

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ix

Introduction

i

PART I. THE MAHĀVIDYĀS AS A GROUP

The Ten Mahāvidyās 9; Typical Literary and Iconographic Contexts 14; The Mahāvidyās as Forms of the Mahādevī 18; Mahāvidyā Origin Myths 22; Interrelationships among the Mahāvidyās 38; Worship of the Mahāvidyās 49; The Mahāvidyās and Magical Powers 55; The Significance of the Term *Mahāvidyā* 57; Concluding Observations 61

PART II. THE INDIVIDUAL MAHĀVIDYĀS

Kālī: The Black Goddess	67
Tārā: The Goddess Who Guides through Troubles	92
Tripura-sundarī: She Who Is Lovely in the Three Worlds	112
Bhuvaneśvarī: She Whose Body Is the World	129
Chinnamastā: The Self-Decapitated Goddess	144
Bhairavī: The Fierce One	167
Dhūmāvatī: The Widow Goddess	176
Bagalāmukhī: The Paralyzer	193

Mātangī: The Outcaste Goddess	209
Kamalā: The Lotus Goddess	223

PART III. CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS

Corpses and Cremation Grounds 233; Skulls and Severed Heads 238; Sexuality and Awakened Consciousness 241; The Conjunction of Death and Sexual Imagery 244; The Roles of Women and Reverence for Women 246; The Potentially Liberating Nature of Social Antimodels 251	
--	--

NOTES	253
-------	-----

GLOSSARY	281
----------	-----

BIBLIOGRAPHY	289
--------------	-----

INDEX	299
-------	-----

Index

Note: Page numbers of illustrations are italicized.

- Abhinavagupta, 75, 167
adepts, 3-4, 6, 47, 52-57, 76-79, 86-87,
90-91, 95, 123-28, 183, 245. See also
sādhaka(s)
adharma, 20; defined, 281
ādi Mahāvidyā, 1-2, 68, 84, 112
adi pīṭha, 17
Advaita Vedānta, 90
Agni, 121, 138
Agni-purāṇa, 70
Aindrī, 32
Aiyai, 151
Ajitā, 137
ājñā cakra, 48
Akhilandeśvarī, 115
Akṣobhya, 96, 98, 100
Alakṣmī, 178-81, 228; defined, 281
Amavasya, 45
ambika śakti, 137
Amitābha, 93
Amoghasiddhi, 93
amṛta, 149, 169, 227; defined 281
anābhata cakra, 48
Ānanda, 210-12
Ānanda-bhairava, 204
Anaṅga-kusumā, -kusumaturā, -madanā,
-madanā-devī, -madanaturā, -mekalā
-devī, -rupa-devī, vedanā-devī, -vedyā,
138
Ananta, 67, 89, 138. See also cosmic serpent
Animal sacrifices, 50, 110, 151, 238-40,
246
ankuśa, 138
Annapūrnā (Annapūrnā-devī), 150, 159,
174, 256n51; defined, 281; in
Mahāvidyās, 14, 253n4
Annapūrnā-bhairavī, 40
Annapūrnēśvarī-bhairavī, 172, 174
anthropomorphic images, 135; of
Bagalāmukhī, 197; of Tripura-sundarī,
122-23, 126
antimodels, 6-7, 251-52
Aparājītā, 137
Arjuna, 217
artha, 126, 201
Āryā, 138
āsana(s), 88, 153; defined, 281
Astamātrkāś, 115-16
aṣṭa siddhis, 278
asuras, 236
Atīśa, 93
Ātman, 121
ātman, 60, 126, 141, 243; defined, 281;
Lalitā as, 5
Atmavidyā, 60
auspiciousness, 97; of Bhuvaneśvarī, 143;
of Kamalā, 225, 230; of Tripura-sundarī,
118-19. See also inauspiciousness
Avalokiteśvara, 93
āvaraṇas, 140

avatāras, 6, 30; Chinnamastā as, 149;
defined, 281; of Tripura-sundarī,
116–17; of Viṣṇu, 20–22, 27, 29, 32,
34–35, 62, 117, 195, 202, 207, 227,
229–30, 255n25

avidyā, 44–45, 59; defined, 281

Bagalā. *See* Bagalāmukhī

Bagalāmukhī, 2, 11, 14, 29, 34–35, 44, 61,
186, 193–208, 220, 228, 257n84; an-
thropomorphic images of, 197; blood
offerings to, 50, 207; Brahmā and, 199;
color of, 193, 198–99, 208, 221; con-
sciousness and, 47; control and, 196–
99, 206; corpses and, 14, 201–2, 206,
233; cosmic order and, 195; cremation
grounds and, 199; defined, 281; as
demon slayer, 38, 207; demons and,
194–95, 197, 202, 206–8; Dhūmavātī
and, 195–96, 208; *dhyāna* mantras of,
193, 201, 208; frightening nature of,
37; *guṇas* and, 42–43; hair of, 83; hymns
to, 199, 201; iconography of, 197; illus-
trations, 13, 194, 200, 203; Kālī and, 81;
Kāma and, 201; as Kūrmā, 255nn22, 23;
lingams and, 201, 208; lotuses and, 193,
201; magical powers and, 37–38, 43, 57,
197, 199–201, 205, 207, 220–21; mantra
of, 198; in Nepal, 207; offerings to, 198–
200; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 23,
253n4, 254nn8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 255nn29, 30;
origin myths of, 193–96, 202; Pārvatī
and, 195–96; sexual desire and, 201;
shrines to, 207; Śiva and, 195–96, 207;
Tantrasāra and, 199; temples to, 50, 197,
207–8; in Tibet, 207; Tripura-sundarī
and, 193; *vāhanas* of, 14, 208; Viṣṇu
and, 21, 193, 195; worship of, 46, 108,
198–99; yantra of, 198–99; yoni, 201

Bagalāmukhī-rabasya, 57

Bajreśvarī-devī, 16, 152

baka, 196

Bālā, 14

Bālā-tripura-sundarī, 118

Bali, 179

balī, 207, 240; defined, 281. *See also* blood
offerings

Bāmākhēpa (Vāmākhēpā), 18, 97, 111,
257n75; defined, 281

bāna nyāsa, 172

Baṇāsura, 146

battlefields, 146–47, 155, 203

Baṭuk-bhairava, 102

Baudhayana-grhyasūtra, 270n9

Bhadra-kālī, 75, 100, 231

Bhagamālā, 247

Bhagāmālinī, 118, 247

Bhāgavata-purāṇa, 70, 146

Bhairava, 101, 102, 111, 169; defined, 281

Bhairava-tantra, 165

Bhairavī, 11, 15, 29, 35, 39–40, 44, 167–
75, 253n1, 257n84; blood and, 11, 167,
171; boons and, 167; Brahmā and, 169;
Chinnamastā and, 164; consciousness
and, 47, 169–70, 172; corpses and, 11,
167, 171, 202; cosmic functions and,
169–71, 174–75; cremation grounds
and, 171; defined, 281; as demon slayer,
11; destruction and, 170–72; *dhyāna*
mantras of, 167, 172, 174; fire and, 169–
71; forms of, 172–74; frightening nature
of, 37, 44, 169–71, 174; gods and, 169;
guṇas and, 42; as Hālī, 255n23; hymns
to, 167–75; illustrations, 168, 173; Ka-
mālā and, 231; *kunḍalīnī* and, 169; lotuses
and, 169; mantras of, 172; meditation
on, 170; in Nepal, 167, 171; order in
Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 253n4, 254nn8, 15,
255nn29, 30; Sarasvatī and, 169; severed
heads and, 167, 171, 238; sexual inter-
course and, 172; shrine to, 18; Śiva and,
169–70; skulls and, 11, 238; Śrī and, 174;
Tantrasāra and, 172, 174; Viṣṇu and, 21,
169; worship of, 46, 166, 172; yantras
of, 172, 174; yoga and, 169; yoni, 172;
yoni *pūjā* and, 248

Bhaṇḍa, 116–17

bharaṇa, 175

Bhārati, 117

Bhāskararāya, 58, 121–23, 125–26

bhava(s), 47; defined, 281

Bhavabhūti, 74

Bhayarūpā, 164

Bhayavidhvamsinī-bhairavī, 172

Bheruṇḍā, 118

Bhimā, 230

Bhūmī, 174

bbūta(s) (element), 131, 133, 198; defined,
281. *See also* elements of creation

bbūta(s) (ghost), 205–6, 236–37; defined, 281

Bhūtabhairavasevitā, 164

bbūta śuddhi, 90, 247; defined, 281

Bhuvana, 131; -pālā, -vegā-devī, -palikā-
devī, 138

bhuvanas, 129

Bhuvaneśi, 131

Bhuvaneśvarī, 11, 29, 32, 35, 41, 44-45, 129-43, 186, 220, 257n84; auspiciousness of, 143; beauty of, 140-41; *bija* mantra of, 132-36, 139; boons and, 132, 141; Brahmā and, 134; *cakras* and, 47-48, 136; cosmic functions and, 131, 133-34; cosmic order and, 134; cults, 131; defined, 281; as demon slayer, 134; *dhyāna* mantra of, 129; Durgā and, 134; frightening nature of, 37; *guṇas* and, 42; hymns to, 5, 131, 134, 141-42; illustrations, 12, 130, 132, 142; Lakṣmī and, 134; lotuses and, 129, 137-38, 141-42; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 23, 253n4, 254nn8, 11, 12, 15, 255nn29, 30; origin myths of, 129-31; as physical world, 130-33, 141; *prakṛti* and, 131, 133; *sādhana* and, 136, 141; Sarasvatī and, 134; Śiva and, 134, 141; *Tantrasāra* and, 136, 139-40; Tripura-sundarī and, 131; as Vāmana, 255n23; as Varāha, 255n22; Viṣṇu and, 21, 134; worship of, 46, 143; yantra of, 136-40; yoni, 141; yoni *pūjā* and, 248

Bhuvaneśvarī-bhairavī, 172

Bhuvaneśvarī-stotra, 131

bija(s), 53, 88; defined, 281. *See also* seed syllables

bija mantras, 132-36; defined, 281. *See also* seed mantras

bindus, 121, 126-27, 135-37, 139-40, 242; defined, 282

bird symbolism, 197. *See also* cranes; crows

Birobā, 255n39

blessings, 6, 57, 172, 225, 237; worldly,

174, 185-86, 198. *See also* boons

blood, 7, 32, 63, 149; Bhairavī and, 11, 167, 171; Chinnamastā and, 11, 144, 147, 155, 157-58, 160; Chinnamuṇḍā and, 161-62; Dhūmāvatī and, 180; Kālī and, 21, 67, 70-71, 73-74, 78, 80-81, 89, 149, 159; Lalitā and, 5; Tārā and, 100. *See also* menstrual blood

blood offerings, 7, 50, 53-54, 147, 151, 158, 171, 238-40; to Bagalāmukhī, 50, 207; to Chinnamastā, 50, 54, 147; to Dhūmāvatī, 186; to goddesses, 151, 158, 238-40; in Hinduism, 151, 238-40; to Kālī, 7, 50, 54, 70-71; *Tantrasāra* and, 240; to Tārā, 50, 54, 100, 110; at Tārāpīṭh, 108. *See also* *baḥi*

Bodhisattva, 92-93, 225

boksis, 183

boons, 73, 194, 221; Bhairavī and, 167; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 132, 141; Dhūmāvatī and, 176, 187-88; Kālī and, 9, 79, 87, 151; Kamalā and, 223; Lalitā and, 5; Mātangi and, 213-14; Tārā and, 106; worldly, 3, 6, 51. *See also* blessings

