

UPSC



TITAN 2024

Lecture No.

02

Post Gupta_South India



By- Abhishek Srivastava



Gangas

Kadambas

Chalukyas

The Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi

Pallavas

Pandyas of Madurai

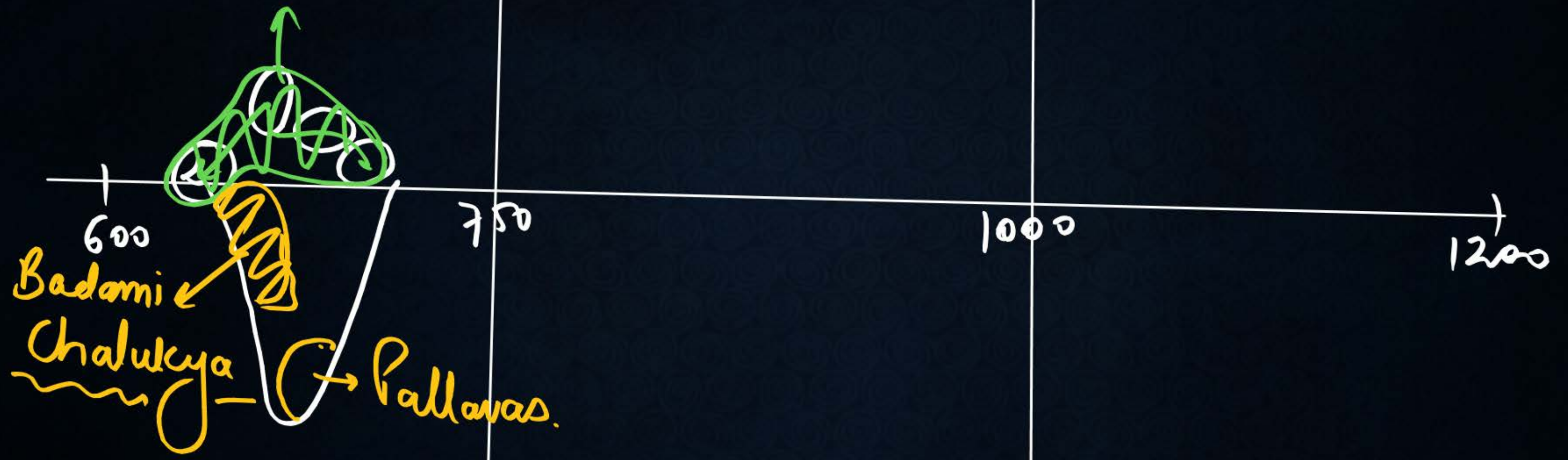
Society in this period

A

B

C

Harshavardhana.





I-Tsing/Yijing (635–713 CE)

- ❖ traveled along the sea route between China and India, especially Srivijaya in Indonesia.
- ❖ ✓ 671 CE Canton → Tamralipti
- ❖ joined Nalanda university
- ❖ translation of many Buddhist texts from Sanskrit and Pali into Chinese.
- ❖ 695 - grand welcome back by Empress Wu Zetian in China



I-Tsing observations of Nalanda Monastery

- ❖ lived for 10 years at Nalanda monastery.
- ❖ He describes that
 - Nalanda supported by revenues of 200 villages.✓✓
 - around 3000 students ✓
 - had an observatory and a great library.
 - attracted scholars from various parts of the world.



I-Tsing/Yijing (635–713 CE)

❖ best travel diaries

- *Record of Buddhism sent from the South Seas*
- *Buddhist Monk's Pilgrimage of the Tang Dynasty*

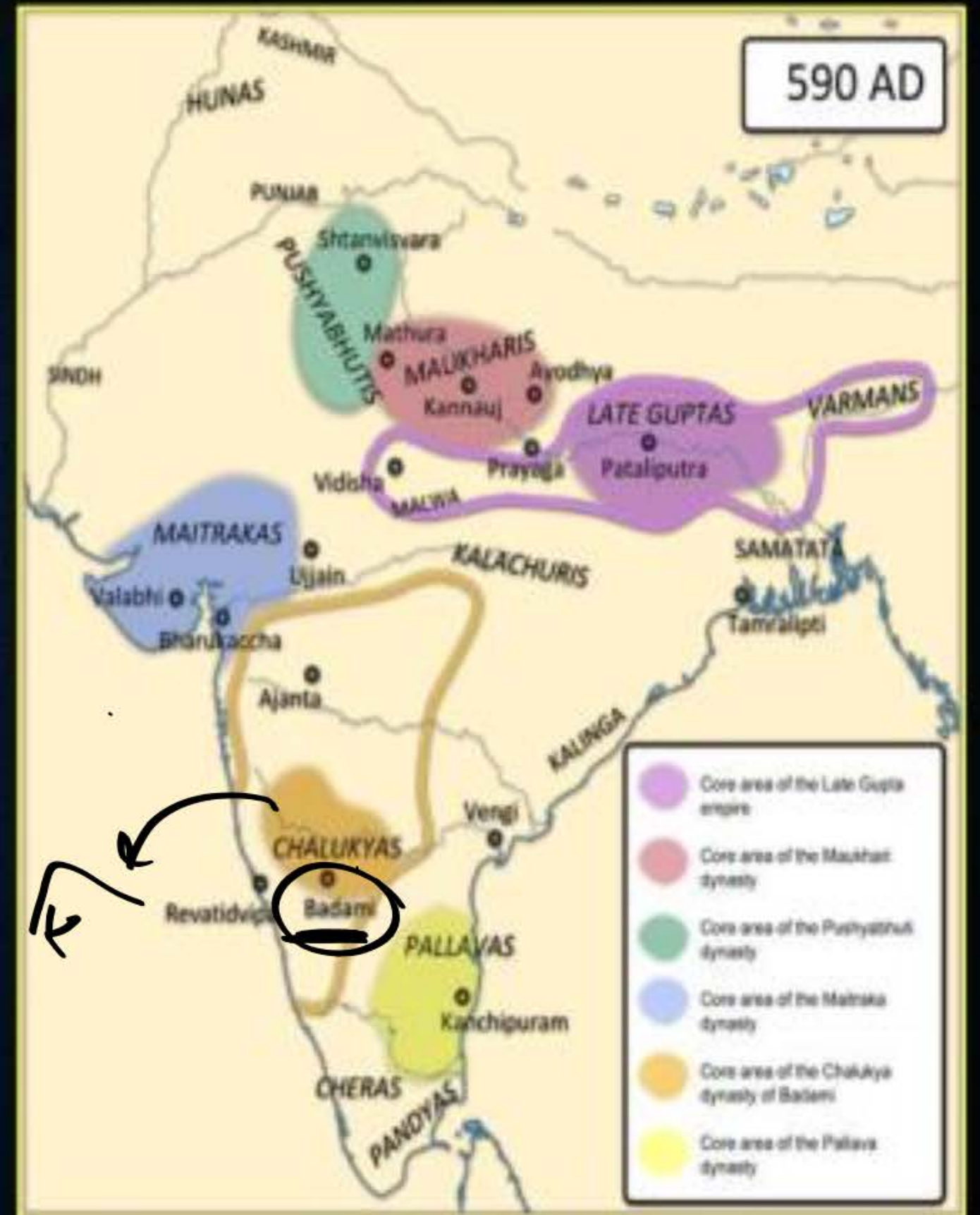
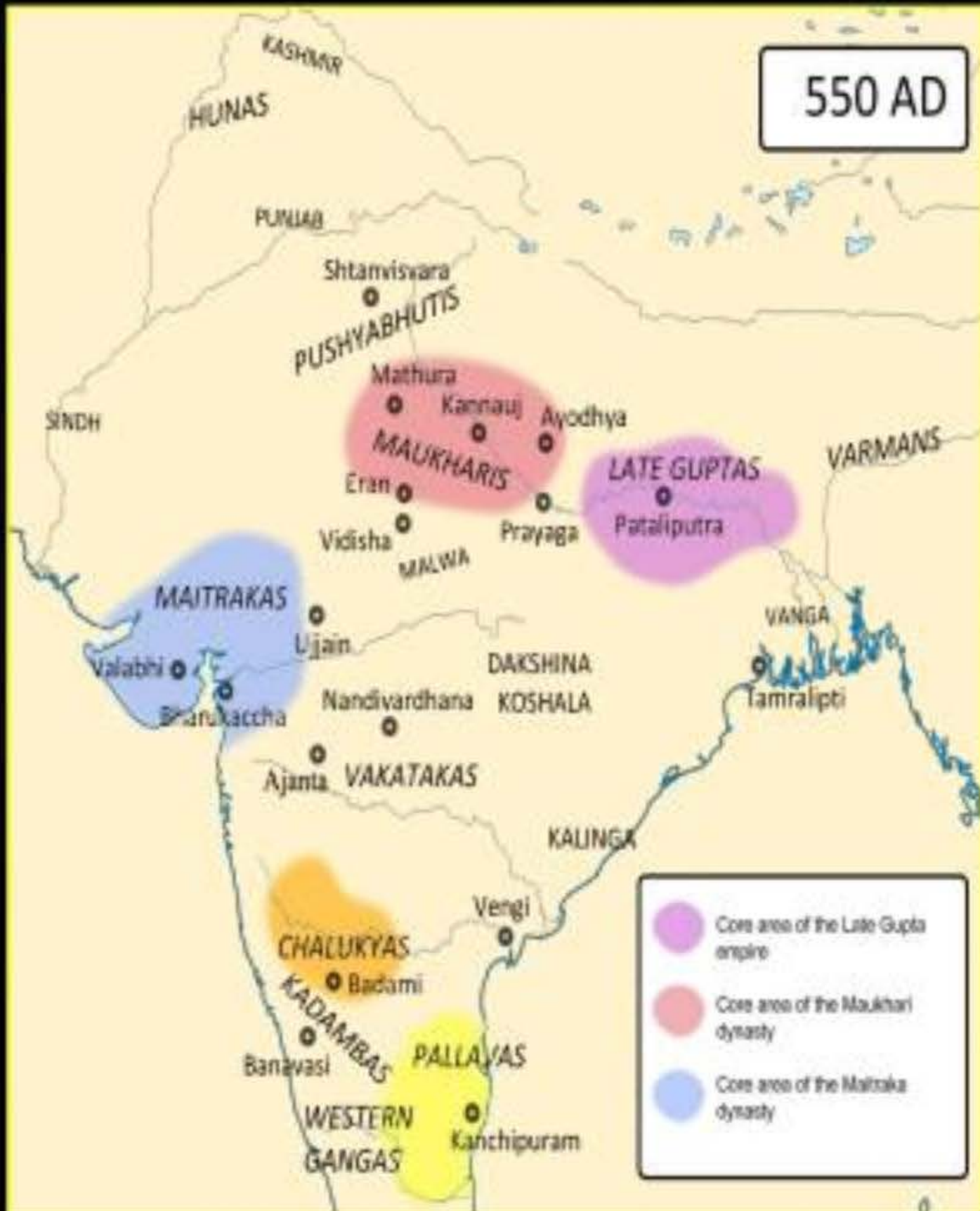
Travelogue.

Mahayana
Buddhism
↓
Madhyamika

translated more than 60 texts into Chinese,

- *Mulasarvastivada Vinaya*
- *Golden Light Sutra*
- *Diamond Sutra*
- *Sūtra of the Original Vows of the Medicine Buddha of Lapis Lazuli Radiance and the Seven Past Buddhas*
- *Avadanas*





SOUTHERN INDIA BETWEEN 300-750 CE:

- ❖ The period from c. 300-750 CE marks the **second historical phase** in the region south of the Vindhyas.
- ❖ It continued some processes from the first historical phase (c. 200 BCE-300 CE) but it also differed from in many respects

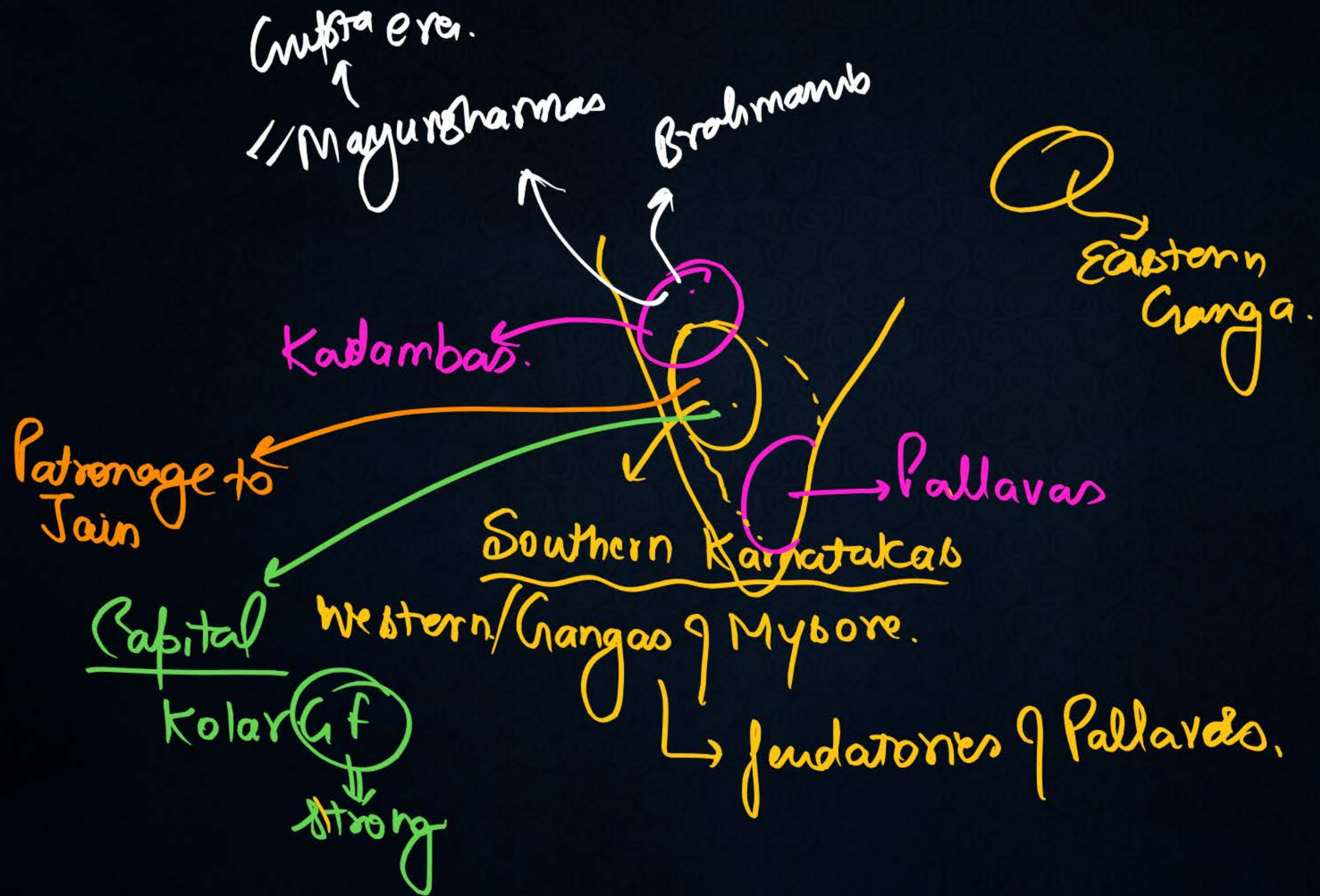
(200 BCE-300 CE)	(300 BCE-750 CE)
❖ Satavahanas, the Cholas, the Cheras and the Pandyas. ❖ Numerous crafts, internal and external trade widespread use of coins and a good number of towns. ❖ Patronage to Buddhism - Buddhist monuments in both Andhra and Maharashtra; Cave inscriptions existence of Jainism and Buddhism in southern districts of Tamil Nadu. ❖ The epigraphs were mostly written in Prakrit.	❖ Vakatakas, Pallavas of Kanchi, the Chalukyas of Badami, the Pandyas of Madurai. ❖ Trade, towns and coinage declined. Expansion of agrarian economy. ❖ More emphasis on Brahmanism; Vedic sacrifices by kings. ❖ Jainism was restricted to Karnataka. ❖ The culture of Megaliths paved way for temple construction. ❖ Sanskrit became the official language.

The Gangas:

- ❖ contemporary of Pallavas -
- ❖ ruled in **Southern Karnataka** around 4th C
- ❖ b/w **Pallavas** in east and of the **Kadambas** in west.
- ❖ called **Western Gangas** or **Gangas of Mysore**
 - **Eastern Gangas** ruled **Kalinga** from 5th c onwards. ✓
- ❖ feudatories of the Pallavas.
 - earliest capital was located at **Kolar**
 - **Gold mines** → helped the rise
- ❖ made land grants mostly to the **Jainas**.

Mysore

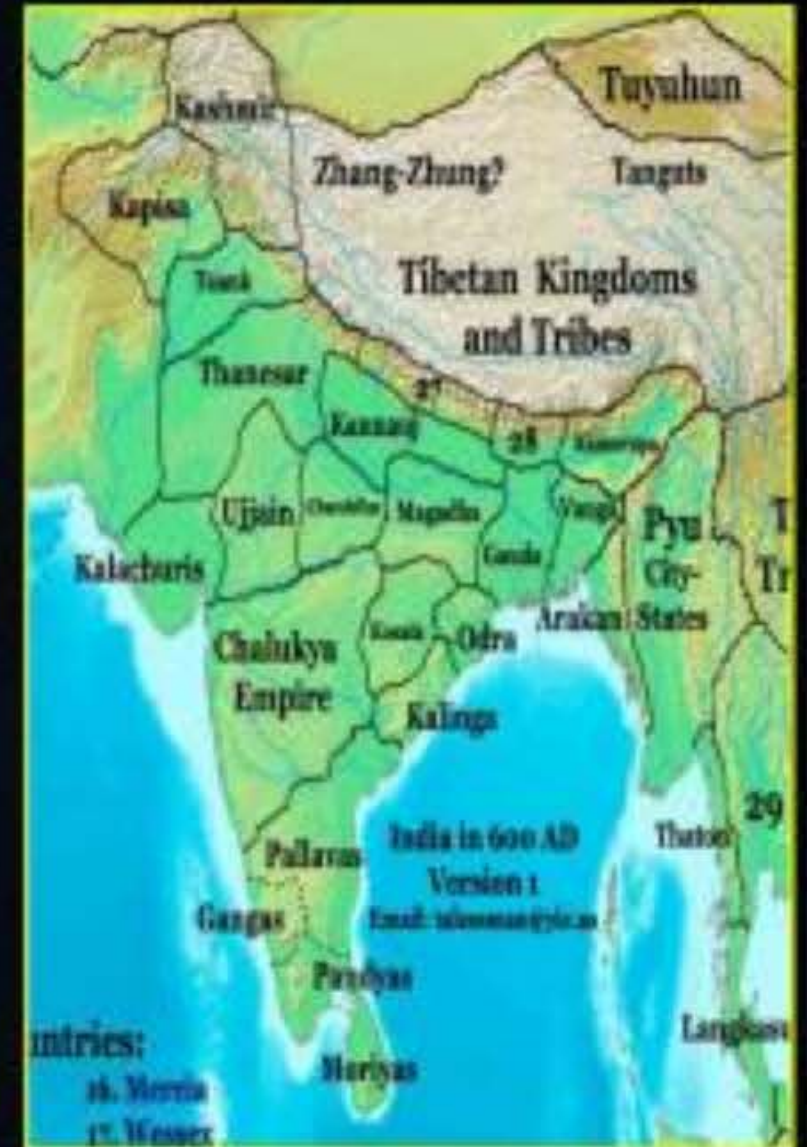




Kadambas

- ❖ ruled in **N. Karnataka** and Konkan in 4th c A.D.
- ❖ capital - Vaijayanti or Banavasi in North Kanara distt in Karnataka
- ❖ contemporaries of the Pallavas
- ❖ Founder - **Mayurasharman**
 - ✓ defeated Pallavas with the help of forest tribes and established this dynasty in 345 AD.
 - Recognising his authority, the Pallavas formally presented Mayurasharman with royal insignia.
- ❖ claimed to be Brahmans → generous support to Brahmans.
- ❖ earliest Kannada language inscriptions are attributed to the Kadambas.

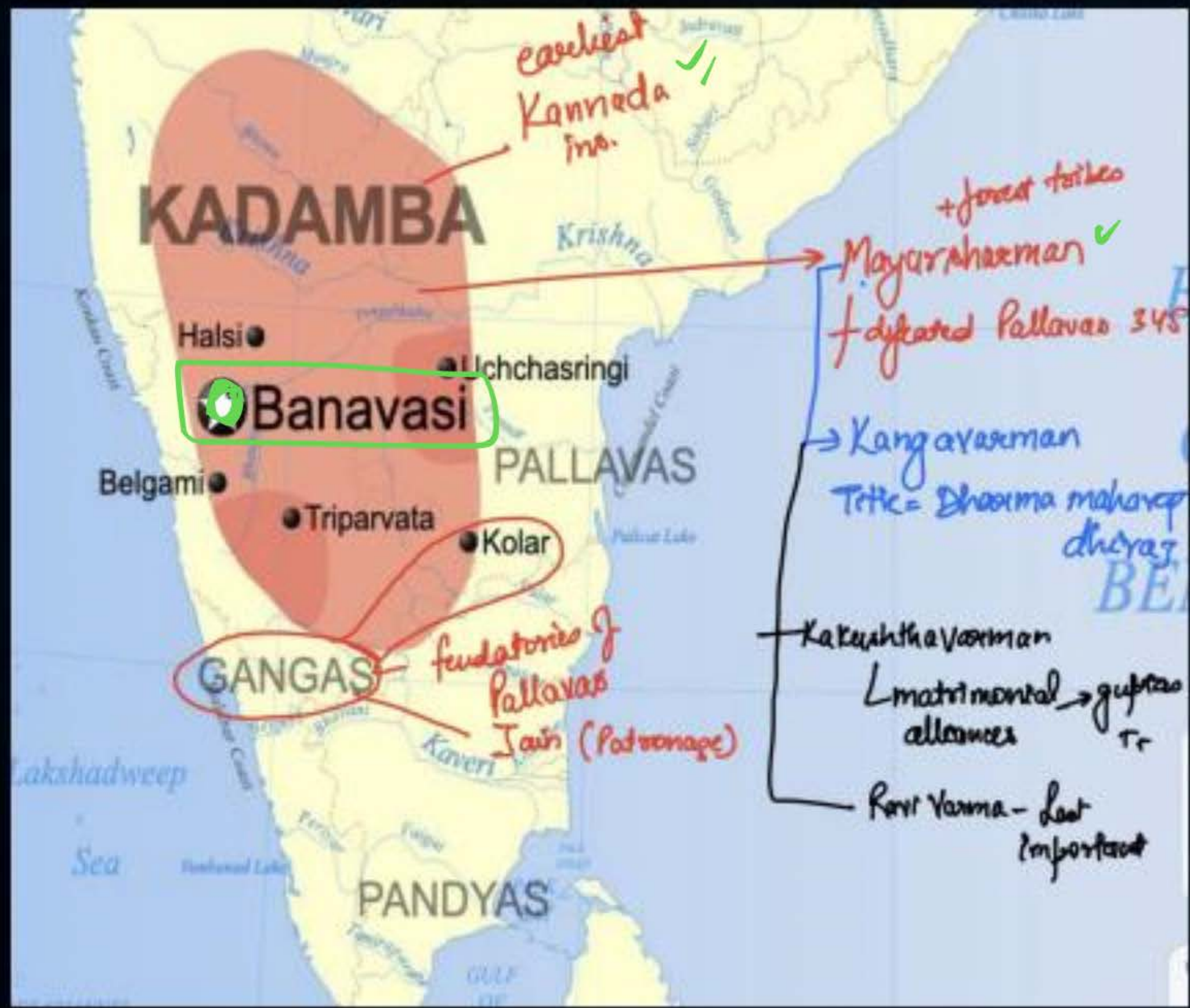
Gupta era



- ❖ Mayurasharman's son **Kangavarman** assumed the title **Dharmamaharajadhiraja** ("Lawful King of Kings"). $\rightarrow$ matrimonial $\equiv$ Gupta =
- ❖ **Kakusthavarman (r. 425–450)** was a powerful ruler involved in many marriage alliances with the Guptas and other kingly families. He was considered as a formidable Kadamba warrior.
- ❖ **Ravivarma (485–519):** last important



The Kadamba kingdom came to an end with Badami Chalukya ruler Pulakeshin II's capture of Banavasi.



Contribution	- Vesara Style: Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal - Growth of Kannada & Telugu			
Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas (Kanchi)
535				
540				
545	RajyaVardhana I	Pulkeshin I		
550		Founder capital at Vatapi (Badami).		
555		assumed titles - Satyashraya and Ranavikrama.		
560		performed Ashamedha sacrifice.		
565				
570	Aditya Vardhana			
575				
580				
585		Kirti Varman		
590				
595	Prabhakar Vardhana			
600				
605		Mangalesha		
610				
615				
620	Harsa Vardhan Sakaleuttaraparthasartha	Pulkeshin II dakshinapatheshvara court poet Ravikirti		
625	Huan Tsang Banshalotta			
630				
635			Vishnuvardhan	
640				
645				
650				
655				
660			Jayasinha	
665		Vikramaditya I pushing the Pallavas out of Badami and re-established authority.		
670				
675				
680			Vishnu Vardhan	
685				
690				
695				
700				
705				
710				
715		Vijayaditya temple building		
720				

Simhavishnu
title of 'Avarasimha' (Lion of the Earth)

Mahendravarmen I
vs Chalukyas
defeated by Pulakeshin II
cave temple at Mahabalipuram
wrote Muttavilasa Prahasana.

Narasimhavarmen I or Mamalla
defeated Pulakeshin II & occupied Vatapi (Vangikonda)

- Defeated Cholas, Cheras and Pandya
- 2 naval expeditions to Ceylon
- Founded Mamallapuram and built monolithic rock temples
- Huan Tsang visited Kanchi
- Dispatched two naval expeditions to help his friend Kanavarma, the Sri Lankan prince

Parameshvarman I
defeated the Chalukya king Vikramaditya and also the Gangas.

- Built temples at Kanchi.

