

ART 216 Asian Art

2. The Mauryan Empire and the Shunga and Satavahana Periods





IRAN

AFGHANISTAN

Bamiyan • Kabul

GANDHARA

Harappa •
Indus Valley

TIBET

Himalayas

Mohenjo-Daro •

PAKISTAN

Chanhu-Daro •

Delhi •

Mathura •

NEPAL

SIKKIM

Lauriya Nandangarh •

BHUTAN

Khajuraho •

Sarnath •

Patna (Pataliputra) •

Deogarh •

Bodh Gaya •

BIHAR

Sanchi •
Vindhya Hills

Ajanta •

INDIA

Elephanta •

Karla •

Deccan Plateau

MYANMAI
(BURMA)

BANGLADESH

Arabian Sea

Nagarjunakonda •

Bay of Bengal

Mamallapuram •

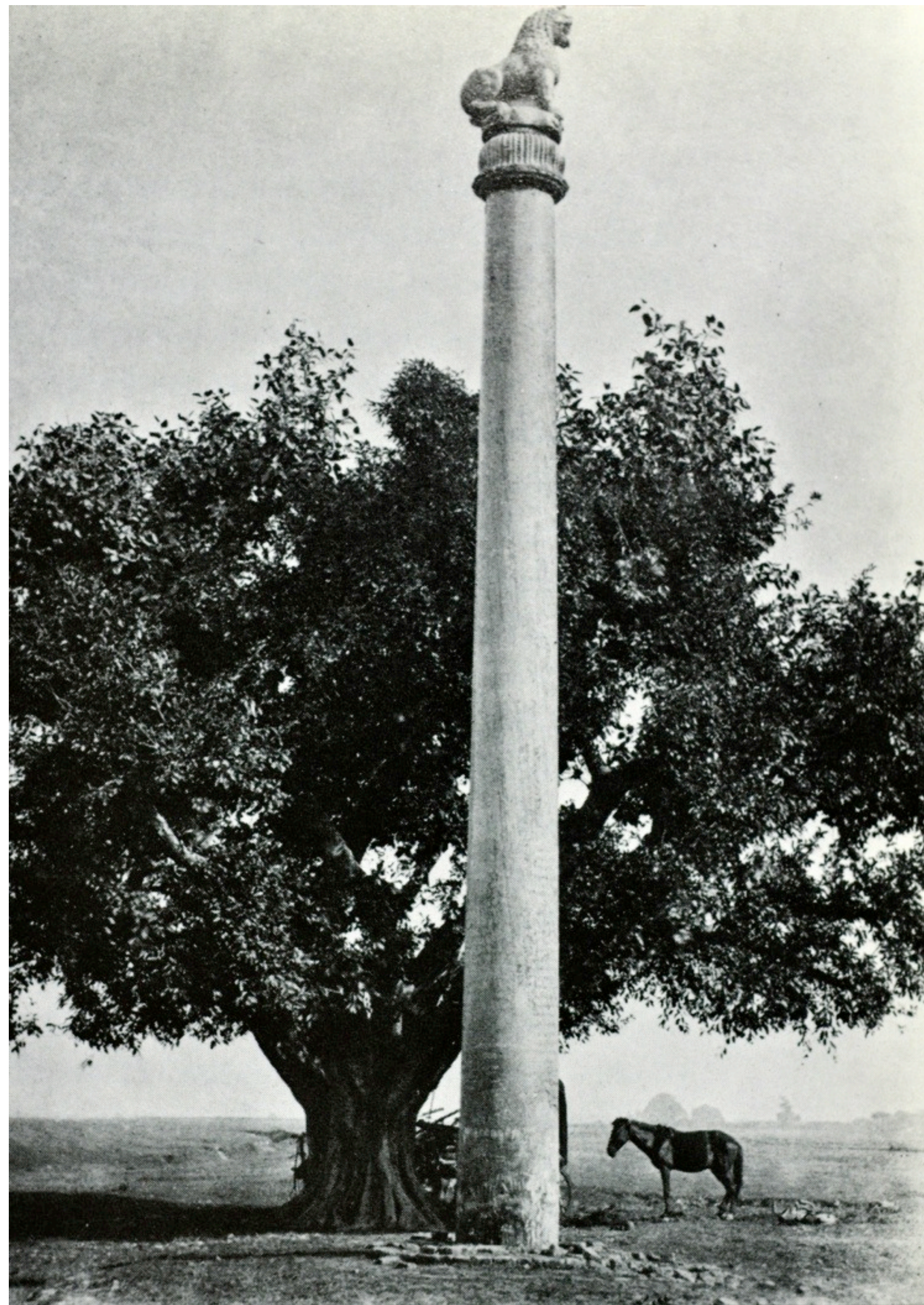
Thanjavur •

Polonaruwa •

Polonnaruwa •

SRI LANKA
(CEYLON)





Ashokan pillar with lion capital
Lauriya Nandangarh.
Maurya period, 246 BCE





Lion Capital
[Polished sandstone]
From Ashokan pillar at Sarnath [India]
Maurya period, c. 250 BCE*