Brahmā, 5, 21, 24-25, 32, 41, 60, 235; Bagalāmukhī and, 199; Bhairavī and, 169; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; defined, 282; Kālī and, 76; lotuses and, 142; Śiva and, 86, 153; Śoḍaśī and, 11, 62; Tārā and, 96; Tripura-sundarī and, 112-13, 115, 117, 120-21, 125; Viṣṇu and, 142; in yantras, 138; yoni *pūjā* and, 248

Brahma-vaivarta-purāṇa, 60

Brahman(s), 58, 211-12, 220-21, 249; defined, 282

brahman, 21, 55, 59-60, 82, 126; defined, 282; Kālī and, 76, 86, 90; Lalitā and, 5; *nirguṇa*, 105. *See also* reality; *śabda brahman*

Brahmāṇī, 32

brahmarandhra, 28

Brahmāstra, 199

Brahmavidyā, 60

Brahmayāmala, 96

Brhadbharma-purāṇa, 22, 56

Bṛhaspati, 222

Brhatkālbarmañjarī, 151

Buddha, 93, 96-97, 106, 109, 209-12; as *avatāra* of Viṣṇu, 255n25; Lakṣmī as, 255n23; Mātangi as, 255n22

buddhi, 60

Buddhirūpā, 60

Buddhism, 205, 250, 275n22, 278n29, 279n55; Chinnamastā in, 146, 161-63; lotuses in, 225; Mātangi in, 209-12, 217; tantric, 250; Tārā in, 92-100, 105, 108-9

Caitanya, 241

Caitanya-bhairavī, 172

cakra(s), 47-49, 57, 126, 244;

Bhuvaneśvarī and, 47-48, 136; Chinnamastā and, 159-60; defined, 282; Lakṣmī and, 48; lotus, 159; *śakti*, 75; Tārā and, 100-101; Tripura-sundarī and, 120; in yantras, 138. *See also* Śrī *cakra cāl citras*, 18, 33

Cāmunda (Cāmunda-devī), 16, 32, 35, 44, 197
 Cāmunda-kālī, 75
 Cāmunda-tantra, 140, 200, 111
 Caṇḍa, 32, 71, 180, 267n7
 Caṇḍālas, 70, 202, 211-13, 217-18; defined, 282
 Caṇḍālikā (Tagore), 212
 Caṇḍamātā, 164
 Caṇḍanāyikā, 148
 Caṇḍeśvarī, 164
 Caṇḍī, 171
 Caṇḍikā, 117, 148, 204
 Carai-devī-mātā, 15-16
 cetanā, 60
 Cheating Death, 93
 Chinnamastā, 2, 11, 14, 20, 25, 29, 35, 39, 41, 44-45, 57, 60, 144-66, 186, 220, 253n1, 257n84; as *avatāras*, 21, 149; Bhairavī and, 164; blood and, 11, 144, 147, 155, 157-58, 160; blood offerings to, 50, 54, 147; in Buddhism, 146, 161-63; *cakras* and, 159-60; corpses and, 202, 206; cosmic order and, 149-50; cremation fires and, 244; cremation grounds and, 157, 233; death and, 157-58, 244; defined, 282; as demon slayer, 21, 149-50, 155, 267n7; *dhyaṇa* mantras of, 144, 154; Durgā and, 149; fertility and, 147; frightening nature of, 37, 55, 146, 164; *guṇas* and, 42; hair of, 11, 83, 144; history of, 144, 146; hymns to, 146-48, 154-55, 157, 159, 164; iconography of, 146, 150-51, 154-55, 157-62; illustrations, 12, 145, 156, 158, 165; Kālī and, 80, 149; Kāma and, 11, 144, 154-57, 159-60, 243; *kuṇḍalinī* and, 159-62; lotuses and, 11, 144, 154-55, 157; mantra of, 157, 163; meditation on, 163; as Narasimha, 255n23; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 23, 253n4, 545nn8,9,11, 12,15, 255nn29,30; origin myths of, 147-50, 241; as Paraśurāma, 255n22; Pārvatī and, 147-49; prototypes of, 144-47; Rati and, 11, 144, 154-57, 159-60, 243-44; reality and, 157, 163; self-decapitation of, 146-55, 157, 162, 244; severed heads and, 144, 151, 160, 238; sexual intercourse and, 11, 144, 148-49, 154-57, 166, 241, 244; sexuality of, 146; shrines to, 164-65; Śiva and, 11, 148-49, 156-57, 244; skulls

and, 161, 238; *Tantrasāra* and, 163; temples to, 50, 147, 164-65; worship of, 46, 108, 150, 163-66; yantra of, 139, 163; *yoni-pūjā* and, 248
 Chinnamunda, 161-62
chvāsas, 218, 97
 Cira-tārā, 97
 Cintpūrnī, 269n50
citā sādhanā, 234
 color: Bagalāmukhī's yellow, 193, 198-99, 208, 221; Kālī's black, 9, 87, 119; yugas, 198
 consciousness, 75, 206, 251; awakened, 241-44; Bagalāmukhī and, 47; Bhairavī and, 47, 169-70, 172; false, 87-88, 163 (see also *māyā*); Kālī and, 47, 79, 87-90, 112; Kamalā and, 47, 232; mantras and, 60; *sādhakas* and, 240, 246, 251; *sādhana* and, 170; severed heads and, 240; spiritual, 160; stages of, 46-49, 57; states of, 28, 30, 51, 63, 82; Tārā and, 47, 104; Tripura-sundarī and, 112
 Consort(s): goddesses as, 62; Kālī as, 63, 79, 84; Kamalā as, 63; Mahāvidyās as, 62; Tārā as, 63
 control: Bagalāmukhī and, 196-99, 206; Mātāngī and, 220-21
 corpses, 7, 24, 63, 164, 202, 233-38, 240, 246; Bagalāmukhī and, 14, 201-2, 206, 233; Bhairavī and, 11, 167, 171, 202; Chinnamastā and, 202, 206; Dhūmāvati and, 180, 182, 233; Kālī and, 67, 70, 78, 88, 202, 206, 233; Mahādevī and, 43; mantras and, 238; Mātāngī and, 202, 209, 233; reality and, 202; *sādhakas* and, 240-41, 245; *sādhana* and, 233-34; Tārā and, 9, 96, 98, 100, 102-3, 108, 110, 202, 206, 233, 245; at Tārāpīṭh, 153; Tripura-sundarī and, 112, 117, 233. See also *śava sādhanā*
 cosmic functions, 5, 28, 41-42, 87, 141, 159, 246; Bhairavī and, 169-71, 174-75; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 131, 133-35; Kamalā and, 232; Mahāvidyās and, 41-42, 229; Tripura-sundarī and, 117, 120
 cosmic order, 6, 20-21, 32, 34-35, 38, 62, 121, 202; Bagalāmukhī and, 195; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; Chinnamastā and, 149-50; Tripura-sundarī and, 117, 122. See also *dharma*
 cosmic roles, 21, 227, 230, 248
 cosmic serpent, 247. See also *Ananta*

- cosmology, 30, 86, 120, 125-26
 cosmos, 29-30; 51, 53, 89, 125-26;
 goddesses and, 158; Kālī and, 84, 90;
 lotuṣas, 140, 225; mantras and, 135;
 Śrī *cakra* and, 127; yantras and, 137-39,
 243
 cranes, 197, 213; Bagalāmukhī and, 11, 14,
 196-97, 207-8
 creation, 41, 87-88, 142; Lakṣmī and,
 230-31; Tārā and, 105; yantras and, 139.
See also cosmic functions
 cremation fires, 88, 222; Chinna-mastā
 and, 244; Dhūmāvati and, 182, 186,
 190; Kālī and, 100; Tārā and, 11, 100,
 102-4, 108, 110, 244
 cremation grounds, 7, 63, 146, 202, 206,
 233-38, 240, 245, 251, 273n46;
 Bagalāmukhī and, 199; Bhairavī and,
 171; Chinna-mastā and, 157, 233;
 Dhūmāvati and, 176, 182, 202, 206,
 233; Kālī and, 9, 67-68, 70, 78, 80,
 82-84, 88, 233, 244; Mātangi and, 214,
 221-22; *sādhakas* and, 111, 234-35; *śava*
sādhana and, 202, 205; Tārā and, 97,
 100, 102, 110, 233; at Tārāpīṭh, 108, 111,
 153
 crows, 197, 222; Alakṣmī and, 179;
 Dhūmāvati and, 11, 176, 179-82, 190,
 197; Jyesthā and, 178
 cults, 49; Bhuvaneśvarī's, 131;
 Dhūmāvati's, 176; Kālī's, 49, 62, 68;
 Kamalā's, 49, 62; in Tantrism, 235, 249;
 Tārā's, 49, 93; Tripura-sundarī's, 49,
 114, 122
 Dākini, 48; Chinna-mastā and, 144,
 147-48, 151, 160
 dākinīs, 236
 Dakṣa, 22-27, 73
 dakṣiṇa, 86-87; defined, 282
 Dakṣiṇā-bhairava, 87
 Dakṣiṇācāra, 48
 Dakṣiṇā-kālī, 15, 75, 81-82, 86-88, 90,
 100, 103, 202, 259n1
 Dakṣiṇāmūrti, 170
 Dāmara-tantra, 56
 daṇḍa, 138
 Darmadra, 94
 darśan, 18, 110, 115; defined, 282
 Dārūka, 73
 dasamahāvidyā, 58-59
 Dasamahāvidyās, 16-17
 Dattātreyā-tantra, 56
 death, 6-7, 86, 157-58, 234, 251; Chinna-
 mastā and, 157-58, 244; Kālī and, 78-
 79, 84, 89-90, 234, 244; meditation on,
 234; Nirṛti and, 178; sexual imagery
 and, 244-46; symbolic, 52, 54, 88, 235,
 240-41; Tārā and, 94, 110, 244. *See*
also mārāṇa
 demon slayer(s), 6, 21, 27, 34, 38, 62, 202;
 Bagalāmukhī as, 38, 207; Bhairavī as, 11;
 Bhuvaneśvarī as, 134; Chinna-mastā as,
 21, 149-50, 155, 267n7; Dhūmāvati as,
 38, 187; Durgā as, 5, 18, 30, 33-35, 71,
 149, 230, 278n21; Kālī as, 21, 27, 38,
 74, 79, 81; Kamalā as, 230; Lalitā as, 5;
 Tārā as, 21; Tripura-sundarī as, 116-17,
 119; Viṣṇu as, 230
 demons, 20, 30, 32, 35, 55, 148-49, 179,
 202; Bagalāmukhī and, 194-95, 197,
 202, 206-8; Kālī and, 70-71, 73; Mātangi
 and, 209. *See also specific names*
 destruction: Bhairavī and, 170-72; Dhūmā-
 vati and, 186, 208; Nirṛti and, 178; Tārā
 and, 103-5, 110. *See also* cosmic functions
 Devī, 243
 devī, 20; defined, 282
 Devī-bhāgavata-purāṇa, 35-36, 60, 131, 134
 Devī-mahātmya, 30, 32-35, 60, 71, 116,
 134, 149, 230, 278n21; defined, 282
 devotional poems; at Tārāpīṭh, 109-10
 Dhanapati, 138
 Dharā, 119
 Dharma, 226
 dharma, 27, 62, 119, 141, 187, 201, 226;
 defined, 282; Durgā and, 62; Śrī-Lakṣmī
 and, 227; Viṣṇu and, 227. *See also* cosmic
 order
 Dhṛti, 138
 Dhūmāvati, 2, 11, 14-15, 29, 34, 39-40,
 44, 56, 60, 176-92, 220, 228, 252, 253n1,
 257n84; Bagalāmukhī and, 195-96, 208;
 blood and, 180; blood offerings to, 186;
 boons and, 176, 187-88; corpses and,
 180, 182, 233; cremation fires and, 182,
 186, 190; cremation grounds and, 176,
 182, 202, 206, 233; crows and, 11, 176,
 179-80, 182, 190, 197; cult, 176; defined,
 282; as demon slayer, 38, 187; destruc-
 tion and, 186, 208; *dhyāna* mantras of,
 5, 176, 188, 190; frightening nature of,
 37, 43-44, 55, 164, 176, 180, 183, 192,
 208; *guṇas* and, 42; hair of, 11, 83, 176,