Narsimhavarmen II/ Rajasimha
 - Kailashnatha Temple at Kanchi
 [Rajasimheshwara temple]
 - Shore temple at Mahabalipuram

Contribution		- Vesara Style: Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal - Growth of Kannada & Telugu		
Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
725			multiple kings in between but not relevant	- sent an ambassador to China
730				
735				
740		Vikramaditya II invasions of the territory of Tondaimandalam victories over Pallava King Nandivarman II Arab intruders of the Umayyad Caliphate invaded southern Gujarat		
745		Virupaksha temple		Nandivarman II
750		Kirtivarman II		- Again invaded and captured by Vikramaditya II
755		Replaced by Dantidurga [Rashtrakutas]		- Virukteperumal temple at Kanchi Old renovated
760				
765				
770				
775				
780				
785				
790				
795				
800				
805				
810				Dantivarman
815				- Rashtrakuta king Govind III invaded Kanchi
820				- Pandyas also invaded
825			Vijayaditya II vs Rashtrakutas & Ganga	
830				
835				
840				
845				
850				
855				
860				
865			Vijayaditya III claimed to have won over not only the Pallavas, the Pandyas, the Gangas, the Rashtrakutas, the Kalachuris and South Kosala, but also gave shelter to a Chola king	
870				
875				
880				
885				Apasajita
890				- Last known Pallava king
895				- Battle at Shripurambiyam [near Kumbakonam] (Western Gangas + Cholas = defeated the Pandyas)

Contribution		- Vesara Style: Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal - Growth of Kannada & Telugu		
Time stamp	Puhyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
900				
905				
910				
915				
920				
925				
930				
935				
940				
945				
950				
955				
960				
965				
970				
975				
980				
985				
990				
995				
1000				

BADAMI CHALUKYAS (6th-8th Century A.D.)

- ❖ **Vakatakas** in northern Maharashtra and Vidarbha (Berar) → **Chalukyas of Badami.**
- ❖ strong in Deccan and south India
- ❖ maritime power and they set up their kingdom in **western Deccan with capital at Vatapi (modern Badami in Karnataka).**

Branches of Chalukyas

- ❖ Along with the Chalukyas of Badami there were **two other branches** of the lineage who ruled independently-
 - Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi (Andhra Pradesh)
 - Western Chalukyas

The Badami Chalukyas, in order to acquire legitimacy and respectability, claimed Brahmanical origin as **Haritiputras of the Manavya gotra.**

BADAMI CHALUKYAS (6th-8th Century A.D.)

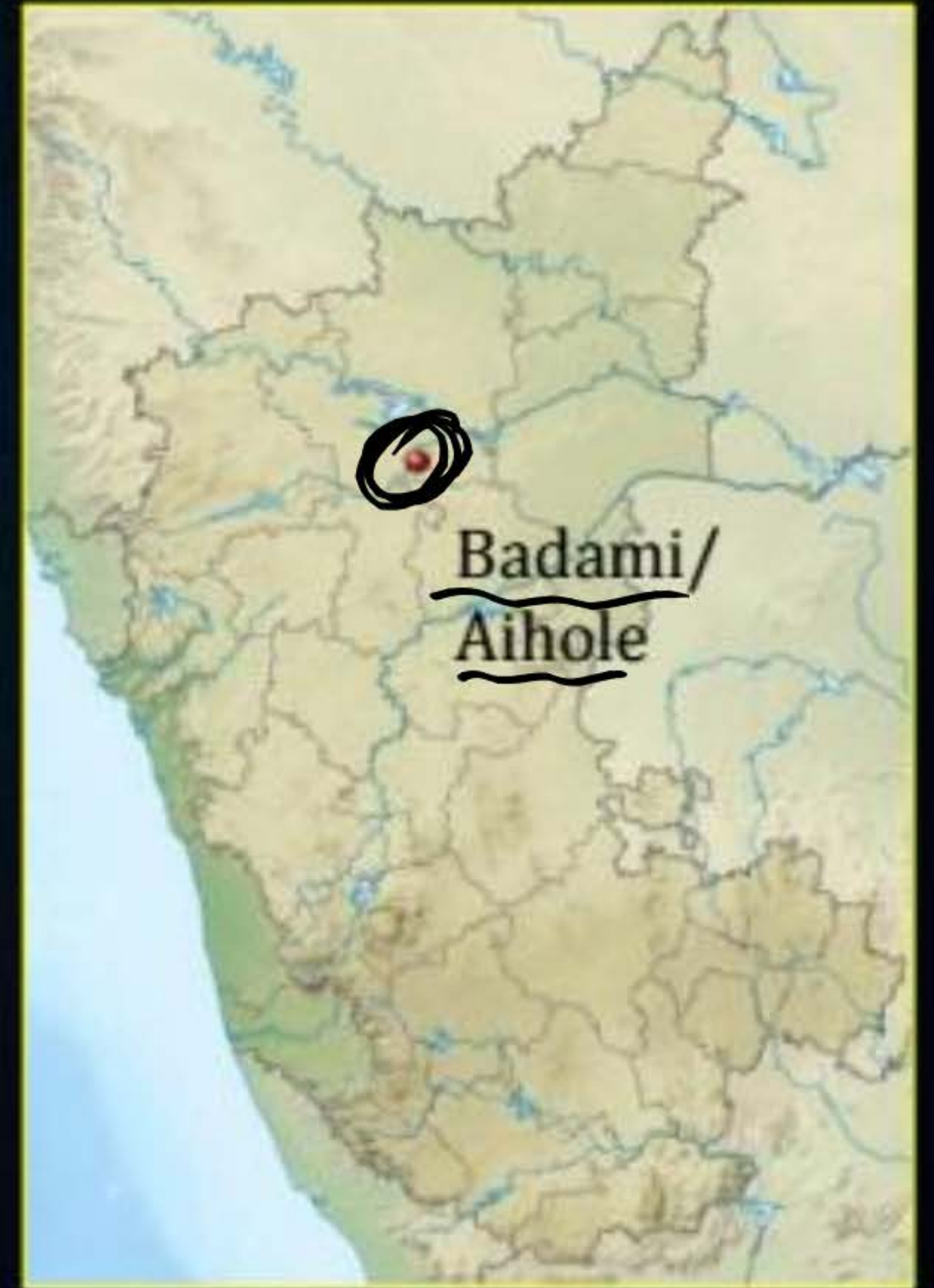
- ❖ The earliest dynasty, known as the Badami Chalukyas, ruled from their capital Badami from the middle of the sixth century.
- ❖ The **Badami Chalukyas** began to assert their independence at the **decline of the Kadamba** kingdom of Banavasi and rapidly rose to prominence during the reign of **Pulakesi II**.
- ❖ After the death of Pulakesi II, the Eastern Chalukyas became an independent kingdom in the eastern Deccan. They ruled from the capital **Vengi** until about the eleventh century.
- ❖ In the western Deccan, the rise of the Rashtrakutas in the middle of eighth century eclipsed the Chalukyas of Badami before being revived by their descendants, the Western Chalukyas in late tenth century. Those Western Chalukyas ruled from **Basavakalyan** till the end of the twelfth century.

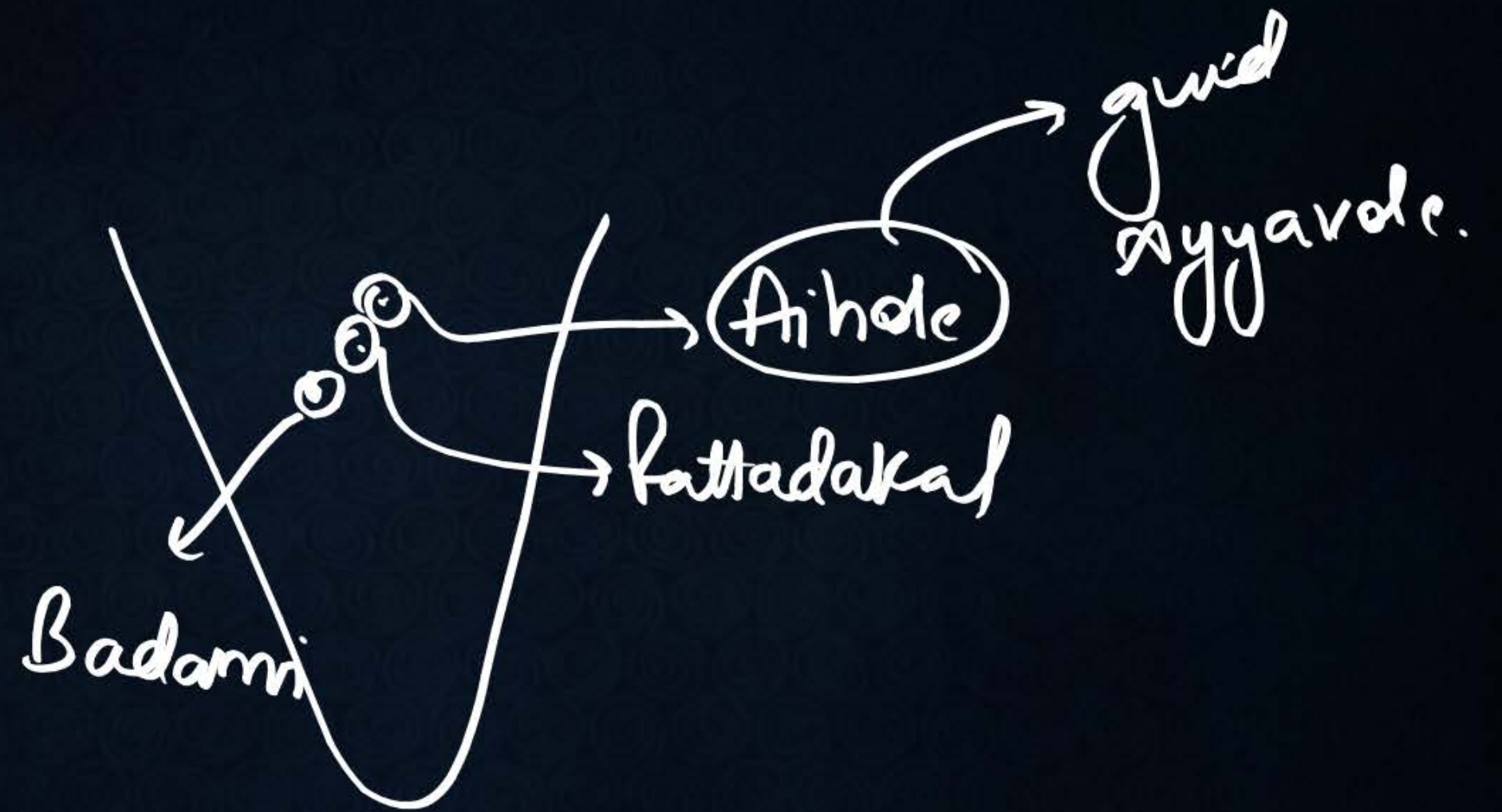
The Kadamba Empire

Under King Ravivarma - 500 AD

Before being captured from him by his family
After being captured from him by his family

Capital: Banavasi





IMPORTANT RULERS OF BADAMI CHALUKYAS (6th-8th c A.D.)



Pulkeshin I (c. 535-566 CE)

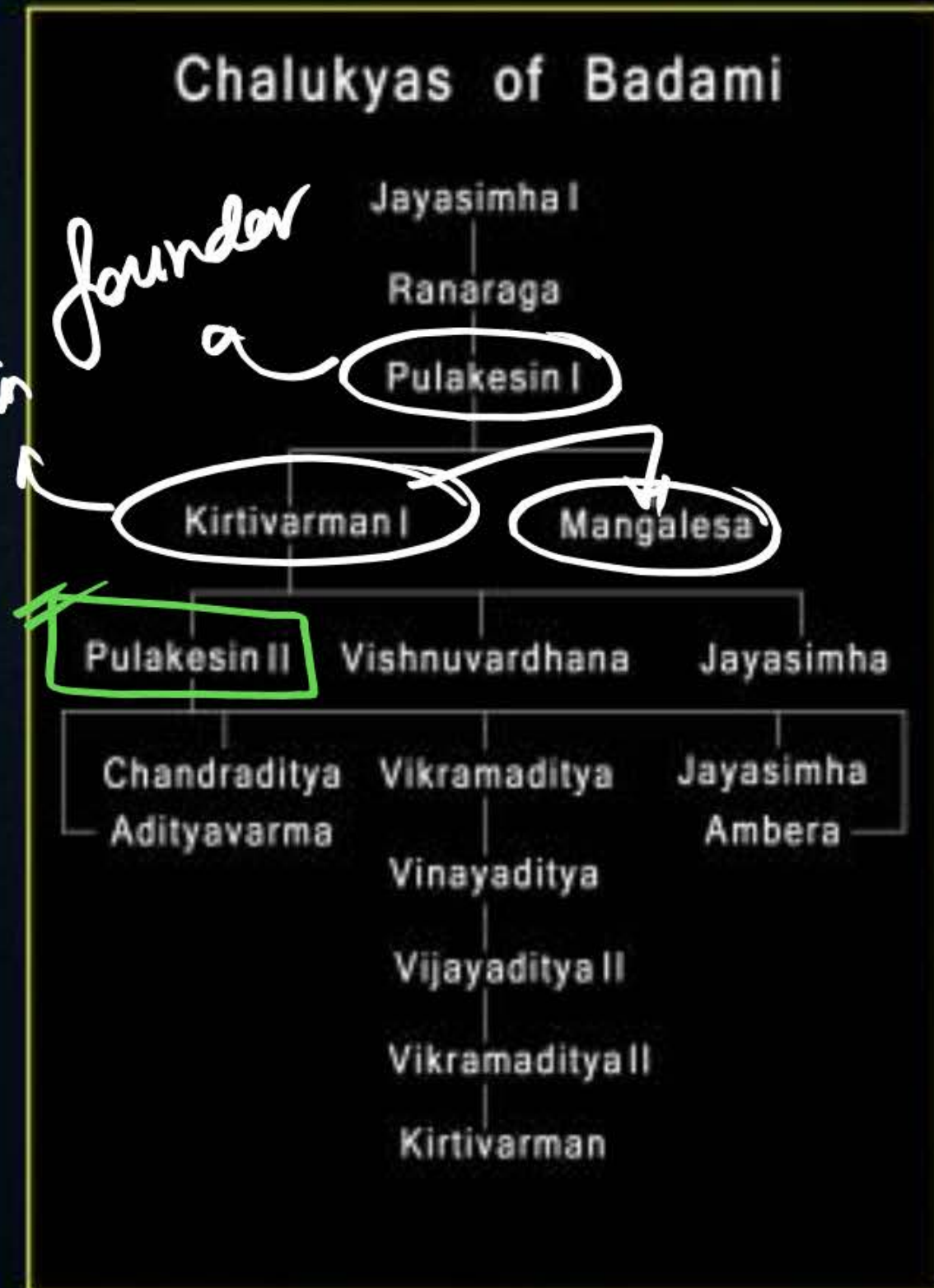
- ❖ Founder | capital at **Vatapi (Badami)**.
- ❖ assumed titles - **Satyashraya and Ranavikrama**
- ❖ performed **Ashvamedha sacrifice**.

Kirtivarman I (c. 566-598 CE)

- ❖ son of Pulakeshin.
- ❖ Expansion -
 - ❑ defeated the **Kadambas of Banavasi** (near Mysore),
 - ❑ the Mauryas of the Konkan and
 - ❑ the Nalas of the Bastar area.

expansion

expansion



IMPORTANT RULERS OF BADAMI CHALUKYAS (6th-8th c A.D.)



Mangalesha (c. 598-609 CE)

- ❖ After Kirtivarman I's death, there was a war of succession between his brother Mangalesha and nephew Pulakeshin II, in which Pulakeshin II emerged triumphant.



Old Kannada inscription of Chalukya King Mangalesha dated 578 CE at Badami cave temple no.3

Chalukyas of Badami





Pulakeshin II (c. 610-642 CE)

- ❖ He was the most powerful king of this dynasty.
- ❖ His eulogy was written by his court poet **Ravikirti** in the **Aihole inscription**.

Military Expeditions

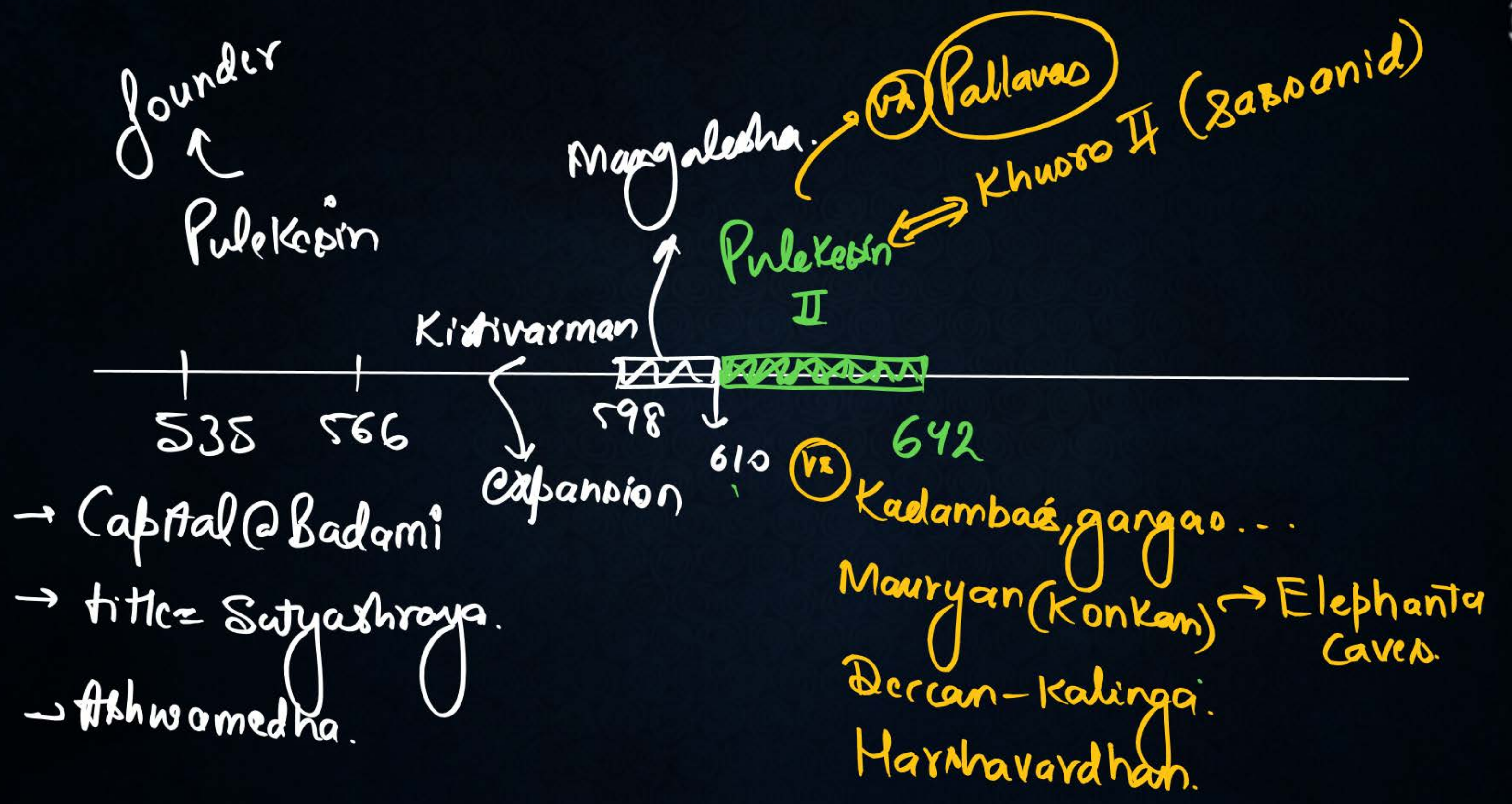
- ❖ It described his victories against the **Kadambas of Banavasi, Alupas and Gangas of Mysore**.
- ❖ He conquered **Elephanta Island from the Mauryas**, the rulers of Konkan.
- ❖ He also led expeditions against eastern Deccan kingdoms, **south Kosala and Kalinga**.



Pulakeshin II (c. 610-642 CE)

- ❖ He also defeated the 'lord of the North' (**Sakalauttarapathanatha**) **Harsha Vardhana** on the banks of river Narmada.
- ❖ He thus acquired the title of **dakshinapatheshvara** (lord of the south).





(HT) → Pulakeshin II
 Hindu → tolerant - Buddhism, Jain
 efficient administration



Diplomacy:

- ❖ Sent an embassy to **Persian king Khusro II** mentioned in the Ajanta Caves.
- ❖ Later, Persian emperor **Khusrao II** exchanged ambassadors with Pulakesi II is depicted in the Ajanta Caves)



Pulakeshin II (c. 610-642 CE)

Religious Policy:

- ❖ Hsuan Tsang visited his kingdom
- ❖ described even though Pulakeshin II was Hindu, he was tolerant towards Buddhism and Jainism.
- ❖ Pulakeshi II had divided his empire into three Maharashtrakas or great provinces comprising of 99,000 villages each.
- ❖ possibly covered Karnataka, Maharashtra and coastal Konkan.
- ❖ impressed with the governance of the empire observed that the benefits of king's efficient administration extended far and wide.

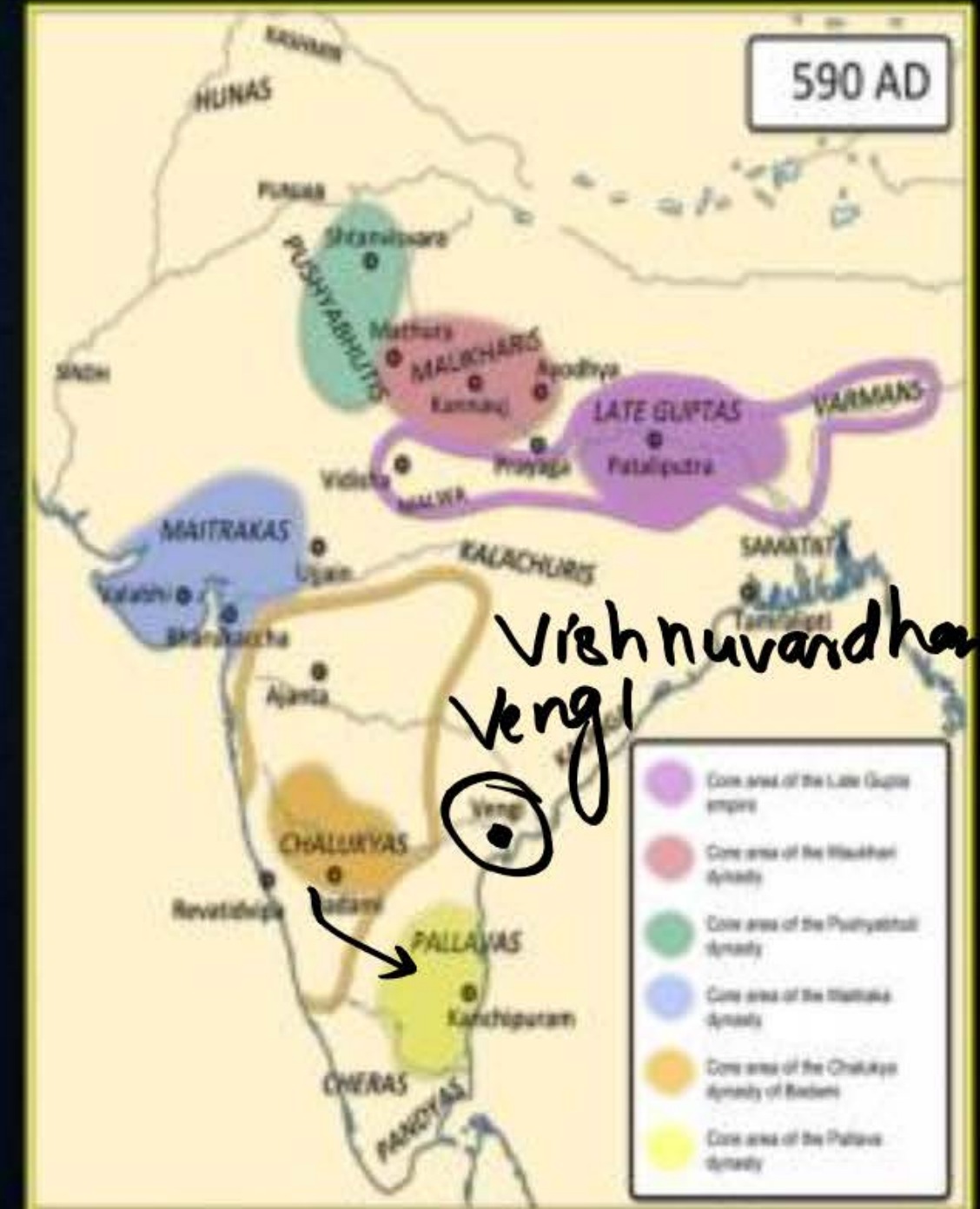


Conflict with Pallavas:

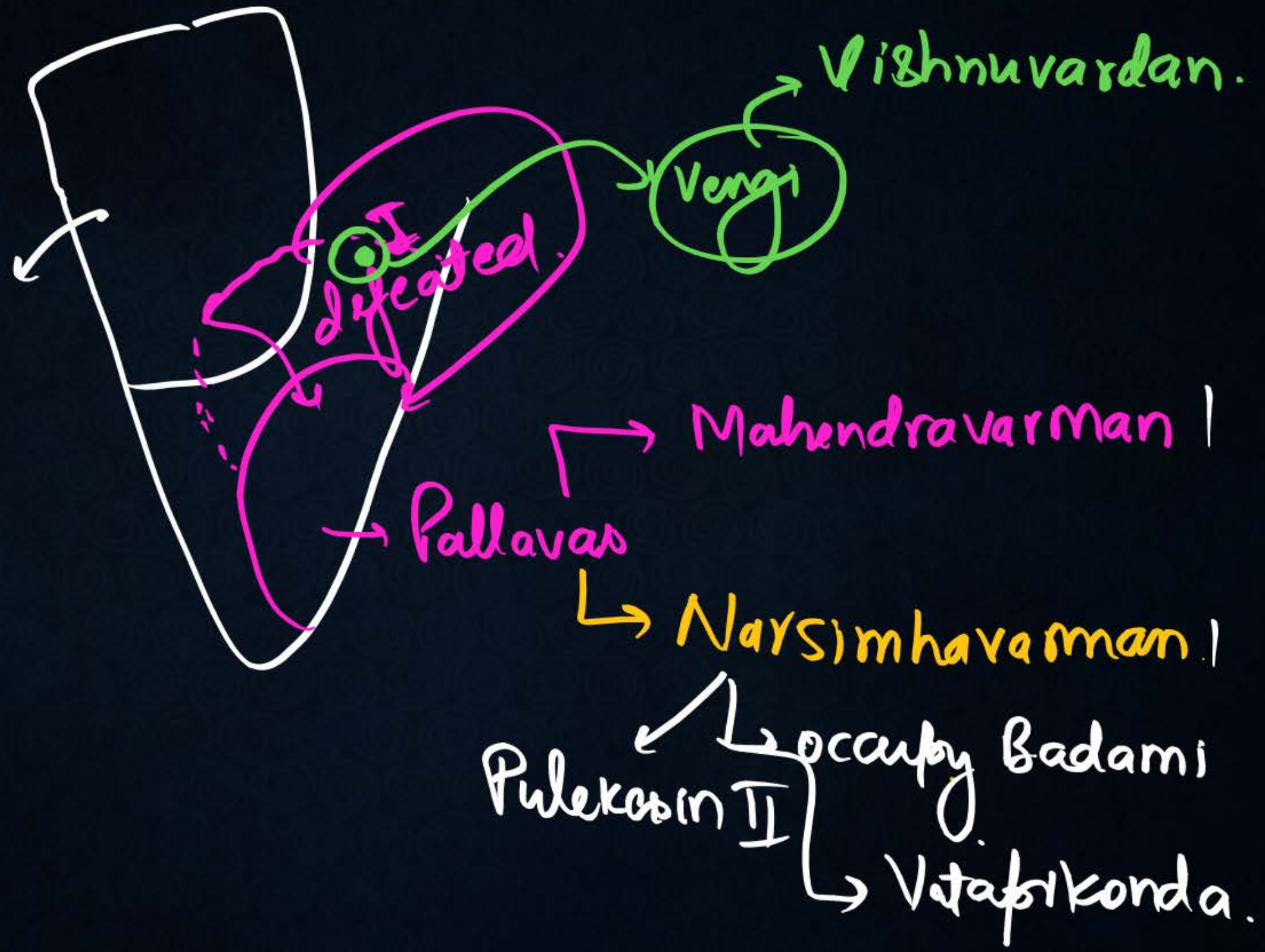
- ❖ He had conflicts with the Pallavas of Kanchi.