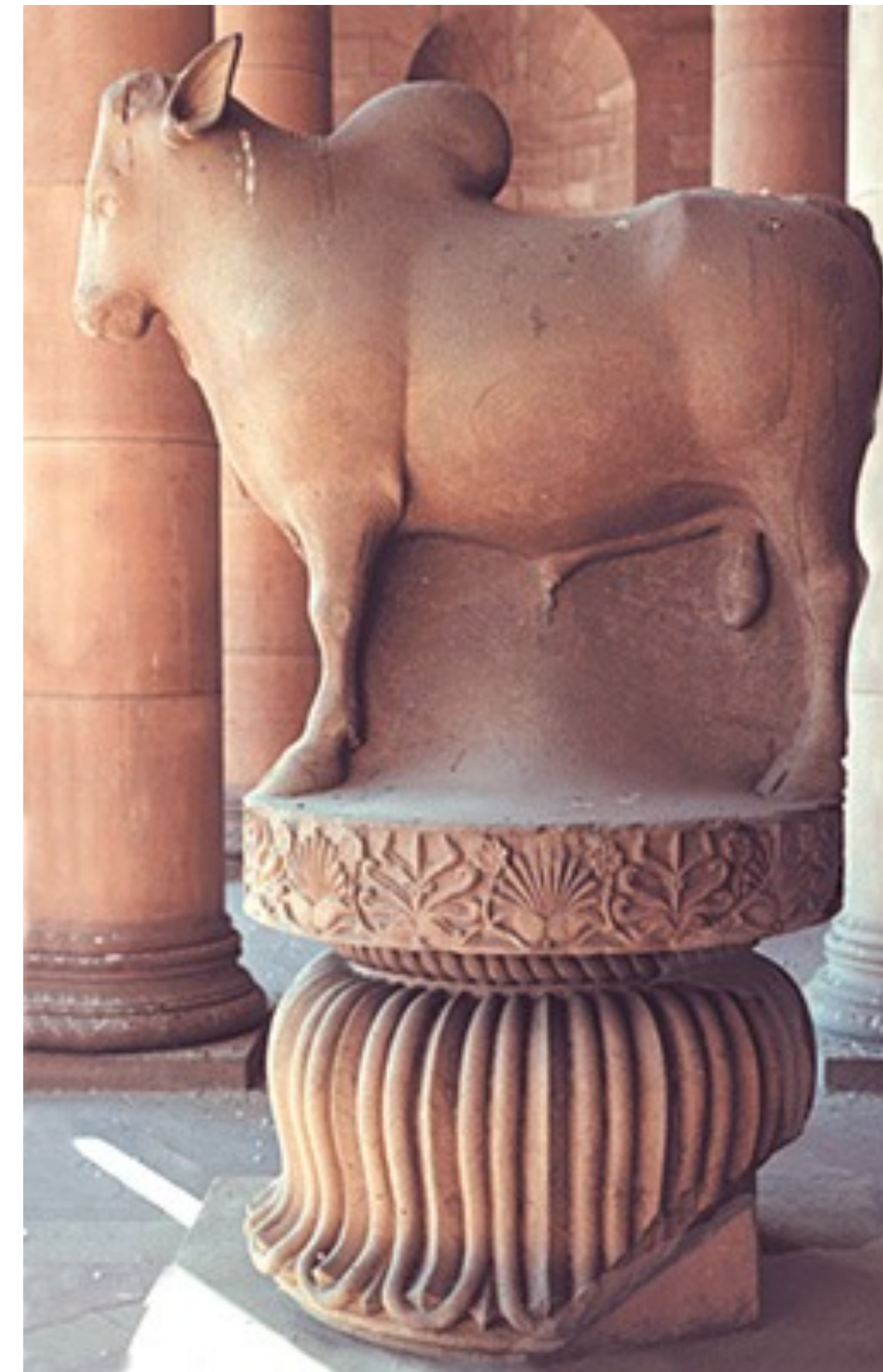








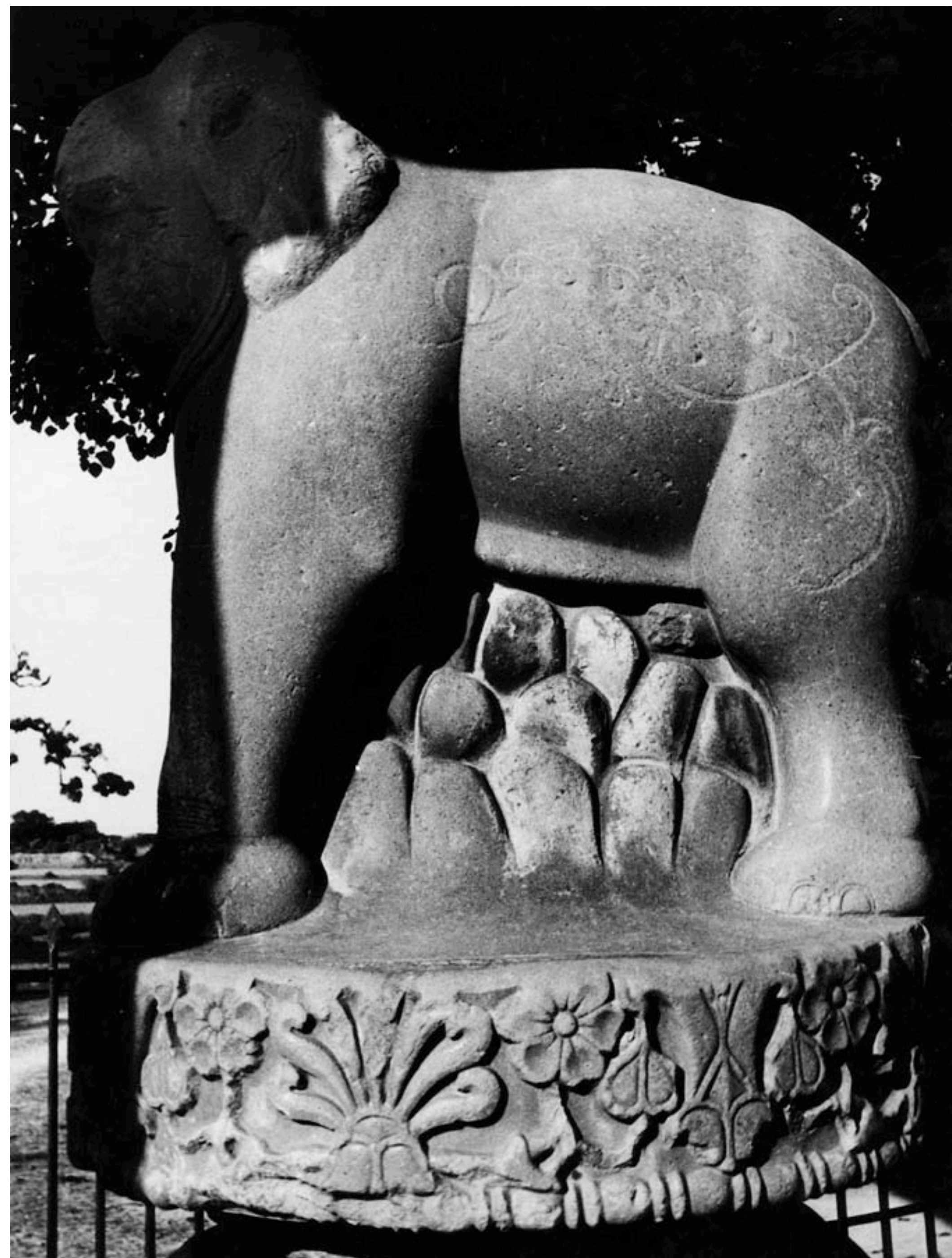




Bull Capital
From Ashokan pillar at
Rampurva [India].
Maurya period, c. 250 BCE



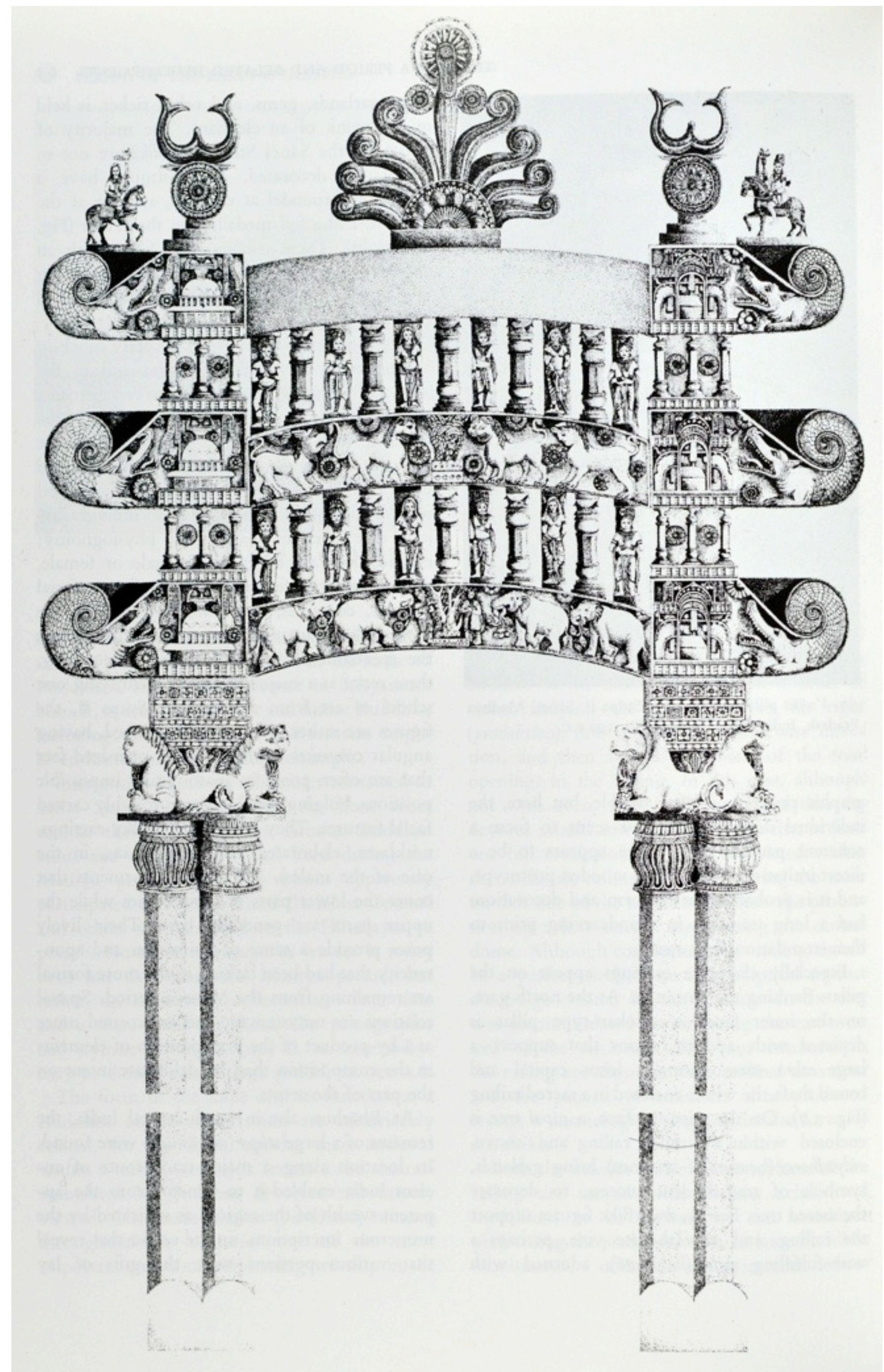
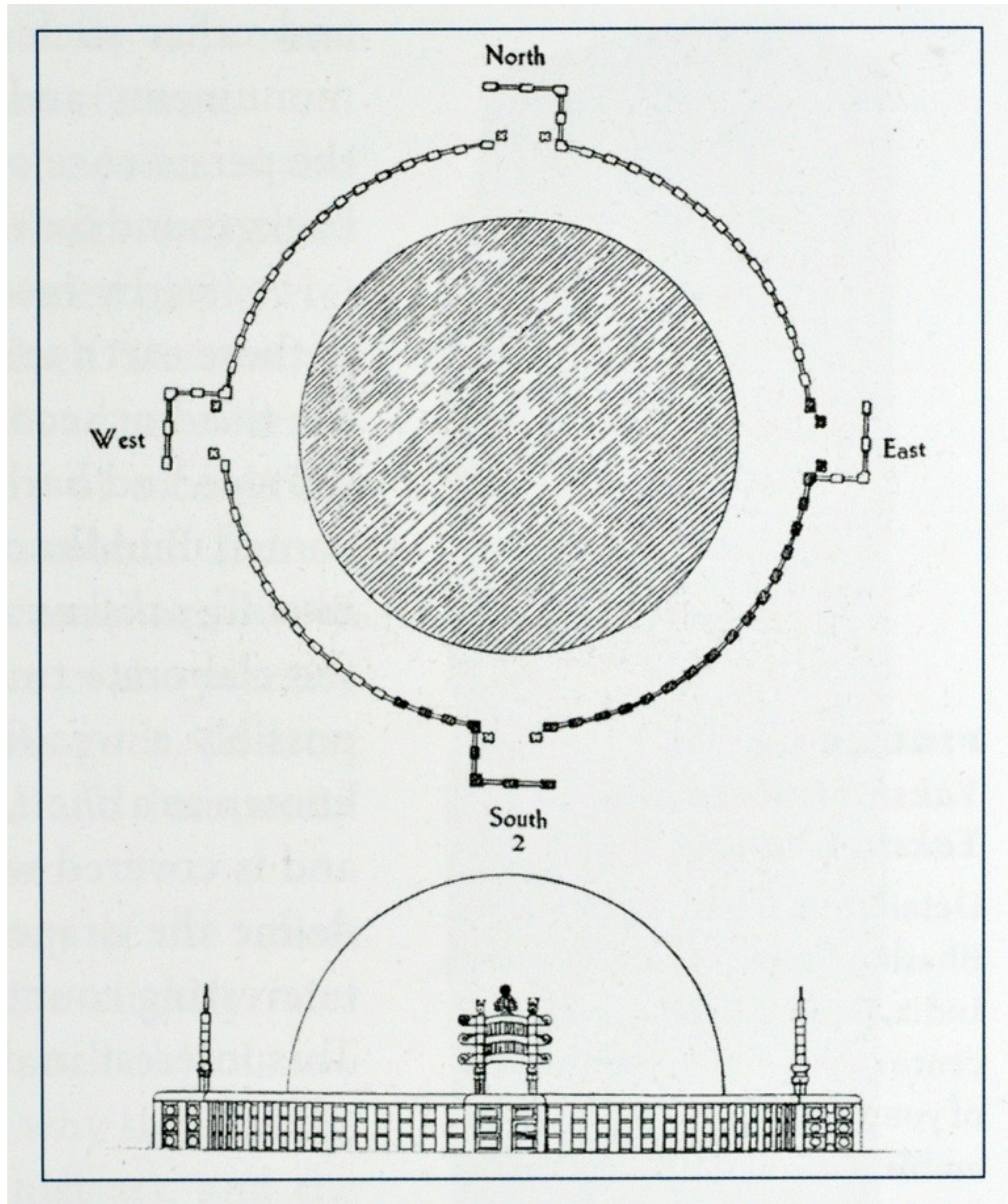
Elephant Capital
From Ashokan pillar at
Sankisa [India].
Maurya period, c. 250 BCE