Dhūmāvati (*continued*)

188, 190–91; hymns to, 5, 181–82, 185, 187, 190–92; illustrations, 13, 17, 177, 188, 189, 191; inauspiciousness of, 81, 164, 178, 180–85, 188, 192, 252; Kālī and, 81, 184; Kāma and, 191; Kamalā and, 231; knowledge and, 183, 185; lions and, 187; lotuses and, 188; as Matsya, 255n23; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 23, 253n4, 254nn8,9,11,12,15, 255nn29,30; in Nepal, 187–90; offerings to, 185–86; origin myths of, 39, 181–82; *pañca tattva* ritual and, 184, 192; Pārvatī and, 187; portraits of, 187–92; prototypes of, 176–81; Rati and, 191; role of, 186–87; *sādhanā* and, 183; Sati and, 89, 180–82, 186–87; sexual intercourse and, 191; sexuality of, 190–92; *siddhis* and, 57, 183; Śiva and, 180–82, 195; skulls and, 176, 180; temples to, 15, 50, 185–87; tongue of, 188; *vāhanas* of, 182, 197; as Vāmana, 255n22; Viṣṇu and, 21, 180; worship of, 46, 108, 183–84, 187, 208; yantra of, 189; yoni, 188; yoni *pūjā* and, 248

Dhurvāsā, 186

dhyāna, 105; defined, 282. *See also* meditation

dhyāna mantras, 1, 5, 14–15, 18, 53; Bagalā-mukhī's, 193, 201, 208; Bhairavī's, 167, 172, 174; Bhuvaneśvarī's, 129; Chinna-mastā's, 144, 154; defined, 282; Dhūmāvati's, 5, 176, 188–90; Kālī's, 5, 67–68, 81–82, 89; Kamalā's, 62, 223, 228–29; Mātangi's, 209, 219; sexual intercourse in, 241; Tārā's, 98, 100, 110; Tripura-sundarī's, 112–13

Dhyanu, 152

Dīvalī (Dipāvalī), 18, 179, 228

divya, 257n72

Divyāvadāna, 209

Dogdhri, 137

Draupadī, 84

Dr̥ṣṭisamhārakārīṇī, 164

Durgā, 5–6, 18, 36, 39; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; Chinna-mastā and, 149; defined, 282; as demon slayer, 5, 18, 30, 33–35, 71, 149, 230, 278n21; dharma and, 62; hymns to, 15; illustrations, 19, 31, 33, 72; Kālī and, 71–73, 79, 82; knowledge and, 60; Lakṣmī and, 230; lions and, 187; in Mahāvidyās, 14, 253n4; in Nepal, 256n51; and Nine Durgās, 40; origin

myths of Mahāvidyās and, 22, 30–35, 38; Pūjā, 18, 34, 110, 230, 249; temples to, 16, 164; Tripura-sundarī and, 116–17; *vāhana* of, 187; in yantras, 138

Durgā-cālīsā, 15

Durgā Saptaśatī temple, 16, 34, 83

Durgama, 35

Duryodhana, 84

Dussaha, 179

Dvāpara Yuga, 198

Eck, Diana, 61

elements of creation, 29, 52, 79, 88, 126, 131, 133, 198

elephants: Kamalā and, 14, 62, 223, 229; Mātangi and, 218; Śrī and, 225–26; as symbols of fertility, 229

fasting, 216

females. *See* women

fertility, 62, 94, 147; Chinna-mastā and, 147; elephants as symbols of, 229; Kamalā and, 5, 41; Lakṣmī and, 228–29; Mahāvidyās and, 62; Śrī and, 225–26; Tripura-sundarī and, 118–19

fire: Bhairavī and, 169–71

fire offerings, 166, 221–22

gada, 138

Gaganā, 137

Gagana-rekhā, 138

Gāja-lakṣmī, 62, 229; defined, 282

gandharvas, 118, 236; defined, 282

Gaṇeśa, 18, 138, 207; defined, 282

Gaṅgā, 15, 60–61

garbha gr̥ha, 15, 115, 197; defined, 282

Garuḍa, 207

Garuḍa-purāṇa, 70

Gaurī, 73, 117, 151, 169, 230; defined, 282. *See also* Pārvatī

Gāyatrī, 137; mantra, 126, 135–36

Ghorā, 137, 230

Ghoraghurghurnādīnī, 164

Ghoramantrayutā, 164

Ghorarāvā, 164

Ghorasattva, 164

Ghora-tārā, 171

Ghorattattvamayī-devī, 164

goddess festivals, 18. *See also specific names*

goddesses, 14, 20, 36, 62, 236; bird symbolism and, 197; blood offerings to,

151, 158, 238–40; as Chinnamastā prototypes, 146–47; as consorts, 62; cosmos and, 158; independence of, 37–40, 169, 229; knowledge and, 60; nude, 146–47; in origin myths of Mahāvidyās, 32, 35; reality of, 128; relationship with worshiper, 3–5, 54, 59; sacred places and, 61; *siddhis* and, 48, 56; as sisters, 40; superiority over gods, 26, 36, 149, 195, 246; tantric, 50, 76, 114; worship of, 3–5. *See also specific names*

gods, 5, 21, 24, 30, 32, 35, 41, 236; Bhairavī and, 169; Śrī-Lakṣmī and, 226; subordinate to Mahāvidyās, 63, 229; Tripura-sundarī and, 115, 117, 229, 246; in yantras, 140. *See also specific names*

Gonda, Jan, 58

granthis, 159–60

Great Goddess, 4, 6, 20, 83, 148; cosmic functions and, 41; forms of, 39; knowledge and, 60; Tārā as, 21; yoni as, 243, 248. *See also Mahādevī*

Green Tārā, 93

Guhyā-kālīs, 36, 75, 89, 259n2

Guhyātiguhya-tantra, 20

guṇas, 42–43, 87, 126, 133, 231; defined, 282; *rajas*, 42, 87, 126, 144, 257n72; *sattva*, 42–43, 126, 257n72; *tamas*, 42–43, 126, 144, 182, 230

Guṇḍadabbe, 151

Guptasādhana-tantra, 248–49

gurus, 77, 204, 245; mantras and, 3, 58–59, 63, 123, 125–26; *pañca tattva* ritual and, 48, 54, 78; women as, 249; yantras and, 139

Gyan Babu, 109–10

hair, 63, 83–84; Bagalāmukhī's, 83; Chinnamastā's, 11, 83, 144; Chinnamundā's, 161; Dhūmāvatī's, 11, 83, 176, 188, 190–91; Jyēsthā's, 178, 180; Kālī's, 9, 67, 78, 80–81, 83–84, 85, 89; Satī's, 68; Tārā's, 9, 96, 98, 100–101, 103; Tripura-sundarī's, 113, 119

Hākinī, 48

Hālī, 255n23

Haṁsa-kālī, 75

Haṁseśvarī-devī, 115

hand gestures, 3, 53. *See also mudrās*

Hanuman, 34

Hara-patnī, 101

Hara-vallabhā, 101

head offerings, 151–54, 238

Hiltebeitel, Alf, 84

Himālaya, 73, 213; defined, 282

Hinduism, 7, 40, 58, 61, 102, 160, 184, 236, 250; blood offerings in, 151, 238–40; death imagery and, 234; meditation and, 200–201; mythology and, 22, 34, 230; Tārā in, 96–103

Hiranyākāṣipu, 116

homa, 221–22. *See also* fire offerings

Homages to the Twenty-One Tārās, 94

brīm, 132–36

human sacrifices, 151, 238

hymns, 3, 5–6, 15, 53, 229; to Bagalāmukhī, 199, 201; to Bhairavī, 167–75; to Bhuvaneśvarī, 5, 131, 134, 141–42; to Chinnamastā, 5, 146–48, 154–55, 157, 159, 164; to Dhūmāvatī, 5, 181–82, 185, 187, 190–92; to Durgā, 15; to Gaṅgā, 15; to Kālī, 5, 75, 80, 100; to Kāmākhyā, 15; to Kamalā, 5, 230–31; to Lakṣmī, 230; to Mātangi, 219; to Nirṛti, 178; to Śrī, 179, 225; to Tārā, 94, 100, 102, 105; at Tārāpīth, 108; to Tripura-sundarī, 112, 114, 117–19. *See also specific names; stotras*

icchā, 137

icchā śakti, 121, 137

iconography: Bagalāmukhī's, 197; Chinnamastā's, 146, 150–51, 154–55, 157–62; Kālī's, 74, 81–82, 87, 153; Kamākṣī's, 115; Kamalā's, 228–29; lotuses and, 225; of Mahāvidyās, 7, 15–18, 20–21, 39, 62–63, 240, 243, 246; in Nepal, 190; origin myths of Mahāvidyās and, 30, 32–34; skulls and, 153; Śrī-Lakṣmī's, 227; tantric, 76, 93; Tārā's, 93, 98, 101, 104, 110–11, 153; Tripura-sundarī's, 112–13

idā nāḍī, 160

inauspiciousness, 55, 97; Alakṣmī's, 179; Dhūmāvatī's, 81, 164, 178, 180–85, 188, 192, 252; Jyēsthā's, 179; Kālī's, 80. *See also* auspiciousness

independence: of goddesses, 37–40, 169, 229; of Mahāvidyās, 6, 62–63, 79, 229; of women, 37–38, 79

Indra, 32, 34; defined, 282; Śoḍaśī and, 11; Śrī-Lakṣmī and, 226; Tripura-sundarī and, 116; in yantras, 138