~~Expedition I~~

- ❖ He annexed the region between Krishna and Godavari popularly known as Vengi from the Pallavas and placed it under his brother Vishnuvardhana.
 - **Vishnuvardhana** later established Eastern Chalukyas branch or Chalukyas of Vengi.
- ❖ first expedition against the Pallavas was a complete success.
 - **Mahendravarman I was the Pallava ruler.**



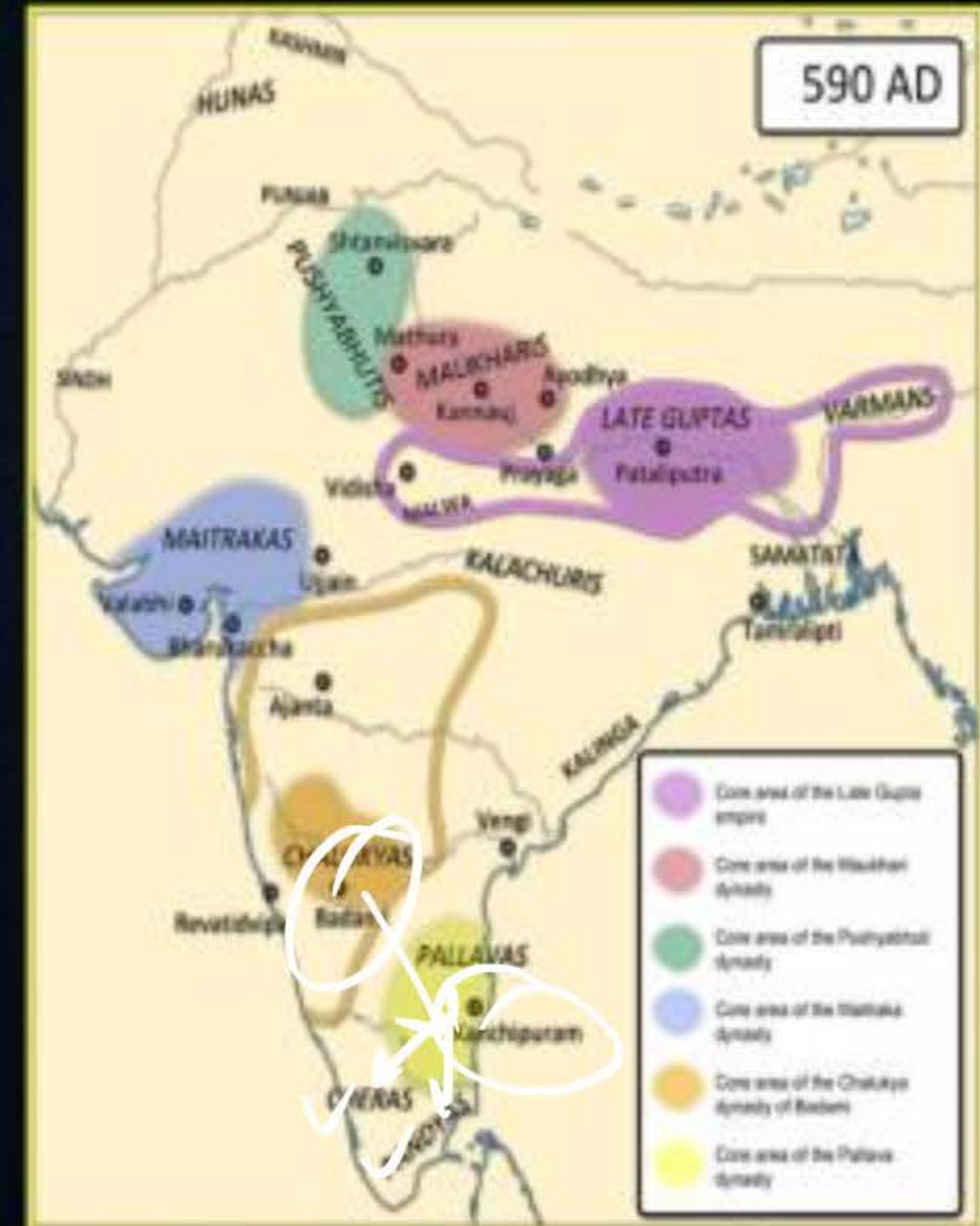
Pulakeshin
II
600-650
CE



Conflict with Pallavas:

Expedition II

- ❖ proved to be a complete failure as King **Narsimhavarman I** of the Pallava dynasty killed Pulkeshin II and adopted the epithet of **Vatapikonda**.
- ❖ Badami was occupied by the Pallavas for a period of 13 years.
- ❖ It marked the beginning of a long-drawn political struggle between the Pallavas and Chalukyas, that continued with ups and down for more than a hundred years.



Vikramaditya I (c. 655-680 CE)

- ❖ He succeeded in pushing the Pallavas out of Badami and re-established authority.
- ❖ defeated successive Pallava rulers + captured their capital Kanchi.
- ❖ took the title 'Rajamalla' ('the Sovereign of the Mallas' or Pallavas).
- ❖ also defeated the Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas.



Vijayaditya (c.696-733 CE)

- ❖ Prosperous 37 years
- ❖ widely known for his prolific temple building activity

B zone

Vikramaditya II (c. 733-746 CE)

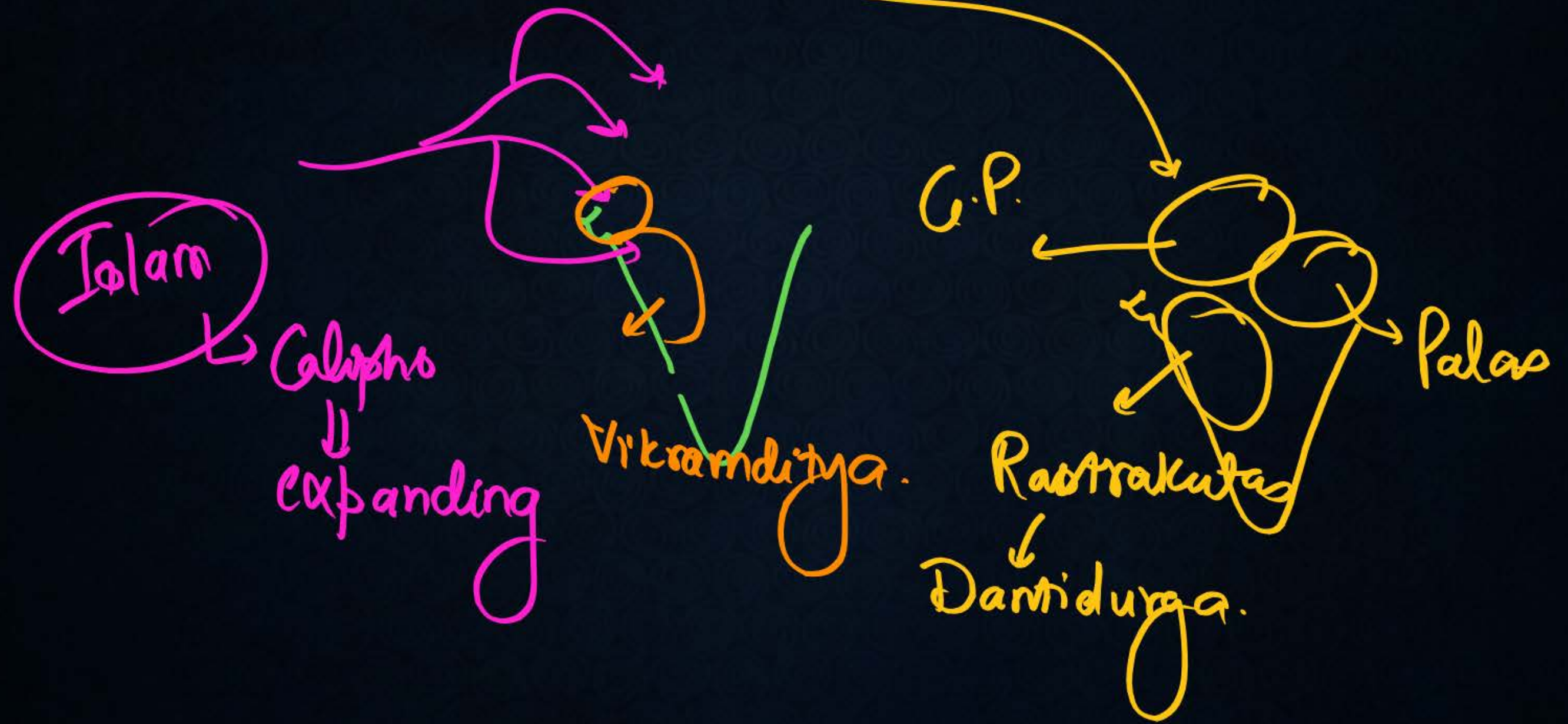
- ❖ The Vatapi dynasty was at its peak again during his rule.
- ❖ He was best known for his repeated invasions of the territory of Tondaimandalam and his subsequent victories over Pallava King Nandivarman II.

Virupaksha Temple

Kailash Nath Temple



⑧
700-1000



- ❖ He thus avenged the earlier humiliation of the Chalukyas by the Pallavas and in order to commensurate his victory got engraved a Kannada inscription on the victory pillar of the Kailasanath Temple. ✓
- ❖ He is also known for benevolence towards the people and the monuments of Kanchipuram, the Pallava capital
- ❖ During his reign, Arab intruders of the Umayyad Caliphate invaded southern Gujarat, which was under Chalukya rule, but the Arabs were defeated and driven out by Pulakesi, a Chalukya governor of Navsari. ✓
- ❖ He later also overran the other traditional kingdoms of Tamil country, the Pandyas, the Cholas and the Cheras, in addition to subduing a Kalabhra ruler. ✓

Kirtivarman II (c. 746-753 CE)

- ❖ He was the last ruler.
- ❖ He was replaced by Dantidurga and established Rashtrakuta dynasty. (B)
- ❖ Thus, Badami Chalukyas rule came to an end in 753 CE by one of their feudatories Rashtrakutas.

Contribution	Time range	Puysyabhatti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
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625		Sakabhaktavatsal			
630		Harsa Vardhan			
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700					
705					
710					
715					
720					

Kabamash

Kalotam Chalukyan
@ Basavakalyan/Kalyani

Pulekarni

Kirtivarman

Vishnu
Vengi

Narsimharvarman.

Vikram

Roofed

Vijayaditya
temple building

cleaned
Brahmanical
origin
+
Hathiyana of Mangala gita

Kadamba
Mangala of Kulkarni
Nolan of Bantor

annexed region between
Kishore - Gauda

defeated

installed @
Vengi

but
Kishore, Badami
occupied by
Kulkarni
for 12 years

Perjan King Khupet
embassy
(Agave cone)

captured Kandi
Badami capital
title - "Rajmalla"

defeated Cholas
Gauda, Pandya

pushing the Pallavas out
of Badami and re-established authority

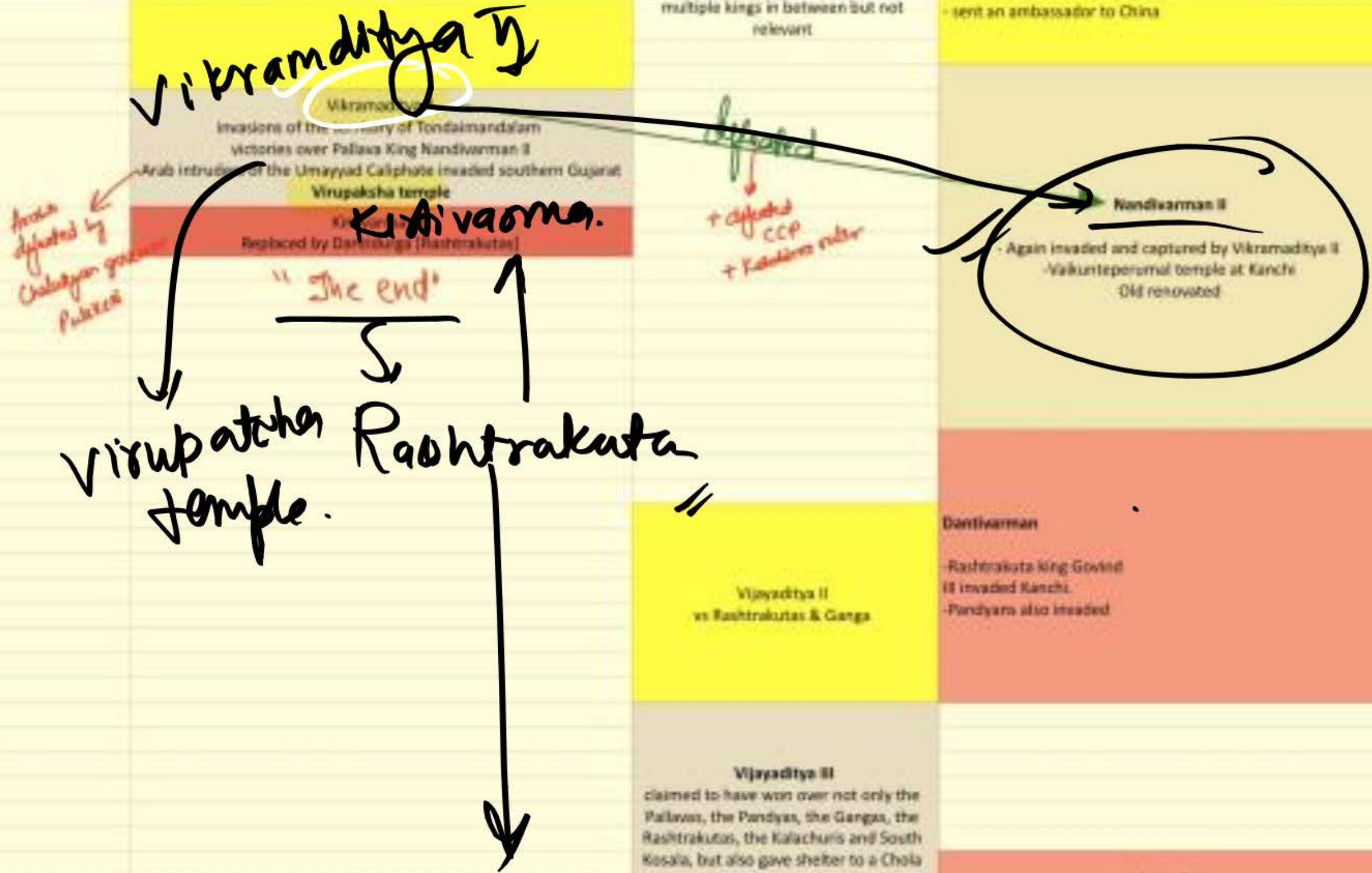
Mahendravarmam I
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defeated by Pulakeshin II
cave temple at Mahabalipuram
wrote Mattavilasa Prahasana

Narasimhavarmam I at Marava
defeated Pulakeshin II + occupied Vatapi (Vatapikonda)
• Defeated Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas
• 2 naval expeditions to Ceylon
• Founded Morellepore and built monolithic rock temples
• Harsa Tung visited Kanchi
• Dispatched two naval expeditions to help his friend
Manavarmam, the Sri Lankan prince

Parameshvaranun I
defeated the Chalukya king Vikramaditya and also the Gangas.
• Built temples at Kanchi.

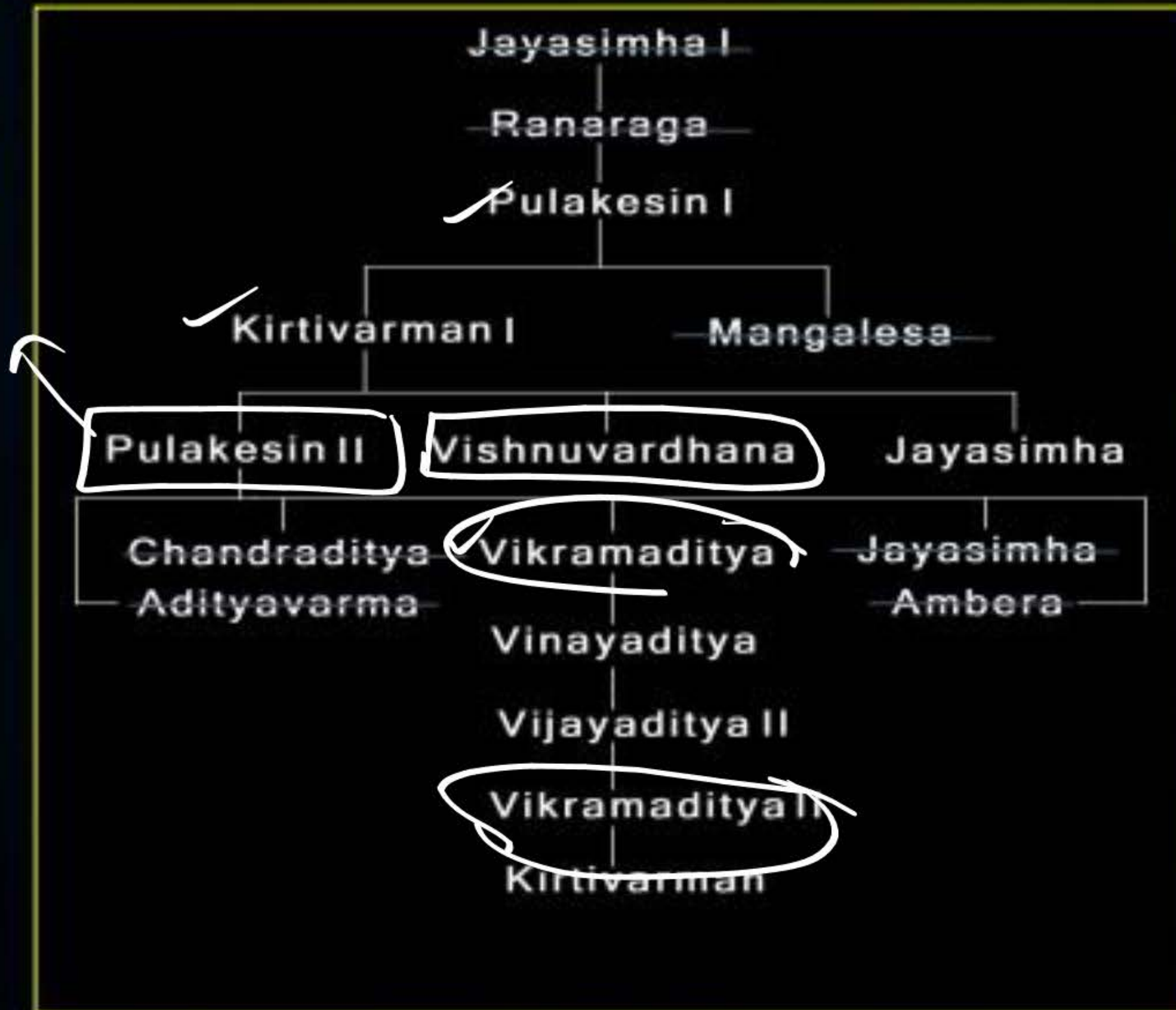
Narasimhavarmam II/ Rajasimha
• Kalasimatha Temple at Kanchi
[Rajasimheshwara temple]
• Shore temple at Mahabalipuram

Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
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730				
735				
740		Vikramaditya I invasions of the territory of Tondaimandalam victories over Pallava King Nandivarman II		
745		Arab intrusion of the Umayyad Caliphate invaded southern Gujarat Virupaksha temple		
750		Kirti Varman Replaced by Rashtrakutas [Rashtrakutas]	defeated + defeated CCP + Kalachuris ruler	Nandivarman II Again invaded and captured by Vikramaditya II Valkunteperumal temple at Kanchi Old renovated
755				
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865				
870				
875				
880				
885				
890				
895				



Abhishek_pwupswallah.

Chalukyas of Badami



- ❖ Kannada (9th Century)
 - Jain Purana
 - Veerashaiva Vachanas
- ❖ Telugu (Eastern Chalukyas)
- ❖ Rock and Caves
- ❖ Vesara temples
 - ❖ Later Rashtrakutas & Hoysalas
- + Some painting in Ajanta

The historical significance of Chalukya dynasty:

- golden age in the history of Karnataka.
- The political atmosphere in South India shifted from smaller kingdoms to large empires
- South Indian kingdom took control and consolidated the entire region between the **Kaveri and the Narmada rivers**.



The rise of that empire also saw the

- ❖ birth of efficient administration, ✓
- ❖ rise in overseas trade and commerce ✓
- ❖ development of new style of architecture called Vesara. ✓

□ Their style of architecture → '**Chalukyan architecture**'. They developed **Deccan or Vesara style** of temple-building, which reached its culmination under the Rashtrakutas and Hoyasalas (13th century).

- built monuments like rock-cut caves and structural temples in the **Malaprabha river basin**

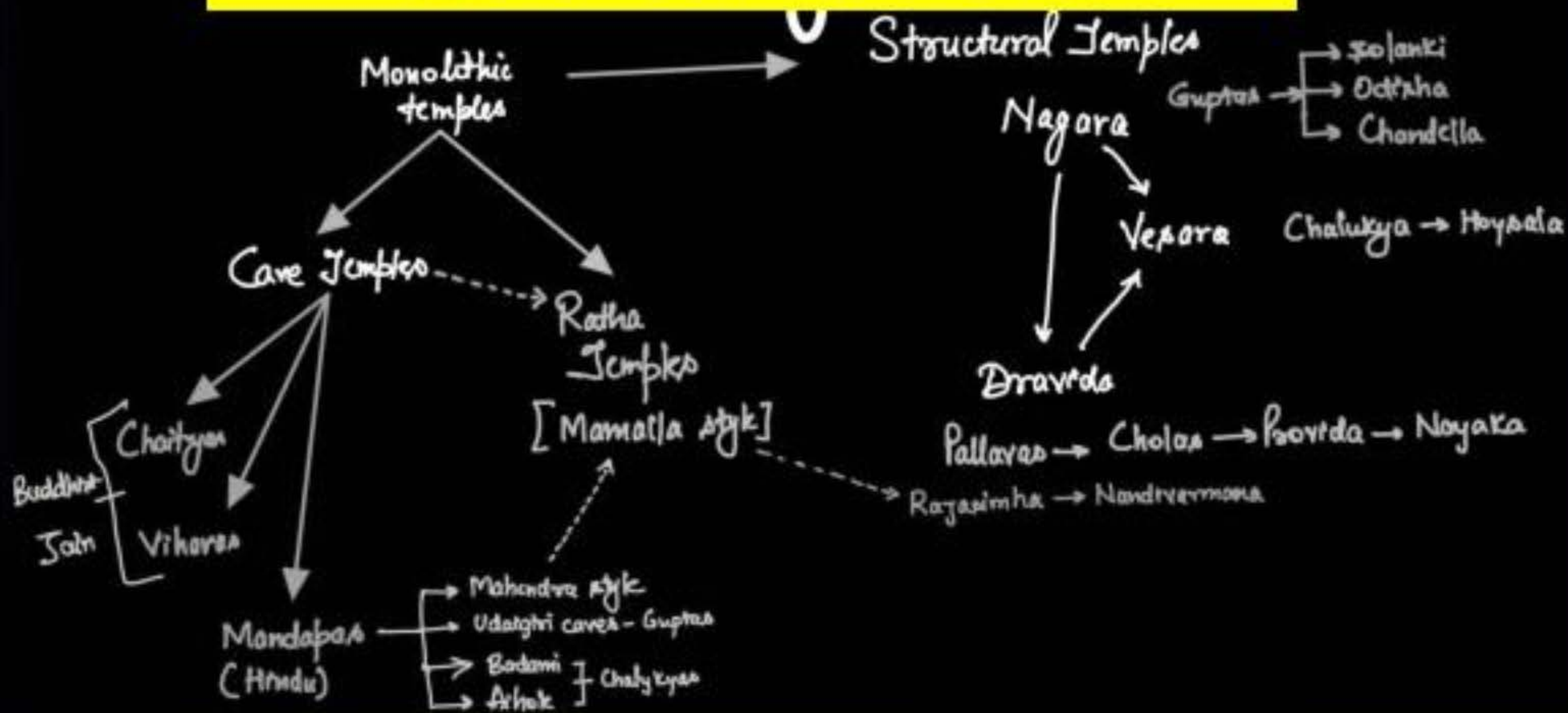
- ❖ 9th century, – **growth of Kannada** as a language of literature – **Jaina Puranas, Veerashaiva Vachanas and Brahmanical traditions**
- ❖ 11th century saw the **birth of Telugu literature** under the patronage of the Eastern Chalukyas.
- ❖ Many paintings and sculpture of the Ajanta and Ellora caves were completed during the Chalukyan reign.

