



DAILY CLASS NOTES

Medieval History

Lecture - 07

Age of Conflict (1000 - 1200 CE)



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Brief Background:

- ❖ During the reign of 1000-1200 another kingdom was rising, **Western Chalukyas**.
- ❖ **Western Chalukyas** tried to interfere in the succession of **Vengi** during the time of Rajaraja, Rajendra.
- ❖ Once Cholas started to decline then a small kingdom in Karnataka emerged **Hoysalas**.
- ❖ In Odisha, there was one kingdom called **Eastern Ganga**, and in Bengal there was **Senas**, in Madhya Pradesh there was another kingdom was **Kalachuri of Tripuri**.



Kalyani/Western Chalukyas (10th-12th Century):

Important Rulers:

- ❖ **Tailapa II: 957-997 (Founder)**
- ❖ 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

Taila or Tailapa II (957-997):

- ❖ **Connected with Badami Chalukyas.**
- ❖ He was a feudatory of the Rashtrakutas ruled from the Bijapur region.



- ❖ He overthrew his overlords.
- ❖ The last ruler of the Rashtrakuta Dynasty Kakka II (Karaka) was killed by Tailapa II.
- ❖ **Kadambas** assisted him, as a result of which Banavasi and Goa were given as reward to him.
- ❖ He made **Manyakheta his capital in 973 CE** by taking advantage of the confusion generated in the Rashtrakuta ranks by the invasion of Manyakheta by the Paramaras of Malwa.
- ❖ He patronized a Kannada poet Ranna who was one of the earliest poets of Kannada language.

Satyasraya (997 to 1008 CE):

- ❖ He was the **son of Taila** and succeeded him,
- ❖ Satyasray Vs Rajaraja- overran the Chalukya country and looted and killed a large number of men, women and children.
- ❖ Bestowed upon Ranna and the title Kavi Chakravati.
- ❖ He triumphed over the Rajaraja Chola monarch who had invaded his territory.
- ❖ He also took control of Rajaraja's territory.

Vikramaditya V (c. 1008-1015):

- ❖ Title named **Tribhvana Malla** and was follower of Jainism.

Jayasimha I (c. 1015-1042 CE):

- ❖ Rajendra Chola monarch attempted to invade during his reign.
- ❖ Jayasimha successfully resisted both of his attempts.
- ❖ Defence Minister Macharaju patronised poet Chandrarajan who wrote a book called Madana Tilaka.
- ❖ He was a follower of Shivaism.

Someshvara I (1043-1068):

- ❖ He was the **son of Jayasimha**.
- ❖ He relocated the **capital to Kalyani**.
- ❖ The Cholas had already plundered the capital previous to Rajadhiraja Chola's expulsion. He **killed Rajendra Chola**, in the Battle of Koppam, breaking the line of succession, according to inscriptions.
- ❖ The dynasty soon gained prominence and expanded into an empire under his rule.
- ❖ During his reign, prince Vikramaditya VI invaded chola kingdom and plundered Tanjore, Kanchi and Gangaikonda.
- ❖ He preferred **his second son Vikramaditya** to succeed him, but the latter chose the elder brother **Someshvara II (c. 1068-1076 CE)** instead.
- ❖ As his brother's army's general, Vikramaditya overthrew the Cholas, Kerala, and Ceylon.
- ❖ However, Somesvara II quickly developed undesirable habits and lost his brother's support.
- ❖ Vikramaditya thereafter began to autonomously rule the southern region of the kingdom.

- ❖ He ended his life by drowning himself in the river Tungabhadra.

Vikramaditya VI (1076-1126 CE):

- ❖ The most notable king of this dynasty was Tribhuvanamalla ("lord of the three worlds"), also known as **Permadideva**.
- ❖ The Konkani king likewise submitted to Vikramaditya, who then marched off to confront **Vira Rajendra Chola**. The latter begged Vikramaditya for peace by offering the hand of his daughter.
- ❖ Vikramaditya installed his brother-in-law Adhi-Rajendra on the throne of the Cholas after Vira Rajendra passed away.
- ❖ Vikramaditya was **awarded control of Bellary** after being vanquished by the Eastern Chalukya monarch Jayasimha following the death of his brother-in-law.
- ❖ With the help of the Hoysalas, Vikramaditya was able to retake his position of authority, however, and became Vikramaditya VI in around 1076 CE. Around **1076 CE**, he inaugurated the **Chalukya Vikrama** period.
- ❖ Vikramaditya VI's reign saw the Western Chalukyas successfully contending with the Cholas. Between the Narmada River in the north and the Kaveri River in the south, they **controlled lands that covered the majority of the Deccan**. He had a number of queens who were skilled administrators.
- ❖ In the court of Vikramaditya VI, the two famous authors - **Bilhana and Vijnaneswara** flourished. He served as Bilhana's **Vikramankadeva Charitra** hero. Bilhana, who had traveled from Kashmir to his court, compared Ramarajya's dominion to his.
- ❖ The eminent lawyer in his court, **Vijnaneshwara**, wrote **Mitakshara**, a commentary on Yagnavalkya Smriti (on Hindu family law). "A King like Vikramarka is neither to be seen nor heard of," he wrote about the king.
- ❖ He was **Shaiva by faith**, Vikramaditya VI's reign saw a flurry of temple construction.
- ❖ The Mallikarjuna temple, the Mahadeva temple, the Kaitabheshvara temple, and the Kalleshvara temple are notable temples of that time.