Indrānī, 32

- indriyas*, 133, 141; defined, 282
 initiation rites, 235
 Isāna, 138
 Isvara, 117
- Jagaddhātī, 105, 119, 134, 175; defined, 282
 Jaganmātā, 175
 Jalandhara, 121, 137
 Jalesvari, 105
 Jambhīnī, 35
japa(s), 105, 198, 233; defined, 282; mantra, 160; *sādhana*, 3
jaṭā, 100–101, 113, 119
 Jayā, 137, 147, 151; defined, 283
jīva, 52; defined, 283
jñāna, 21, 137; defined, 283. *See also* knowledge
Jñānadā, 60
jñānāgni, 88
jñāna śakti, 121, 137
 Jvālāmukhī (Jvālāmukhī-devī), 16, 152
 Jyesthā, 178–81
jyesthā śakti, 137
- Kaitābha, 35, 134, 230
kaivalya, 42
 Kākīnī, 48
 Kāla-bhairava, 170
 Kālarātri, 171, 230
Kālarudra-tantra, 56
 Kālī, 1–2, 6–7, 9, 18, 20, 39, 44–45, 51, 56–57, 61, 67–91, 171, 253n1, 257n84; in Astamātrkāś, 116; Bagalāmukhī and, 81; Bhuvaneśvari and, 134; blood and, 21, 67, 70–71, 73–74, 78, 80–81, 89, 149, 159; blood offerings to, 7, 50, 54, 70–71; boons and, 9, 79, 87, 151; Brahmā and, 76; *brahman* and, 76, 86, 90; Cāmūṇḍā-devī and, 16; Chinna-mastā and, 80, 149; color of, 9, 87, 119; consciousness and, 47, 79, 87–90, 112; as consort, 63, 79, 84; corpses and, 67, 70, 78, 88, 100, 202, 206, 233; cosmos and, 84, 90; cremation fires and, 100; cremation grounds and, 9, 67–68, 70, 78, 80, 82–84, 88, 233, 244; cults, 49, 62, 68; death and, 78–79, 84, 89–90, 234, 244; defined, 283; as demon slayer, 21, 27, 38, 74, 79, 81; demons and, 70–71, 73; Dhūmāvati and, 81, 184; *dhyāna* mantras of, 5, 67–68, 81–82, 89; Durgā and, 71–73, 79, 82; frightening nature of, 37, 43, 55, 70, 79, 91, 164, 171; *guṇas* and, 42–43; hair of, 9, 67, 78, 80–81, 83–84, 85, 89; hymns to, 5, 75, 80, 100; history of, 70–75; iconography of, 74, 81–82, 87, 153; illustrations, 12, 69, 72, 77, 85, 239; inauspiciousness of, 80; Kāmākhyā and, 24; Kamalā and, 223; knowledge and, 87–90, 103; as Kṛṣṇa, 255n2, 23; *kula*, 232; *liṅgams* and, 80; magical powers and, 56, 70; Mahādevī and, 76; mantras of, 75–76; Mātangi and, 80–81, 214, 220; meditation on, 78–79; in Nepal, 108; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 14, 16, 23, 41, 232, 253n4, 245nn8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 255nn29, 30; origin myths of, 68, 73; in origin myths of Mahāvidyās, 22, 29–30, 32, 36; Pārvatī and, 73–74, 79; pollution and, 83–84; as *prakṛti*, 88; Pūjā, 18, 110; reality and, 30, 75, 78–79, 83–90; *sādhana* and, 75, 86–90; as *śakti*, 86; Satī and, 25, 68, 73; severed heads and, 9, 67–68, 71, 78, 80, 87–88, 153, 158, 238; sexual intercourse and, 67, 74, 79–80, 82, 88, 154, 241, 243–44; Sītā and, 73; Śiva and, 9, 38, 62, 67–68, 73–76, 79–82, 86–88, 100, 119–20, 149, 243–44, 246; skulls and, 73, 78, 80, 88–89, 153, 238; Tantrism and, 70, 75–79, 86, 90; Tārā and, 80, 92, 100–103, 105; temples to, 15, 49, 61, 70–71, 102, 151; tongue of, 67, 71, 81–83, 87, 89, 158, 188; Tripura-sundarī and, 117, 119–21; Viṣṇu and, 21, 76; worship of, 46, 48, 86, 90, 108; yantra of, 75, 77; yoni, 80; yoni *pūjā* and, 248
- Kālī-bārī, 15
 Kālighāt, 61, 102; defined, 283
 Kālikā, 35, 39, 42, 100
Kālikā-maṅgal-kāvya, 56
Kālikā-purāṇa, 11, 43, 51–53, 118, 120
Kalingattuparāṇi, 70, 151
 Kali Yuga, 198; defined, 283
 Kalki, 255n22
 Kāma (Kāma-deva), 112, 115, 118, 172, 247; Bagalāmukhī and, 201; Chinna-mastā and, 11, 144, 154–57, 159–60, 243; defined, 283; Dhūmāvati and, 191; Tārā and, 243–44; in yantras, 138, 140, 243
kāma, 201; defined, 283
Kāmadā-tantra, 76
Kāmadbenu-tantra, 42–43

- Kāmaka-lā-kālī, 75
Kamakalā-vilāsa, 121
Kāmakautukakārini, 157
Kāmākhyā (*Kāmākhyā-devī*), 16, 254n15;
 defined, 283; hymns to, 15; Kālī and, 24;
 in Mahāvidyās, 14; Śoḍaśī and, 17; temple
 to, 17, 96–97, 165; yoni *pūjā* and, 248
Kāmākhyā-cālīsā, 15
Kāmākhyā-tantra, 76, 248
Kamākṣā, 35
Kamākṣi, 115
Kamālā, 2, 14–15, 29, 35, 37, 39, 42, 44–
 45, 48, 62, 131, 174, 223–32, 257n84;
 auspiciousness of, 225, 230; Bhairavī
 and, 231; boons and, 223; consciousness
 and, 47, 232; as consort, 63; cosmic
 functions and, 232; cults, 49, 62; de-
 fined, 283; as demon slayer, 230; Dhū-
 māvatī and, 231; *dhyāna* mantras of, 62,
 223, 228–29; elephants and, 14, 62,
 223, 229; fertility and, 5, 41; frightening
 nature of, 230, 232; *gunas* and, 42;
 hymns to, 5, 230–31; iconography of,
 228–29; illustrations, 13, 231; Kālī and,
 223; lotuses and, 14, 223, 229; magical
 powers and, 38; Mātangi and, 231; as
 Matsya, 255n22; order in Mahāvidyās,
 9, 16, 23, 41, 232, 253n4, 254nn8,9,
 11,12,15; offerings to, 54; role in Mahā-
 vidyās, 228–32; Satī and, 230; Sītā and,
 229; Śiva and, 229–30, 232; skulls and,
 230; Tantrism and, 228; temples to, 61;
 Viṣṇu and, 21, 39, 62, 229–30; worship
 of, 46; yoni, 17; yoni *pūjā* and, 248. *See also*
Lakṣmī; Śrī
Kāmaratna, 56
Kāmarūpa, 121, 137, 157, 165; defined, 283
Kāmeśvara, 113
Kāmeśvarī, 112, 118, 157, 172. *See also*
 Tripura-sundarī
Kāmeśvarī-bhairavī, 172
Kāmi-devī, 138
Kāminī, 254n15
Kaṁsa, 34
Kanakhālā, 161
Kānti, 138
Kapālī, 230
Kāpālīka, 153, 247; defined, 283. *See also*
 Śiva
Karālikā, 137
Karālinī, 138
 karma, 89, 104, 108, 123, 237
Karṇa-mātangi, 222
Karṇa-piśācī, 205
Karpurādi-stotra, 78–79
Kārtik, 180
Kārtikeya, 18, 32
 Kashmir Śaivism, 90, 242
Kathāśaritsāgara, 238
Kaulācāra, 48–49
Kaulāvalī-tantra, 246
Kaumārī, 32
Kauri-bai, 214, 217
Kauśikī, 73
Keśī, 267n7
khaḍga, 138
kinnaṛas, 236
klīm, 157
 knowledge, 44–46, 59–60, 232; Dhūmā-
 vatī and, 183, 185; Durgā and, 60; god-
 desses and, 60; Great Goddess and, 60;
 Kālī and, 87–90, 103; Tārā and, 108.
See also jñāna; *vidyā*
Komalāsana, 234
Kopāturā, 164
Korravai, 146–47
Koṭārākṣi, 171
Koṭavī, 146
Kripal, Jeffrey, 81–82
kriyā, 137
kriyā śakti, 121, 137
Krodha Bhairava, 148
Krodharūpā, 164
Krodhinī, 164
Kṛṣṇa, 20–21, 34, 157, 207; defined, 283;
 Kālī as, 255nn22,23
Kṛṣṇācārya, 161
Kṛṣṇānanda Āgamavāgiśa, 202
kṛṣṇa pakṣa, 121
Kṛta Yuga, 148, 193, 198
Kṣemendra, 151
Kubera, 138, 226; defined, 283
Kubjikā-tantra, 248
kula(s), 48, 204; Kālī, 232; Śrī, 232; de-
 fined, 283
kula mārṅga, 97
Kulārṇava-tantra, 244
Kumārī, 117
kumārī pūjā, 248–49
kuṇḍalinī, 47–48, 57, 136, 160, 244;
 Bhairavī and, 169; Chinnamastā and,
 159–62; defined, 283; *sādhana*, 47; *śakti*,
 47, 49, 136, 159, 241, 243–44; Śiva and,
 47–48; yoga, 47, 49, 115, 121, 159

Kūrma, 255nn22, 23

Kurukullā. *See* Tārā Kurukullā

krācā, 15, 102; defined, 283

Lakṣmaṇa Deśikendra, 167

Lakṣmī, 14, 18, 40–41, 60–61, 224, 226, 246; Alakṣmī and, 179; in Astamātrkāś, 116; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; as Buddha, 255n23; *cakras* and, 48; creation and, 230–31; defined, 283; Durgā and, 230; fertility and, 228–29; hymns to, 230; Mātangi and, 213; temples to, 15, 49, 61; Tripura-sundarī and, 112; *vāhanas* of, 197; worship of, 108, 228; in yantras, 138. *See also* Kamalā; Śrī

Lakṣmī-tantra, 227

Lalitā, 4, 5, 10, 112, 116, 119, 122; defined, 283. *See also* Tripura-sundarī

Lalitā-sahasranāma, 5, 58, 60, 112, 117–19, 121; defined, 283

Lanka, 34

left-handed tantric worship, 46, 54–55, 78, 111, 251, 257n72; of Bhairavī, 166; of Chinnamastā, 166; of Dhūmavātī, 208; of Tārā, 97, 101, 106, 109–10. *See also* paths in tantric worship

leftover offerings, 54, 209, 213–17, 258n87. *See also* *uccīṣṭa*

liminality, 206, 237–38, 247; Kālī and, 89–90; skulls and, 154; Tārā and, 103

lingams, 244; Bagalāmukhī and, 201, 208; Kālī and, 80; Śiva and, 17–18, 115, 186–87, 235; Tripura-sundarī and, 115

Liṅga-purāṇa, 73, 178

lions, 24, 207; Dhūmavātī and, 187;

Durgā and, 187; Mahādevī and, 43

Lokapālas, 138

lokas, 129

Lomamāṇsaprapūjītā, 164

lotus(es), 24, 47, 57, 244, 247; Bagalāmukhī and, 193, 201; Bhairavī and, 169; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 129, 137–38, 141–42; Brahmā and, 142; in Buddhism, 225; *cakra* and, 126–27; Chinnamastā and, 11, 144, 154–55, 157; as cosmos, 140, 225; Dhūmavātī and, 188; iconography and, 225; Jyēsthā and, 178; Kamalā and, 14, 223, 229; Mahādevī and, 43; sexual imagery and, 242; Śoḍaśī and, 11; Śrī and, 225; in Tantrism, 140; Tārā and, 98, 100, 245; Tripura-sundarī and, 112, 115, 142; in yantras, 140, 204

lotus *cakra*, 159

lunar phases. *See* *titbis*

Madan, 194–95, 197, 202

Madanātūrā, 154

Madhu, 35, 134, 230

Madonmattasvarūpiṇī, 157

magical powers, 25, 27, 29–30, 34, 37–38, 51, 55–57; Bagalāmukhī and, 37–38, 43, 57, 197, 199–201, 205, 220–21; Kālī and, 70; Kamalā and, 38; Mahāvidyās and, 55–57; Mātangi and, 220–22; *sādhakas* and, 233–34. *See also* *siddhis*