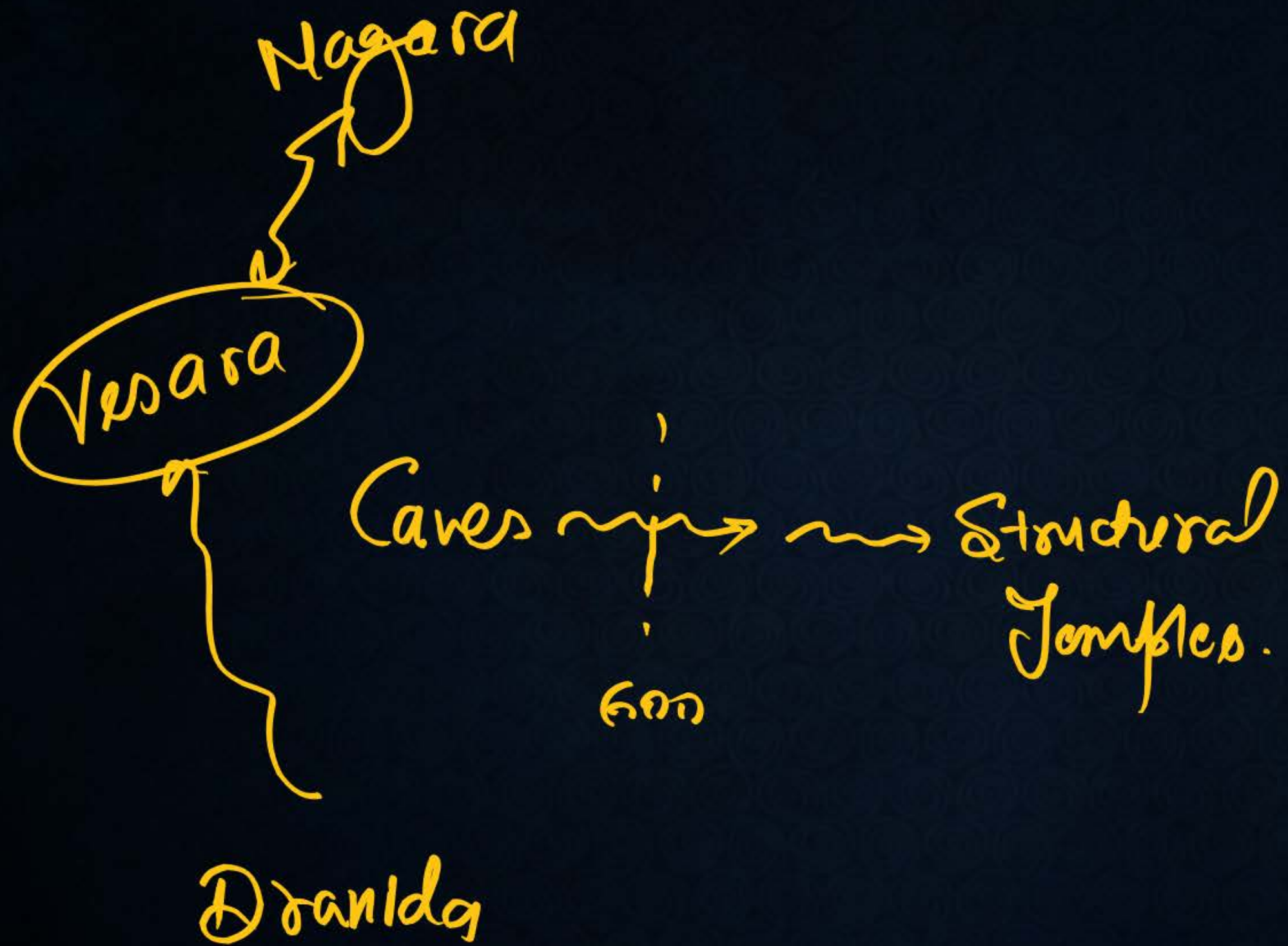


- ❖ **Veerashaiva religion**, as professed and practised in Karnataka during the past several centuries forms a significant chapter in the history of Indian culture and finds its sublime significance and importance in the Vachanashastra.
- ❖ No doubt it has absorbed several elements from the Trika, the Shaiva Siddhanta and other Indian schools of thought, but the assimilation of all these elements into an entity that is Veerashaivism is in itself an original achievement.
- ❖ The Astavaranas, the Satsthala, the wearing and worshipping of Linga, the various Veerashaiva rites – all those mark Veerashaivism as an independent religion.



Temple architecture in India (Vertical classification)





Architecture during Chalukya period

- The temple architecture, both cave and structural, was perfected
- new style of architecture known as Vesara,
South Indian + North Indian building styles.
- building material - reddish- golden Sandstone found locally.
- concentrated small area
 - Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal and Mahakuta in modern Karnataka state.

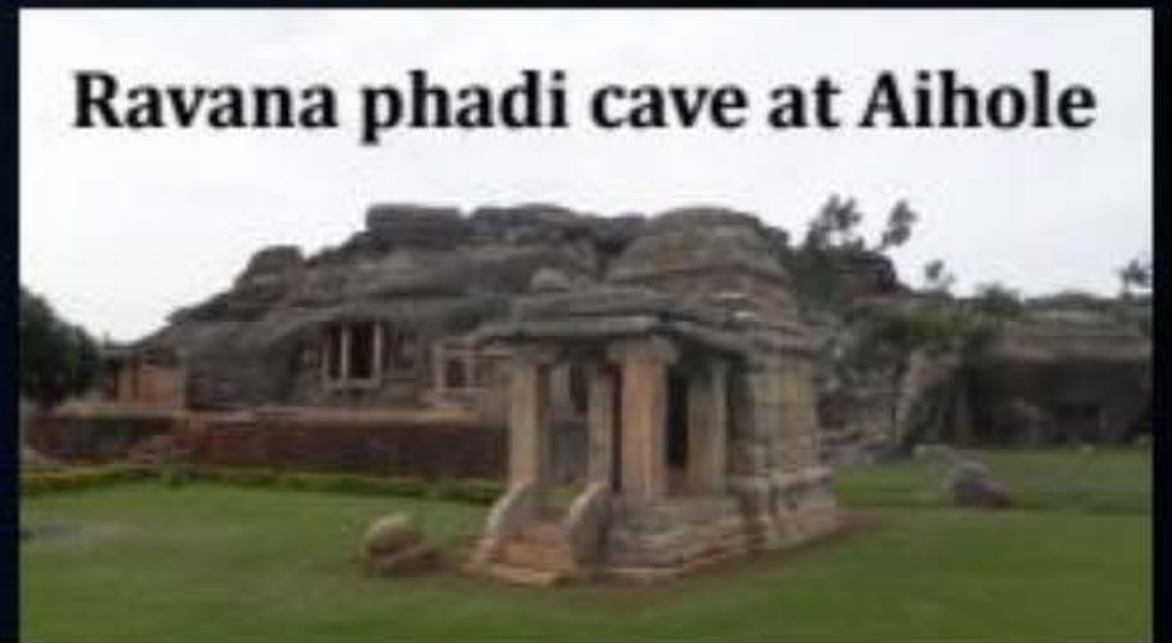


Early phase (the last quarter of 6th century)

- ❖ In this phase, **prominently cave temples were built**, such as the three elementary cave temples at Aihole
 - a. one **Vedic**
 - b. one **Jaina** and
 - c. one **Buddhist** which is incomplete



Ravana phadi cave at Aihole



Aihole Cave Temples:

- ❖ **Ravanaphadi cave,**
 - consists of a central hall,
 - two side shrine sections,
 - garbhagriha with a linga at the back.
 - sculptures on the walls + ceiling
 - **Shiva as Nataraja** ✓
 - **Sapta-Matrikas.** ✓
- ❖ figures are more slender and have tall crowns.
- ❖ Outside the entrance - **dwarfs** ✓ and **doorkeepers** ✓ wearing **Scythian-type attire.**



Badami Cave Temples:

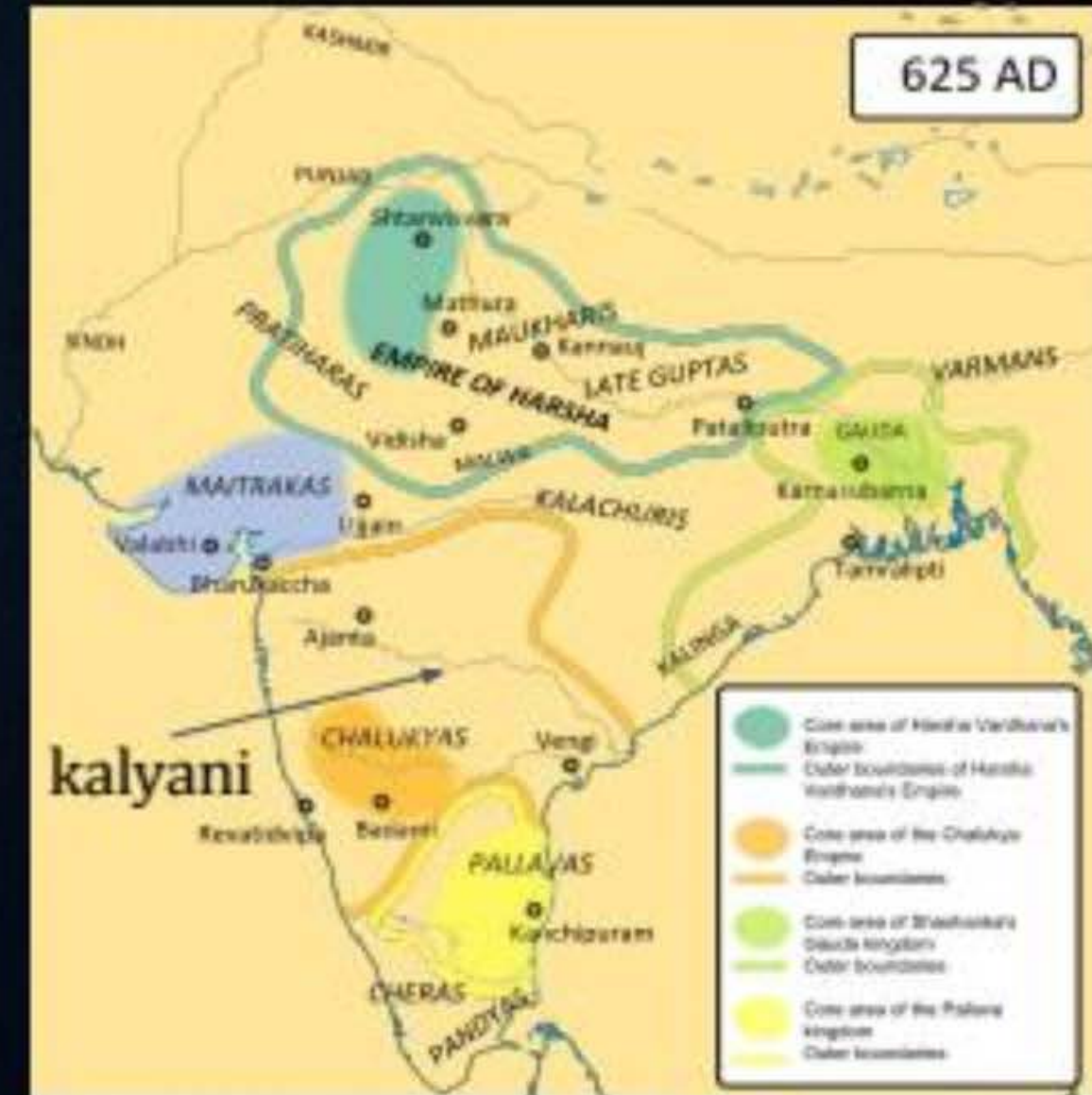
Four cave temples with marvelous sculptures were built at Badami.

Cave I belongs to Shaivism
cave II & III belong to Vaishnavism
cave IV belongs to Jainism.

Lord Vishnu in his various incarnations

Lord Shiva in different forms have been beautifully sculpted.

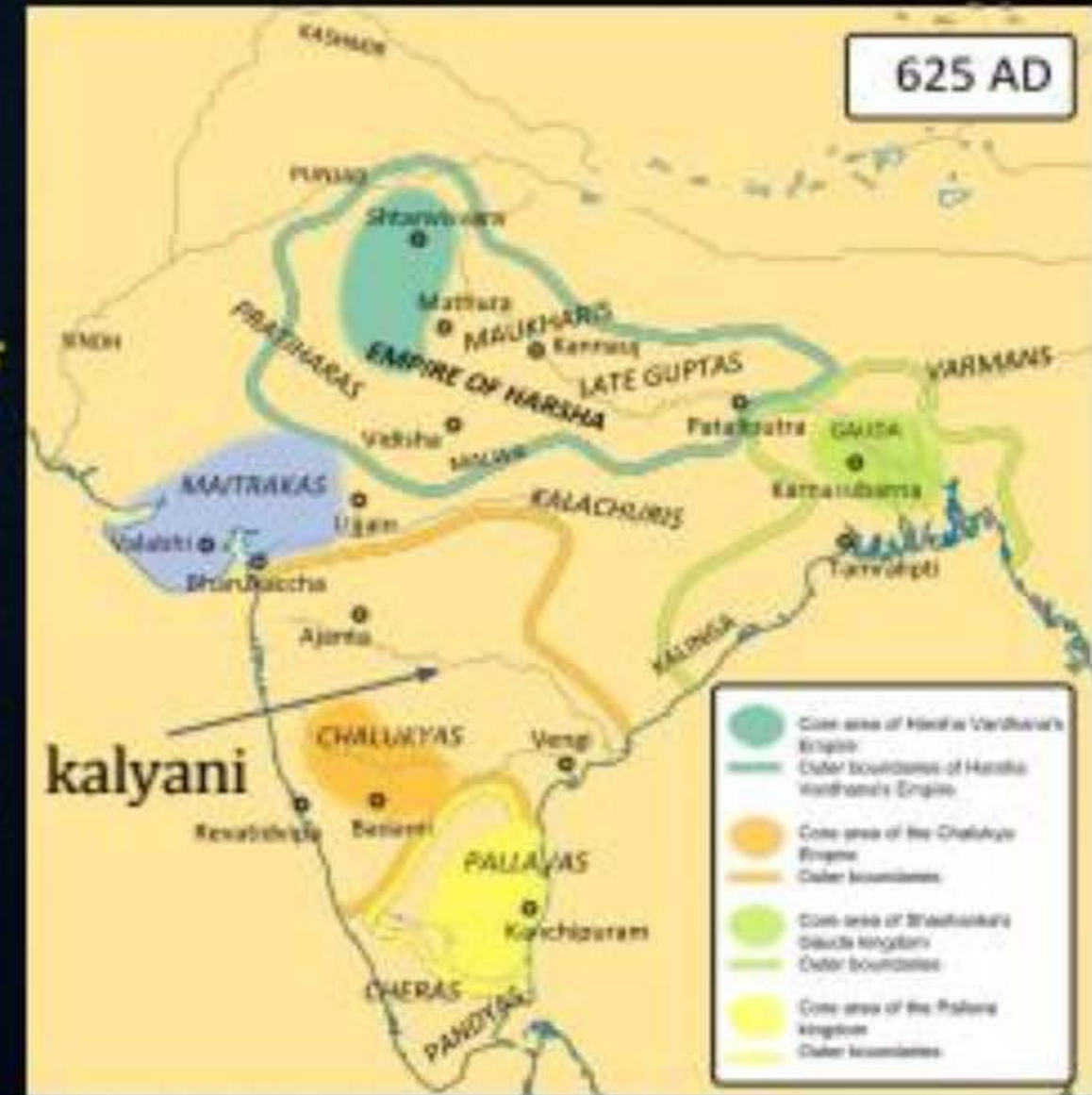
Jain cave temple has the statues of Tirthankaras and naked Gomateswara.



Badami Cave Temples:

- plain exterior
- exceptionally well finished interior
- pillared verandah,
- a columned hall (mantapa)
- a cell (shrine, cut deep into rock) with deity of worship

Vedic temples - Harihara, Mahishasuramardhini, Varaha, Narasimha, Trivikrama, Vishnu seated on Anantha (the snake) and Nataraja (dancing Shiva)



Badami cave



Cave 1, Badami,
Nataraja Sculpture



Cave 3, Badami, Trivikrama,
Vamana Avatar of Vishnu



Cave 4, Badami,
Jaina Sculpture

Badami cave



Phase II of temple building activity:

- ❖ This phase of temple building was at Aihole and Badami.
- ❖ Aihole = 'one of the cradles of Indian temple architecture', where some 70 structures exist.

Aihole:

- ❖ Some important temples are:
- ◆ **Lad Khan Temple**
 - a. with its interesting perforated stone windows and sculptures of river goddesses,
- ◆ **Meguti Jain Temple**
 - a. which shows progress in structural design,



Ladh Khan Temple, Aihole

Perforated

Phase II of temple building activity:

◆ Durga Temple

- a. with its northern Indian style tower.

Other Dravida style temples from this period are the Naganatha Temple at Nagaral, the **Banantigudi Temple and the Mahakutesvara Temple**.

consensus – beginnings of these constructions are from c. 600.

The Vesara style influenced the Eastern Chalukyas (Vengi) but **Kalyani (W) Chalukyas further refined the Vesara style with an inclination towards Dravidian concepts, especially in the sculptures**. They built fine monuments in the Tungabhadra - Krishna river doab in present day Karnataka.



Durga Temple, Aihole

→ Caves.
Apsoidal



Meguti hill enclosing the Jain temple,

I

The Mature phase

Pattadakal

- ❖ structural temples at **Pattadakal**.
- ❖ built in the 8th century **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- ❖ **There are ten temples at Pattadakal**
 - a. six in southern Dravida style and ✓
 - b. four in the northern Nagara style. ✓
- ◆ **Important ones:**
 - a. Sangamesvara Temple,
 - b. Virupaksha Temple
 - c. Mallikarjuna Temple



Rock-cut temples of
Pattadakal

The Mature phase

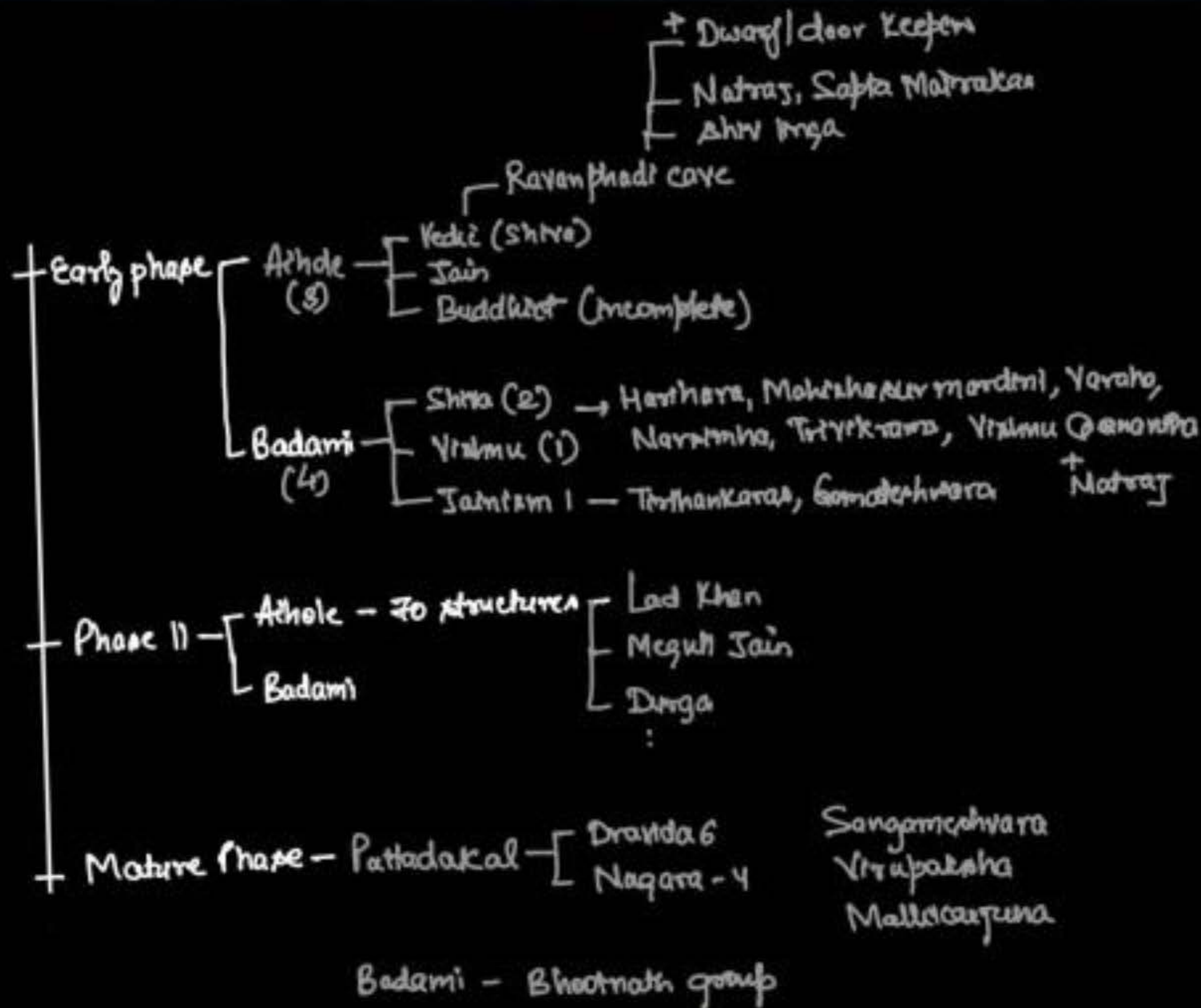
Badami

- ❖ The Bhutanatha group of temples at Badami are also from this period.





Sangameshwara temple, Pattadakal



Vikramaditya II commissioned the majestic temples at Pattadakal.

◆ **Dravidian style**

- Virupaksha and Mallikarjuna, Sangameswara and a Jain temple

◆ **Nagara style**

- Jambulinga, Kasi Visweswara, and Galaganatha
- ❖ The Papanatha temple shows an attempt to combine the Northern and Southern styles.

Sage **Bharata's dance Natyasastra** entered an advanced state of development.



Mallikarjuna temple,
Pattadakal

❖ Virupaksha temple

- largest and most sophisticated of the monuments at Pattadakal.
- ❖ walls and pillars adorned with intricate carvings and sculptures depicting the various episodes of Ramayan, Mahabharat and other legends.
- ❖ This was built at the instance of lokamahadevi, chief queen of the Chalukya king Vikramaditya II (733-746 CE).

Kailash @ Ellora



Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal
Resembles Kailashnath Temple at Kanchi

- ❖ Inscriptional evidence suggests that the Virupaksha and the Mallakarjuna Temples were commissioned by the two queens of King Vikramaditya II (733-746 CE) **after his military success over the Pallavas of Kanchipuram.**
- ❖ Virupaksha resembles the Kailasanatha Temple at Kanchi.



**Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal
Resembles Kailashnath Temple at Kanchi**

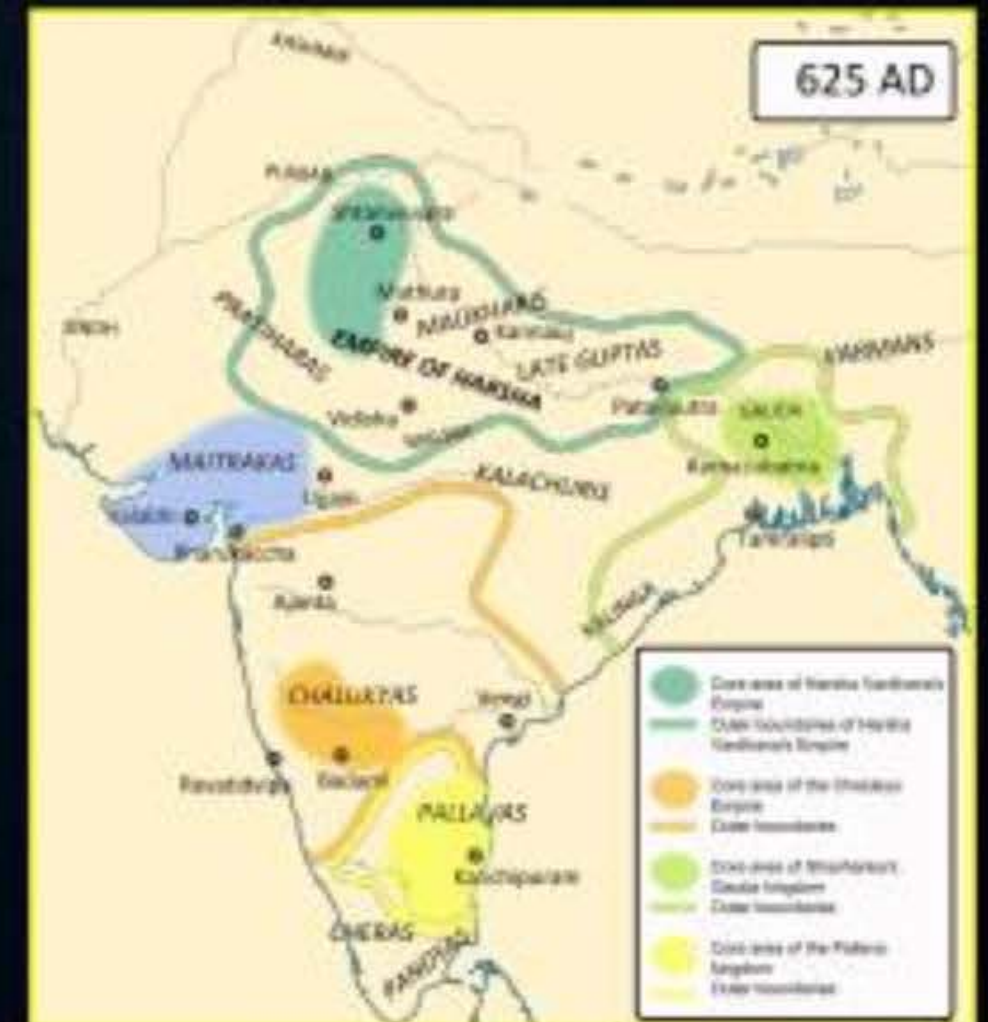
Coinage during Chalukya period

❖ Badami Chalukyas

- minted coins of a different standard compared to the northern kingdoms.
- had **Nagari** and **Kannada** legends.
- symbols of temples, lion or boar facing right, and the lotus.
- The coins weighed four grams, called **honnu** in **old Kannada** and had fractions such as **fana or fanam** and the quarter fana, whose modern day equivalent being **hana** (literally means, money).



Coins issued by
Badami Chalukya



Coinage → gold coin ⇒ gadayana.
→ Nagari & Kannada.
→ Symbols - Temples, boar, lotus.
→ Monu = 4 gms
→ Hana, fana → fractions.