Railing from stupa at Bharhut [India]. Shunga period, c. 150 BCE*



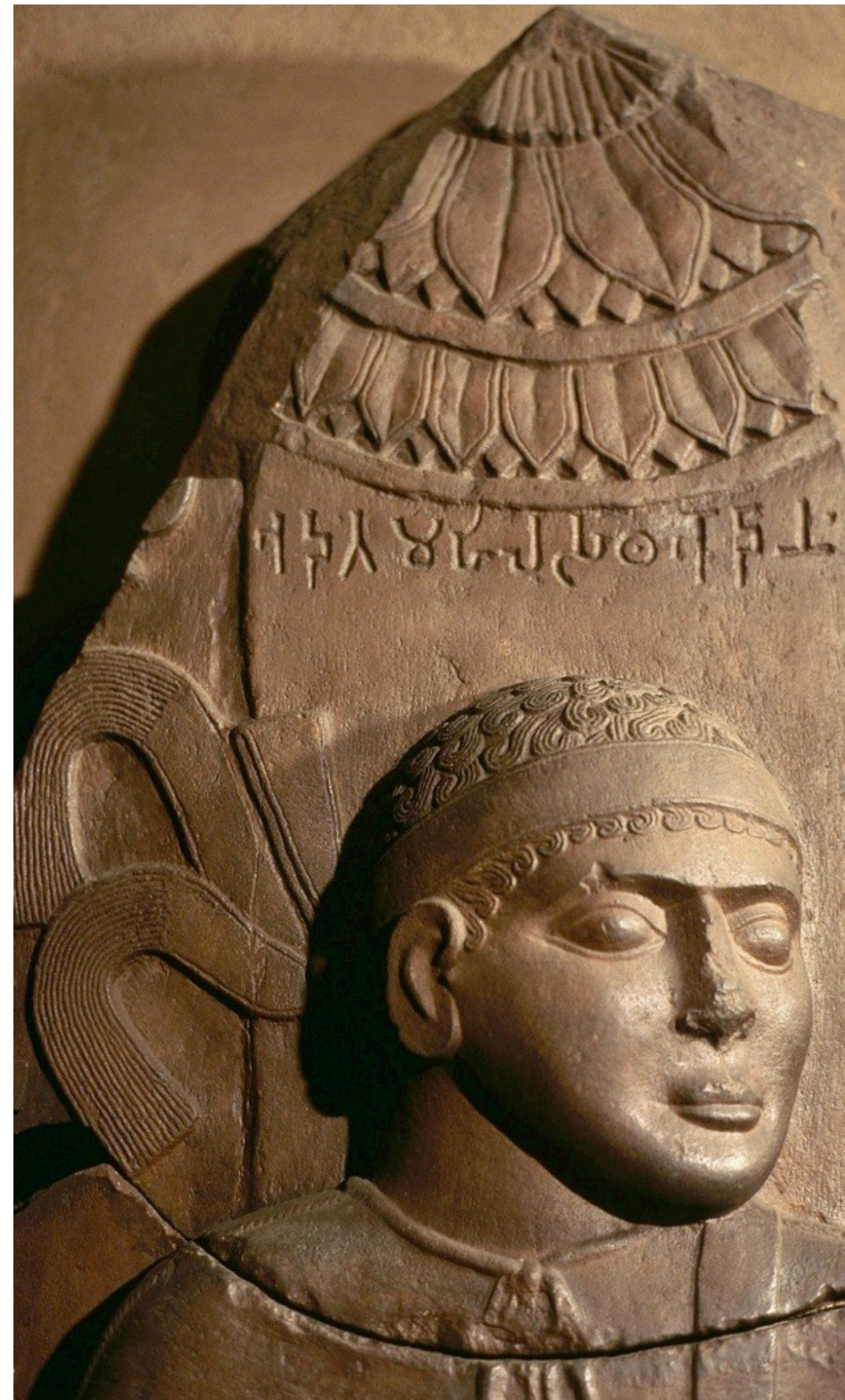




















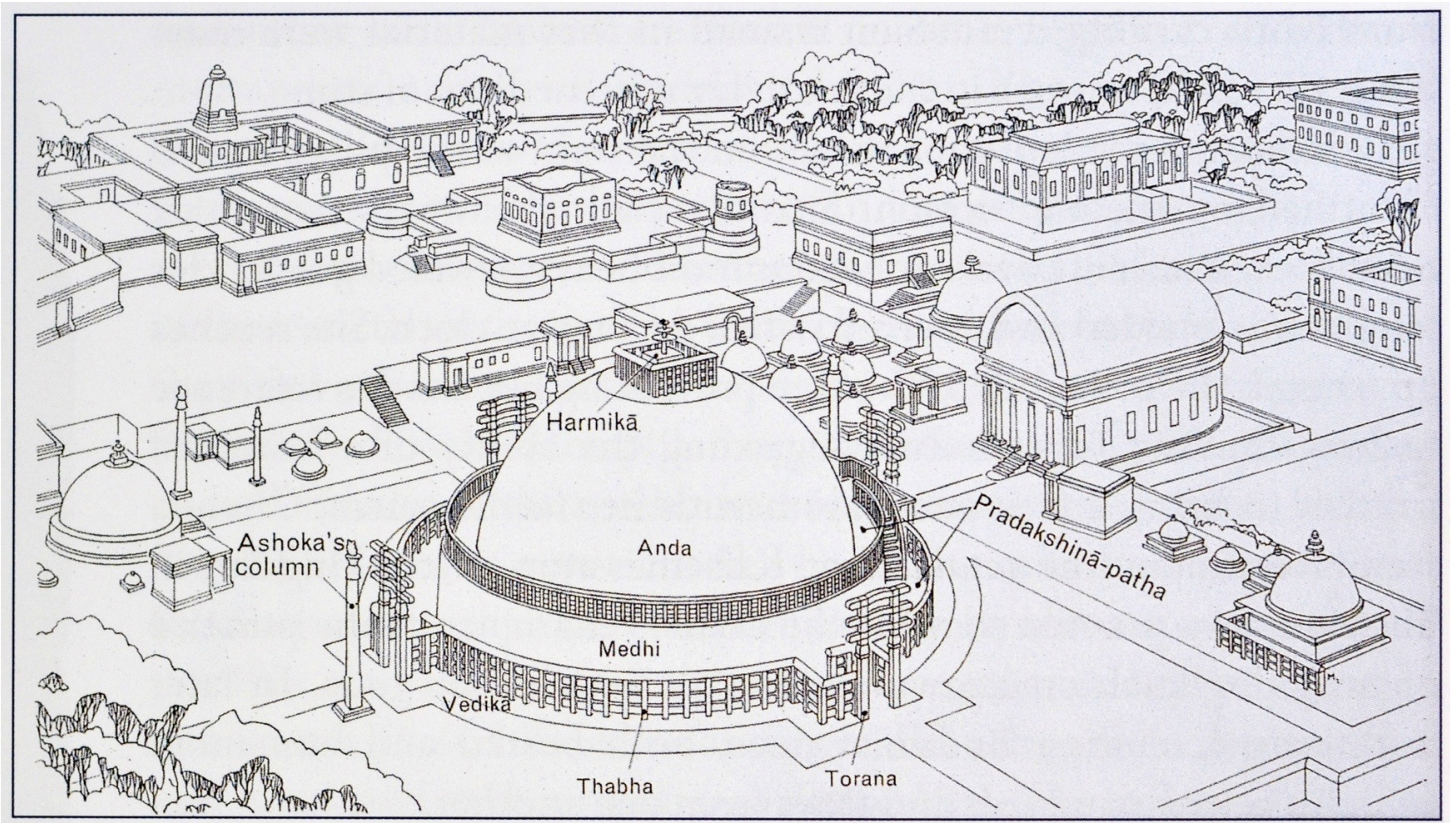


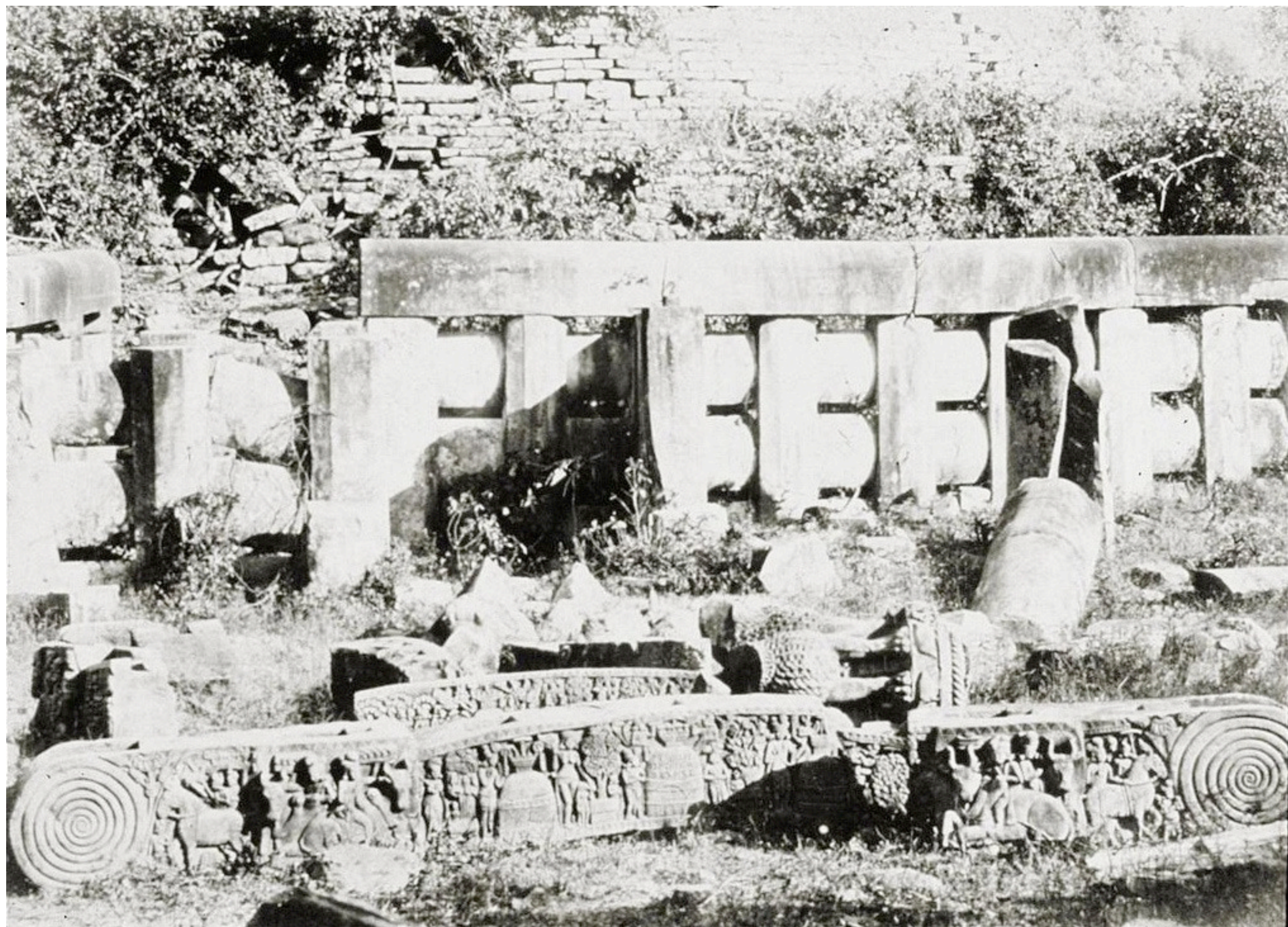


Great Stupa
Sanchi [India]
Shunga Period,
c. 150-50 BCE*



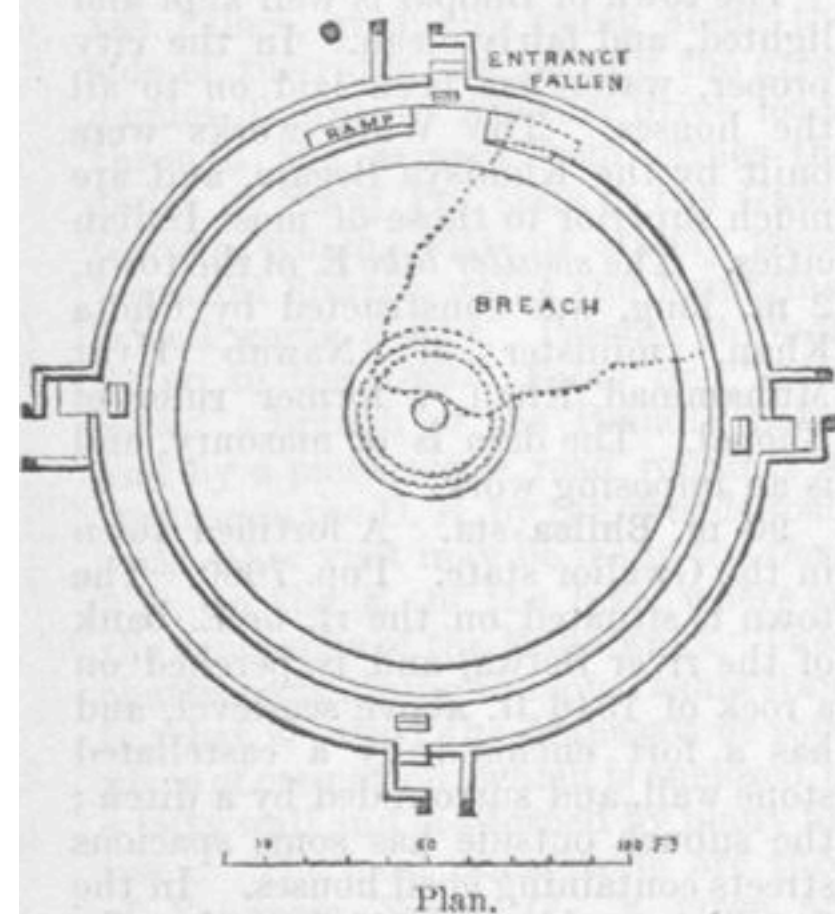




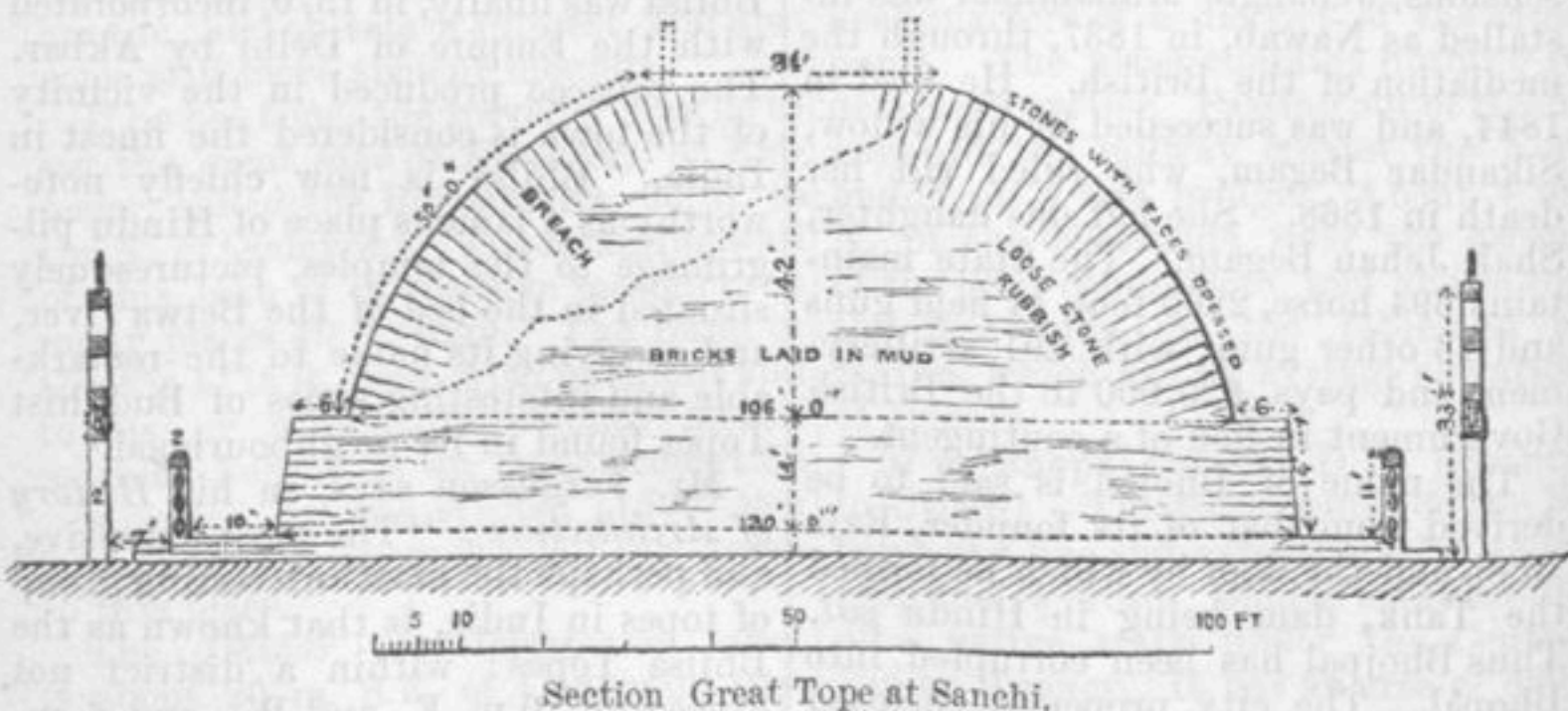


Notwithstanding all that has been written about them, we know very little that is certain regarding their object and their history.

5 m. from Bhilsa is **Sanchi**, * where



there is a group of 11 topes. Of these the principal is—



The **Great Tope**, a dome 106 ft. in diameter and 42 ft. high. On the top is a flat space 34 ft. in diameter, once surrounded by a stone railing. In the centre was a "Tee," intended to represent a relic-casket. The dome, 42 ft. high, rests on a sloping base 120 ft. in diameter, and 14 ft. high, and was as-

cended by a broad double ramp on one side. It was probably used for processions round the monument. The centre of the mound is quite solid, being of bricks laid in mud, but the exterior is faced with dressed stones, over which was cement nearly 4 in. thick, originally adorned, no doubt, with paintings or ornaments in relief.