Mahābhāgavata-purāṇa, 22–26, 46, 60–61, 68, 220, 235, 254n14

Mahābhairava, 101

Mahābhārata, 60, 84, 217

Mahābhayaṅkarī-devī, 164

Mahābhīma, 164

mahābbūtas, 131. *See also* *bbūta(s)*

Mahābuddhi, 60

Mahācandā, 164

Mahācina-tārā, 95–98

Mahadev, 82

Mahādevī, 3, 30, 35–36, 38, 41, 43; corpses and, 43; defined, 283; Kālī and, 76; lions and, 43; lotuses and, 43; Mahāvidyās as forms of, 18–22, 61; reality and, 21–22, 36; women as, 246. *See also* Great Goddess

Mahākāla, 67, 185

Mahākāla-sambitā, 253n1

Mahākālī, 41–42, 75, 78, 89, 100, 231, 248

Mahālakṣmī, 41–42, 276n3

Mahāmāyā, 41, 131, 148, 230

Mahāmāyā-vijayavāhinī-tārā, 95

Mahānirvāṇa-tantra, 42, 48, 76

mabant, 207; defined, 283

Mahāpīṭhas, 137

Mahāpralaya, 134, 171, 185

Mahāśakti, 148, 230

Mahāśarasvatī, 41–42

mahāsukba, 47

Mahātāntra, 134

mahāvidyā, 57–60; defined, 283

Mahāvidyādhārī, 211–12

Mahāvidyās: as antimodels, 6; as consorts, 62; cosmic functions and, 41–42, 229; defined, 283; Durgā in, 14, 60, 253n4; frightening nature of, 36–37, 55, 63; as a group, 9–63, 234; iconography of, 7, 15–18, 20–21, 39, 62–63, 240, 243, 246;

- illustrations, 10, 12, 13, 24, 31, 33; independence of, 6, 62-63, 79, 229; interrelationships among, 38-49; Kāmākhyā in, 14; literary contexts of, 14-15; magical powers and, 55-57; Mahādevī as form of, 18-22, 61; model for, 5; moods of, 43; number of, 14; order of, 9-14, 16-17, 41, 232, 253n4, 254nn8,9, 11,12,15, 255nn29,30; origin myths of, 6, 15, 22-38, 63, 79, 196; shrines to, 165; temples to, 16-18, 50; worship of, 6-7, 14, 25, 46, 49-55, 108, 136; yantras of, 136-40. *See also specific names*
- Māheśvarī, 32, 36
- Mahī, 119
- Mahiṣa, 18, 33
- Mahiṣamardini, 18, 33, 256n51; defined, 283
- Mahiṣāsura, 35, 116, 134, 278n21
- Mahoccuṣmā, 137
- Maihar-devī, 152
- mait(ś), 26-27
- maithuna, 218, 243, 247; defined, 283. *See also sexual intercourse*
- Maitrīpa, 275n22
- makāra, 243
- Mālātīmādhava, 74
- male deities. *See gods*
- male-female tensions, 37-38, 76, 88, 103, 140, 202
- Mānasāra-silpa-sāstra, 70
- maṇḍalas, 51-54, 242; defined, 284
- Maṅgalā, 137
- maṅgal kāvya, 56, 70; defined, 284
- maṇipura-cakra, 48
- Mantṛāna-bhainava-tantra, 249
- mantra(s), 3, 14, 51-53, 58-60, 172, 211, 234, 247-48; Bagalāmukhi's, 198; Bhairavi's, 172; Bhuvaneśvarī's, 132-36, 139; Chinnamastā's, 157, 163; consciousness and, 60; corpses and, 238; cosmos and, 135; defined, 284; gurus and, 3, 58-59, 63, 123, 125-26; *japa*, 160; Kālī's, 75-76; Mahāvidyās and, 63; Mātangi's, 216, 220-22; reality and, 125-26, 135; *sādhana*, 63; in *śava sādhana*, 203-5; *siddha*, 221; *siddhis* and, 56; sound and, 63, 135-36; Śrīvidyā, 122-28, 135; Tārā's, 95-96, 105-6, 245; Tripura-sundarī's, 114, 116, 120, 122-28. *See also dhyāna mantras*
- Mantra-mahodadhi, 98, 139, 163, 166, 233-34, 238, 245; defined, 284
- māraṇa, 25, 56, 199, 207; defined, 284. *See also death*
- Mātāṅga, 209-12, 220
- Mātāṅgi, 2, 14-15, 29, 35, 39, 44, 186, 209-22, 228, 252, 253n1, 257n84, 258n87; boons and, 213-14; as Buddha, 255n22; in Buddhism, 209-12, 217; control and, 220-21; corpses and, 202, 209, 233; cremation grounds and, 214, 221-22; defined, 284; demons and, 209; *dhyāna* mantras of, 209, 219; elephants and, 218; frightening nature of, 37; *guṇas* and, 42; hymns to, 219; illustrations, 13, 210, 215, 219; Kālī and, 80-81, 214, 220; Kamalā and, 231; Lakṣmī and, 213; low castes and, 217-20; magical powers and, 56, 220-22; mantra of, 216, 220-22; offerings to, 209, 220-22; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 16, 23, 253n4, 254nn8,11,12,15, 255n29; origin myths of, 212-14, 217-18, 241; Pārvatī and, 213-15, 217-18; pollution and, 7, 80-81, 214-18; *sādhana* and, 220-22; Satī and, 218; sexual intercourse and, 218; Śiva and, 213-15, 217-18; skulls and, 209, 238; *Tantrasāra* and, 220, 222; Tripura-sundarī and, 214; *vāhanas* of, 197; Viṣṇu and, 21, 213; worship of, 46, 108, 215-16, 220-22; yantra of, 221-22; yoni, 17; yoni *pūjā* and, 248
- Mātāṅginī, 254n15
- Matī, 60, 138
- Mātṛkāś, 32, 71, 146, 149; defined, 284
- mātṛkāś, 153
- Matsya, 21, 255n22,23
- māyā, 88, 141, 163, 195, 246; defined, 284. *See also consciousness: false*
- Māyā-tantra, 248
- Medhā, 138
- meditation, 57, 88, 200-201; on Bhairavi, 170; on Chinnamastā, 163; on death, 234; on Kālī, 78-79. *See also dhyāna*
- Mekhalā, 161
- menstrual blood, 7, 160-61, 172, 216
- Milarepa, 162-63
- Minākṣi, 114
- Mohini, 35
- mokṣa, 25, 51, 76, 163, 201; defined, 284
- Molaram, 187

- moods: of Mahāvidyās, 43
mudrās, 3, 53, 87, 172, 185; defined, 284
mukti, 51, 163; defined, 284
mūlādhāra cakra, 47–49, 136, 159; defined, 284
 Muṇḍa, 32, 71, 180, 267n7
Muṇḍamāla-tantra, 20, 100, 253n4, 257n84
*muṇḍāsana*s, 153
mūrti, 139; defined, 284
 Muttusvami, 114
 mystics, 240–41
- nāḍis*, 115, 160; defined, 284. *See also*
specific types
nāgas, 236
 Naina-devī, 15
nāma stotras, 15, 62, 75, 181, 187; defined, 284
 Nandā-devī, 26–27
Nandīyāvarta-tantra, 219
 Nārada, 116, 119
Nārada-pañcarātra, 14, 147
 Naramānsapriyānityā, 164
 Nararaktapriyāsadā, 164
 Narasimha, 20, 225n23
 Narasimhī, 32, 230
 Narayāṇa, 174
 Narāyaṇi, 169
 Navarātra, 18. *See also* Durgā Pūjā
Navavarānakirthis (Muttusvami), 114
 Nepal, 183, 218, 249; Bagalāmukhī in, 207;
 Bhairavī in, 167, 171; Dhūmāvati in,
 187–90; Durgā in, 256n51; iconography
 in, 190; Kālī in, 108; Tripura-sundarī in,
 115
Nigama-kalpataru, 76
 Nilakaṇṭha, 106, 108
 Nila-sarasvatī, 98
Nila-tantra, 246
 Nine Durgās, 40
nirguṇa, 87, 112; defined, 284
nirguṇa brahman, 105; defined, 284. *See*
also brahman
 Nirṛti, 138, 178–81; defined, 284
Niruttara-tantra, 14, 76
nirvāṇa, 93; defined, 284
 Nirvāṇa-śakti, 48
Nirvāṇa-tantra, 76
 Niśumbha, 30, 34–35, 71, 74, 134, 149, 230
 Nityā, 137
 Nityalinnā, 118
- nourishment, 150, 158, 170–71
 Nṛsiṃha, 255n22
nyāsa, 90, 160, 172, 247; *bhāṇa*, 172;
 defined, 284
- offerings, 50, 52–54, 243; to Bagalāmukhī,
 198–200; to Dhūmāvati, 185–86; to Ka-
 malā, 54; to Mātangi, 209, 220–22; to
 Nirṛti, 178; in *śava sādhanā*, 204; to Tārā,
 95. *See also* blood offerings; fire offer-
 ings; head offerings; leftover offerings
 origin myths: Bagalāmukhī's, 193–96, 202;
 Bhuvaneśvarī's, 129–31; Chinnamastā's,
 147–50, 241; Dhūmāvati's, 39, 181–82;
 Durgā's, 22, 30–35, 38; Kālī's, 68, 73; of
 Mahāvidyās, 6, 15, 22–38, 63, 79, 196;
 Mātangi's, 212–14, 217–18, 241; Tārā's,
 93, 101–2, 106; of Tārāpiṭh, 108–9
- padma*, 138
 Padmanidhi, 138
 Padmasambhava, 161
 Padmāvati, 253n4
 Pakṣa-rāja, 207
 Pal, P., 150
 Palalādi priyānityā, 164
pañca mahābhūta, 88
pañca makāra ritual. *See* *pañca tattva* ritual
pañcamukha-śiva, 174
pañca preta, 71
Pañcarātra, 227, 230
pañca tattva ritual, 46, 48, 54–55, 78, 218,
 241, 243–44, 248, 251; defined, 284;
 Dhūmāvati and, 184, 192; gurus and, 48,
 54, 78; sexual intercourse and, 46, 54,
 78, 101, 241, 244; women and, 247
 Parabrahmasvarūpiṇī, 175
 Paramā, 175
paramātmān, 135
 Parameśvarī, 175
 Paraśurāma, 255nn22,23
Paraśurāma-kalpasutra, 174
parāvidyā, 60
 Pārvatī, 60; Bagalāmukhī and, 195–96;
 Chinnamastā and, 147–49; defined, 284;
 Dhūmāvati and, 187; Kālī and, 73–74,
 79; Mātangi and, 213–15, 217–18; in
 origin myths of Mahāvidyās, 22, 27–29,
 36, 79; Śiva and, 76, 196
- pāśa*, 138
 Pāścimāmnāya Kaula, 249
paśu, 87, 257n72

