During the Majapahit Period (14th to 15th centuries) Bhima representations, statues as well as reliefs, were found on mountain sanctuaries in East and Central Java. Given the number of statues there was a worship of Bhima during this period.

This study deals with the motives and the spread of the worship, its relation to other gods, its origin, and the influence of wayang on the worship. The study concentrates on the iconography of Bhima, examines Bhima in literature, narrative relief scenes and inscriptions, and studies the material and historical context of the Bhima representations.

Bhima is one of the main protagonists of the well-known Sanskrit epic Mahābhārata. The protagonists of this epic feature since the 10th century in wayang performances, literature and on reliefs on Java and Bali.

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