A hero stone with old Kannada inscription(1115 AD) during the rule of Vikramaditya VI at the Kedareshvara temple in Balligavi.

Decline:

Somesvara III (1126-1138):

- ❖ He was the next king, but a weak ruler.
- ❖ He had a preference for **literature** and was the author of **Abilashitartha Chintamani or Manasollasa**. He also wrote **Vikramankabhyudaya**.
- ❖ He gave Vishnuvardhana Hoysala the opportunity to seize freedom.

- ❖ The succeeding kings were also not particularly competent, and eventually the Chalukyan feudatories began to declare their independence.

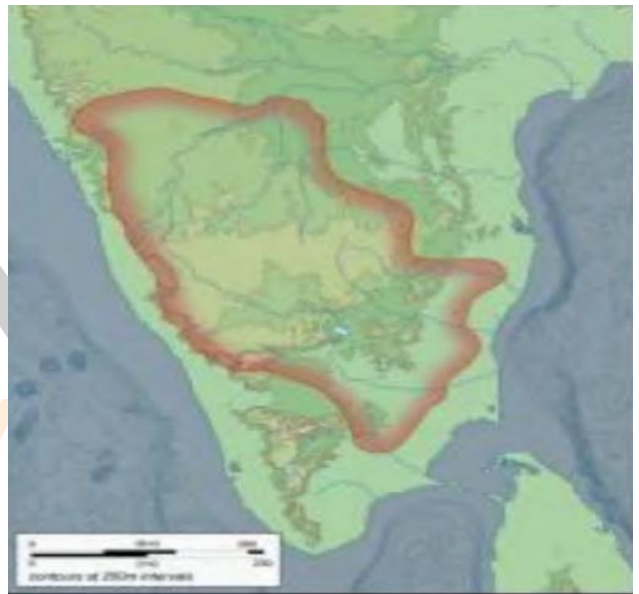
Somesvara IV (1184-1200):

- ❖ Under the direction of Somesvara IV, the son of Taila III, the Chalukyas were able to retake their realm. **Singhana**, the last Kalachuri ruler, recognized his suzerainty.
- ❖ He quickly won the support of the Pandyas of Uchchangi and the Kadambas of Goa and Banavasi.
- ❖ However, the Hoysalas under **Vira Ballala I** and the Yadavas of Devagiri attacked, which led to the collapse of the later Western Chalukya dynasty in around 1190 CE.

Hoysala Empire (10th – 14th Century):

History of Hoysala Empire:

- ❖ There is a famous Kannada folklore about a **young man-Sala**, who was instructed by his Jain guru Sudatta to kill a tiger he encountered near the temple of the Goddess Vasantika at Sosevur.
- ❖ The word "**strike**" literally translates to "hoy" in Old Kannada, hence the name "Hoy-sala." The figure representing Sala attacking the tiger became the **emblem of this royal family** and can be seen in almost every temple built by the Hoysalas.
- ❖ However, the story has a number of discrepancies and is considered folklore by many historians.
- ❖ Early inscriptions, dated 1078 and 1090, have implied that the Hoysalas descended from the Yadava by referring to the Yadava vamsa (clan) as Hoysala vamsa.



Hoysala Empire:

- ❖ The Hoysala Empire was a **prominent South Indian empire** that ruled most of the modern-day state of **Karnataka** between the tenth and the fourteenth centuries. The capital of the empire initially resided at **Belur**, later moving to **Halebidu**.
- ❖ The Hoysala rulers originally lived as hill peoples of Malnad Karnataka, an elevated region in the Western Ghats range.