As is usual in these Buddhist topes, the building is surrounded by "rails," exhibiting the various steps by which the modes of decorating them were arrived at, with 4 gateways or torans (3 *in situ*), covered with most elaborate sculptures, quite unequalled by any other examples known to exist in India. The period of erection probably extended from about 250 B.C. to the 1st cent. of the Christian era; the rails were constructed first and the gateways at intervals afterwards.

Besides the group at Sanchi, there is at *Sonari*, 6 m. off, a group of eight topes, of which two are important structures in square courtyards, and in one of these numerous relics were found. At *Sadhara*, 3 m. farther, is a tope 101 ft. in diameter, which yielded no relics.

In one tope, 24 ft. in diameter, were found relics of Sariputra and others like those found at Sanchi.

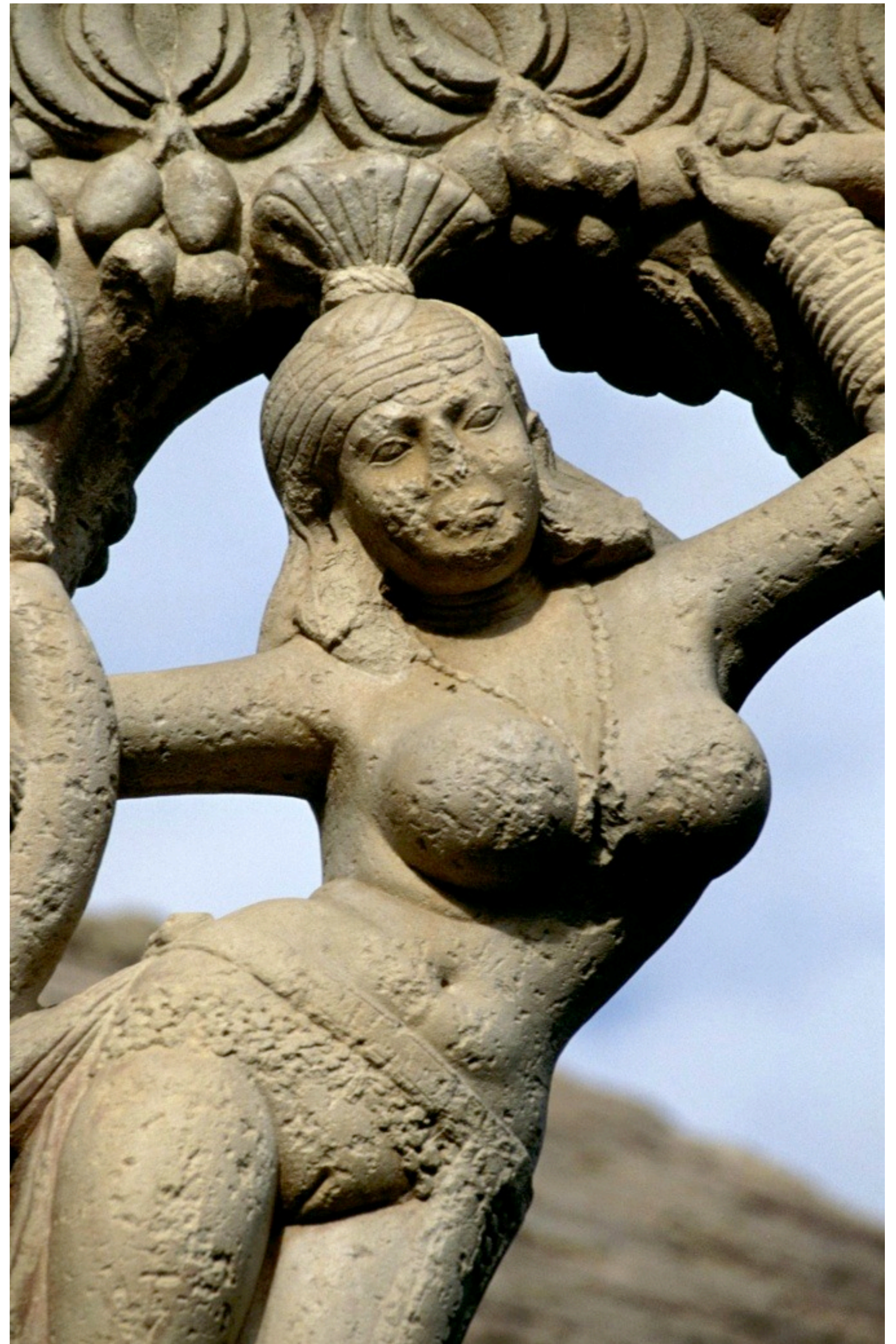
At *Bhojpur*, 7 m. from Sanchi, are 37 topes, the largest 66 ft. in diameter, and in the next to it important relics were found. At *Andher*, 5 m. W. of Bhojpur, is a group of three small but





