Anthropological research on the sacred complex in India has started recently. During the past three decades, studies on the sacred complex have generated fruitful analysis of the tribal, rural and urban dimensions of Indian Civilization. However, considering the vast, highly differentiated religious traditions with substantial local, regional, peninsular and national variations, it has become very difficult to make more minute generalizations about different dimensions of Indian civilization. Scholars are quite aware of the limitation of their specific investigations.

Among the other limitations are the kinds of emphases placed on the approaches to the study of sacred complex as a microcosm of Indian civilization. While some studies are overshadowed by textual premises others suffer from local, regional and sub-regional pre-emptions. Some studies are holistic but others have examined one or several aspects of sacred complex in relation to Indian civilization. A few highlight the methodological problems involved in making meaningful comparisons of the sacred complexes of different Hindu places in India. Although all these studies are marked by considerable diversity, the research has been very scanty and no fruitful generalizations could be derived on the nation as a whole. Considering the limitations of these studies, it seems relevant to explore the regional stereotypes and variations of sacred complex in the context of Indian civilization.
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