- ❖ In the twelfth century, taking advantage of the constant warfare between the then ruling **Western Chalukyas and Kalachuri kingdoms**, they annexed areas of present-day Karnataka and the fertile areas north of the Kaveri River delta in present day Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ By the thirteenth century, they governed most of present-day Karnataka, parts of Tamil Nadu and parts of western Andhra Pradesh in Deccan India.
- ❖ The Hoysala era emerged as an important period in the development of **art, architecture, and religion in South India**.
- ❖ The empire is remembered today primarily for its **temple architecture**. Over a hundred surviving temples exist across Karnataka, including the well-known **Chennakesava Temple at Belur, the Hoysaleswara Temple at Halebidu, and the Kesava Temple at Somanathapura**.
- ❖ The Hoysala rulers also patronized the fine arts. That patronage encouraged literature to flourish in **Kannada and Sanskrit**.

Important Ruler of Hoysala Kingdom:

- ❖ Nripa Kama II: 1026-1047
- ❖ Vinayaditya: 1047-1098
- ❖ Ereyanga: 1098-1102
- ❖ Veera Ballala I: 1102-1108
- ❖ Vishnuvardhana: 1108-1152
- ❖ Narasimha I: 1152-1173
- ❖ Veera Ballala II: 1173-1220
- ❖ Vira Narasimha II: 1220-1235
- ❖ Vira Someshwara: 1235-1263
- ❖ Narasimha III: 1263-1292
- ❖ Veera Ballala III: 1292-1343
- ❖ Harihara Raya (Vijayanagara Empire): 1342-1355

Political History of Hoysala Empire:

- ❖ They proudly used the title **Maleparolganda or "Lord of the Male (hills) chiefs" (Malepas)** in most of the inscriptions, in the Kannada language as their royal signature in their inscriptions.

King Nripa Kama II (1026-1047):

- ❖ He was the **founder** of the Hoysala Kingdom.
- ❖ He built an alliance with the Western Ganga dynasty.
- ❖ He was succeeded by his **son Vinayaditya** who was followed by his son and their sons until Veera Ballala I who died childless and was succeeded by his younger brother Vishnuvardhana Raya.

King Vishnuvardhana Raya (1108-1152):

- ❖ During his reign, the Hoysala empire achieved political prominence.
- ❖ There were many military conquests, they won Gangawadi area from Cholas
- ❖ During his reign, the influence of Sri Ramanujacharya (vishishtadvaita) spread in the Karnataka region and Srivaishnavism grew in popularity.
- ❖ Vishnuvardhana Raya himself was originally known as Bittideva and took on this name only after converting from Jainism to Srivaishnavism.
- ❖ A number of Vaishnava temples were built under his patronage.
- ❖ His queen, Shantala Devi remained a devout Jain, fostered a number of artists.

Veera Ballala II (1173-1220):

- ❖ He was the grandson of Vishnuvardhana.
- ❖ He freed the Hoysalas from the Chalukya subordination and created an independent kingdom.
- ❖ Kannada folktales mention that he founded Bangalore. It is also mentioned that he was succeeded by his son **Narasimha II**.
- ❖ Civil war broke out under Someshwara's reign and the kingdom was partitioned into two parts which was ruled by his sons, **Narasimha III and Ramanatha**.

Veera Ballala III (1292-1343):

- ❖ He was the **last ruler** of the Hoysala Dynasty.
- ❖ He got killed at the **Battle of Madurai in 1343**.
- ❖ The territories merged with the areas administered by Harihara I in the Tungabhadra River region. (**Vijayanagara Empire**).

Hoysala Administration:

- ❖ The kingdom was divided into provinces named **Nadu, Vishaya, Kampana and Desha**, listed in descending order of geographical size.
- ❖ Each province had a local governing body consisting of a **minister (Mahapradhana)** and a **treasurer (Bhandari)** that reported to the **ruler of that province (Dandanayaka)**.
- ❖ There were officials under this local ruler called **Heggaddes and Gavundas** who hired and supervised the local farmers and laborers recruited to till the land.
- ❖ Subordinate ruling clans such as **Alupas** continued to govern their respective territories while following the policies set by the empire.
- ❖ An elite and well-trained force of bodyguards known as **Garudas**, protected the members of the royal family at all times.

- ❖ These servants moved closely yet inconspicuously by the side of their master, their loyalty being so complete that they committed suicide after his death.
- ❖ **Hero stones (virgal)** erected in memory of these bodyguards are called Garuda pillars. The Garuda pillar at the Hoysaleswara temple in Halebidu was erected in honor of Kuvira Lakshma, a minister and bodyguard of King Veera Ballala II.

Coinage:

- ❖ **King Vishnuvardhana's** coins had the legends "victor at Nolambavadi" (Nolambavadigonda), "victor at Talakad" (Talakadugonda), "chief of the Malepas" (Maleparolganda), "Brave of Malepa" (malapavira) in **Hoysala style Kannada script**. Their gold coin was called **Honnu or Gadyana** and weighed 62 grains of gold.
- ❖ **Pana or Hana** was a tenth of the Honnu, Haga was a fourth of the Pana and Visa was fourth of Haga. There were other coins called Bele and Kani.