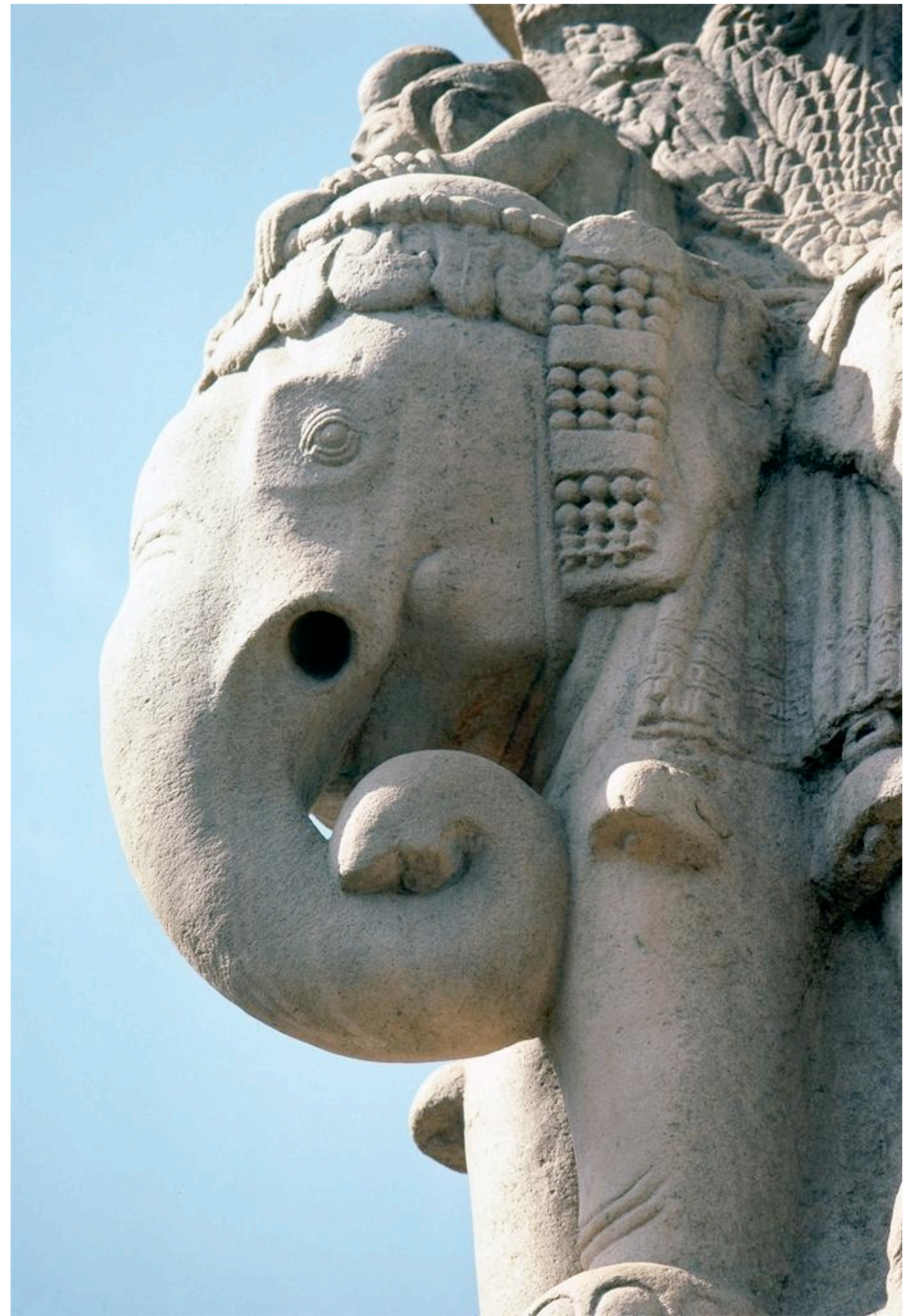




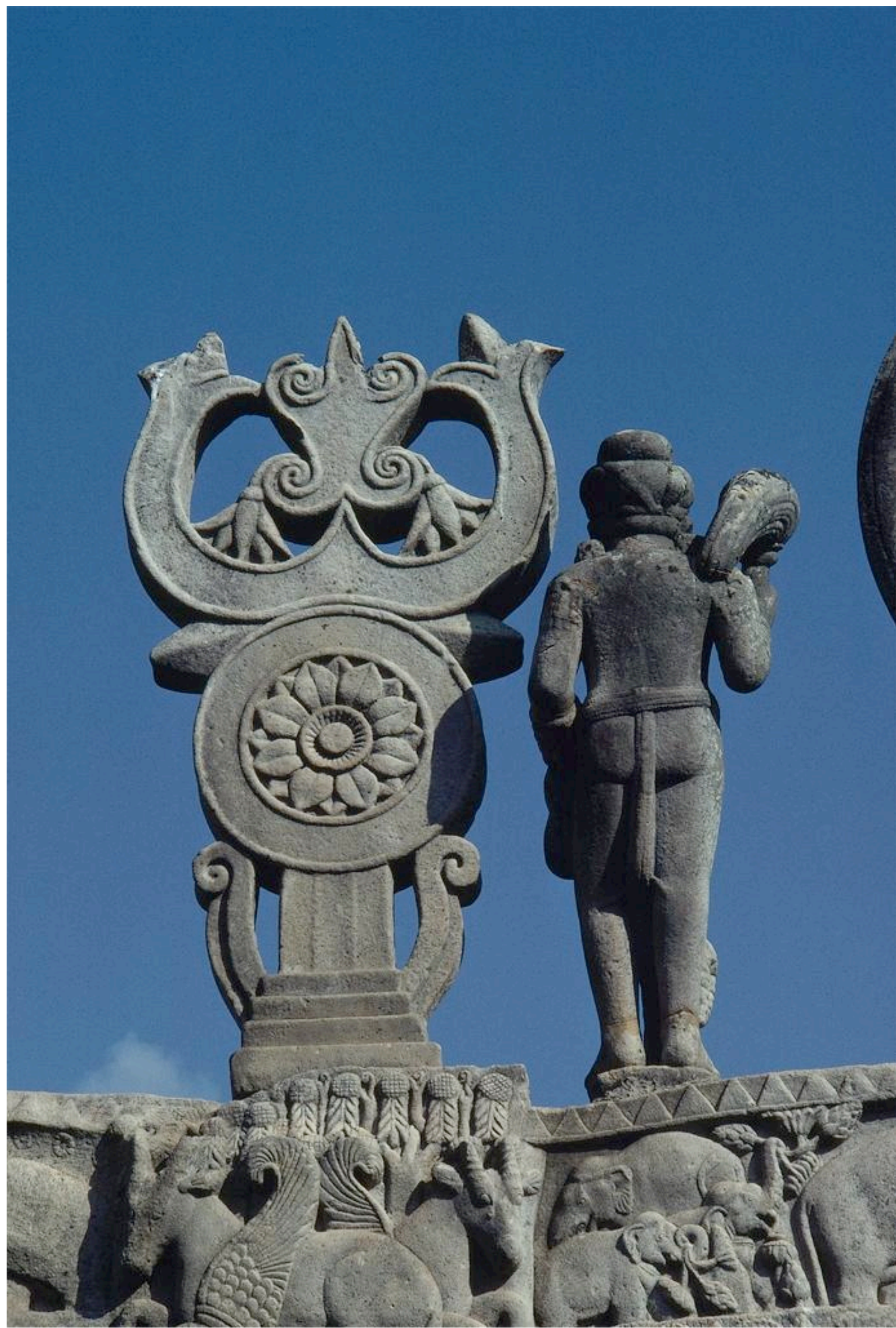










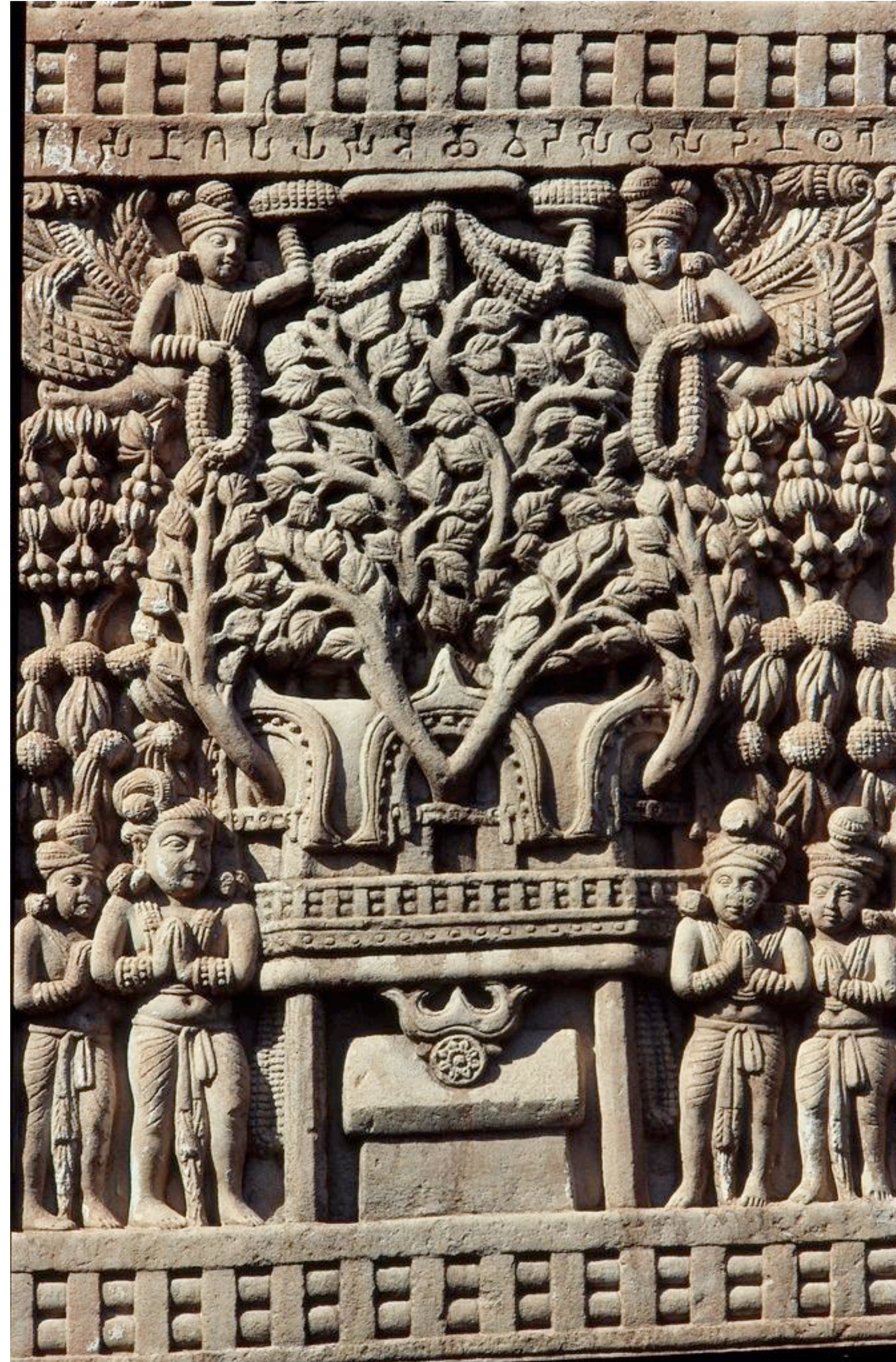
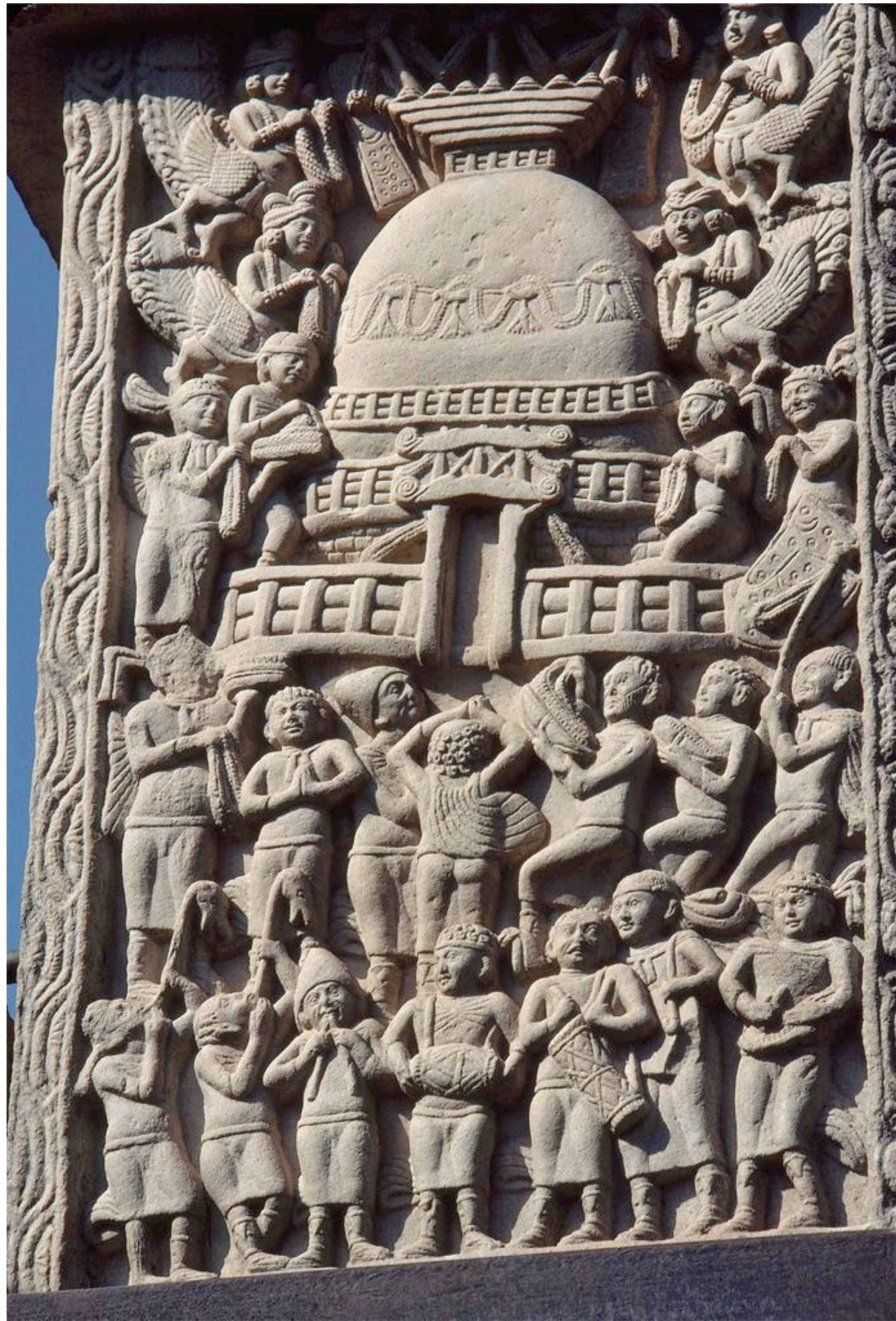




