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On the astronomical significance of the Delhi iron pillar

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The astronomical significance of the Delhi iron pillar has been highlighted by addressing its probable original erection site at Udayagiri and the probable image that was atop the pillar's capital. Based on the astronomical significance of Udayagiri's location on the Tropic of Cancer, and earlier solar observations at Udayagiri, it has been shown that the iron pillar may have been aligned with the cardinal directions such that, on summer solstice day, the early-morning shadow of the pillar fell along a specially cut passageway in the direction of one of the important bas reliefs (in cave temple 15) at Udayagiri site. Evidences have been provided to corroborate the identification of a circular disc-shaped object (20" diameter and 2" thick) that was probably atop the Delhi iron pillar capital.

THE Delhi iron pillar has been a major attraction for academics in history, archaeology, metallurgy and science, apart from the general public primarily due to its antiquity,

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