Religious Movements during Hoysala Period:

- ❖ During the rule of the Hoysalas, three important religious developments took place in present-day Karnataka inspired by three philosophers, **Basava, Madhvacharya and Ramanuja**.
- ❖ **Reform Movement by Basava:**
 - **Basava** flourished in the 12th century in Karnataka.
 - He was a Prime Minister to **King Bijjala** who ruled from 1157 to 1167 over Kalyana, a city of historic importance.
 - **Basava** strove hard to bring about **reformation in Hinduism** into which social evils had crept in.
 - He rejected gender or social discrimination, superstitions and rituals.
 - He introduced **Ishtalinga**, with an image of the **Shiva Linga (Lingayat)**.
- ❖ **His suggestions may be stated as follows:**
 - The Hindu Society should leave its smug satisfaction and become critical of itself.
 - Unity can only be achieved by **social and cultural rapprochement**.
 - A revolt against the exploiting forces is necessary for the preservation, protection and security of social democracy.

- ❖ The movement initiated by Basava through 'Anubhava Mantapa' became the basis of the religion of love and faith. It gave rise to a system of ethics and education at once simple and exalted.

Significance of the Religious Reforms:

- ❖ The effect of these religious developments on **culture, literature, poetry and architecture** in South India was profound.
- ❖ Important works of **literature and poetry** based on the teachings of these philosophers were written during the coming centuries.
- ❖ The **Saluva, Tuluva and Aravidu dynasties of Vijayanagar empire** were followers of Vaishnavism and a Vaishnava temple with an image of Ramanuja exists in the Vitthalapura area of Vijayanagara.
- ❖ Scholars in the later Kingdom of Mysore wrote Vaishnavite works upholding the teachings of Ramanuja. King Vishnuvardhana built many temples after his **conversion from Jainism to Vaishnavism**.
- ❖ The later saints of **Madhvacharya's order** were **Jayatirtha, Vyasatirtha, Vyasatirtha, Sripadaraja, Vadiraja Tirtha**.
- ❖ The devotees (dasa) such as **Vijaya Dasa, Gopaladasa and others** from the Karnataka region spread his teachings far and wide.
- ❖ His teachings inspired later philosophers like **Vallabha in Gujarat** and **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu in Bengal**.
- ❖ Another wave of devotion (bhakti) in the **17th century-18th century** found inspiration in his teachings.

Hoysala Architecture:

- ❖ Hoysala architecture refers to the distinctive building style developed under the rule of the Hoysala Empire in the region known today as Karnataka between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries.
- ❖ Hoysala architecture is noted for its **temple architectural style**.
- ❖ The extensive temple building activity of the Hoysala Empire arose from the social, cultural and political events of the period.
- ❖ Hoysala influence was at its peak in the 13th century, when it dominated the **Southern Deccan Plateau region**. Large and small temples built during this era remain as examples of the Hoysala architectural style, including the **Chennakesava Temple at Belur, the Hoysaleswara Temple at Halebidu, and the Kesava Temple at Somanathapura**.
- ❖ Other examples of Hoysala craftsmanship are the temples at Belavadi, Amruthapura, Hosaholalu, Mosale, Arasikere, Basaralu, Kikkeri and Nuggehalli.
- ❖ Hoysala architectural style was influenced by **both -Indo-Aryan and Southern Indian style** of architecture. However, Indo-Aryan influence was negligible while the impact of Southern Indian style is more distinct.
- ❖ Hoysala architecture is classified as part of the **Karnata Dravida tradition**, a trend within Dravidian architecture in the Deccan that is distinct from the Tamil style of further south. Other terms for the tradition

are Vesara, and Chalukya architecture, divided into early Badami Chalukya architecture and the Western Chalukya architecture which immediately preceded the Hoysalas.

- ❖ The stylistic transformation of the Karnata temple building tradition reflected religious trends popularized by the Vaishnava and Virashaiva philosophers as well as the growing military prowess of the Hoysala kings who desired to surpass their Western Chalukya overlords in artistic achievement.
- ❖ More than hundred temples have survived in present-day Karnataka state, mostly in the Malnad (hill) districts, the native home of the Hoysala kings.