The Great Departure
East gate, Great Stupa, Sanchi, c. 150-50 BCE*

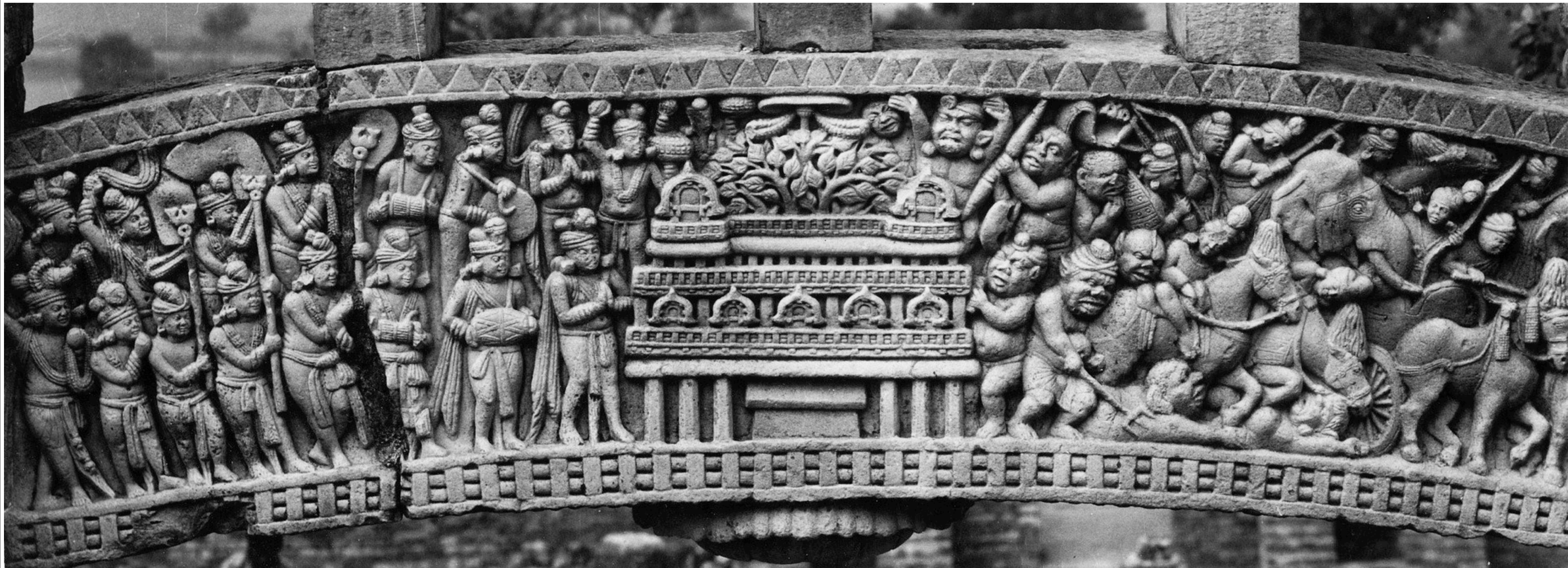


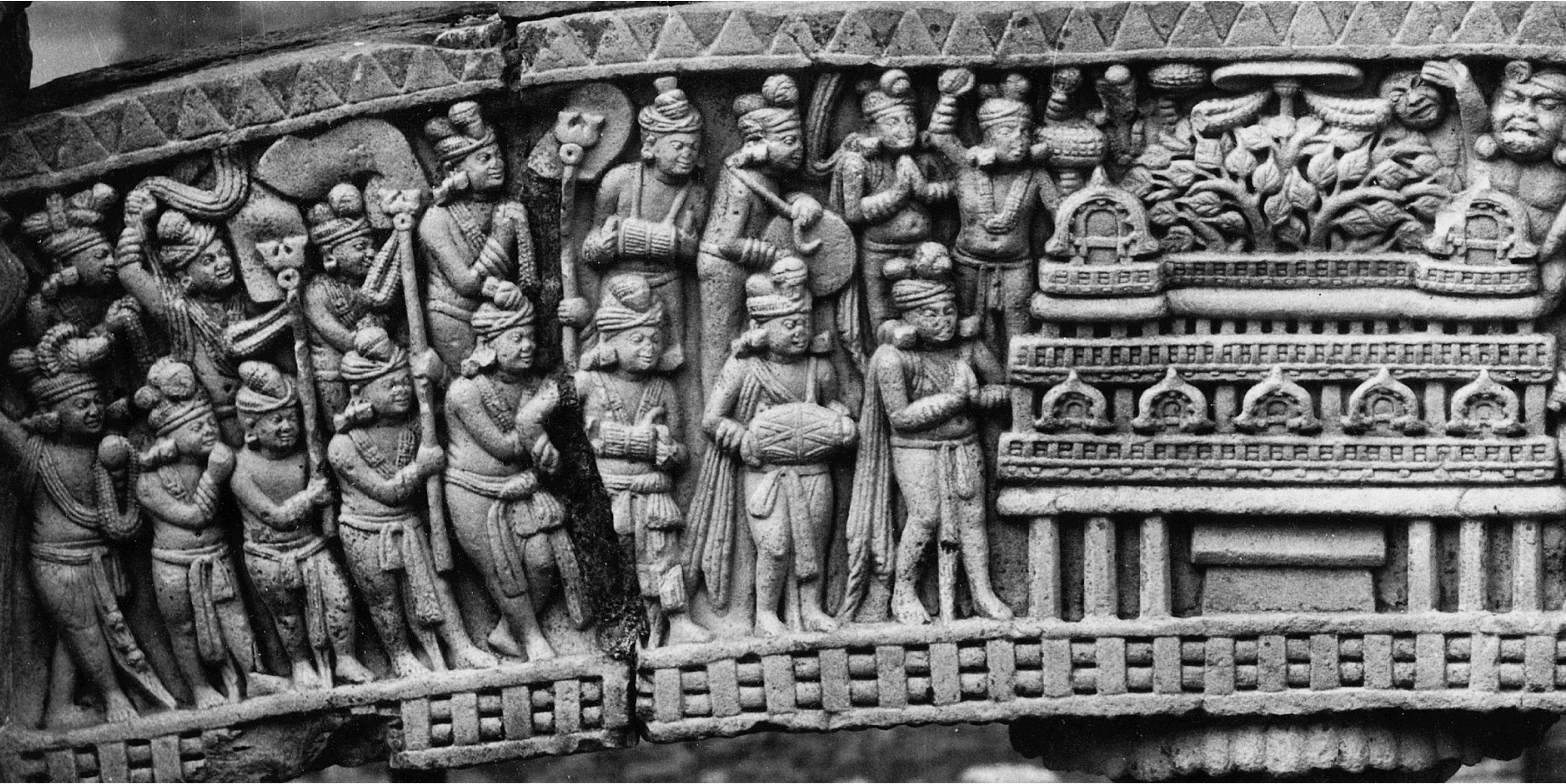






The Enlightenment
West gate, Great Stupa, Sanchi, c. 150-50 BCE





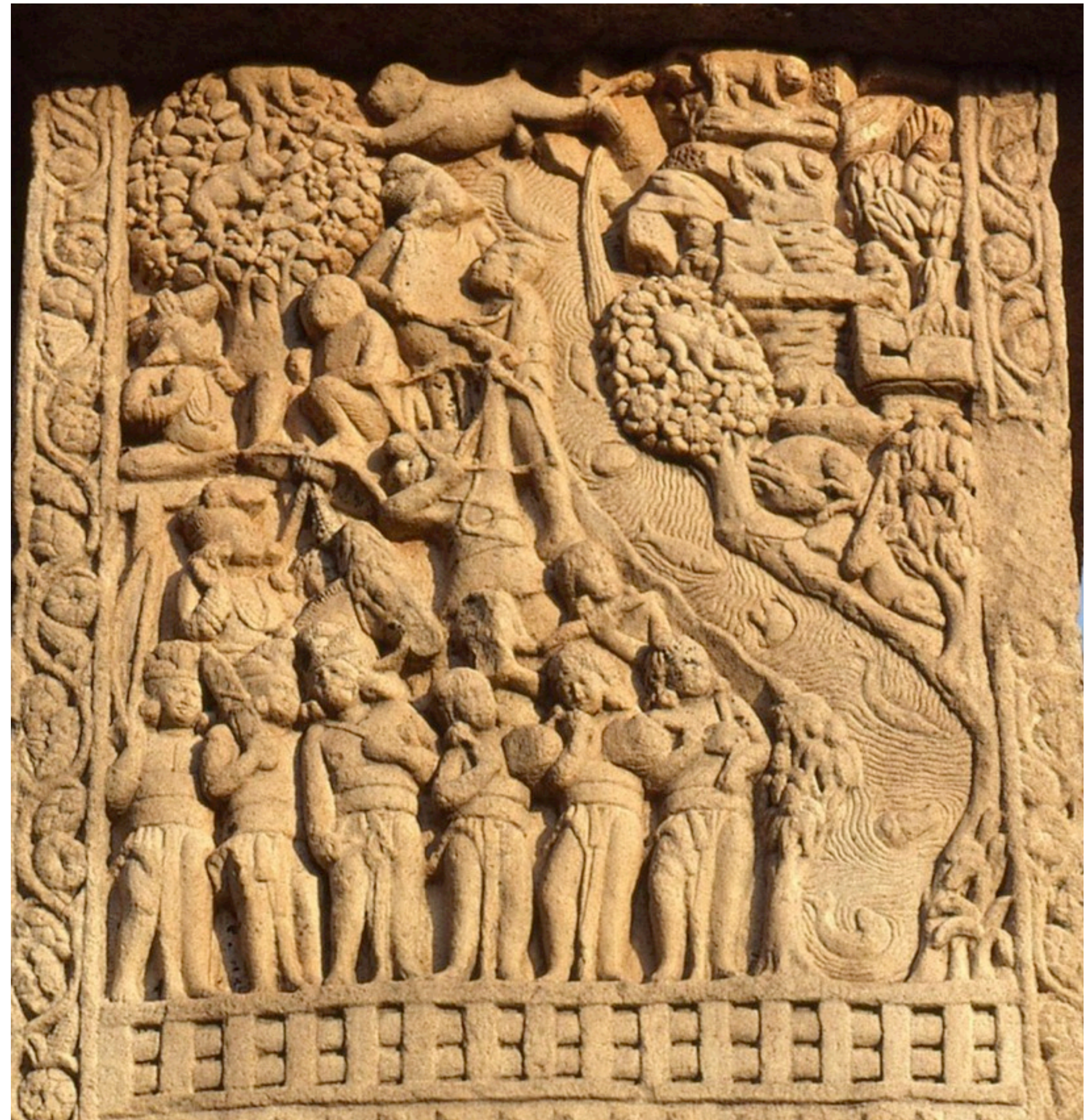




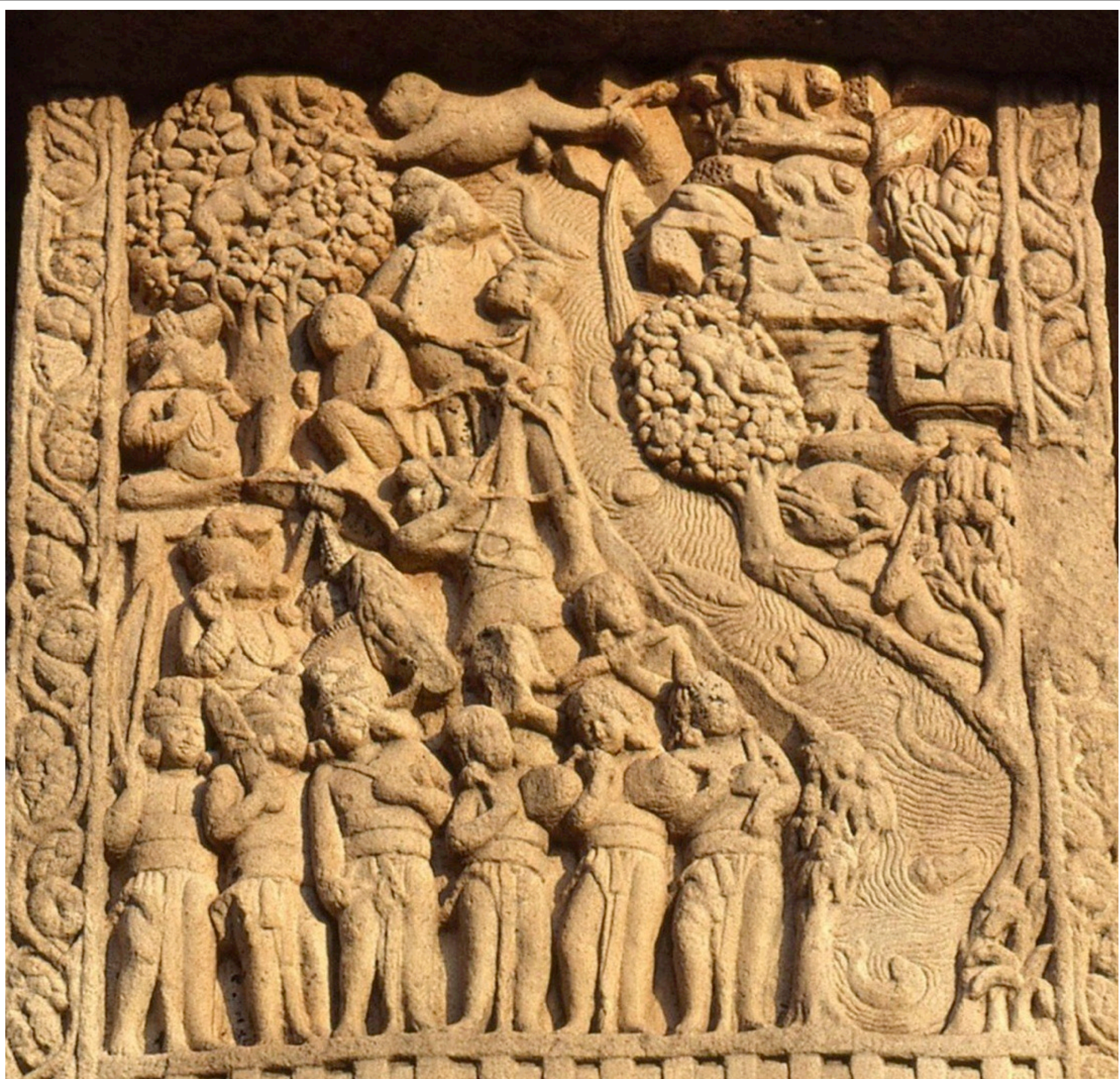