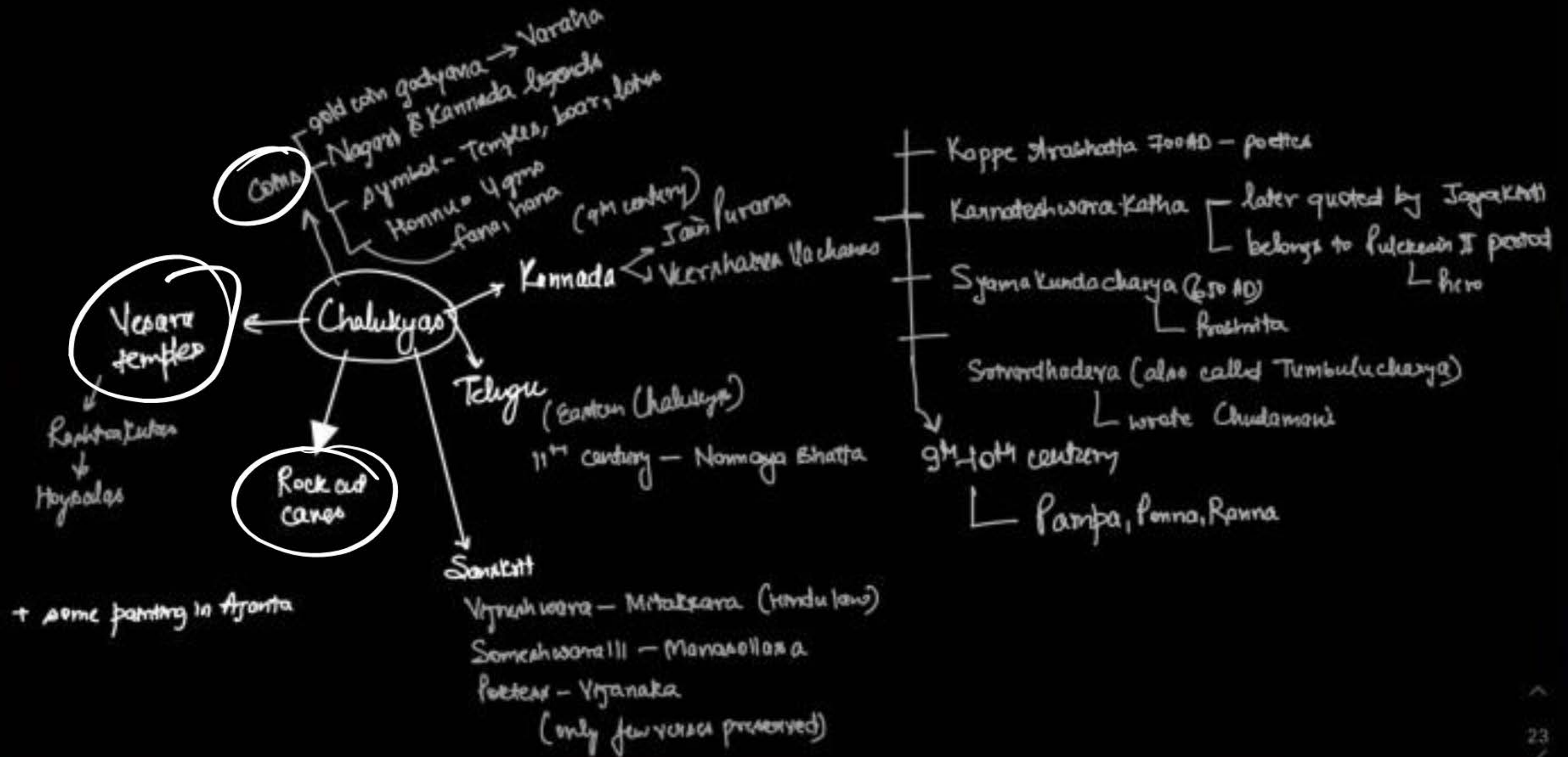
- ❖ mentioned in a record at the Vijayeshwara Temple at Pattadakal.
 - a gold coin called **Gadyana**, later called a **varaha** because royal emblem of Chalukyas was **Varaha** or boar also published on their emblem

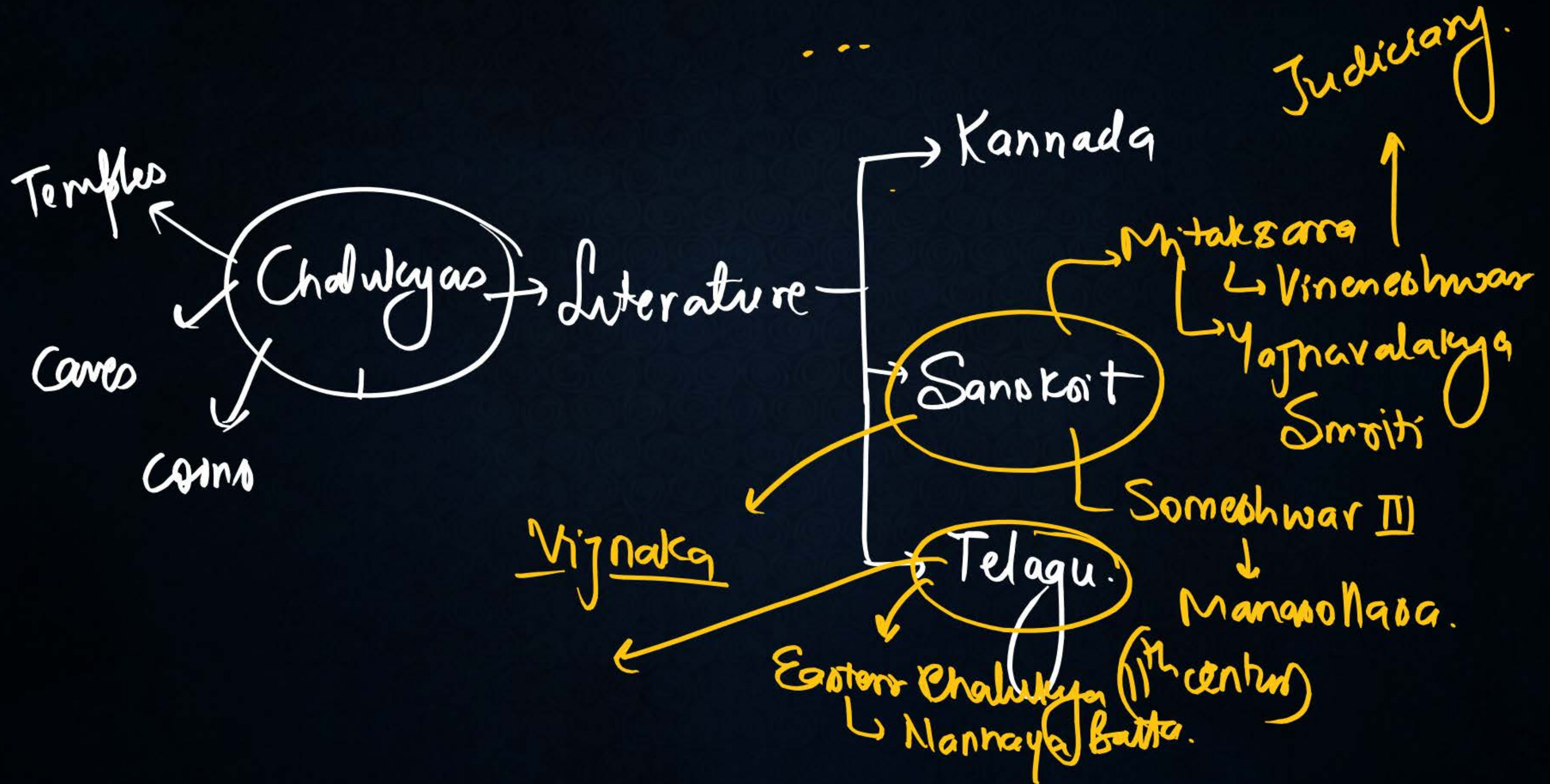


= **Boar** → varaha avatar.

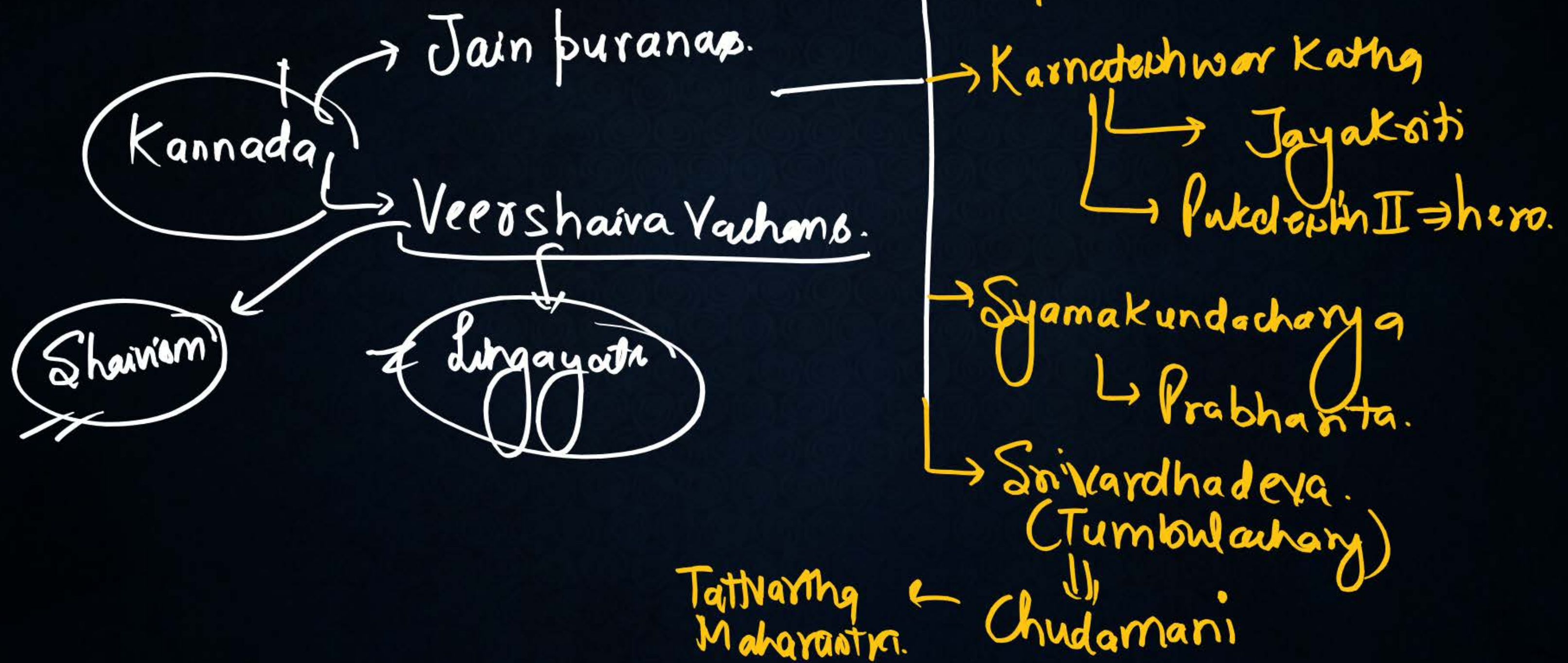
UPSC CSE 2022 Prelims Analysis

- Q. In medieval India, the term “Fanam” referred to :
- (a) Clothing
 - (b) Coins
 - (c) Ornaments
 - (d) Weapons





extinct
references



Literature during Chalukya period

The rule of the Chalukyas embodies a major event in the history of **Kannada and Telugu** languages.

During that time, writing epic narratives and poetry in **Sanskrit** proved exceptionally popular.

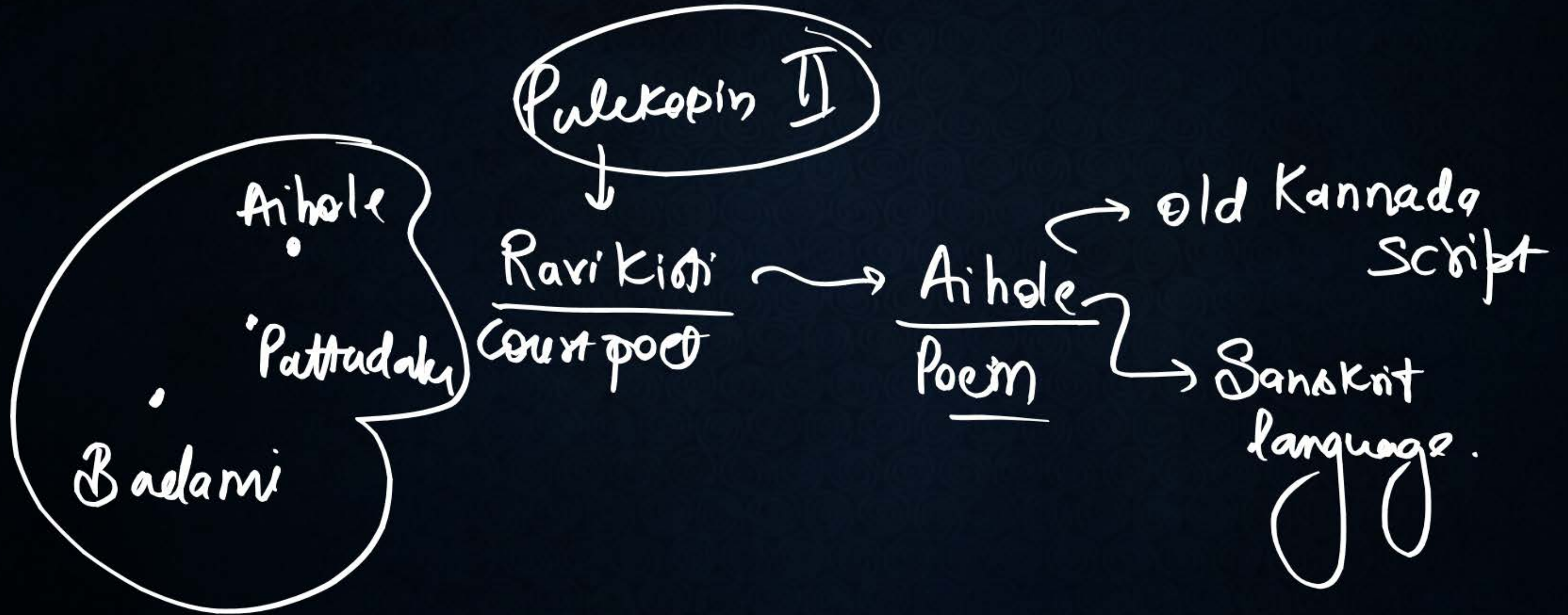
- ❖ 11th c, patronage of the Eastern Chalukyas, with **Nannaya Bhatta** as its first writer gave birth to **Telugu literature**
- ❖ Famous writers in **Sanskrit** includes → **Vijnaneshwara**
 - wrote **Mitakshara**
 - **book on Hindu law/commentary over Yajnavalkya Smriti**
- ❖ **Somesvara III** became a great scholar and king, compiling an encyclopedia of all arts and sciences called **Manasollasa**.
- ❖ In Sanskrit, a few verses of a poetess called **Vijayanaka** has been preserved.

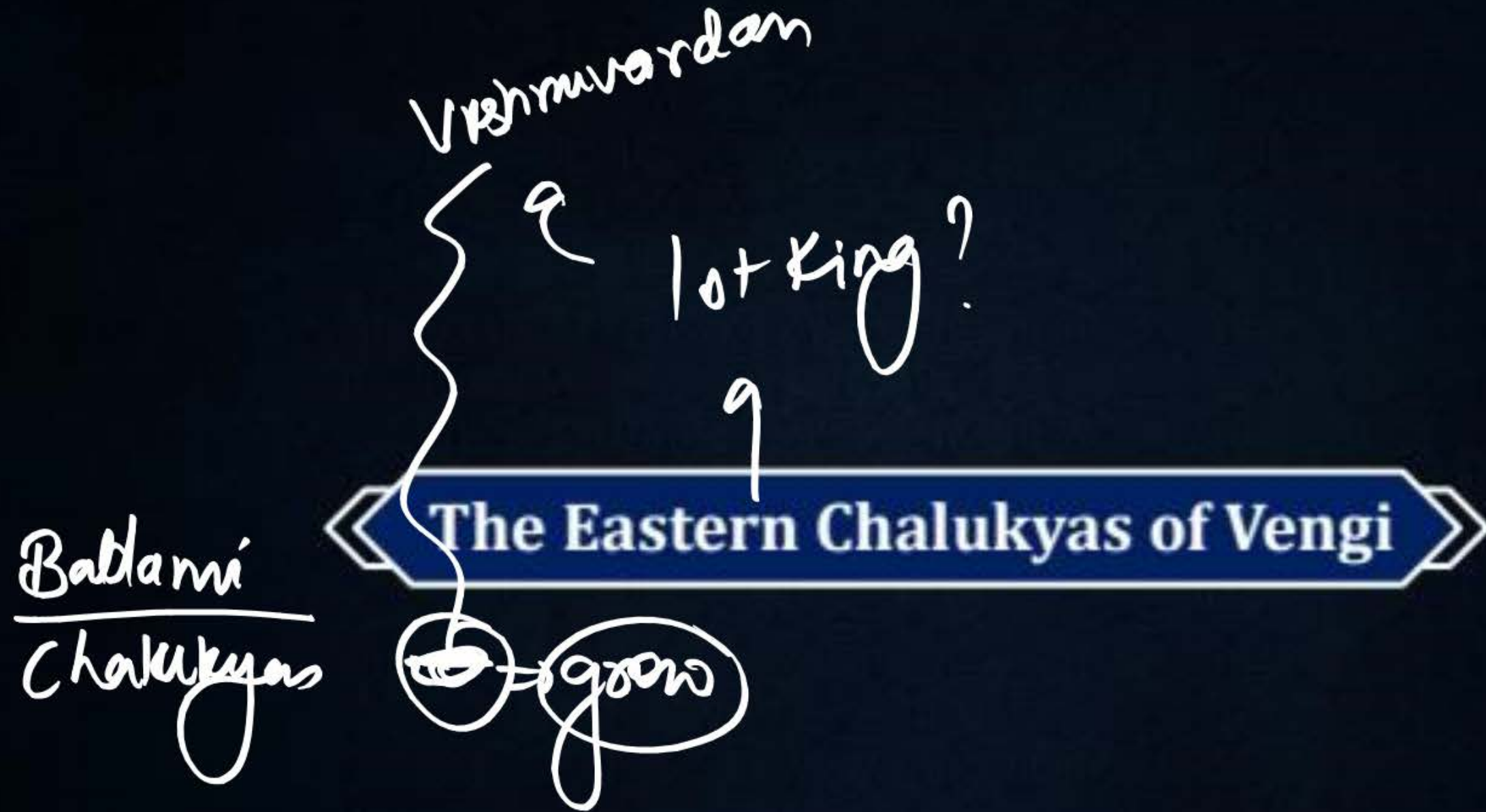
Literature during Chalukya period

- ❖ From the period of the Badami Chalukya no major **Kannada literary work** has been recovered, though many works have been referenced in later centuries.
- ❖ extant **Kappe Arabhatta** record of 700 AD - represents the earliest work in Kannada poetics.
- ❖ **Karnateshwara Katha**, quoted later by Jayakirti, belonged to the period of Pulakesi II with the great king himself as the hero.
- ❖ Other Kannada writers
 - a. **Syamakundacharya** of 650 AD who wrote **Prabhrita**,
 - b. **Srivaradhadeva** also called Tumubuluracharya of 650
 - wrote Chudamani
 - commentary on Tattvartha-mahashastra in 96,000 verses
 - c. King Durvinita

Literature during Chalukya period

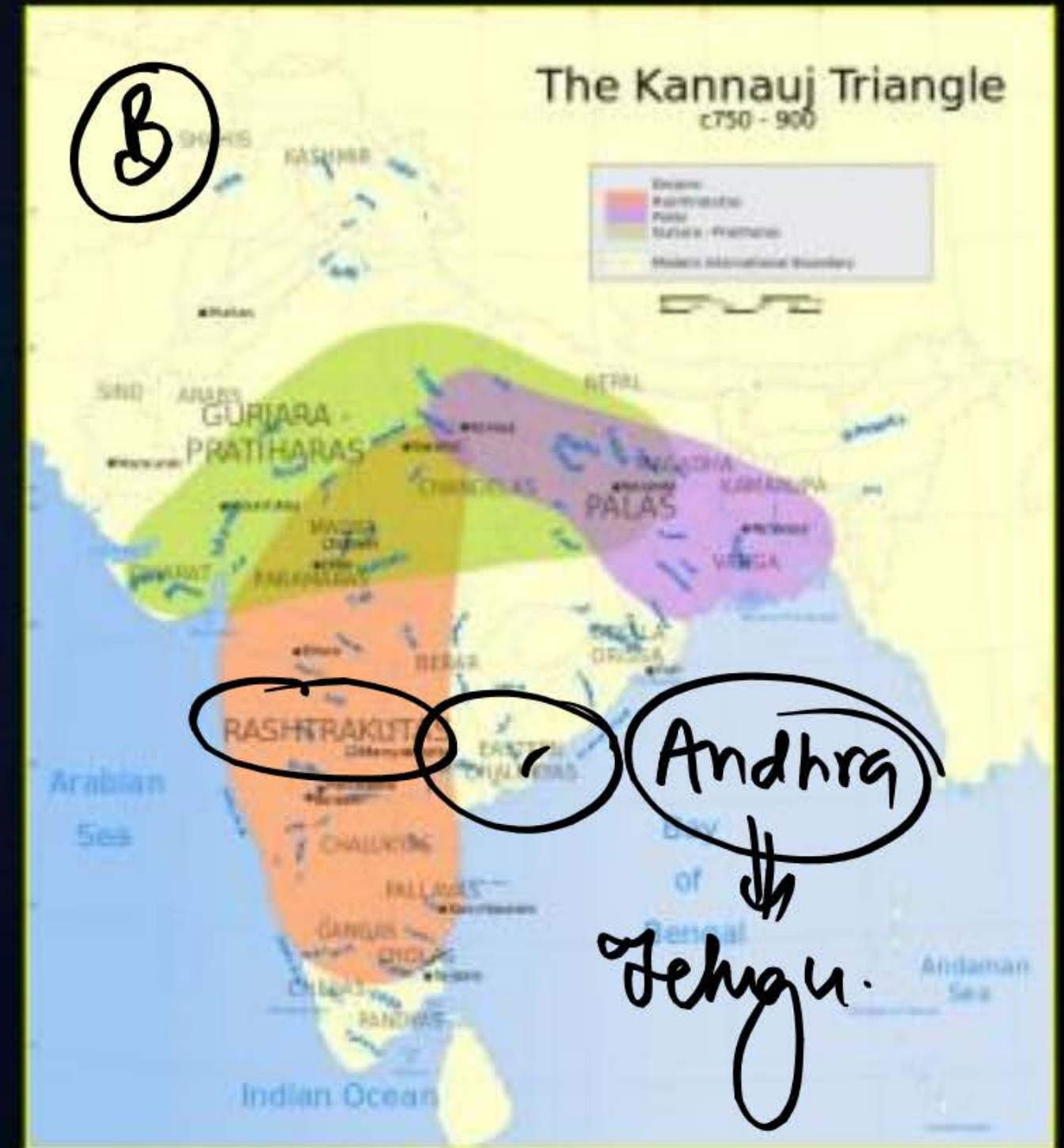
- ❖ Scholars consider the Aihole inscription of Pulakesi II, written by court poet Ravi Kirti in old Kannada script and Sanskrit language, an excellent piece of poetry.
- ❖ During the 9th-10th century, Kannada language had already seen some of its greatest writers.
 - The three gems of Kannada literature,
 - Adikavi Pampa,
 - Sri Ponna and
 - Ranna belonged to that period.





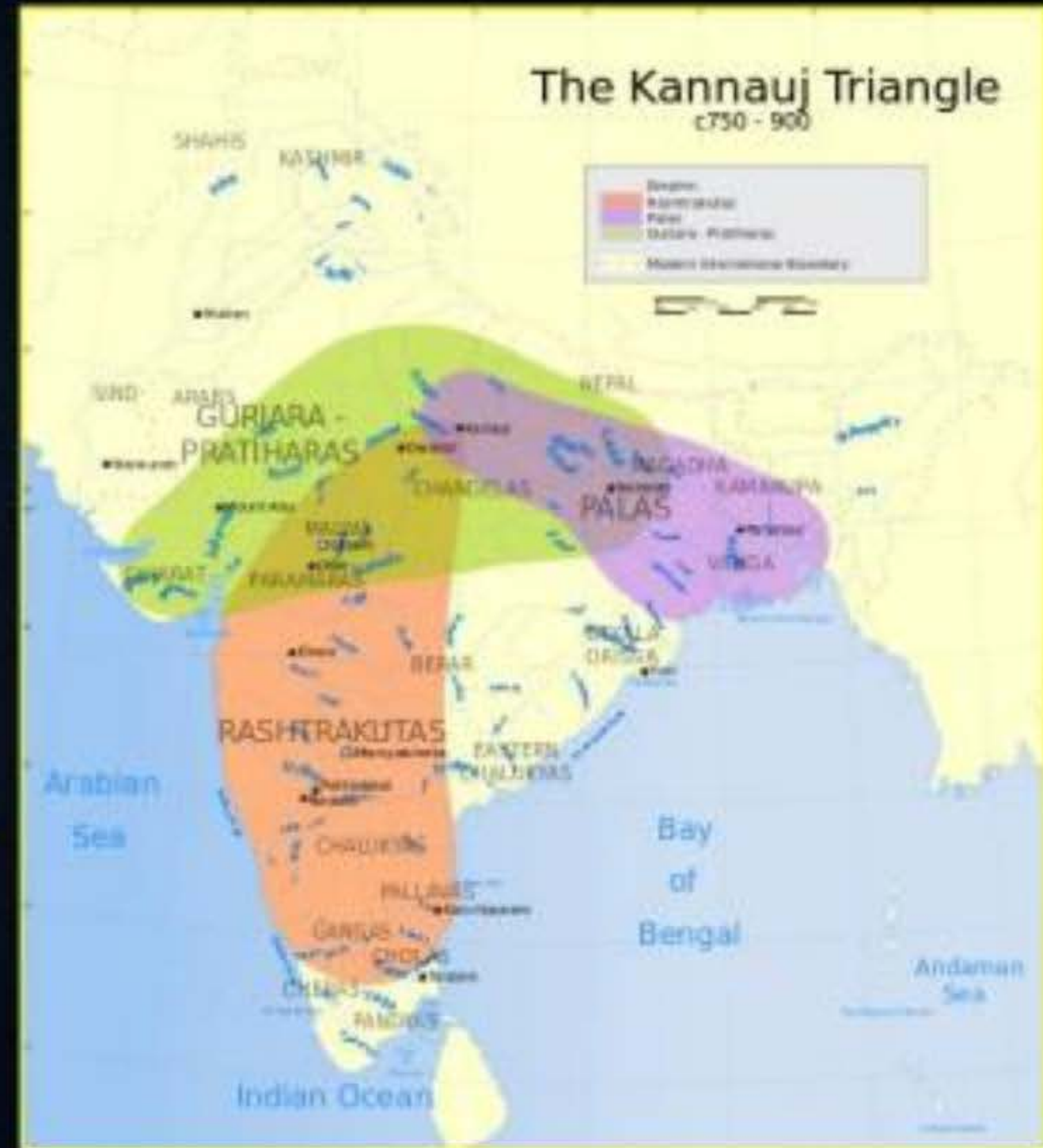
The Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi

- ❖ In 624 CE Pulakesin II (c. 610-642 CE) appointed his brother **Vishnuvardhana** as the governor of conquered Vengi region.
- ❖ Probably after the death of Pulkeshin II, **Vishnuvardhana** declared independence and established the Eastern Chalukyas kingdom.
- ❖ Initially, the capital of the Eastern Chalukyas
 - ✓ **Vengi** (near modern Eluru)
 - ✓ later **Rajamahendravararam** (modern Rajamundry)



- ❖ cause of many wars between the more powerful **Cholas and Western Chalukyas** since they controlled the strategic Vengi country

- ❖ ruled the kingdom for five centuries.
- ❖ They saw the efflorescence of **Telugu culture, literature, poetry and art** during the latter half of their rule.