Deities at Hoysala Temples:

- ❖ The Hoysalas usually dedicated their temples to **Lord Shiva or to Lord Vishnu** but they also occasionally chose a different deity.
- ❖ Hoysalas maintained religious harmony by dedicating equal buildings to Shiva and Vishnu each.
- ❖ Most of those temples have secular features with broad themes depicted in their sculptures. This striking feature appears in the famous **Chennakeshava temple at Belur dedicated to Vishnu** and in the **Hoysaleswara temple at Halebidu dedicated to Shiva**.
- ❖ The names of Shiva temples can end with the suffix 'eshwara' meaning 'Lord of'. The name Hoysaleswara for instance means Lord of Hoysala.
- ❖ The temple was also named after a devotee who commissioned the construction of the temple, for example: the **Bucesvara temple** at Koravangala named after a **devotee Buci**.

Features of Hoysala Temple Architecture:

- ❖ A cuboid cell, the **garbha griha (sanctum sanctorum)** houses a centrally placed murti (enshrined icon) on a pitha (pedestal).
- ❖ The **shikhara (superstructure)**, rises over the garbha griha and together with the sanctum they form the **vimana (or mulaprasada)** of a temple.
- ❖ A ribbed stone, amalaka, is placed atop the shikhara with a kalash at its finial.
- ❖ An intermediate **antarala (vestibule)** joins the **garbha griha** to an expansive pillared mandapa (porch) in front, chiefly facing east (or north). The temple may be approached via entrances with gigantic gopurams (ornate entrance towers) towering over each doorway.
- ❖ In the **prakaram (temple courtyard)** several minor shrines and outbuildings often abound.
- ❖ The vimanas are either stellate, semi-stellate or orthogonal in plan. The intricately carved banded plinths, a distinguishing characteristic of the Hoysala temples, comprise a series of horizontal courses that run as rectangular strips with narrow recesses between them.
- ❖ Also, the temples themselves are sometimes built on a raised platform or jagati which is used for the purpose of a **pradakshinapatha (circumambulation)**.

Important Hoysala Temples:

Chennakesava Temple Complex (Belur):

- ❖ This is an ekakuta, i.e., a temple with one shrine.
- ❖ The garbha griha houses an enshrined **image of Krishna**. The whole temple, built on a grand scale, follows the general pattern of Hoysala architecture.
- ❖ It has an east-west orientation set on a **jagati**. The hall has 60 bays and a shrine measuring 10 m on either side.
- ❖ Under the eave cornice of mandapa there are 38 most wonderfully sculpted figures called salabhanjika or madanika (bracket figures).
- ❖ Their placements and inscriptions reveal these to be later additions.
- ❖ To the southern end of this main temple lies Kappechennigaraya, consecrated by the queen of Vishnuvardhan, Shantala, the same year.
- ❖ Beside the main shrine there is a subshrine housing the image of Venugopal. This temple follows the stellate plan but is less ornamental.

Viranarayan Temple:

- ❖ The same compound (of Chennakesava Temple Complex) houses another temple named **Viranarayan** to the west of Chennakesava. It is an ekakuta, **Vaishnava temple**, probably erected at a later date of the 12th century CE.
- ❖ It is built following the basic pattern of a garbha griha and an antarala opening up to the mandapa, all built on jagati.
- ❖ Interestingly, this temple is relatively austere, lacking in the narrative friezes that are abound in Chennakesava temple.
- ❖ A **relatively minor structure**, the **Saumyanayaka temple** is situated to the southwest of the main temple.
- ❖ Its damaged shikhara was repaired in 1387 CE by a minister under the **Vijayanagara King Harihara II**.

Hoysaleshwara and Shantaleshwara (Halebidu):

- ❖ In this **dvikuta (temple with two shrines) Shaiva temple**, the two garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum) are found connected by a mandapa (porch) forming a large open hall.
- ❖ One shrine is dedicated to King Vishnuvardhan and the other to his Queen Shantala, therefore it is called **Shantaleshwara**.
- ❖ Built in 1121 CE, it was principally constructed under the patronage of wealthy local merchants and aristocrats.
- ❖ There are four entrances to the twin temple with miniature vimanas flanking them on either side. Two adjunct shrines, one for Nandi (bull) and another for Surya (sun) are also built on the same jagati.

- ❖ The exquisite friezes on temple walls eloquently render stories from Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagavata Purana.
- ❖ These reliefs preserve one of the finest achievements of Hoysala craftsmen and constitute an exhaustive lesson in the symbology of Hindu art.

Kedareshwara (Halebidu):

- ❖ This **Shaiva trikuta (temple with three shrines) temple** is located only a couple of kilometers to the south of Hoysaleswara.
- ❖ It was built under the patronage of King Veer Ballala II and Queen **Ketala Devi**.
- ❖ Designed following a stellate plan, the central shrine is connected to the other two laterally positioned shrines by a common mandapa.
- ❖ The sculptural details illustrate beautifully executed Bhairava, **Vishnu** as Bharadwaj and Kaliyadamana among others.



