

A) IDENTIFICATION

Nomination : Prambanan Temple Compound
Location : Special Region of Yogyakarta
State party : Indonesia
Date : October 15, 1991

B) ICOMOS RECOMMENDATION

That this cultural property be included on the World Heritage List on the basis of Criteria I and IV.

C) ICOMOS OBSERVATIONS

The World Heritage Bureau recommended inscription of Prambanan in its June meeting if a nomination separate from that for Borobudur could be made.

A complete and separate nomination for the Prambanan site was received on October 15, 1991.

ICOMOS has examined the nomination and confirms its original high regard for the site in proposing it for inscription.

D) BACKGROUND

Tjandi (temple) Prambanan is actually a grandiose complex of Siva temples. The natives called it Loro Joggrang (or Slender Maiden) after an impressive statue representing the wife of Siva. Built during the first half of the 10th century, this religious complex is the largest Siva ensemble in Indonesia. It is dedicated to the Hindu trinity (trimurti) of Siva, Visnu and Brahma. A square platform is divided into concentric courts by square-plane walls.

In the middle of the last enceinte stand the temples dedicated to the three great Hindu gods and three small temples dedicated to their animal vehicles (e.g. a bull for Siva). Other minor temples were located at the entrance gates or outside the central enceinte (four ensembles).

The temples of Siva, Visnu and Brahma are decorated with reliefs illustrating the Ramayana period (history of the Hindu hero Rama, written c.300). Restoration work on this ensemble, which began in 1937, continues.

The neighboring Buddhist ensemble at Sewu comprises a central temple surrounded by a multitude of minor temples. Surprisingly, it shares many design attributes with the Hindu Loro Joggrang Temple, perhaps indicating the degree to which such temples also reflect state policies and control. Three other temples in ruins set between Sewu and Loro Joggrang complete the ensemble around Prambanan: Lumbung, Burah, and Asu.

- **Criterion I.** The site is an outstanding example of Siva art in Indonesia, and the region.
- **Criterion IV.** The site is an outstanding religious complex, characteristic of Siva expression of the 10th century.

ICOMOS, November 1991