārā, PS Katwa, Bardhaman.

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46. ‘Balaram’ and ‘Abhiram’. Height around 3 feet and 2½ feet respectively. Dated c 1744/1812 AD. Srīpāt of Abhiram Thakur (Gopināth Temple), Gupta Vīrādana, Krisnanagar, PS Khanakul, Hooghly.

47. ‘Hanumān’. Height around 4½ feet. Rām-Sītā-Lakṣmāni. Height around 4½ feet, 3½ feet and 4½ feet respectively. Dated c late-18 cent./1822-29 AD. Rām Candra Temple, Guptipara Mahā, PS Balagarh, Hooghly.

48. ‘Lalitā-Rādhākāntā-Rādhikā’. Height around 4½ feet, 3 feet and 4½ feet respectively. Dated c 18-19 cent AD. Residence of ‘Thakur’-family (previously their surname was ‘Banerjee’), near Gauranga-bārī, PS Katwa, Bardhaman.


51. ‘Hamsaśvara’. Height around 2½ feet (only the goddess is made of Neem-wood). Dated 1814-15 AD. Bansihera, PS Magra, Hooghly.


53. ‘Balarām-Subhadrā-Jagannāthf. Height around 5 feet, 3½ feet and 4½ feet respectively. ‘Nītai-Gaur’. Height around 5½ feet each. Dated c 19 cent AD. Śrī Śrī Jagannāth-dev Temple, Balaram Basu Ghat, PS Kalighat, Kolkata.

54. ‘Mahālaṃḍaṇḍf. Height around 4 feet. Dated c 19 cent AD. Bariya (Paścim-pārā), PS Diamond Harbour, South 24 Parganas.

55. ‘Bhairavf., along with Śiv (above, not visible in the photograph), Gaṇeś, Lākṣmī, Sarasvatī and Kārttikeya. Height of the total structure is around 7 feet. ‘Jaya’ and ‘Vijaya’. Height around 3 feet. Dated c 19 cent AD. Dilakas-Mandaram, PS Jangipara, Hooghly.

56. ‘Hara-Pārvatf. Height of the total relief-work is around 1½ feet. Dated c 19 cent AD. Temple of Śiv-i Buro-Śiv, Śiv-tālā (Nimabalia), PS Bargachhia, Howrah.

57. ‘Tripaññāsundarf. Height around 5 feet. Dated c 19-20 cent AD. Chhatrabhog (Krisnachandra-pur), PS Mathurapur, South 24 Parganas.


60. A shop selling wooden idols. As on 15.08.2010. Opposite to Dhamesvar Mahāprabhu Temple, Mahāprabhu-pārā, PS Nabadvip, Nadia.
Map of today's West Bengal and Bangladesh, along with the historical extent of undivided Bengal.