- Paśupati, 174
 paths in tantric worship, 46, 48–49, 55,
 118, 166. *See also* left-handed tantric
 worship
pati vrata, 6, 79; defined, 284
phala stotras, 229
Pheṭkārinī, 56
Pheṭkārinī-tantra, 56
Picchilā-tantra, 76
Piṅgalā nāḍī, 160
piśācas, 73, 236; defined, 284
Pitāmbarā (Pitāmbarā-devī), 193, 194, 196,
 198; defined, 284. *See also* Bagalāmukhī
pīṭhas, 17, 61, 109, 115, 121, 137, 186, 221,
 247; *adi*, 17; defined, 284. *See also* *sākta*
pīṭhas
 pollution, 6–7, 235, 247, 251; Kālī and,
 83–84; Mātāṅgī and, 7, 80–81, 214–18;
 Tārā and, 103; women and, 84
 Pore, 218
 possession, 198, 204
Pracaṇḍacaṇḍikā, 148
 practitioner. *See* adepts; *sādhaka(s)*
Pradhāna, 133
Prahlāda, 116
Prajñapāramitā, 96
Prajñātmikā, 60
Prakṛti, 133, 211–12, 217
prakṛti, 139; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 131, 133;
 defined, 285; Kālī as, 88; Lalitā as, 5
pralaya, 103–4, 134, 185; defined, 285
prāṇas, 201
Prāṇasakti, 230
Prāṇatoṣiṇī-tantra, 75, 119, 147–48, 213,
 249; defined, 285
prāṇayāma, 204
prapañca, 133
Prapañcasārasāra-saṃgraha, 182, 185;
 defined, 285
Prapañcasāra-tantra, 118, 131, 133–35;
 defined, 285
Prapañcesvarī, 131, 133–34
prasāda, 213, 216
Pratyāṅgirās, 14
prayog vidhi, 220
pretas, 102, 202, 205–6, 236–37; defined,
 285
Pretāsana, 164
Pretāsananivāsinī, 164
Prthivī, 105; defined, 285
pūjā, 15, 51, 71, 105, 138–39, 160; defined,
 285; *kumārī*, 248–49; sixteen-part, 3,
 50, 51; yoni, 243, 248. *See also* Durgā
 Pūjā; Kālī Pūjā; worship
pūjā paddhati, 198
purāṇas, 30; defined, 285. *See also* specific
 titles
purāścarya, 220
Purāścaryāraṇava, 222
 purification, 52–53, 110, 139, 216, 243
Pūrṇagiri, 121, 137
pūrṇimā, 45
puruṣa, 5, 88
Puṣpāyudhadharā, 157
Puṣṭi, 138

Rādhā, 229
rabasya, 15
Rāja-mātāṅgī, 219, 274n3
Rāja-mātāṅgini, 214
Rājarājeśvarī, 4, 10, 112, 115, 117, 119;
 defined, 285. *See also* Tripura-sundarī
nijas, 42; defined, 285; *guṇa*, 42, 87, 126,
 144, 257n72
Rākini, 48
Rakṣā-kālī, 89
rākṣasas, 236
Raktā, 137
Raktabīja, 32, 35, 71, 134
Raktapānaparāyaṇā, 164
Rāma, 21, 34, 73, 116; defined, 285; Tārā
 as, 255nn2, 23
Ramakrishna, 18, 82–83, 87; defined, 285
ramaṇa, 175
Rāmāyaṇa, 260n22; defined, 285
Ramprasad, Batuk, 187, 190–91
Ramprasad Sen, 100
Raṇajaitrī, 155
Raṇasthā, 155
Raṇotkaṇṭhā, 155
rasa, 104
Rati, 116, 118, 172; Chinnamastā and, 11,
 144, 154–57, 159–60, 243–44; defined,
 285; Dhūmāvatī and, 191; sexual inter-
 course and, 154, 172; Tārā and, 243–44;
 in yantras, 138, 140, 243
rati, 157
Ratirāgavivṛddhinī, 157
raudra, 43–44
raudrā śakti, 137
Raudrī, 230
Rāvaṇa, 21, 34, 116
rūddhis, 199
 reality, 7, 20, 48, 55, 175, 181–83, 249;

reality (continued)

Chinnamastā and, 157, 163; corpses and, 202; of goddesses, 128; Kālī and, 30, 75, 78–79, 83–90; Mahādevī and, 21–22, 36; mantras and, 125–26, 135; *śakti* and, 234; sexual imagery and, 242–43, 245–46; sound and, 58, 126, 134; tantric, 76–78, 141, 242; Tripura-sundarī and, 112, 115, 120, 122; Viṣṇu and, 227; worship and, 51
 rebirth, 53, 206, 235
 Rg-veda, 125, 178
 rituals, 206, 250; *dakṣiṇa* and, 86; Tantrism and, 76, 237; Tārā and, 95, 97. *See also* specific types
 Rudra, 21; Śoḍaśī and, 11, 62; Tripura-sundarī and, 112, 117, 121; in yantras, 138
 Rudra-bhairavī, 269n2
 Rudrayāmala, 35, 39, 42, 96, 131, 134, 199, 201, 219, 249
 Rukmiṇī, 229

Śabaras. *See* Śavaras

śabda brahman, 58, 88, 104, 134. *See also* *brahman*

saccidānanda, 59, 76; defined, 285

sacred places, 61, 102, 137

Sadāśiva, 117

sādhaka(s), 3, 47–63, 76–79, 135, 141, 160, 237, 245, 250; Chinnamastā and, 164; consciousness and, 240, 246, 251; corpses and, 240–41, 245; cremation grounds and, 111, 234–25; defined, 285; magical powers and, 233–34; Mātangi and, 220–22; *pañca tattva* ritual and, 243, 247; *śakti* and, 247–48; *śava sādhanā* and, 202–4; sexual desire and, 243; sexual intercourse and, 218, 243–45, 248; skulls and, 153–54, 238, 245; Tripura-sundarī and, 117, 127–28; Vasiṣṭha as, 97; yantras and, 139, 242. *See also* adepts

sādhana, 28–29, 47, 51, 58, 63, 78, 82, 128, 235, 245; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 136, 141; *citā*, 234; consciousness and, 170; corpses and, 233–34; defined, 285; Dhūmāvatī and, 183; *japa*, 3; Kālī and, 75, 86–90; left-handed, 166; mantras and, 135; Mātangi and, 220–22; skulls in, 152–53, 238; *śmaśāna*, 78, 111; Tārā and, 97, 106, 111; Tripura-sundarī and, 120, 123–24; yantra, 136, 139, 242. *See also* *śava sādhanā*

Sādhana-mālā, 95–96

Sahasradalamadhyasthā, 159

Sahasradalavartini, 159

sahasranāma stotras, 32, 35, 39, 42, 80, 84, 86; defined, 285

sahasrāra cakra, 48, 244; defined, 285

Sāitri, 138

Śaivācāra, 48

Sakalasiddhi-bhairavī, 172

Śakambharī, 22, 35–36, 150; defined, 285

Sākinī, 48

śākta, 17, 134, 141; defined, 285; literature, 20, 26, 30, 60; mythology, 22; theology, 20–21, 26, 36, 39, 41, 43–44, 61–62

śākta pīṭhas, 16, 22, 61, 109; defined, 285

Śākta-pramoda, 2–3, 16, 32, 57, 75, 139, 141, 148, 154, 163, 165–66, 171–72, 230, 267n7; defined, 285

śākta purāṇas, 14

śākta trimūrti, 41–42

śākta upa purāṇas, 22

Śakti, 75–76, 86, 88, 103, 108, 121; defined, 285; Śiva and, 202, 242–44, 246, 248; Śrī *cakra* and, 126–27; in yantras, 137, 140

śakti (energy, power), 36, 48, 55, 59, 78, 109, 121, 125, 137, 141, 235, 243; *cakra*, 75; defined, 285; Kālī as, 86; Lalitā as, 5; reality and, 234; *sādhakas* and, 247–48; Tripura-sundarī as, 129. *See also* *kuṇḍalinī śakti*

śakti(s) (female associates of the goddess): Chinnamastā and, 148; Mahāvīdyās as, 35; Śrī *cakra* and, 127; Tārā and, 106; Tripura-sundarī and, 116, 118; in yantras, 138–39

śakti bhavan, 16

Śaktisamigama-tantra, 3, 29, 46, 48, 68, 148, 166, 213; defined, 285

Śalya-tantra, 56

Samādhi, 60

samādhi, 234, 244

sāmānya pūjā, 51–54

Samhārakrama, 127

Sammoha-tantra, 253n1

Sampatpradā-bhairavī, 172

saṁsāra, 104–5; defined, 285

Saṁsāratārīṇī, 105

saṅkalpa, 204

Śankara, 114, 131; defined, 286

Śankara-vallabhā, 101

Śankhanidhi, 138

Śāṅkhyāyana-tantra, 199

- sanmyasi*, 184
śāntā śakti, 137
śānti, 56
 Saptamātrkāś, 149, 229
Saptaśati, 34
Śāradā-tilaka-tantra, 56, 167, 169–70, 219, 229; defined, 286
 Sarasvatī, 18, 21, 39, 42, 44, 60; Bhairavī and, 169; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; defined, 286; Tripura-sundarī and, 112; *vāhanas* of, 197; in yantras, 138
 Śārdūlakarṇa, 211–12
 Sarva-śiśira-devī, 138
 Sarvānanda, 248
 Sarvarūpā, 131
 Sarvavamayī, 105
 Sarveśi, 131
Sarvollāsa-tantra, 248
 Śasti-rekhā, 138
 Śatākṣī, 159; in origin myths of Mahāvidyāś, 22, 35–36
Satapatba-brāhmaṇa, 225
 Sat-cakra-krama-vāsinī, 48
 Satī, 6, 24, 28, 68; defined, 286; Dhūmāvati and, 39, 180–82, 186–87; hair of, 68; Kālī and, 25, 68, 73; Kamalā and, 230; Mātangi and, 218; in origin myths of Mahāvidyāś, 22–27, 63, 79, 196; *pīṭhas* and, 61; severed heads and, 23; skulls and, 68; Tārā and, 106; Tārāpīth and, 109; temples to, 16; tongue of, 23; Viṣṇu and, 16; yoni, 16–17
Śaṭkarmadīpikā, 56
ṣaṭ-karmāṇi, 56
sattva, 42; defined 286; *guṇa*, 42–43, 126, 257n72
 sattvic, 87, 112, 118; defined, 286
 Satya Yuga, 19; defined, 286
saubhāgya, 118. *See also* auspiciousness
saumya, 43–44
Saundaryalaharī, 113, 117–18; defined, 286
śava, 36; *āsana*, 204; defined, 286; *sādhana*, 111, 201–6, 234, 245. *See also* corpses
 Śavaras, 219; 275n16
 Śavareśvarī, 219
 Śavarī, 219
 Śavāsana, 171, 233
 Śāvitri, 60
 seed mantras, 125, 139. *See also* *bija* mantras
 seed syllables, 53, 90, 136, 157. *See also* *bija(s)*
 self-control, 154–55
 self-decapitation, 151–52, 162–63; Chinna-mastā's, 146–55, 157, 162, 238, 244; Chinnamuṇḍā's, 161–62
 self-sacrifice, 150, 155, 162
 semen, 160, 170, 172, 243, 245, 248
 serpents, 89, 96; Tārā and, 96, 98, 100. *See also* cosmic serpent; snakes
 Śeṣa, 193
 severed heads, 7, 63, 153–54, 238–41, 246; Bhairavī and, 167, 171, 238; Chinnamastā and, 144, 151, 160, 238; Chinnamuṇḍā and, 161; consciousness and, 240; Kālī and, 9, 67–68, 71, 78, 80, 87–88, 153, 158, 238; Satī and, 23; Tārā and, 9, 11, 98, 100, 108, 153, 238. *See also* self-decapitation; skulls
 sexual desires: Bagalāmukhī and, 201; *sādhakas* and, 243; Tripura-sundarī and, 118
 sexual fluids, 7, 121, 160–61. *See also* menstrual blood; semen
 sexual imagery, 241–46
 sexual intercourse, 7, 63, 248; Bhairavī and, 172; Chinnamastā and, 11, 144, 148–49, 154–57, 166, 241, 244; Dhūmāvati and, 191; in *dhyāna* mantras, 241; Kālī and, 67, 74, 79–80, 82, 88, 154, 241, 243–44; Mātangi and, 218; *pañca tattva* ritual and, 46, 54, 78, 101, 241, 244; Rati and, 154, 172; *sādhakas* and, 218, 243–45, 248; Śiva and, 148, 154; Śoḍaśī and, 11; Tārā and, 241, 243–44. *See also* *maithuna*
 sexuality, 118, 241–44; Chinnamastā's, 146; Dhūmāvati's, 190–92
 shamanism, 205
 shamans, 240–41
 Shaw, Miranda, 250
 shrines: Bagalāmukhī's, 207; Bhairavī's, 18; Chinnamastā's, 164–65; Kāmākhyā's, 16, 96–97; Mahāvidyā's, 165
 Siddha-kālī, 75, 89
siddha mantra, 221
 Siddhāntācāra, 48
siddhas, 118, 169, 236; defined, 286
siddhis, 6, 29, 47–48, 51, 55–57, 63, 127, 255n39, 256n53; *aṣṭa*, 278; Bagalāmukhī and, 197, 199–201, 207; defined, 286; Dhūmāvati and, 57, 183; goddesses and, 48, 56; Kālī and, 56; mantras and, 56; Mātangi and, 56. *See also* magical powers; *vāk siddhi*
 Siddhi-vidyāś, 68, 257n84