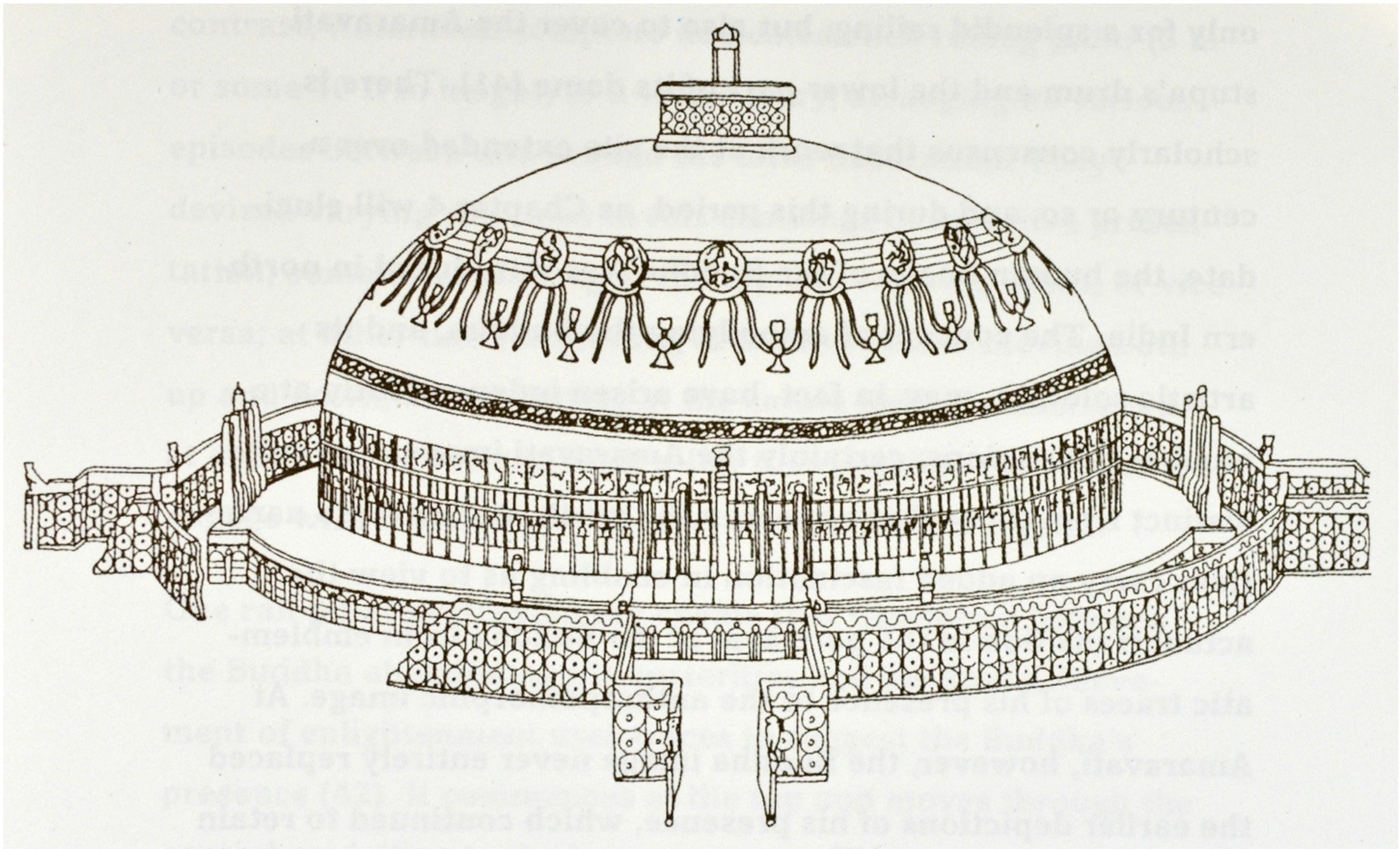


Vessantara Jataka
North gate, Great Stupa at Sanchi, c. 150-50 BCE



Mahakapi Jataka
West gate, Great Stupa at Sanchi, c. 150-50 BCE*





Reconstruction of the Amaravati stupa, Satavahana period, c. 100-200 CE

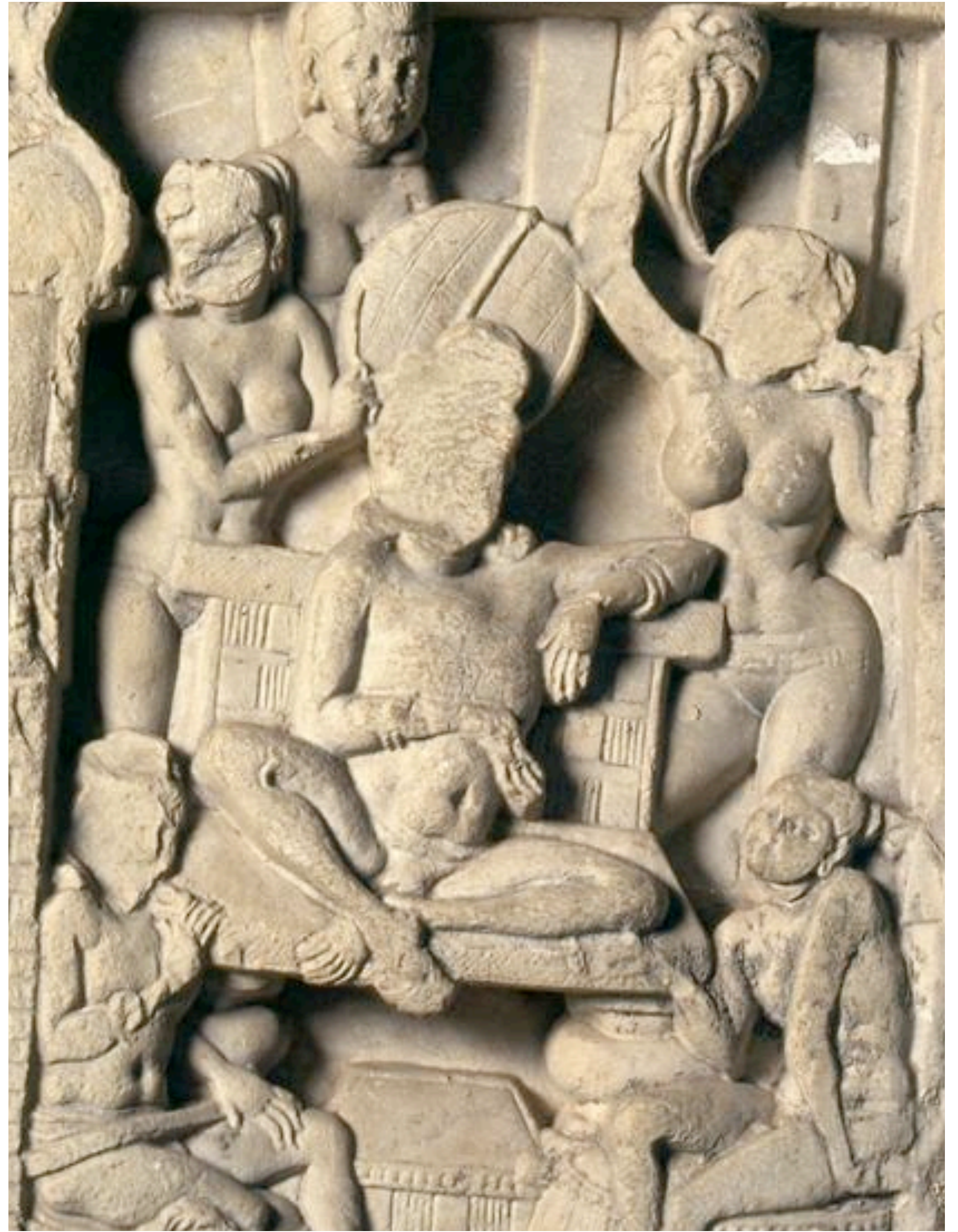


Stupa with standing Buddha
Relief on casing from stupa at