The Eastern Chalukyas - Important Rulers

Vishnuvardhana (around c. 624 CE)

- ❖ Brother of Badami Chalukyan ruler Pulakeshin II.
- ❖ He established an independent kingdom

Vijayaditya II (c. 808-847 CE)

- ❖ One of the most important
- ❖ successful military expeditions against **Rashtrakutas and Gangas.**
- ❖ He also led campaigns into **Gujarat.**
- ❖ Even the **Rashtrakuta inscriptions** acknowledge their defeat at the hands of Vijayaditya and they admit that the glory of their kingdom was '**drowned in the ocean of the Chalukyas**'.

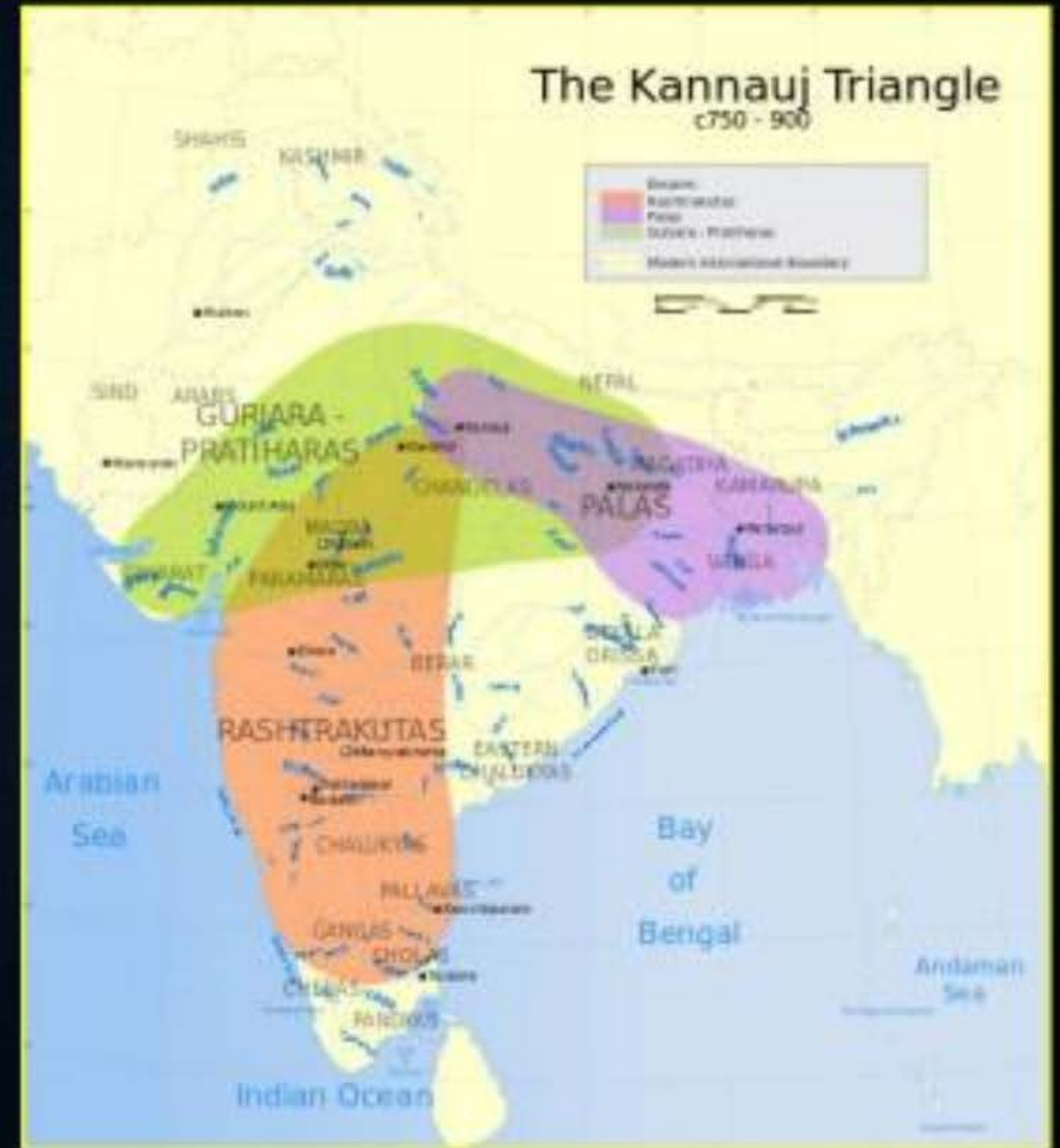
The Eastern Chalukyas - Important Rulers

Vijayaditya III (c. 848-892 CE)

- ❖ He claimed to have won over not only the Pallavas, the Pandyas, the Gangas, the Rashtrakutas, the Kalachuris and South Kosala, but also gave shelter to a Chola king.

Bhima I (c. 892-922 CE)

- ❖ He was captured by the Rashtrakuta king but was later released.



The Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi

Vijayaditya IV (around c.922 CE, for a period of six months) -

- ❖ From his reign, many succession disputes erupted. The Rashtrakutas openly interfered and backed one or the other contenders.
- ❖ The later rulers thus had very short reigns, from six months to a mere fortnight too.

Amma II (947 – 970 AD)

- ❖ Some political stability was restored during the reigns of Amma II. But it did not last for a long time.

Decline: They continued ruling the region as feudatories of the Cholas until end of 12th century later their kingdom ultimately succumbed to the **Hoysalas and the Yadavas**.

Contribution	Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas (Kanchi)
	535				
	540				
	545	Rajyavardhana I	Pulakeshin I Founder capital at Vatapi (Badami). • assumed titles - Sahasabahu and Ranavikrama. • performed Ashvamedha sacrifice.		
	550				
	555				
	560				
	565				
	570	Aditya Vardhana			
	575				
	580				
	585				
	590				
	595	Pushyaka Vardhana			
	600				
	605				
	610				
	615				
	620	Harsha Vardhan Sakabhutapathashattha Huen Tsang Banshodha			
	625				
	630				
	635				
	640				
	645				
	650				
	655				
	660				
	665				
	670				
	675				
	680				
	685				
	690				
	695				
	700				
	705				
	710				
	715				
	720				

Kabamirashu

Western Chalukyas
@ Banavasi/Kalyan?

- Western Style: Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal
- Growth of Kannada & Telugu

claimed
Brahminical
origin
+
Hathiputra of Manu's gene

Kadambas
Monargan & Kuvcan
Nakas & Sastor

armed upon between
Kadamba - Chalukya / Vengi → Vishnupadman

Nephew

defeated

defeated

territory of
Vengi

Vishnuvardhan

but
Kanchi, Badami
occupied by
Pallavas
for 13 years

Pandita King Khajurji II overlooking
(Ajanta caves)

gap

Vikramaditya I
pushing the Pallavas out
of Badami and re-established authority.
→ captured Kanchi
Pallava capital
→ defeated Cholas
Ottu, Pandya

Pratiharas

Vijayaditya
temple building

Mahendravarmen I
in Chalukyas
defeated by Pulakeshin II
five temple at Mahabalipuram
wrote Mattavilasa Prasthanam

Narasimhavarmen I or Mamalla
defeated Pulakeshin II + occupied Vatapi (Mahabalipuram)
• Defeated Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas
• 2 naval expeditions to Ceylon
• Founded Mamallapuram and built monolithic rock temples
• Huen Tsang visited Kanchi
• Dispatched two naval expeditions to help his friend
Monavarman, the Sri Lankan prince

Parameshwarman I
defeated the Chalukya king Vikramaditya and also the Gangas.
• Built temples at Kanchi.

Narasimhavarmen II / Rajasimha
Kuduvayutha Temple at Kanchi
(Rajasimhachvara temple)
- Shiva temple at Mahabalipuram

Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
725			multiple kings in between but not relevant	- sent an ambassador to China
730				
735				
740		Vikramaditya II invasions of the territory of Tondamandalam victories over Pallava King Nandivarman II		
745		Arab intruders of the Umayyad Caliphate invaded southern Gujarat Virupaksha temple		
750		Nandivarman II Replaced by Dantidurga [Rashtrakutas]		Nandivarman II - Again invaded and captured by Vikramaditya II - Valmiki temple at Kanchi Old renovated
755				
760				
765				
770				
775				
780				
785				
790				
795				
800				
805				
810				Dantivarman - Rashtrakuta king Govind II invaded Kanchi. - Pandya also invaded
815				
820				
825			Vijayaditya II vs Rashtrakutas & Ganga	
830				
835				
840				
845				
850				
855				
860				
865				
870				
875				
880				
885				Apalaraja - Last known Pallava king - Battle at Shripurambiyam [near Kumbakonam] [Western Ganga + Cholas] defeated the Pandya
890				
895				

B
zone

was
defeated by
Chalukyan governor
Pulakesh

"The end"

defeated
+ defeated
CCP
+ Kalachuri ruler

Vengi / Eastern Chalukya

- ❖ **Kubja Vishnuvardhana 624-641**
- ❖ Jayasimha I 641-673
- ❖ Indra Bhattaraka 673
- ❖ Vishnu Vardhana II 673-682
- ❖ Mangi Yuvaraja 682-706
- ❖ Jayasimha II 706-718
- ❖ Kokkili 719
- ❖ Vishnuvardhana III 719-755
- ❖ Vijayaditya I 755-772
- ❖ Vishnuvardhana IV 772-808
- ❖ **Vijayaditya II 808-847**
- ❖ Kali Vishnuvardhana V 847-849



Vengi / Eastern Chalukya

- ❖ **Vijayaditya III 849–892**
- ❖ Chalukya Bhima I 892–921
- ❖ Vijayaditya IV 921
- ❖ Amma I 921–927
- ❖ Beta Vijayaditya V 927
- ❖ Tala I 927
- ❖ Vikramaditya II 927–928
- ❖ Bhima II 928
- ❖ Yuddhamalla II 928–935
- ❖ Chalukya Bhima II 935–947
- ❖ Amma II 947–970
- ❖ Tala I 970



Vengi / Eastern Chalukya

- ❖ Danarnava 970-973
- ❖ Jata Choda Bhima 973-999
- ❖ Shaktivarman I 1000-1011
- ❖ Vimaladitya 1011-1018
- ❖ Rajaraja Narendra 1019-1061
- ❖ Vijayaditya VII

In 999 CE, the Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi were conquered by the **Chola king Rajaraja**.



Western Chalukyas or Chalukyas of Kalyani

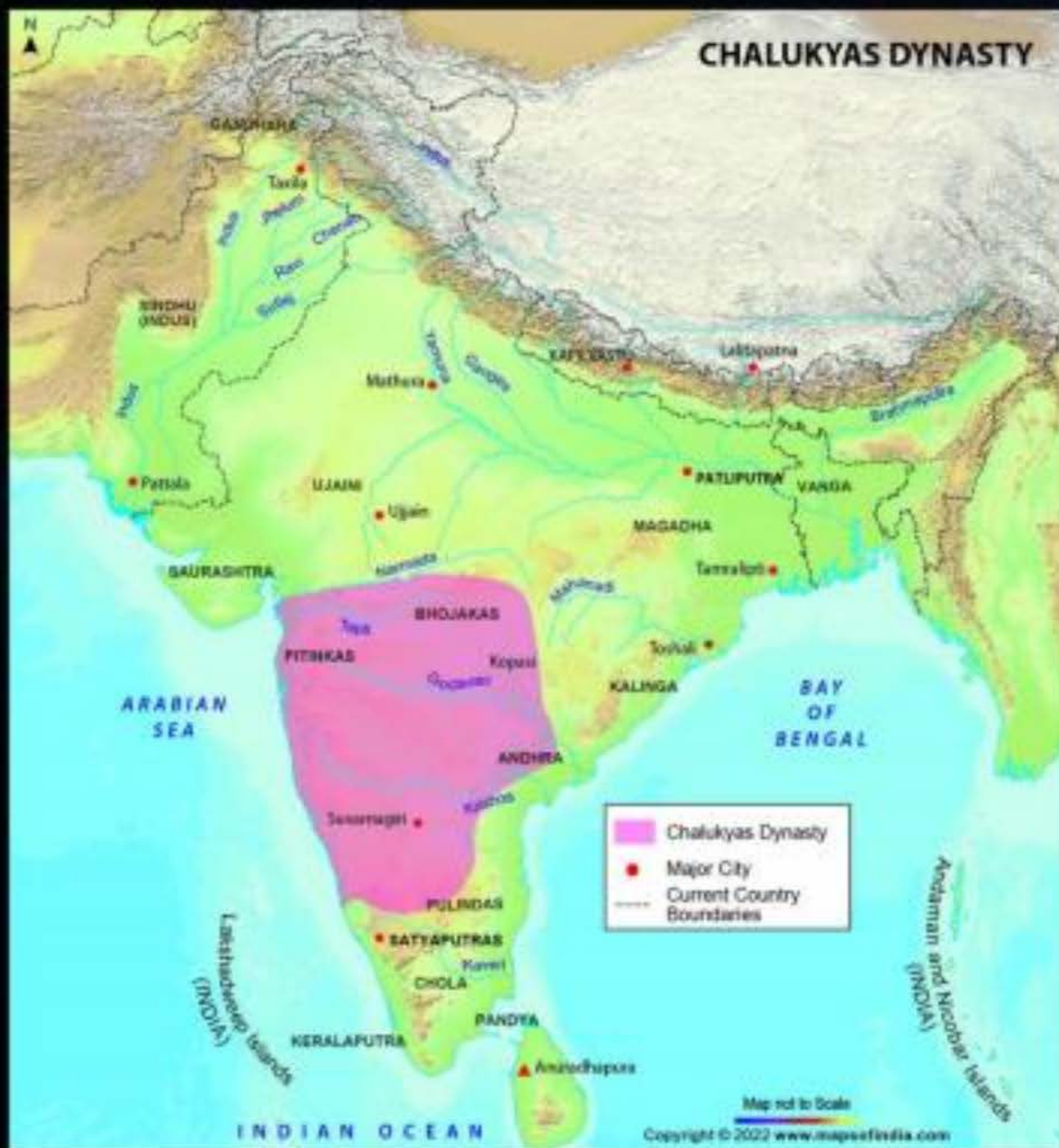
Western Chalukyas or Chalukyas of Kalyani

- ❖ Tailapa II 957-997
- ❖ Satyashraya 997-1008
- ❖ Vikramaditya V 1008-1015
- ❖ Jayasimha II 1015-1042
- ❖ Someshvara I 1042-1068
- ❖ Someshvara II 1068-1076
- ❖ Vikramaditya VI 1076-1126
- ❖ Someshvara III 1126-1138
- ❖ Jagadhekamalla II 1138-1151
- ❖ Tailapa III 1151-1164
- ❖ Jagadhekamalla III 1163-1183
- ❖ Someshvara IV 1184-1200

Kalyani
Badam
Temp I

Western Chalukyas





The Chaulkyas of Lata



Lata = the area between Mahi river in the north and Narmada or Tapi River in south. Bharuch is a major city and former capital of the region.

The Chaulkyas of Lata

Different from Chalukyas

- ❖ started as feudatories of the Western Chalukyas.
- ❖ around 10th and 11th c – declared themselves as independent rulers.
- ❖ Bharuch is a major city in the region.
- ❖ They were later defeated by the Chalukyas of Gujarat (Solankis).

Important Rulers:

Nimbarka - Not much known



Barappa (c. 970-990 CE) -

- first prominent ruler.
- ❖ Earlier he worked as a general of the Western Chalukya king Tailapa II and was subsequently made the governor of the Lata region by Tailapa.
- ❖ It is believed that a joint army of Barappa and the Shakambhari king defeated the Solanki ruler Mularaja.
- ❖ According to **Hemachandra's Dvyashraya Kavya**, Mularaja's son Chamunda-raja invaded Lata and killed Barappa.

Gogi-raja (c. 990-1010 CE)

- ❖ He is Barappa's son and probably revived Kirti-raja (c. 1010-1030 CE)
- ❖ copper plate inscription of Kirti-raja discovered in Surat.
- ❖ It lists the names of his ancestors as Gogi, Barappa and Nimbarka.

Vatsa-raja (c. 1030-1050 CE)

- ❖ believed to have built a golden umbrella for the god Somanatha
- ❖ established a free food canteen (sattra)

Trilochana-pala (c.1050-1070 CE)

- Two copper plate inscriptions (1050 CE Ekallahara and 1051 CE Surat) related to Trilochana-pala have been discovered.
 - titled **Maha-Mandaleshvara**
 - mythical origin of the Chalukyas.
 - *family's progenitor originated from the chuluka (a vessel or a folded palm to hold water) of the creator deity Virinchi. On the deity's advice, he married the Rashtrakuta princess of Kanyakubja.*
- ❖ The 1050 CE inscription – donation of the Ekallahara village to a Brahmin named Taraditya.

However, by 1074 CE, the dynasty appears to have been vanquished by the Solankis

Pallavas

Daru

Kalabhra revolt

- ❖ 3rd - 6th century AD.
- ❖ Kalabhras came together in large numbers and revolted against the Chola, Pandya, Chera and Pallava kingdoms.
- ❖ not seen in a positive light as they posed a serious challenge to Pandyas and Pallavas.
- ❖ Kalabhras put an end to the brahmadeya rights and mostly patronised Buddhist monasteries.



Post Sangam
Text

Sangam
Age
300
BLE
300
CE
Kalabhras
600
CE



- ❖ Kalabhras' revolt was so widespread that it could be put down only through the joint efforts of the Pandyas, the Pallavas and the Chalukyas of Badami.
 - King Simhavishnu // Pallava dynasty defeated the Kalabhras.
 - ✓ **Pandyan king Kadungon** ended the Kalabhra rule in the southern Tamil region - credited for the triumph of Brahmanism over the evil Kalabhras.



Pallavas



Satavahanas → eastern part of the peninsula arose
the Ikshvakus → supplanted by Pallavas.

gained prominence after the eclipse of the
Satavahana dynasty → Pallavas served as
feudatories.

- ❖ Authority over south Andhra Pradesh and north Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Capital - Kanchi. ✓✓
- ❖ existed from 275 CE to 897 CE.

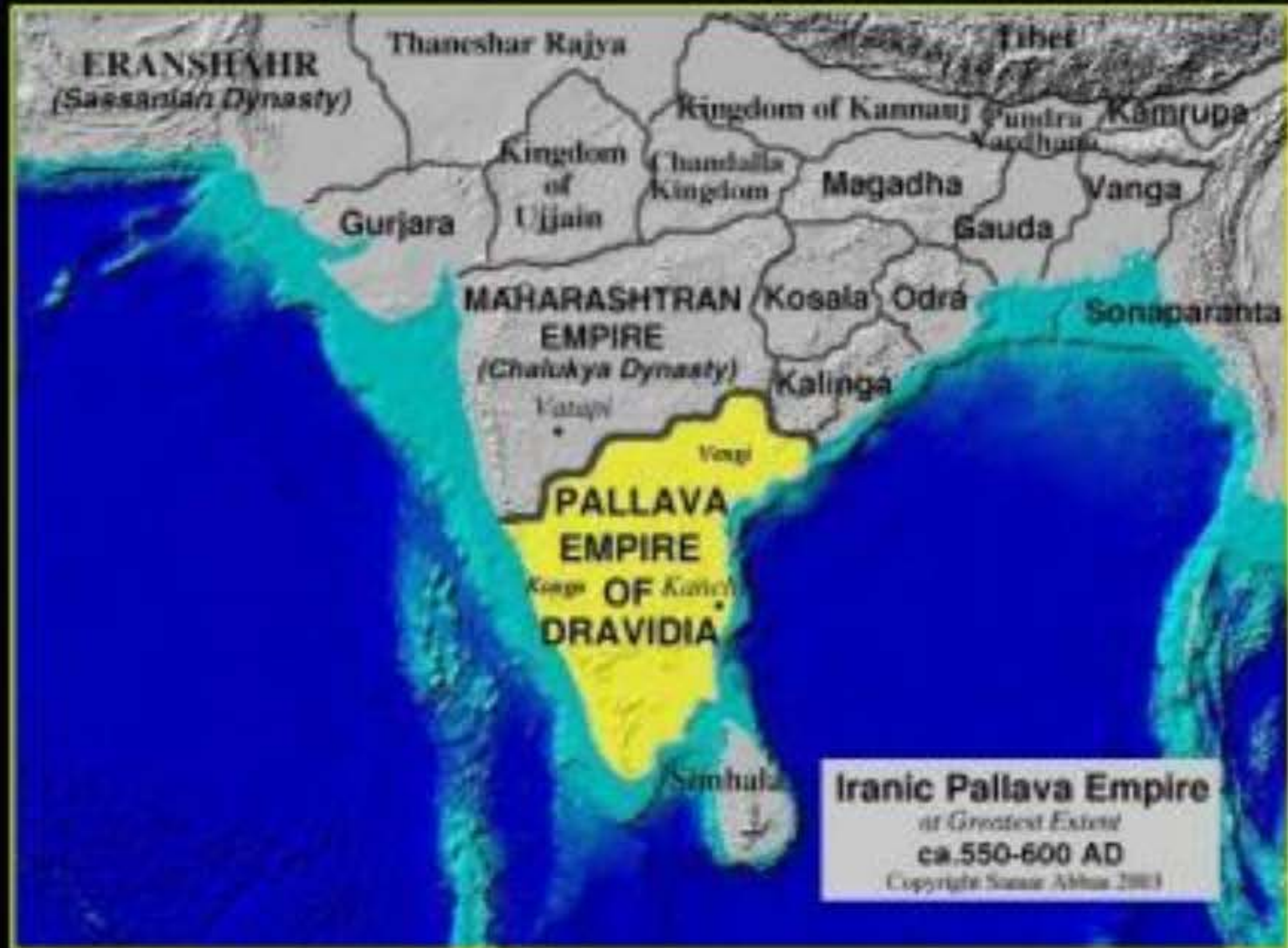
Satavahanas → Ikshvakus → Pallavas



Pallavas



founder



Vishnugopa II

Simhavarman III

Simhavishnu 560-590

Mahendravarman I (600-630)

Narasimhavarman I (630-668)

Mahendravarman II (668-670)

Paramesvaravarman I (670-695)

Narasimhavarman II (700-728)

Paramesvaravarman II (728-731)

Nandivarman II (731-795)

Dantivarman (795-846)

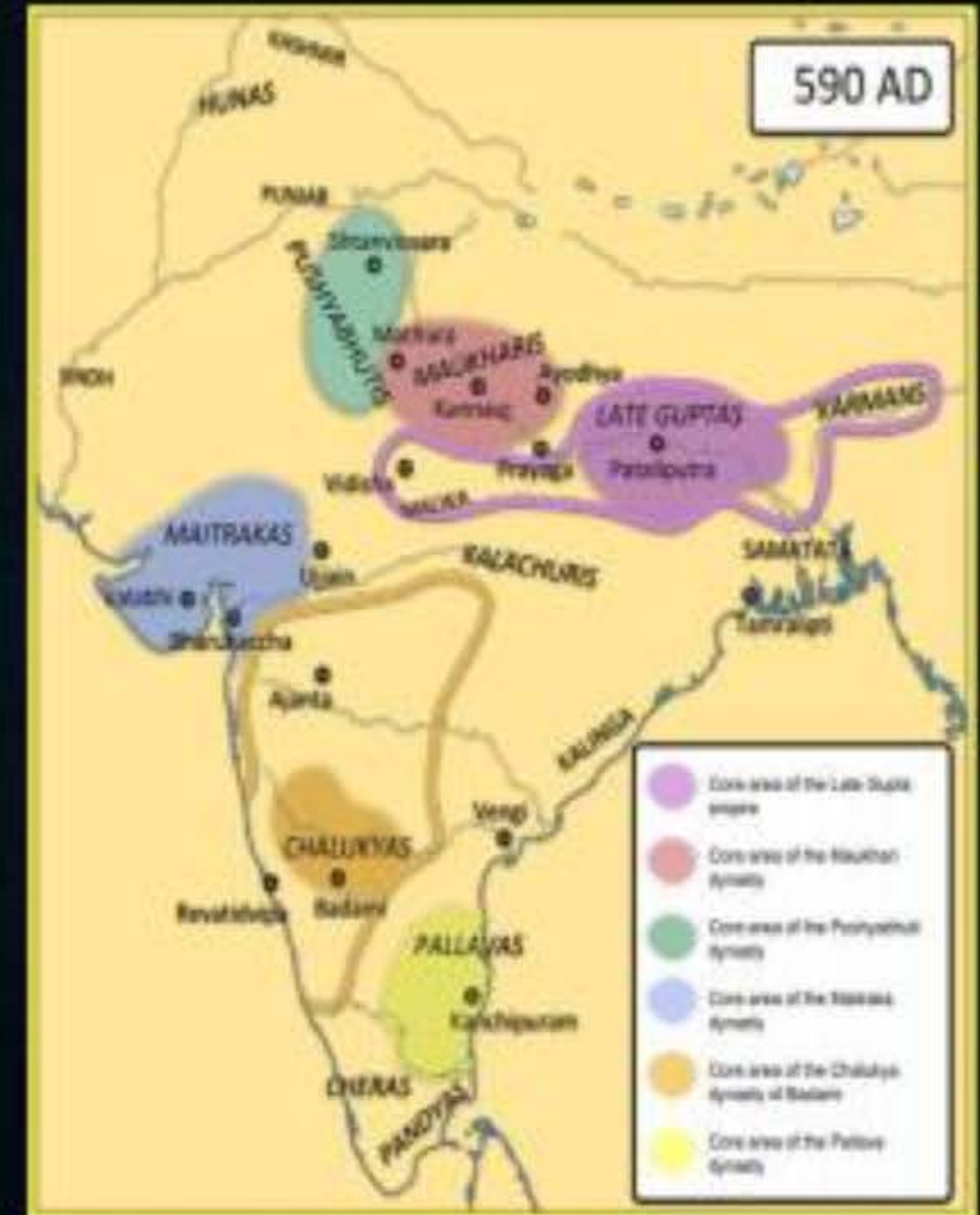
Nandivarman III (846-869)