Śilā-devī, 16

Śilappadibhāram, 151

Sitā: defined, 286; Kālī and, 73; Kamalā and, 229; as model for women, 6

Śiva, 5, 17–18, 39–41, 46, 48, 57, 62, 75–76, 126, 150, 159–60, 185, 235, 247; Annapūrṇā and, 174; Bagalāmukhī and, 195–96, 207; Bhairavī and, 169–70; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134, 141; Brahmā and, 86, 153; Chinnamastā and, 11, 148–49, 156–57, 244; defined, 286; Dhūmāvātī and, 180–82, 195; illustrations, 24, 173, 236; Kālī and, 9, 38, 62, 67–68, 73–76, 79–82, 86–88, 100, 119–20, 149, 243–44, 246; Kamalā and, 229–30, 232; as Kāpālika, 153; *kuṇḍalinī* and, 47–48; *liṅgams*, 17–18, 115, 186–87, 235; Mātangi and, 213–15, 217–18; in origin myths of Mahāvidyā, 22–38, 79, 196, 230; Pārvatī and, 76, 196; Śakti and, 202, 242–44, 246, 248; sexual intercourse and, 148, 154; Śoḍaśī and, 11, 21; Śrī and, 117; Śrī *cakra* and, 126–27; Tārā and, 9, 38, 62, 96, 100–103, 106, 108, 111, 243, 246; Tripura-sundarī and, 38, 62, 112–21, 125, 246; in yantras, 137, 140; yoga and, 88; *yoginīs* and, 249; yoni *pūjā* and, 248

Śivā (feminine form), 101, 230

Śivadūtī, 35

Śivānanda, 121

skulls, 63, 153–54, 238–41; Bhairavī and, 11, 238; Chinnamuṇḍā and, 161, 238; Dhūmāvātī and, 176, 180; iconography and, 153; Kālī and, 73, 78, 80, 88–89, 153, 238; Kamalā and, 230; Mātangi and, 209, 238; *sādhakas* and, 153–54, 238, 245; in *sādhana*, 152–53, 238; Satī and, 68; sound and, 104, 153; Tārā and, 96, 98, 100, 104, 110, 153, 238, 245; Tripura-sundarī and, 119. *See also* severed heads

Śmaśāna-bhairavī, 102

Śmaśāna-kālī, 75, 89, 186, 259n3, 271n38

Śmaśānālaya-vāsinī, 171

śmaśāna sādhana, 78, 111; defined, 286

Śmaśāna-vāsinī, 171

Smṛti, 138

snakes, 96, 104, 113, 119, 176, 203. *See also* serpents

Śoḍaśī, 11, 12, 14, 29, 40–41, 44–45, 112, 114–15, 119–22, 186, 257n84; Brahmā

and, 11, 62; defined, 286; frightening nature of, 37; *guṇas* and, 42; Indra and, 11; as Kalki, 255n22; Kāmākhya and, 17; lotuses and, 11; order in Mahāvidyā, 9, 16, 23, 253n4, 254nn8, 11, 12, 15, 155nn29, 30; Rudra and, 11, 62; sexual intercourse and, 11; Śiva and, 11, 21; Viṣṇu and, 11, 21, 62; worship of, 46, 57; yoni, 17. *See also* Tripura-sundarī

Soma, 121, 138, 226

soma, 129

Songsten gampo, 93

sound, 88, 135; mantras and, 63, 135–36; reality and, 58, 126, 134; skulls and, 104, 153; Tripura-sundarī and, 120

sound seeds. *See* *bijas*; seed syllables

Sphoṭa, 58

Śraddhā, 138

śraddha, 206

Śrī, 117–18, 138, 225–26; Bhairavī and, 174; *cakra*, 112–15, 122–28, 136; defined, 286; hymns to, 179, 225; *kula*, 232; lotuses and, 225; Śiva and, 117; yantra of, 124. *See also* Kamalā; Lakṣmī

śrī, 226

Śrī-Lakṣmī, 2, 226–28, 232, 246

Śrī-śūktā, 179, 225; defined, 286

Śrī Vaiṣṇavism, 227–29

Śrīvidyā, 56, 112, 114, 119; defined, 286; *cakra*, 48; cult, 48; mantra, 122–28, 135.

See also Tripura-sundarī

śṛṣṭikrama, 127

Śṛṣṭisamhārakārīṇī, 175

Śruti, 138

stambhana, 25, 56, 195, 197, 201, 207–8, 221; defined, 286

sthūla, 123, 135; defined, 286

stotras, 141, 154, 159, 164, 199; defined, 286; *Karpurādi-stotra*, 79–79; *phala*, 229.

See also hymns; *nāma stotras*; *sahasranāma stotras*

Subandhu, 92

śukla ekādaśī, 180

śukla pakṣa, 121

śūla, 138

Śumbha, 30, 32, 34–35, 71, 74, 134, 149, 230

Sundara, 56

Sundarī. *See* Tripura-sundarī

Sūrya, 121, 129

suṣumṇā nāḍī, 47, 159–60, 169, 243; defined, 286

Suṣumnāsvarabhāsinī, 159
svādhīṣṭhāna cakra, 48
svarūpa, 76, 126; defined, 286
Svatantra-tantra, 148, 214; defined, 286

Tagore, Rabindranath, 212
tamas, 42-43; defined, 286; *guṇa*, 42-43, 126, 144, 182, 230
Tāmasī, 230
tāmasīc, 170, 182
tāṇḍava dance, 74-75, 230
Tantra, 28, 30, 41, 83, 141, 242, 251; defined, 286
Tantraloka, 75
Tantras, 14-15, 48, 54, 59, 76, 80, 127; defined, 286
Tantrasāra, 2, 75, 98, 113, 202, 234;
 Bagalāmukhī and, 199; Bhairavī and, 172, 174; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 136, 139-40; blood offerings and, 240;
 Chinnamastā and, 163; defined, 287;
 Mātāṅgī and, 220, 222; *pañca tattva*
 ritual and, 243, 247; *śava sādhanā* and, 202-5
 tantric worship, 3, 49-55, 90. *See also* left-handed tantric worship; *pūjā*; worship
tāntriśa(s), 28, 153, 164, 186, 207; defined, 287
 Tantrism, 37, 47, 56, 63, 137, 250; Bud-
 dhist, 250; cults in, 235, 249; defined, 287; goddesses in, 50, 76, 114; iconog-
 raphy in, 76, 93; Kālī and, 70, 75-79, 86, 90; Kamalā and, 228; lotuses in, 140; paths in, 46, 54-55, 78; reality in, 76-78, 141, 242; rituals in, 76, 237; spirituality and, 7, 250, 278n29; texts, 14, 36, 51, 56, 58; Tripura-sundarī and, 114
 Tārā, 2, 9, 11, 15, 20, 25, 29, 39, 44, 92-111, 245, 253n1, 257n84; blood and, 100; blood offerings to, 50, 54, 100, 110; boons and, 106; Brahmā and, 96; in Buddhism, 92-100, 105, 108-9; *cakras* and, 100-101; consciousness and, 47, 104; as consort, 63; corpses and, 9, 96, 98, 100, 102-3, 108, 110, 202, 206, 233, 245; creation and, 105; cremation fires and, 11, 100, 102-4, 108, 110, 244; cremation grounds and, 97, 100, 102, 110, 233; cults, 49, 93; death and, 94, 110, 244; defined, 287; as demon slayer, 21; destruction and, 103-5, 110; *dhyāna*

mantras, 98, 100, 110; frightening nature of, 37, 55, 96, 98, 100, 108, 110-11, 164; as Great Goddess, 21; Green, 93; *guṇas* and, 42; hair of, 9, 96, 98, 100-101, 103; in Hinduism, 96-103; hymns to, 94, 100, 102, 105; iconogra-
 phy of, 93, 98, 101, 104-5, 110-11, 153; illustrations, 12, 99, 101, 107, 236; Kālī and, 80, 92, 100-103, 105; Kāma and, 243-44; knowledge and, 108; Kurukullā, 95, 98; lotuses and, 98, 100, 245; mantras, 95-96, 105-6, 245; maternal aspects of, 105-6, 109; offerings to, 95; order in Mahāvidyās, 9, 14, 16, 23, 41, 253n4, 254nn8,9,11,12,15, 255nn29, 30; origin myths of, 93, 101-2, 106; pollution and, 103; as Rāma, 255nn22, 23; Rati and, 243-44; rituals and, 95, 97; *sādhana* and, 97, 106, 111; Sati and, 106; serpents and, 96, 98, 100; severed heads and, 9, 11, 98, 100, 108, 153, 238; sexual intercourse and, 241, 243-44; Śiva and, 9, 38, 62, 96, 100-103, 106, 108-9, 111, 243, 246; skulls and, 96, 98, 100, 104, 110, 153, 238, 245; sym-
 bolic significance of, 103-4; temples to, 18, 61, 102, 108; Tibet and, 92-100, 105, 108-9; tongue of, 98, 100, 110, 188; Viṣṇu and, 21, 96-97; White, 93; worship of, 46, 94, 97, 101-2, 106, 108-11; yantra of, 139; yoga and, 97; yoni *pūjā* and, 248
 Tāraka, 34
 Tārāpīṭh, 61, 97, 102, 106, 108-11
Tārā-tantra, 100
 Tārīṇī, 35, 231
tattva, 234; defined, 287
tattvas, 126; defined, 287
 temple *pūjā*, 49-50, 53-54
 temples, 20, 49, 61, 102, 240; Bagalā-
 mukhī's, 50, 197, 207-8; Bajreśvarī-
 devī's, 16, 152; Cāmuṇḍā's, 16; Caṇai-
 devī-mātā's, 15-16; Chinnamastā's, 50, 147, 164-65; Dasamahāvidyās', 16-17;
 Dhūmāvātī's, 15, 50, 185-87; Durgā's, 16, 164; Durgā Saptasatī's, 16, 34, 83;
 Jvālāmukhī's, 16; Kālī's, 15, 49, 61, 70-71, 102, 151; Kālī-bārī's, 15; Kāmā-
 khyā's, 17, 165; Kamalā's, 61; Lakṣmī's, 15, 49, 61; Mahāvidyās and, 15-18, 50;
 Maihar-devī's, 152; Naina-devī's, 15; Sati and, 16; Śilā-devī's, 16; Tārā's, 18,

temples (*continued*)

