GLOSSARY OF ARCHITECTURAL TERMS.

adhishthāna - base (excluding the upapitha) of a temple, pillared hall or similar structure. It consists of moulded tiers, each tier having its distinct name such as paduka, kumuda etc.
aditala - ground floor of a storeyed temple.
alpavimāna - small one storeyed temple. The parts are adhishthāna, bhitti, prastara, griva, sikhara and stūpi.
ambalam - temple.
ambamārga - water-course for letting out lustral waters from sanctum.
anga - part of a temple.
antarabbhitti - inner wall of a multiple walled garbhagriha.
antari - a recessed moulding of the entablature or in adhishthana.
arthamandapā - The antechamber that adjoins the sanctum.
ayaṭāra - rectangular in plan.
bhayabhitti - outerwall of a multi-walled sanctum.
balikkal - oblation stone usually kept on the entrance of the temple.
balikkal-pura - a hall in which the balikkal is kept.
bhādra - central projection of the wall.
bhūta - goblin.
bhūtamāla or bhutavali - a row of dwarf figures.
chaturasra - square in plan.
dēva-koshtha - niche enshrining deity.
dīpa-lakṣmī - an art motif representing a lady holding a lamp.
dīpa-sthambha - pillar for lamps.
dhvaja-sthambha - flagstaff.
dvārapāla - door-keeper (male).
dvārapalika - door-keeper (female)
dravida - One of the main divisions of temple architecture; others are nagara and vēśara.
dvītāla - two-storeyed temple.
gajasprīṣṭha - apsidal; literally means the rear of an elephant.
gala, griva - neck, also known as kantha.
gala-pada - rail pattern of the gala.
garbha griha - sanctum sanctorum.
ghanadvāra - false door.
gōmukha - terminal end of a gargoyle in the shape of cow's mouth.
gopura - gateway.
hamsāvalī, hamsamāla - a row of ducks.
hāra - a row of miniature-shrines over each terrace. The miniature shrine consists of kutas (shrines of square or circular plan), salas (shrines of oblong plan) panjaras (shrines of apsidal plan)
hārāntara - intervening space between kutas, salas and panjaras.
hastihasta - banister in the shape of elephant's trunk on either side of the flight of steps.
jagati - a vertical right angular moulding over upana.
jali, or jalaka - perforated window.
kalasa - wide mouthed vase; a pot-shaped finial of a temple; the lower-most member of the capital of a column. A ritual for consecration of the temple is also known as kalasā in Malayalam.
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**kampā** - a fillet-like minor moulding which separates the major mouldings.

**kapōta** - dove.

**kapōta-bāṇḍha** - an adhishtana form in which kapota is the crowning member.

**karna** - projected corner part of the wall.

**kudu** - nest; a horse-shoe shaped motif carved on the cornice.

**kudyaśtambha** - pilasters shown as relief motif on the external walls.

**kumuda** - an important member of adhishtana over jagati.

**kūttambalam** - traditional dancing hall.

**lupa** - rafters of the ceiling.

**makara tōrana** - a decorative garland spanning the tops of columns.

**māṇchaka** - an adhishtana without kumuda.

**mandapa** - hall.

**mukhamandapa** - first or frontal mandapa of a series at the entrance of a temple.

**mulabhēra** - main deity in stone, brick, wood or in paint, and in both iconic or aniconic forms.

**nālambalam** - also known as cuttambalam, a cloister around the shrine and namaskara-mandapa.

**nāsika** - 'nose' projected arched opening; kilivatal in Malayalam.

**namaskara mandapa** - a detached pillared hall in front of the sanctum of the sanctum sanctorum. Only Brahmins could perform namaskara in the namaskara mandapa.

**nata** - entrance.
nirandhara - a temple without any inner ambulatory.

pada - pillar or pilaster; above adhishthana.

padmapāduka - an optional member in the form of cyma recta.

It is below the adhishthana.

panchapraṇkara - five successive enclosures, viz. antaramandala, (akate balivattam), antahāra (nalambalam), madhyahāra (vilakkumātam), bahyāhāra (śivelipura) and maryāda (puramātīl).

pañjara - a miniature apsidal shrine.

patippura - gateway.

parivāra-dēvata - a subsidiary deity.

pattika - a thick moulding of the adhishthana, sometimes as the crowning member.

phalaka - abacus.

pūtika - corbel-bracket over pillar.

pradikshana-patha - circumambulatory path.

pranala - water-chute.

prastara - entablature consisting of moulding over walls and pillars, viz. uttira (beam), vajana, valabhi, etc.

prasāda - temple.

śāla - shrine of oblong plan with barrel vaulted roof pinnacled by a series of stupi.

śāla-sikhara - sikhara peculiar to sala shrine, barrel-vault, wagon top or inverted keel shaped.

samachaturasāra-vimāna - temple which is square from base to top.

sandhāra - temple with an ambulatory course inside (opposite of nirandhara).
sarvatō-bhadra - temple openings at four cardinal directions.
sīkharā - roof above the grīva. It is below the stūpi, the finial.
sōpana - flight of steps.
srikōil - main shrine.
stambha - pillar.
sthapati - architect.
stūpi - finial.
tala - storey.
teppakkulam - temple tank, where the deity is taken in a boat during festivals.
tripatta-kumuda - three faceted kumuda.
upāna - the lower-most moulding, also known as pāduka, cheruppu in Malayalam.
upapitha - sub-base, additional or optional member of the adhīshthāna.
uṭtira(uṭtara) - principal beam.
utsava-bhera - a substitute to the mulabhēra, to be taken out during processions and festivals.
vajana - a moulding of the adhīshthāna as well as prati.
valabhi - a moulding of the prastāra, between vajana and kapōta. It is fully convex in profile.
vedi or vedika - railing over which generally is the wall.
vilakkumātam - a structure in which rows of lamps are fixed.
vṛttta-kumuda - circular kumuda.
vṛāla - leonine figure.