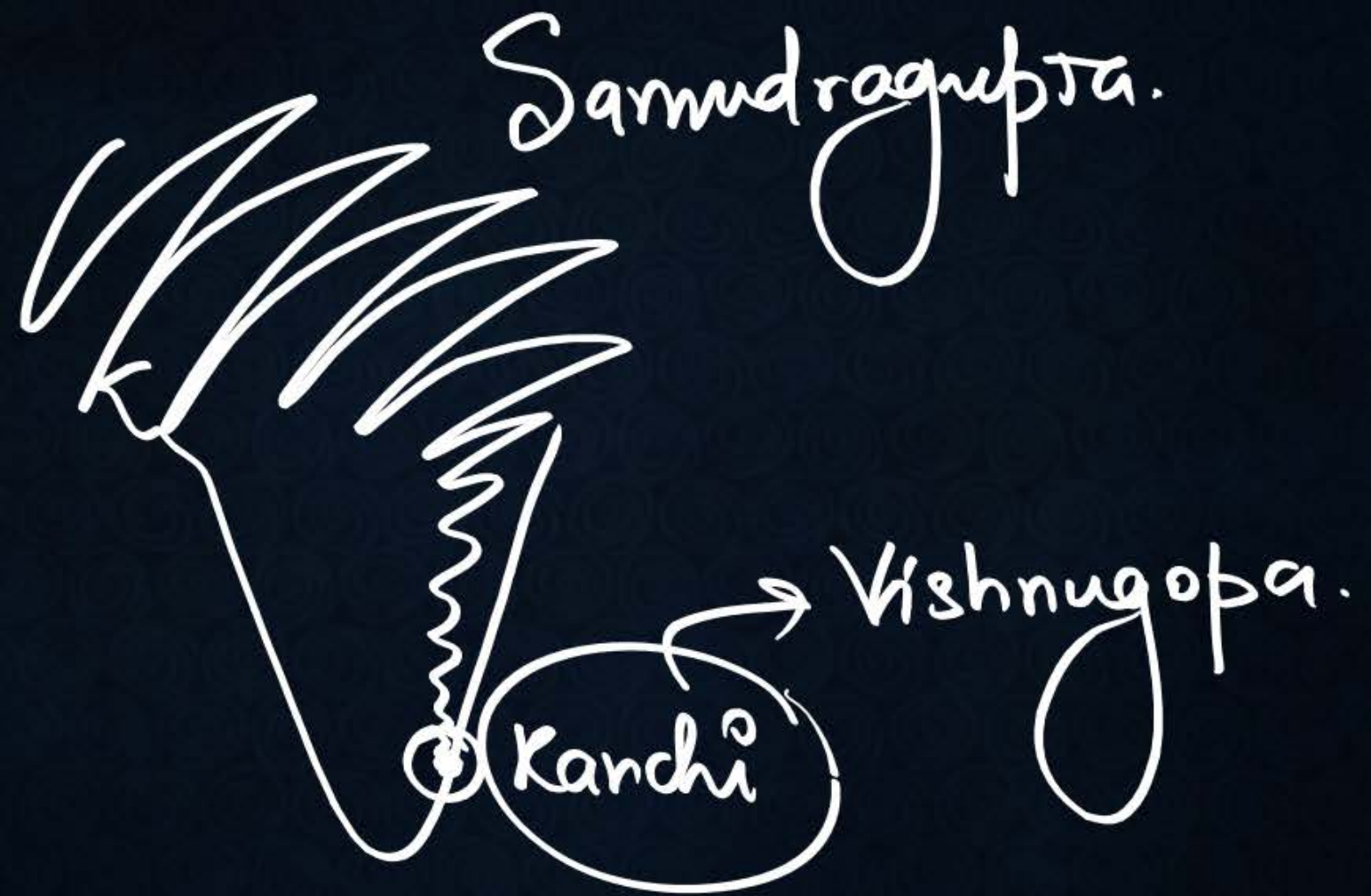
Aparajitavarman (880-897)

Aditya I (870-907)

During Samudragupta Period (335-380):

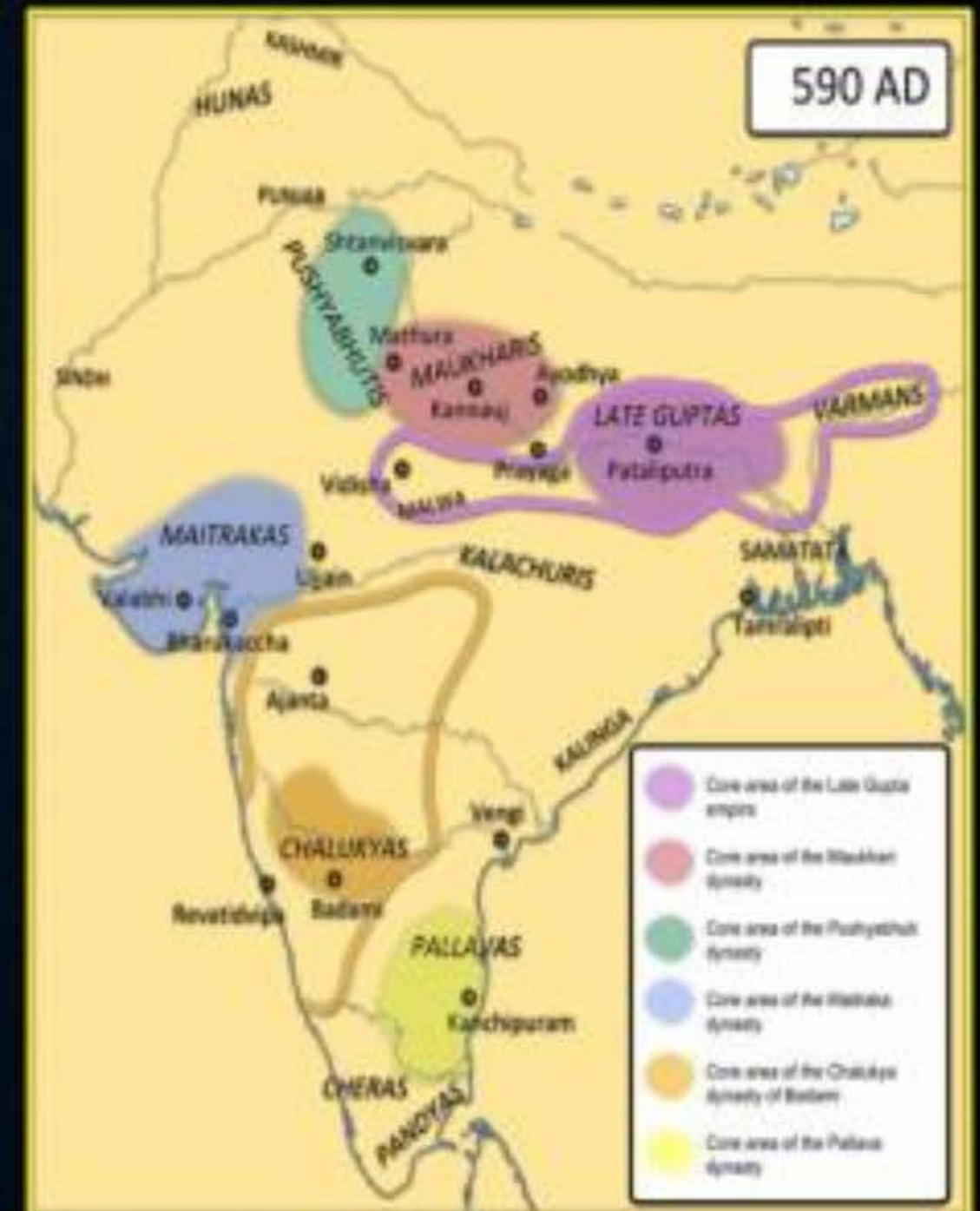
- ❖ A Pallava ruler Vishnugopa was mentioned in Allahabad inscription of Samudragupta.
 - defeated Vishnugopa, – restored him to the throne on payment of tribute.
- ❖ major power during the reign of
 - Mahendravarman I (590 – 630 CE)
 - Narasimhavarman I (630 – 668 CE)
 - dominated the Telugu and northern parts of the Tamil region for about 300 years until the end of the 9th century.
- ❖ constant conflict with Chalukyas of Vatapi/Badami in the north and the Tamil kingdoms of Cholas and Pandyas in the south
 - finally defeated by the Chola kings in the 9th century CE.





Simhavishnu (556-590 CE)

- ❖ Some inscriptions refer to early kings such as **Shivaskandavarman** (probably ruled in the early 4th century CE).
- ❖ last quarter of the 6th century, **Simhavishnu**.
 - foundation for the Pallava empire. ✓
 - defeated the Ikshvakus. ✓
 - Putting an end to the political ✓ disturbances caused by the Kalabhras, he conquered the land up to the Kaveri and set up capital at **Kanchi**.
 - He bore the title of **'Avanisimha'**
 - (Lion of the Earth).



Mahendravarman I (c. 590-630 CE)

- ❖ During his reign, **conflict between the Chalukyas of Badami** and the **Pallavas** heightened.
- ❖ He was defeated by Pulakesin II near Kanchi and annexed the northern part of the Pallava kingdom.

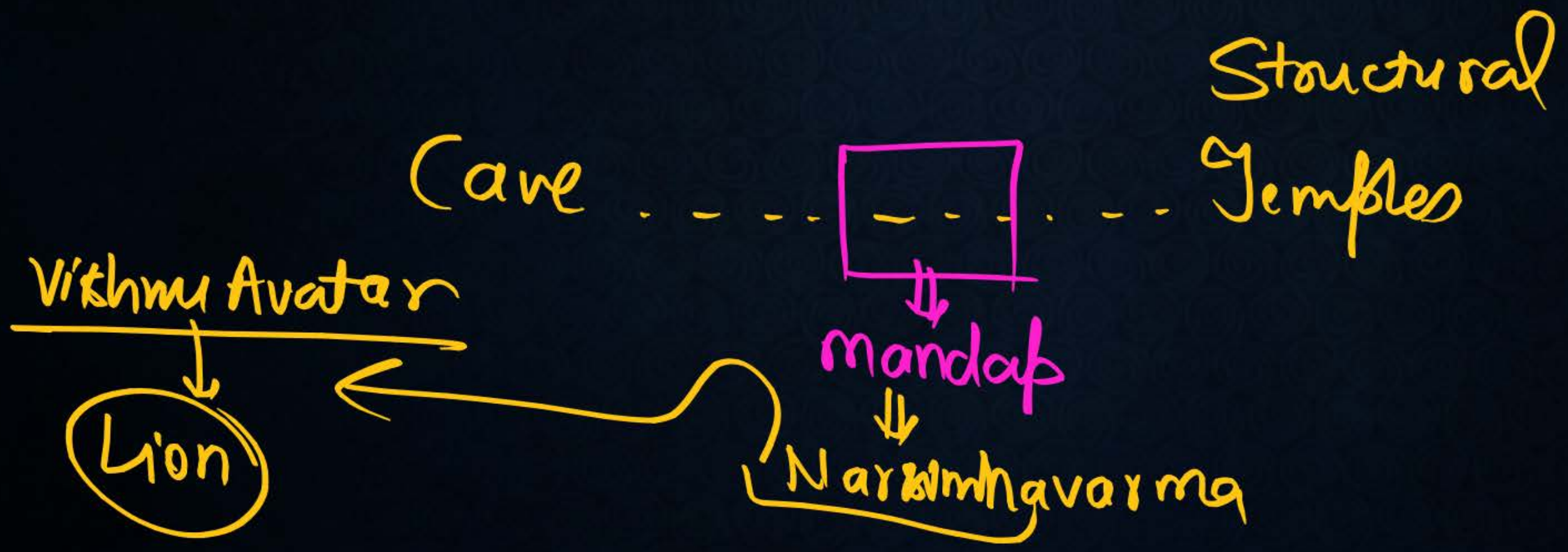
As a patron of Arts:

- ❖ He was a great patron of arts.
- ❖ Himself was a poet and musician.
- ❖ He wrote the **Mattavilasa Prahasanna**.
- ❖ He initiated the construction of the famous **cave temple at Mahabalipuram**.
- ❖ He was earlier a **Jaina** but later took up **Shaivism** under the influence of **Appar** according to tradition.

✓ Vichitra Chitta.



Dramas ← Pallavas



Contribution	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas (Kanchi)
Time stamp				
535				
540				
545				
550				
555				
560				
565				
570				
575				
580				
585				
590				
595				
600				
605				
610				
615				
620				
625				
630				
635				
640				
645				
650				
655				
660				
665				
670				
675				
680				
685				
690				
695				
700				
705				
710				
715				
720				

Kambhata

*Western Chalukyas
@ Banavasi/Kalyani*

*- Vesara style: Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal
- Growth of Kannada & Telugu*

*claimed
Brahmanical
origin
&
Heritages of Maragya gonn*

*defeated
Kadambas
Maragya of Konkan
Nolas of Badami*

*annexed region between
Karnata - Andhra / Vengi -> Vikramaditya*

Nagpur

defeated

defeated

*incurred @
Vengi*

*Pushyabhuti Chalukya II
[Ajanta Caves]*

Huan Dang Vort

*lost
Kanchi, Badami
occupied by
Pallavas
for 15 years*

*Vikramaditya I
pushing the Pallavas out
of Badami and re-established authority
- defeated Cholas, Pandya
- captured Kanchi
- return capital
- etc - "Rajamallu"*

benefactor

*Vijayaditya
temple building*

*Mahendravarmam I
vs Chalukyas
defeated by Pulakeshin II
cave temple at Mahabalipuram
with Mahavishnu Prabhakara*

*Narasimhavarmam I or Mahendra
defeated Pulakeshin II - occupied Vengi [Jatapatikonda]
- Defeated Cholas, Cheras and Pandya
- 2 naval expeditions to Ceylon
- Founded Mamallapuram and built monolithic rock temples
- Huan Dang visited Kanchi
- Dispatched two naval expeditions to help his friend
Ariyaratna, the Sri Lanka prince*

*Parasuramavarman I
defeated the Chalukya king Vikramaditya and also the Ganges.
- Built temples at Kanchi.*

*Narasimhavarmam II / Rajasimha
- Kalachakra Temple at Kanchi
[Rajasimheshvara temple]
- Shore temple at Mahabalipuram*

Narasimhavarman I or Mamalla (630-668)

- ❖ **Greatest**
- ❖ He avenged his father's defeat and defeated Pulakeshin II and **occupied Vatapi** with the help of the **Sri Lankan** prince, Manavarma
- **Vatapikonda**
- ❖ Defeated Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas
- ❖ 2 naval expeditions to Ceylon
- ❖ Founded Mamallapuram and built monolithic rock temples
- ❖ Hieun Tsang visited Kanchi



hostaler

mahabalipuram.

Narasimhavarman I or Mamalla (630–668)



- ❖ Dispatched two naval expeditions to help his friend Manavarma, the Sri Lankan prince. but Manavarma was defeated and he had to seek political refuge at his court.

As a builder:

- ❖ He constructed the port of Mamallapuram. ✓
- ❖ He ordered the construction of the rathas at Mahabalipuram. → mandapa
- ❖ He was also known as Mahamalla or Mamalla (great wrestler).
- ❖ It is in honour of Narasimhavarman I that Mahabalipuram = Mamallapuram.

Mahendravarman II (c. 668-670 CE) I

- ❖ The Pallava-Chalukya conflict continued for subsequent decades and Mahendravarman II died fighting the Chalukyas.

Parameshvaraman I (c. 670-695 CE) I

- ❖ He defeated the Chalukya king **Vikramaditya** and also the Gangas.
- ❖ Built temples at Kanchi.

Time stamp	Pushyabhuti Dynasty	Badami Chalukyas	Chalukyas of Vengi	Pallavas [Kanchi]
725			multiple kings in between but not relevant	- sent an ambassador to China
730				
735				
740		Vikramaditya II invasions of the territory of Tondaimandalam victories over Pallava King Nandivarman II		
745		Arab intruders of the Umayyad Caliphate invaded southern Gujarat Virupaksha temple		
750		Kirtivarman II		Nandivarman II
755		Replaced by Dantidurga [Rashtrakutas]		- Again invaded and captured by Vikramaditya II - Vaikuntesperumal temple at Kanchi Old renovated
760				
765				
770				
775				
780				
785				
790				
795				
800				
805				
810				Dantivarman
815				- Rashtrakuta king Govind II invaded Kanchi. - Pandya also invaded
820				
825			Vijayaditya II vs Rashtrakutas & Ganga	
830				
835				
840				
845				
850				
855				
860				
865				
870				
875				
880				
885				
890				
895				
			Vijayaditya III claimed to have won over not only the Pallavas, the Pandya, the Ganga, the Rashtrakutas, the Kalachuris and South Kosala, but also gave shelter to a Chola king	Aparrjita - Last known Pallava king. - Battle at Shripurambiyam (near Kumbakonam) [Western Ganga + Cholas] defeated the Pandvas

Arabs
defeated by
Chalukyan governor
Pulakesh

"The end"

defeated
+ defeated
CCP
+ Kalachuris ruler



Narsimhavarman II/ Rajasimha (c.700-728 CE)

- ❖ He Constructed
 - ✓ Kailashnatha Temple at Kanchi. → Temple
 - also known as Rajasimheshvara temple.
 - ✓ Shore temple at Mahabalipuram .
- ❖ He also sent an ambassador to China for maintaining good relations.

Nandivarman II (731-795)

- ❖ Again invaded and captured by Vikramaditya II
- ❖ Vaikunteperumal temple at Kanchi
- ❖ Old renovated

Dantivarman (c.795-846 CE)

- ❖ During his reign, Rashtrakuta king Govind III invaded Kanchi.
- ❖ Pandians also invaded reduced the Pallava territory to areas in and around Kanchipuram.

Aparajita (c.880-893 CE)

- ❖ Last known Pallava king.
- ❖ With the help of Western Gangas and Cholas, defeated the Pandya king Varagunavarman II in a **battle at Thirupurambiyam** (near Kumbakonam.)

Decline of Pallavas:

- ❖ In 893 CE, Chola king Aditya I completely liquidated the Pallavas
- ❖ area of Tondaimandalam passed under Cholas.

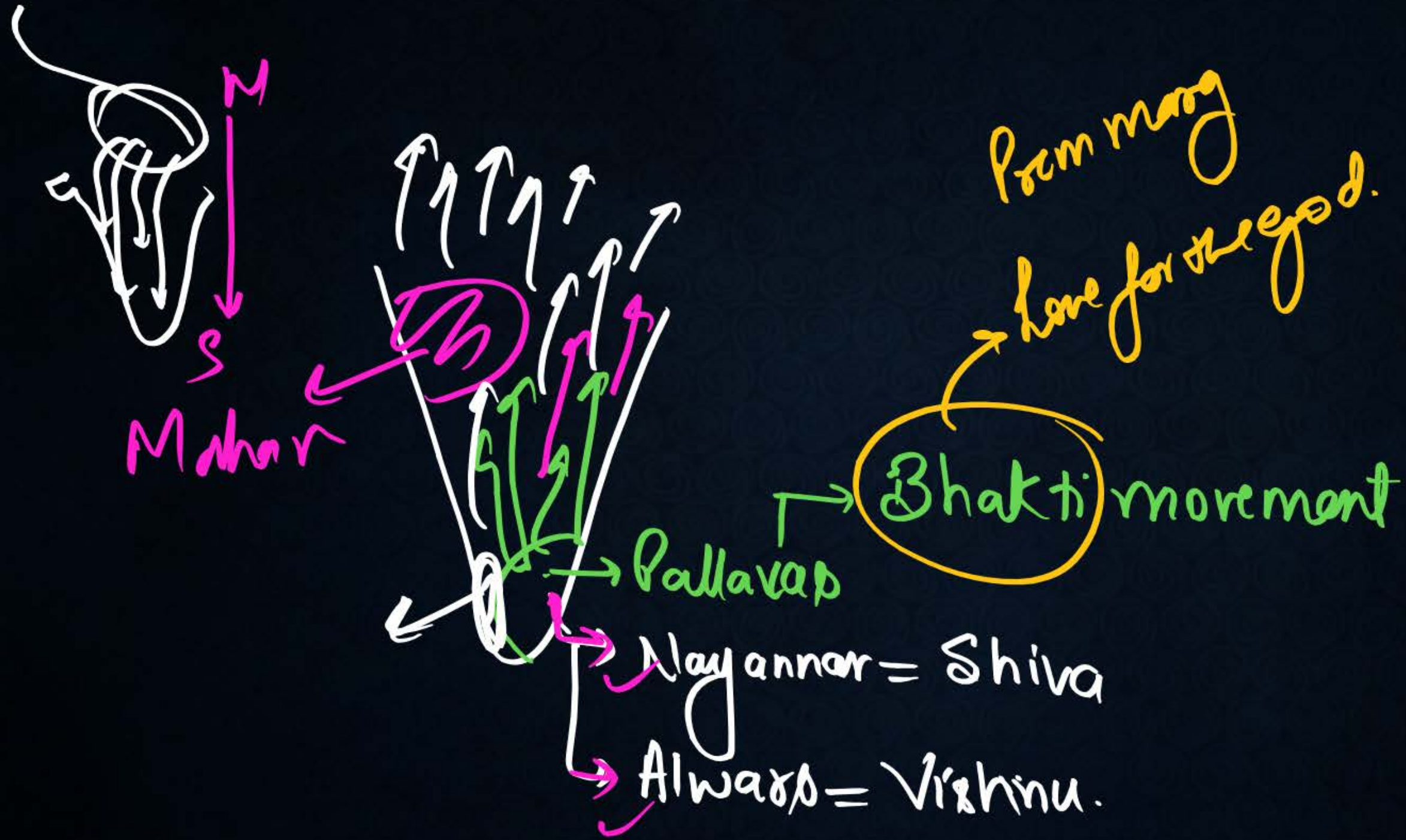
Culturally their reign is important for the growth of

- ❖ Tamil bhakti literature
- ❖ Dravidian style of art and architecture in south India.
 - Mahabalipuram – important centre of temple architecture.

finest example being the Shore Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Mahabalipuram.
foundations of medieval South Indian architecture.



- ❖ developed the **Pallava script** from which **Grantha** ultimately descended.
 - gave rise to several other southeast Asian scripts.
- ❖ Kanchi under them became an important temple town and a center of trade and commerce.
- ❖ **Pallavas were followers of Hinduism**
 - made gifts of land to gods and Brahmins.
 - some of the rulers performed the Aswamedha and other Vedic sacrifices.
- ❖ tolerant of other faiths
- ❖ replaced by the imperial Cholas



Language in Pallava empire

Early Pallava royal inscriptions are either in **Sanskrit or in Prakrit language**

- ❖ Prakrit as official languages continued till the 6th century.

Pallavas in their Tamil country used Tamil and Sanskrit in their inscriptions.

- ❖ Tamil came to be the main language used by the Pallavas in their inscriptions, though a few records continued to be in Sanskrit.
- ❖ Almost all the copper plate records, viz., Kasakudi, Tandantottam, Pattattalmangalm, Udayendiram and Velurpalaiyam are composed both in Sanskrit and Tamil.

Patronage to Sanskrit literature

- ❖ Pallavas patronised Sanskrit literature.
- ❖ Two distinguished Sanskrit poets lived during their reign.
- ❖ **Dandi**: Historians opined that he lived in the court of Narasimhavarma-II.
 - kavya namely **Dasakumara Charita**.
- ❖ **Bharavi** : He adorned the court of Nandivarma-II and authored a legendary book named Kiratarjuniyam.

Patronage to Tamil literature:

- ❖ The sacred Tamil literature also flourished during this period.
- ❖ **Perundevanar** wrote Mahabharata in Tamil.
- ❖ Nayanars, a group of 63 Tamil Shaiva poet-saints,
 - composed **Tevaram or Tirumurai**.
 - popularly known 'as the Dravida Veda
 - still being recited in the Shaiva temples of TamilNadu.
- ❖ Alwars, a group of 12 Tamil Vaishnava poet-saints,
 - composed **Nalayira Divya Prabandham**.
 - considered as a holy book for the Tamil Vaishnavites and being chanted in the Vaishnava temples of TN

Architecture of Pallavas

- introduced the stone architecture in the Tamil country.
- still extant because granite was used for building temples and carving sculptures.
- evolved stage by stage from the period of Mahendravarman I.

We can broadly classify the Pallava architecture as:

- ❖ Cave Temples and Rock-cut temples.
- ❖ Monolithic Rathas and Sculptural Mandapas
- ❖ Structural temples.

Pallava sculpture – distinctive style //different from the Gupta period sculptures of north India.

The faces of the human figures are oval with high cheekbones, and the bodies slender with tapering limbs.