Hoysaleswara Temple



Kedareshwara Temple

Hoysala Sculpture:

- ❖ Hoysala artists are notable for their sculptural detail, whether in the depiction of the Hindu epics, Yali (mythical creature), deities, Kirthimukha (Gargoyle), eroticism or aspects of daily life.
- ❖ Their medium, the **soft chlorite schist**, enabled a virtuoso carving style. Their workmanship shows an attention paid to precise detail. Every aspect down to a fingernail or toenail has been created perfectly.

Features of Hoysala Sculptural Art:

- ❖ Wall panels present general life themes such as the act of reining horses, the type of stirrup used, the depiction of dancers, musicians, instrumentalists, rows of animals such as lions and elephants (with each animal unique).

- ❖ The **Hoysaleswara temple at Halebidu** presents perhaps the best depiction of the epics **Ramayana and Mahabharata in temple art**.
- ❖ The Hoysala artist handled erotica with discretion.
- ❖ They avoided exhibitionism, carving erotic themes into recesses and niches, generally miniature in form making them inconspicuous.
- ❖ Those erotic representations are associated with the **Shakta practice**. The temple doorway displays heavily engraved ornamentation called **Makaratorana (makara or imaginary beast)** and each side of the doorway exhibits sculptured **Salabanjika (maidens)**.
- ❖ Apart from those sculptures, entire sequences from the Hindu epics have been sculptured in a clockwise direction starting at the main entrance.
- ❖ The right-to-left sequence follows the same direction taken by the devotees in their ritual circumambulation as they wind inward toward the inner sanctum.
- ❖ **Depictions from mythology:** Such as the epic hero Arjuna shooting fish, the elephant-headed God Ganesha, the Sun God Surya, the weather and war god Indra, and Brahma with Sarasvati commonly appear.
- ❖ Also, **Durga frequently appears in the temples**, with several arms holding weapons given to her by other Gods, in the act of killing a water buffalo (a demon in a buffalo's form) and **Harihara (a fusion Shiva and Vishnu)** holding a conch, wheel and trident.
- ❖ The artisan signed many of those friezes, the first known instance of signed art work in India.



Different Kind of Hoysala Sculpture Art:

- ❖ **Salabhanjika**, a common form of Hoysala sculpture, represents an old Indian tradition going back to Buddhist sculpture. Sala refers to the Sala tree and **bhanjika** the chaste maiden.
- ❖ **Madanika** figures constitute decorative objects put at an angle on the outer walls of the temple near the roof so worshippers who circumambulate the temple could view them.
- ❖ They served the purpose of bracket figures to pillars inside the mantapa of Hoysala temples. Artists sculpted those madanika as

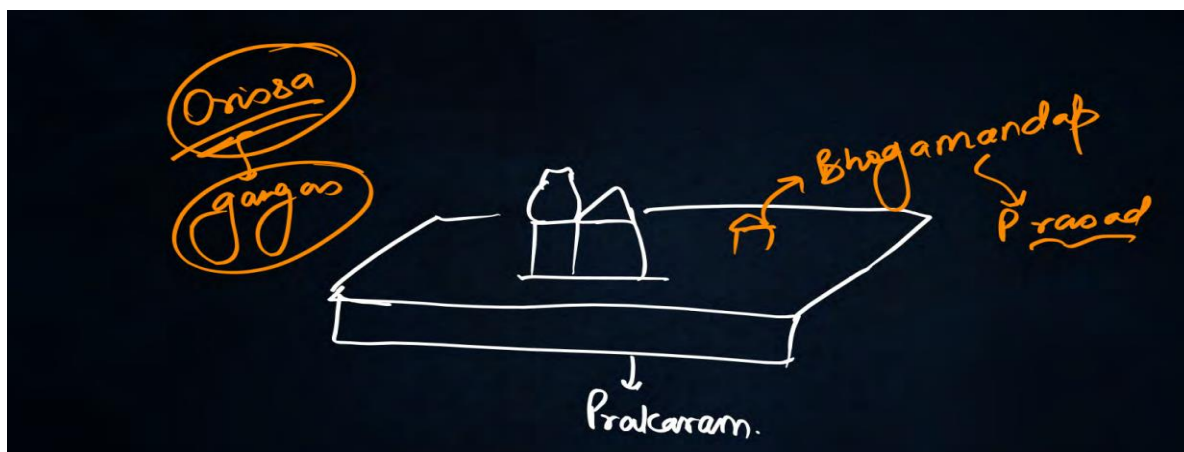


seemingly engaged in artistic skills such as music (holding musical instruments) and dance.

