

Stupa

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First stupas were only simple **mounds** of mud or clay **to cover relics of Buddha**. Later they changed from being funerary monuments to being **objects of veneration**.

Roof of 8th-9th century Javanese temples always consist of three levels decreasing in size forming the shape of **Mount Meru**, the cosmic mountain and centre of the universe. The top is either a ratna (jewel shaped), lingam (symbol of Shiva) or a stupa if Buddhist.