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## Khajuraho (Monumental Legacy)

*Devangana Desai*

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**Devangana Desai : Khajuraho (Monumental Legacy)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Khajuraho (Monumental Legacy):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An elegant introduction to one of India's most exotic temple complexesBy Kent DavisTo the author's credit, her compact book (only 107 pages) in an ideal introduction to this important monument group built in central India from 900-1200AD. She covers a broad range of topics including the history of the monuments, their architectural components and addressing controversies inspired by their erotic content. The book has 13 illustrations, 2 maps and 29 photographs that clearly illustrate points raised in the text.Travelers should consider this book an essential item for a visit; it includes a short appendix at the end with details about restaurants, hotels, transportation, guides and museums at the site.For an in depth view of the topic, refer to the author's 1996 book "The Religious Imagery of Khajuraho" and her 1984 book "Erotic Sculpture of India: A Socio-Cultural Study."This volume is from the Oxford University Press "Monumental Legacy" series about World Heritage Sites in India. Other books in the series cover the Ellora caves, the 14th c. Vijayanagara cultural center of Hampi, the 13th c. Orissan sun temple of Konarak on the Bay of Bengal, Christian churches of Goa, Buddhist monuments of Sanchi, and more.Religious Imagery of KhajurahoErotic Sculpture of India: A Socio-Cultural StudyKhajuraho

Celebrated for its majestic sculptures and temples built by the Chandella rulers between the tenth and twelfth centuries, Khajuraho is popularly linked with with erotic sculpture. Although the erotic images are powerful, they

constitute less than one-tenth of the magnificent sculpture found there. This beautifully illustrated book provides a complete introduction to the world of the temples, including the history, patronage, court culture, iconography, and distinctive features of the sculptures and architecture. It also includes a new interpretation of the erotic figures, uncovering their deeper symbolism and questioning their immediate connection to the Kamasutra. Written for general readers and including tips for visitors, the book describes each of the twenty-two temples in detail and also discusses the newly excavated Bijamandala temple and the three museums at the site.

About the Author Devangana Desai is a Visiting Professor at Ananthacharya Indological Institute, Mumbai.