- ❖ **Kirthimukhas** (demon faces) adorn the towers of vimana in some temples. Sometimes the artists left behind their signatures on the sculpture they created.
- ❖ The **sthamba buttalikas** refer to pillar images that show traces of Chola art in the Chalukyan touches. Some of the artists working for the Hoysalas may have been from Chola country, a result of the expansion of the empire into Tamil speaking regions of Southern India.
- ❖ The **image of mohini** on one of the pillars in the mantapa (closed hall) of the Chennakeshava temple represents a fine example of Chola art.

Gangas/Chodagangas of Orissa (11th-15th c CE):

- ❖ It was the **Hindu Dynasty** in the eastern part of India and the dynasty is also known as the **Eastern Ganga**.
- ❖ It included all of the present-day state of Odisha as well as portions of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Its **capital was Kalinganagara**, and contemporary Srimukhalingam in Andhra Pradesh's Srikakulam District, which borders Odisha.
- ❖ They constructed **Konark's Sun Temple**, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- ❖ King Anantavarman Chodaganga claimed descent from both the Chola and Western Ganga dynasties
- ❖ Matrilineal ties to both the Eastern Chalukyas and the Chola empire, the Eastern Ganga monarchs brought **south Indian culture to Odisha** and it clearly reflected in **their coinage**.
- ❖ Through trade and commerce, this kingdom developed, **wealth was primarily used to build temples**.
- ❖ Also, it is important to remember that the **Lingaraja temple** in Bhubaneswar was constructed by the Kesaris who ruled Orissa before the Gangas.



Chodaganga Anantavarman (c.1076-1150 CE):

- ❖ He was likely the first monarch to preside over all three divisions of Kalinga when he assumed the title of **Trikalingadhipathi** in 1076 CE,
 - Kalinga proper (South),
 - Utkal (North)
 - Kosal (West)
- ❖ He was a supporter of literature and art as well as a devout person.
- ❖ He built the famous **Jagannath Temple** of Puri.



Narsimhadewa (c.1238-1264 CE):

- ❖ He was another significant ruler from this dynasty, he built Konark's Sun Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- ❖ Under the leadership of King Bhanudeva IV in the early 15th century, the dynasty's rule came to an end (c.1414-34 CE).
- ❖ The Chalukyas of Vengi seized power in the area after the early Eastern Gangas' rule ended.

Sena Dynasty (1070 CE-1230 CE):

Important Rulers:



Samanta Sena	-
Hemanta Sena	1070-1096
Vijaya Sena	1095-1158
Ballala Sena	1158-1179
Lakshmana Sena	1179-1206
Vishvarupa Sena	1206-1225
Keshava Sena	1225-1230

Senas of Bengal (1091-1225 CE):

- ❖ A **Hindu dynasty** (in contrast to the Buddhist Palas) controlled Bengal for just over a century, from roughly 1097 to 1225 CE. Previously, the Pala dynasty ruled over both Bihar and Bengal.
- ❖ Senas were identified as **Brahma Kshatriyas**.
- ❖ **Deopara Inscription** mentions about:
 - **Sena Dynasty** kings were from Karnataka.
 - **Samanta Sen**, one of the founding fathers in the South.
 - **Hemanta Sen**, Samanta Sen's successor and the first member of the family to receive royal titles in the family records, took the Palas' authority and proclaimed himself king sometime before 1095 CE.
 - **Vijay Sena**, his successor, contributed to establishing the dynasty.



Vijaya Sena (1095-1158 CE):