Amaravati [India].
Satavahana dynasty, c. 150 CE*





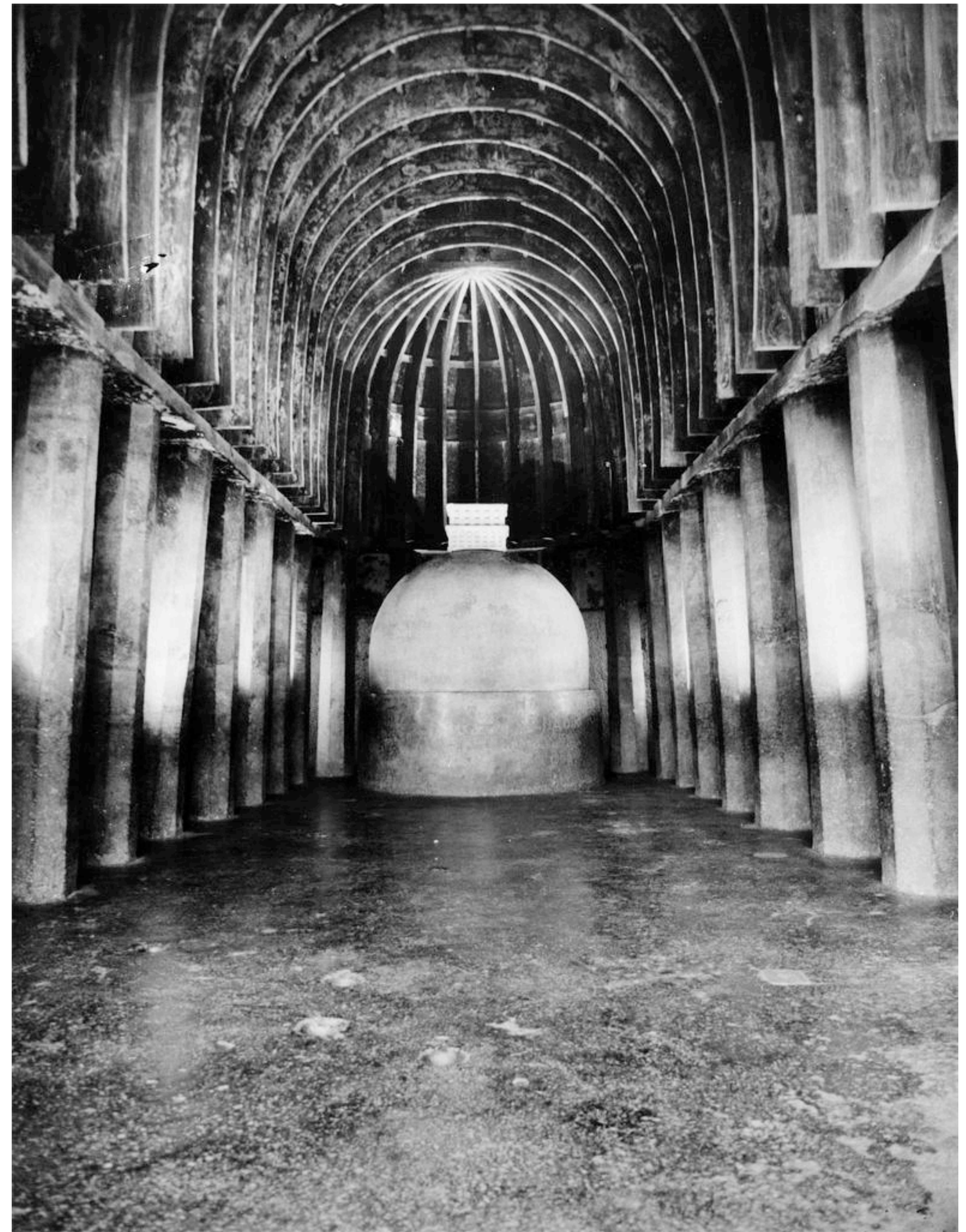
*Scenes from the birth of
Siddhartha*
Relief on casing from stupa at
Amaravati [India].
Satavahana period, c. 150 CE*





Chaitya Hall
Bhaja [India]. c. 1st century BCE







Chaitya Hall
Karle [India]. c. 1st century CE*