- 61, 102, 108; Tripura-sundarī's, 114. *See also specific names*
- Tibet, 205; Bagalāmukhī in, 207; Tārā in, 92–100, 105, 108–9
- tilaka, 178, 180
- tīrthas, 248; defined, 287
- Tirumantiram (Tirumular), 114
- titbis, 45, 115, 121, 202; defined, 287
- Tōdala-tantra, 20
- tongue(s): Dhūmāvati's, 188; Kālī's, 67, 71, 81–83, 87, 89, 158, 188; Tārā's, 98, 100, 110, 188; Tripura-sundarī's 119
- Tretā Yuga, 198
- Trikāyavajra-yoginī, 162
- trimūrti, 41, 134; defined, 287
- Tripurā, 35, 43, 118, 120
- Tripura-bālā, 43
- Tripura-bhairavī, 13, 32, 43, 48, 170, 254 nn9, 12
- Tripurā-rahasya, 118
- Tripura-sundarī, 2, 11, 14, 35, 39–40, 43–44, 62, 112–29, 220; anthropomorphic images of, 122–23, 126; auspiciousness of, 118–19; *avatāras* of, 116–17; Bagalāmukhī and, 193; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 131; Brahmā and, 112–13, 115, 117, 120–21, 125; *cakras* and, 120; consciousness and, 112; corpses and, 112, 117, 233; cosmic functions and, 117, 120; cosmic order and, 117, 122; cults, 49, 114, 122; defined, 287; as demon slayer, 116, 117, 119; *dhyāna* mantras, 112–13; Durgā and, 116–17; fertility and, 118–19; frightening nature of, 37, 119; gods and, 115, 117, 229, 246; hair of, 113, 119; hymns to, 112, 114, 117–19; iconography of, 112–13; illustrations, 4, 113, 124; Indra and, 116; Kālī and, 117, 119–21; Lakṣmī and, 112; *lingams*, 115; lotuses and, 112, 115, 142; mantras of, 114, 116, 120, 122–28; Mātangi and, 214; mythology of, 114–20; names of, 120–22; in Nepal, 115; as Nṛsiṃha, 255n22; order in Mahāvīdyās, 9, 23, 41, 253n4, 254n9; as Paraśurāma, 255n23; reality and, 112, 115, 120, 122; roles of, 117, 120; Rudra and, 112, 117, 121; *sādhana* and, 120, 123–24; *śakti* and, 116, 118, 129; Sarasvatī and, 112; sexual desires and, 118; Śiva and, 38, 62, 112–21, 125, 246; skulls and, 119; sound and, 120; Tantrism and, 114;

- temples to, 114; tongue of, 119; triadic nature of, 120–21, 125; Viṣṇu and, 112–21, 125; worship of, 46, 57, 114; yantra of, 112–14, 122–28, 136; yoni, 118, 120; yoni *pūjā* and, 248. *See also* Lalitā; Rājaraṣeśvarī; Śoḍaśī
- Triśaṅku, 211–12
- Tulajā-devī, 35
- turmeric, 193–94, 198–99, 221
- Turner, Victor, 206
- uccātana, 25, 56, 200; defined, 287
- ucciṣṭa, 222; defined, 287. *See also* leftover offerings
- Ucciṣṭa-caṇḍalīnī, 213, 217
- Ucciṣṭa-mātangi, 258n87
- Ucciṣṭa-mātangiṇī, 81, 213, 216, 218, 274n1
- Uddāmarā-tantra, 56
- Uddiṣṭa-tantra, 238, 245
- Uddiyāna, 137
- Ugra-kālī, 100
- Ugra-tārā, 39, 95, 98, 100, 106, 110
- Umā, 138
- upa purāṇas, 14; defined, 287
- Upa-vidyās, 68
- upāsana paddhati, 198
- Uṣas, 138
- Vāgeśvarī, 134
- vāhanas, 138, 197; Bagalāmukhī's, 14, 208; defined, 287; Dhūmāvati's, 182, 197; Durgā's, 187; Lakṣmī's, 197; Mātangi's, 197; Sarasvatī's, 197
- Vaiṣṇava, 20, 27, 29, 32, 116, 171, 174, 230, 241; defined, 287
- Vaiṣṇavācāra, 48
- Vaiṣṇavī, 32, 229–30
- vajra, 138
- Vajra-varāhī, 161
- Vajra-yoginī, 146, 161
- vāk siddhi, 56, 143, 194, 196–97; defined, 287
- valga, 196–97
- Valgāmukhī, 196–97
- vāmā, 111; *śakti*, 137
- Vāmācāra, 48, 54; defined, 287. *See also* left-handed tantric worship
- Vāma-kālī, 87
- Vāmakeśvara-tantra, 113–14, 117–19
- Vāmākhēpā. *See* Bāmākhēpā
- vamana, 175

Vāmana, 21, 255nn22,23
Vāmana-purāṇa, 73
 Varāha, 21, 174, 255nn22
 Vārāhi, 32, 229–30
 Varṇinī, 144, 147–48, 151, 160
 Varuṇa, 138
 Vāśalī, 14
 Vasanta, 247
Vāsavadattā (Subandhu), 92
Vaśīkaraṇa, 56
 Vasiṣṭha, 96–97, 106, 108–9
 Vasudhā, 105
 Vāsuki, 117
vaśya, 56
 Vāyu, 138
 Vedācāra, 48
 Vedas, 96, 117, 121, 136, 169
 Vedic: literature, 178; mantras, 58; period, 238; rites, 116, 151
vetālas, 236
vidveṣa, 56
vidveṣaṇa, 56
 Vidyā, 57, 60
vidyā (knowledge), 29–30, 44–45, 59–60, 103; defined, 287. *See also* knowledge
vidyā (mantra), 58; defined, 287. *See also* mantras
 Vidyās, 68, 76, 257n84
 Vijayā, 137, 147, 151
 Vijñāna-bhāna-rūpiṇī, 60
 Vikarālinī, 138
 Vilāsinī, 137
viparīta rati, 88
vīra, 78, 166, 257n72; defined, 287
 Virāratri, 148
 Viṣṇu, 5, 21, 24–25, 32, 41, 174, 235;
 Ananta and, 89; *avatāras* of, 20–22, 27, 29, 32, 34–35, 62, 117, 195, 202, 207, 227, 229–30, 255n25; Bagalāmukhī and, 193, 195; Bhairavī and, 169; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 134; Brahmā and, 142; defined, 287; as demon slayer, 230; dharma and, 227; Dhūmāvatī and, 180; Dussaha and, 179; Kālī and, 76; Kamalā and, 39, 62, 229–30; Koṭavī and, 146; Mātāṅgī and, 213; reality and, 227; Sati and, 16; Śoḍaśī and, 11, 62; Śrī-Lakṣmī and, 227–28, 232, 246; Tārā and, 96–97; Tripura-sundarī and, 112–21, 125; in yantras, 138; yoni *pūjā* and, 248
Viṣṇu-purāṇa, 146
viṣṭarāśana, 234

viśuddha cakra, 48
 Viśvarūpā, 131
Viśvasāra-tantra, 171–72, 175
 voodoo, 204
Vṛhad-yoni-tantra, 248
 Vṛkṣamadhyani-vāsinī, 105
 Vṛta, 34
 White Tārā, 93
 widow(s), 183–86, 190, 192, 195, 279n56;
 Dhūmāvatī as, 11, 39, 81, 176, 180, 182–83, 187, 190, 252
 women: as gurus, 249; hair of, 83–84; independence of, 37–38, 79; life cycles of, 40–41; as Mahādevī, 246; offerings from, 179; *pañca tattva* ritual and, 247; pollution and, 84; roles of, 103, 246–50; Śīta as model for, 6; stereotypes of, 81; worship of, 97, 187, 247–50
 Woodroffe, John, 42–43
 worship, 22, 57; of Bagalāmukhī, 46, 108, 198–99; of Bhairavī, 46; of Bhuvaneśvarī, 46, 143; of Chinnamastā, 46, 108, 150, 163–66; of Dhūmāvatī, 46, 108, 183–84, 190; of goddesses, 3–5; of Kālī, 46, 86, 90, 108; of Kamalā, 46; of Lakṣmī, 108, 228; of Mahāvidyās, 6–7, 14, 25, 46, 49–55, 108, 136; of Mātāṅgī, 46, 108, 215–16, 220–22; patterns of, 3; *purāṇic*, 3; reality and, 51; rewards from, 200; of Śoḍaśī, 46, 57; of Tārā, 46, 94, 97, 101–2, 106, 108–11; of Tripura-sundarī, 46, 57, 114; Vedic, 3; of women, 97, 187, 247–50. *See also* left-handed tantric worship; *pūjā*; tantric worship
yakṣas, 118, 226; defined, 287
 Yama, 11, 86, 138, 170, 180; defined, 287
 yantra(s), 3, 15, 51–54; Bagalāmukhī's, 198–99; Bhairavī's, 172, 174; Bhuvaneśvarī's, 136–40; Brahmā in, 138; *cakras* in, 138; Chinnamastā's, 139, 163; cosmos and, 137–39, 243; creation and, 139; defined, 287; Dhūmāvatī's, 189; Durgā in, 138; gods in, 140; gurus and, 139; Indra in, 138; Kālī's, 75, 77; Kāma in, 138, 140, 243; Lakṣmī in, 138; lotuses in, 140, 204; Mahāvidyās', 136–40; Mātāṅgī's, 221–22; Rati in, 138, 140, 243; Rudra in, 138; *sādhakas* and, 139, 242; *sādhana*, 136, 139, 242; in *śava sādhana*, 204; sexual imagery in, 241–

yantra(s) (*continued*)

- 43; Śakti in, 137, 140; *śaktis* in, 138–39; Sarasvatī in, 138; Śiva in, 137, 140; Śrī's, 124; Tārā's, 139; Tripura-sundarī's, 112–14, 122–28, 136; Viṣṇu in, 138; yonis and, 137, 140, 243
- yoga, 55–56, 139, 154, 157, 200; Bhairavī and, 169; *kuṇḍalinī*, 47, 49, 115, 121, 159; Mātangi and, 221; Śiva and, 88; tantric, 57, 139, 160; Tārā and, 97
- Yogamārgapradāyini, 154
- Yogamāyā, 154
- Yogamayī, 154
- Yogānandapradāyini, 154
- Yoganiratā, 154
- yogi(s), 101, 197
- Yoginī, 154

yoginī(s) (female practitioners), 249; defined, 287

yoginīs (female beings with magical powers), 36, 56, 71, 158, 197, 204, 236; defined, 287

Yoginī-tantra, 76, 118, 248

yonī(s), 17–18, 235, 244, 247–48; Bagalā-mukhī and, 201; Bhairavī and, 172; Bhuvaneśvarī and, 141; Dhūmāvatī's, 188; Great Goddess as, 243, 248; Kālī and, 80; Kamalā and, 17; Mātangi and, 17; *pūjā*, 243, 248; Satī's, 16–17; Tripura-sundarī and, 118, 120; yantras and, 137, 140, 243

Yoni-tantra, 243

Yudhiṣṭhira, 84

Yugas, 198; defined, 287. *See also* Kṛta Yuga