Pallava cave shrines

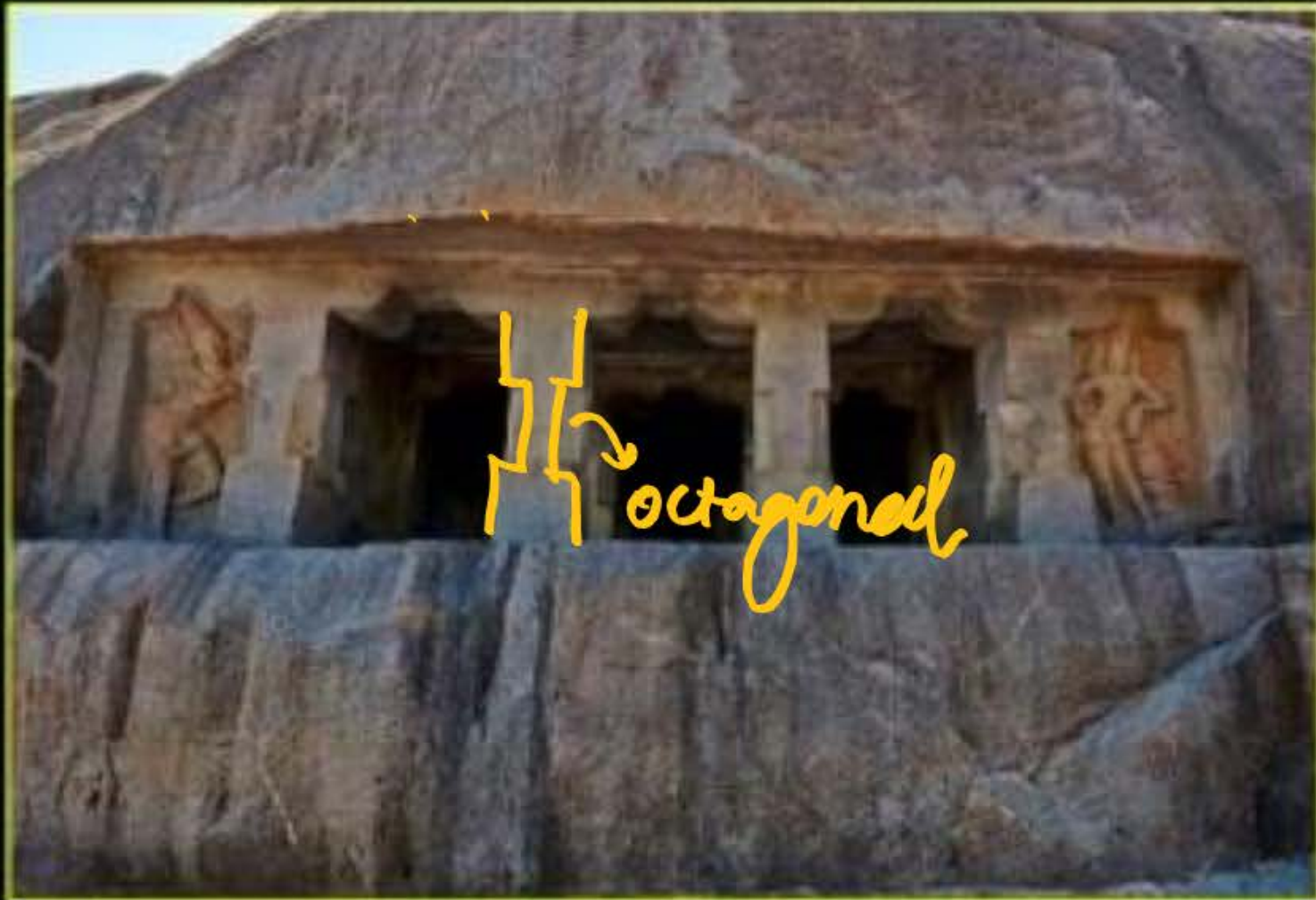
They are smaller and less complex in plan than those at Ajanta and Ellora.

Lakshitayatana temple at Mandgappattu, Lalitankuras cave at Tiruchirapalli, Varaha cave temple at Mamallapuram are some examples.

The **massive pillars** in these caves are square at the bottom and top, and chamfered into an octagonal shape in between.

The cave facade is generally plain, dvarapalas usually marking the two ends. The sanctum contains a linga or images of Shiva, Vishnu, or Brahma.

Cave temples



Mandagapattu temple
dedicated to Brahma-Shiva-Vishnu.



Varaha Cave Temple at Mamallapuram.

Rock-cut temples

- ❖ Pallava rock-cut temples also known as 'Mahendravarman style' as it had evolved stage during the period of Mahendravarman I.
- ❖ He carved temples out of the rocks and thus they were known as rock cut temples.
- ❖ It was really an innovation in the sphere of art because he did not use any other building materials.
- ❖ Therefore, he was hailed as 'Vichitra Chitta'.
- ❖ In these rock cut temples, we find the sanctum sanctorum on the walls of it beautiful sculptures.



Mahendravadi rock-cut temple



Mamandur rock cut temple

Rock-cut temples

- ❖ The pillars are carved in such a way that they stand on the heads of lions. The rock cut temples of Mahendravarman I are found at various places of Tamil Nadu. The most important among them are Pallavaram, Mamandur, Mahendravadi, Vallam and Thalavanur.



Mahendravadi rock-cut temple



Mamandur rock cut temple

Monolithic Rathas of Pallavas

- ❖ The monolithic rathas and sculptural mandapas constitute the Mamalla style of architecture.
- ❖ The Pallava king, Narasimhavarman I was known as Mamalla. (630–668 CE)
- ❖ He had converted the port of Mamallapuram as a beautiful city of art and architecture.
- ❖ The Monolithic rathas at Mamallapuram are now called as Pancha Pandava Rathas.
- ❖ Each ratha or chariot was carved out of single rock and hence the name monolithic.
- ❖ These rathas depict the five different forms of temple architecture.



**Pallavas monolithic
rathas and sculptural**

Monolithic Rathas of Pallavas

◆ Some important Rathas are:

- (a) The Arjuna Ratha: contains artistically carved sculptures of Siva, Vishnu, mithuna and dwarapala.
- (b) The Dharmaraja Ratha: One of the most exquisite of the five rathas, has a three-storied vimana and a square base.
- (c) The Bhima Ratha: is rectangular in plan and has beautiful sculptures of Harihara, Brahma, Vishnu, Skanda, Ardhanarisvara and Shiva as Gangadhara.



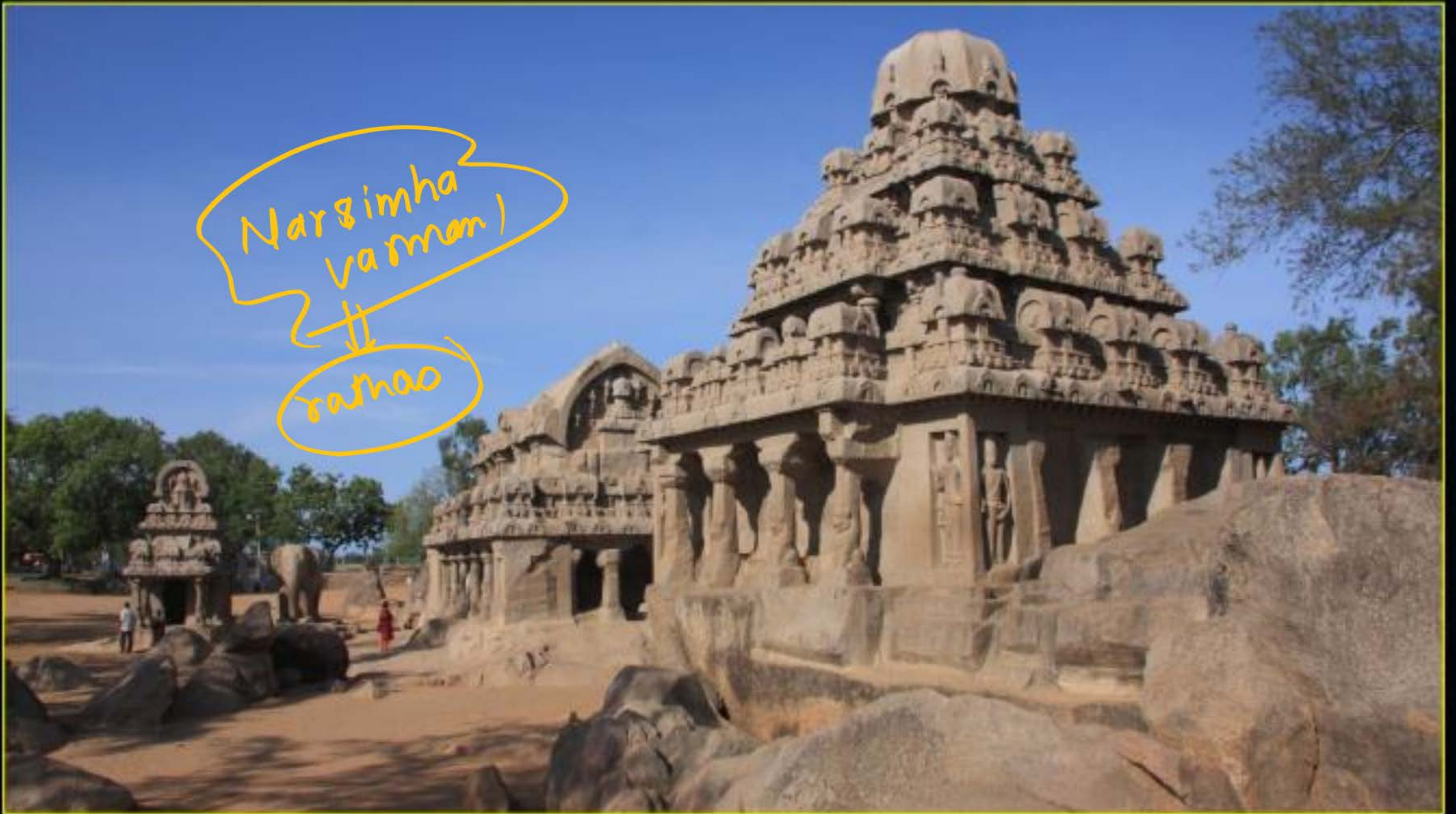
Pallavas monolithic rathas and sculptural

Pancha Rathas



Narsimha
varmam

Samudra



vault



Bhima Rath



Nakul Sehdev Rath



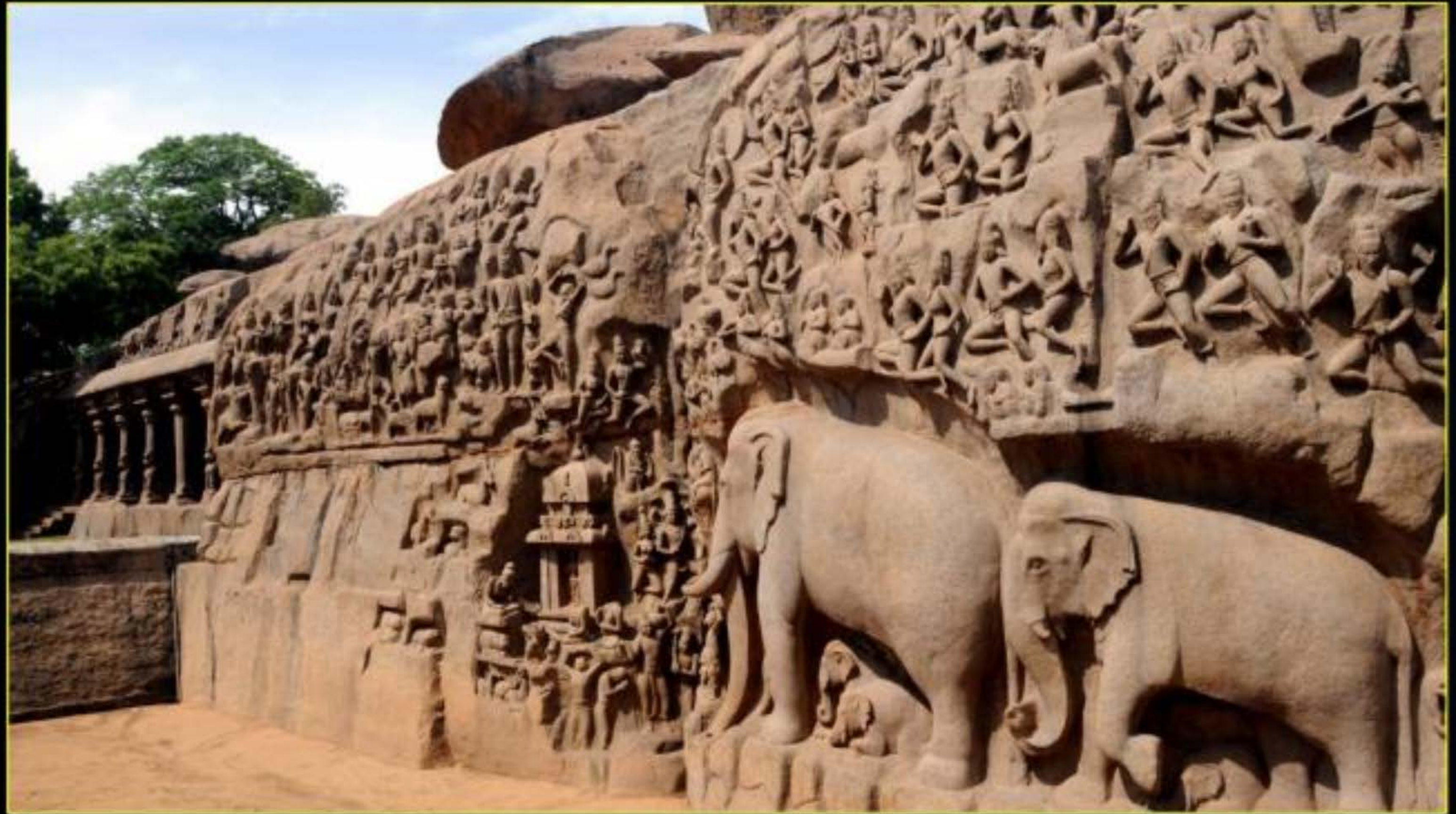
Krishna Butter Ball



Ganesh Rath



Valaiyan-kuttai Ratha and Pindari Rath





Structural Temples

From the reign of Rajasimha (700-728 CE) (Narsimhavarman II) the construction of structural temples had started. These temple structures were built with the use of granite slabs. Hence, they are known as structural temples.

We can broadly classify the Pallava structural temples into:

1. Rajasimha Style and
2. Nandivarman Style

Kailasanatha Temple Kanchi

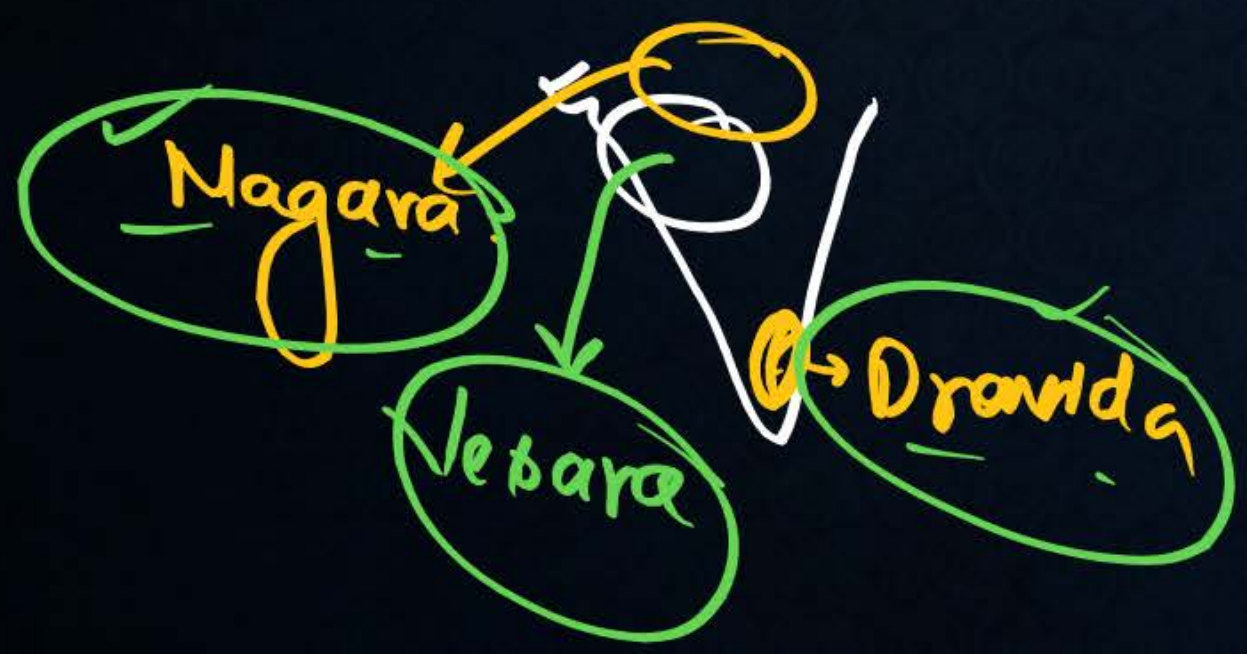
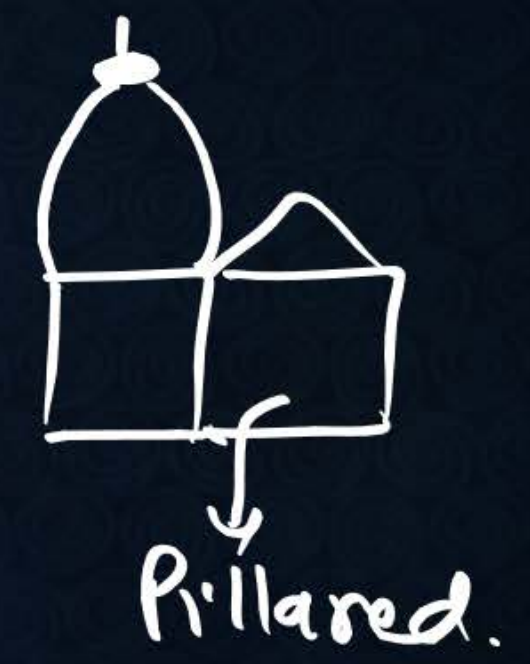
Dravidian
Temple Architecture

Shikhara

Viman.



Caves ^{Cupota} $\rightarrow$ Temple $\Rightarrow$



- ❖ The iconic Shore Temple was constructed during the reign of **Rajasimha (c.700-728 CE)** and comprises of three shrines dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu.
- ❖ **five-storeyed rock-cut monolith.**
- ❖ In fact, the monolithic vimanas are peculiar to Mamallapuram.



Nandivarman II had built the Vaikunda Perumal Temple at Kanchipuram.

The temples built by the later Pallava rulers are found at places like Kanchipuram, Panamalai, Kooram, Thiruthani and Gudimallam



Mahendravarmana Group	Mahendravarmana I (600-630AD)	Temple at Bhairavkona (North Arcot Group (600-630 AD) Distt.), Ananteswar temple at Undavalli (Guntur Distt.)
Mammala Group	Narsimhavarmana I 'Mammala' (630-668 AD)	[Mammala Group] Mandapa temples and Ratha temples 'Mammala' (630-668 AD) (Sapt Pagodas excluding shore temple) at Mammalapuram (Mahabalipuram)
Rajasimha Group	Narsimhavarmana II 'Rajsimha' (700-728 AD)	Kailashnatha Temple at Kanchi, Shore temple at Mammalapuram
Aparajit Group	Nandivarmana 'Aparajit' (880-897 AD)	Mukteswara, Matangeshwar temple and Vaikuntaperumal at Kanchi, Parshurameswar temple at Gudimallam. The most popular sculpture at Mahabalipuram, known as 'Arjuna's Penance' or 'Descent of Ganga', the marvelous piece of art belongs to this period.

- ❖ The **Kudumiyanmalai and Thirumayam music inscriptions** show their interest in music.
- ❖ Yaazhi, Mridhangam and Murasu were some of the **musical instruments**
- ❖ Both Mahendravarman I and Narasimhavarman I had remained experts in **music**.
- ❖ The temple sculptures reveal that the art of **dance** was popular in those days.
- ❖ The **paintings** at Chithannavasal illustrate the nature of Pallava painting

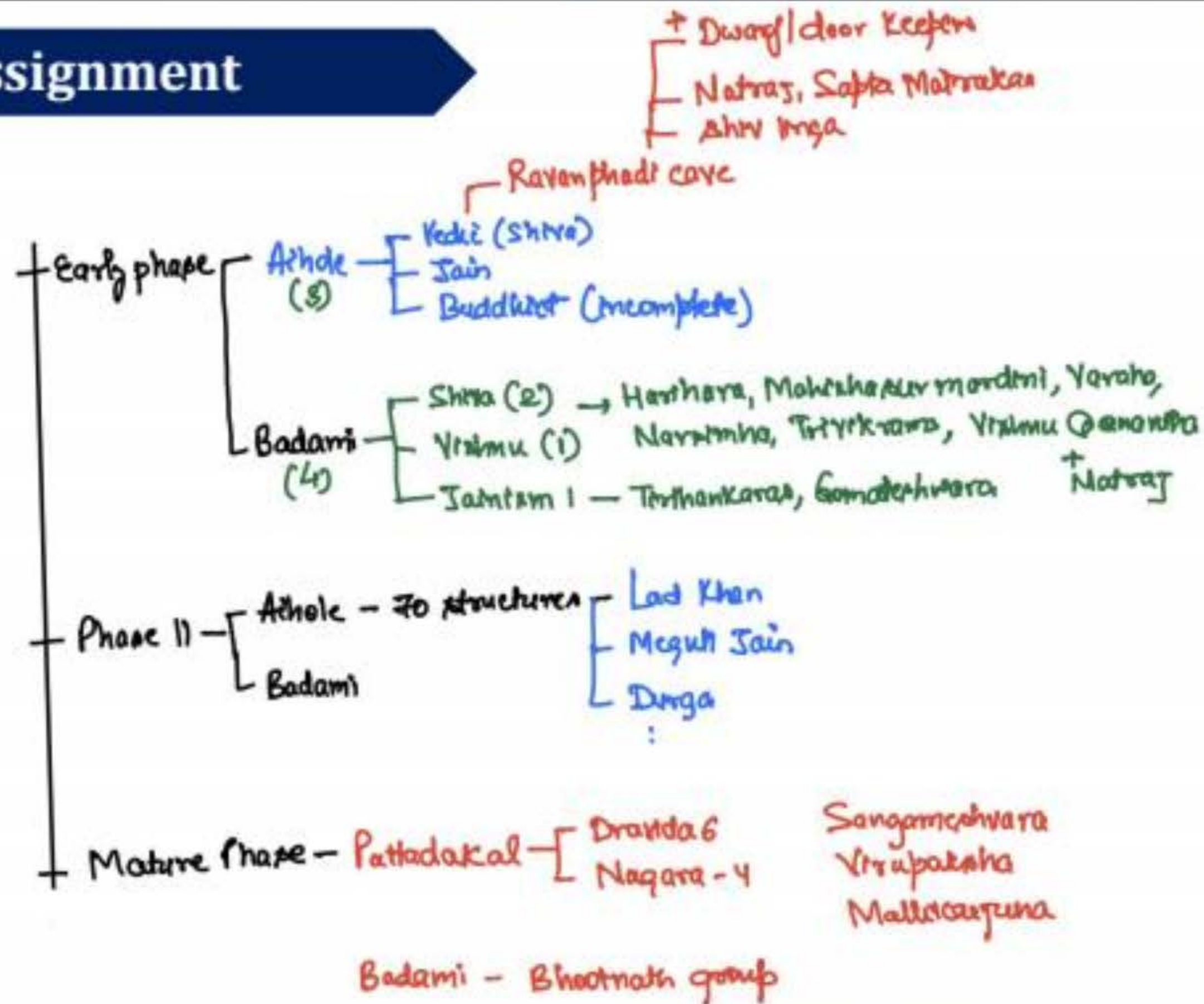


Fine Arts

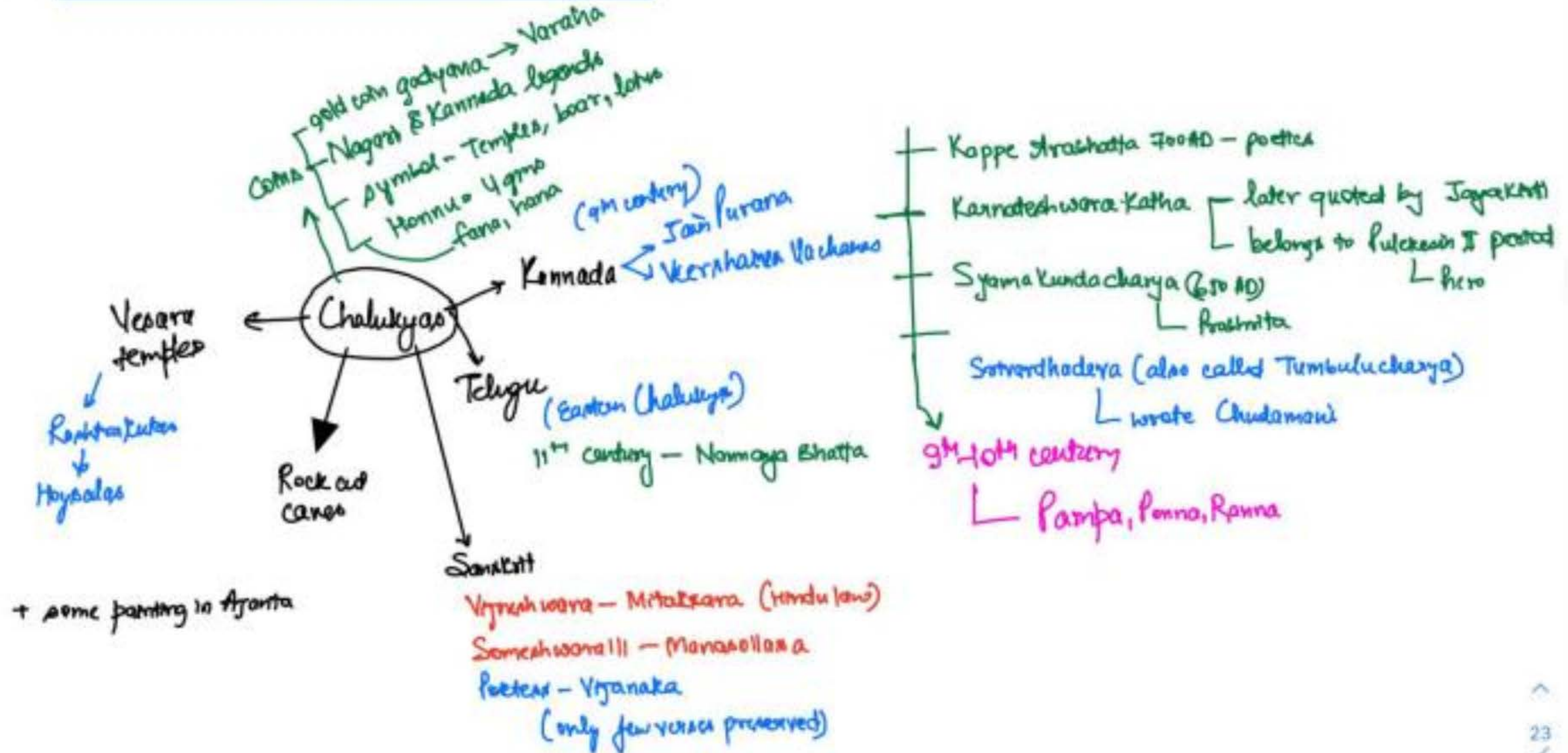
- ❖ Mahendravarman I was known as Chittirakkarapuli.
 - a. He had also composed the book, Thatchina Chitram.
- ❖ Thus, music, dance, paintings and drama were popular during the Pallava rule.



Assignment



Assignment



Thank You!