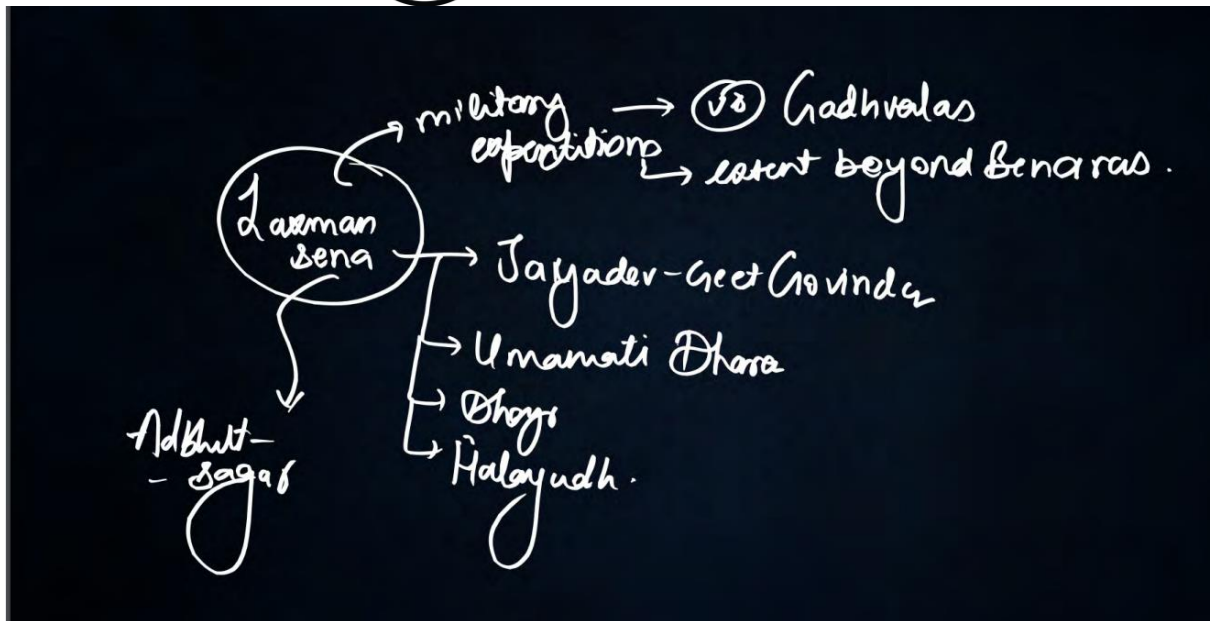
- ❖ The dynasty's founder, who enjoyed an extraordinarily long reign of more than 60 years, bringing wealth and peace to Bengal and leaving a lasting influence on its people.
- ❖ During **Mahipala II's rule**, it is thought that he took advantage of the **Samantachakra** uprising in the Varendra region, solidifying his power in western Bengal over time. At some point during **Madanapala's rule**, he moved into an independent role.
- ❖ He overcame Vanga and defeated Bhojavarman.
- ❖ There were two Vijaya Sena capitals:
 - Vikrampura
 - Vijayapura
- ❖ In honour of Vijay Sena, the renowned poet Sriharsha wrote the Vijay Prasasti (Eulogy of Vijay).
- ❖ The court poet Umapati Dhara wrote the Deopara Prashasti, a stone inscription that praises the Sena kings, especially Vijaya Sen. Maharajadhiraja is how he is referred to in the Barrackpore Copper-Plate Inscription.

Ballal Sena (c.1158-1179 CE):

- ❖ The Sena monarch who established the kingdom and is well known. He took control of Mithila and some of eastern Bihar.
- ❖ The five provinces of Banga, Barendra, Rar, Bagri (perhaps a section of lower Bengal), and Mithila made up Ballal Sena's dominion, according to a Bengali tradition. Additionally, he designated **Nabadwip the capital**.
- ❖ Ballal Sena is credited with bringing back orthodox Hindu rituals in Bengal, particularly with the establishment of the **regressive Kulinism tradition**, but these claims lack any historical veracity.
- ❖ The fact that he wed Ramadevi, a princess of the Western Chalukya Empire, shows that the Sena kings kept close social ties to south India.
- ❖ He wrote the **Danasagara and Adbhut Sagar**.

Lakshamana Sena (c.1178-1207 CE):

- ❖ Lakshmana Sena, who **extended the Sena Empire to Assam, Odisha, Bihar, and likely Varanasi** as well, brought the Sena dynasty's military prowess to a head. He also beat the Gahadavalas dynasty's Jayachandra.
- ❖ He is referred to as a renowned military leader and a patron of scholarship in **Seven Copper-Plate Inscriptions** that date to his reign. These inscriptions recount his triumphs over the kings of Gaur, Kamrupa, Kalinga, and Kashi.
- ❖ Additionally, he is reported to have **built pillars in Puri, Benares, and Allahabad** to honour his military accomplishments.
- ❖ He was the **first Bengali king to assert his dominance outside of Benaras**. His dominance in the Gaya region is confirmed by some inscriptions that were discovered there shortly after his reign.



- ❖ He inherited the title of **Ariraja-Madana Sankara** upon his ascension.
- ❖ He adopted the **appellation Paramvaishnava** in addition to the traditional title of Gaureswara, replacing the old epithet of Paramaeshwara used by both Vijay Sena and Ballal Sena.
- ❖ This shows that, in contrast to his father and grandparents, who were regarded as **Shaivas**, Lakshmana Sena was a devoted **Vaishnav**.
- ❖ The fact that every official pronouncement made afterward began with an invocation to Narayana also lends credibility to this.
- ❖ Among other prominent poets, **Jayadeva (the well-known Vaishanava poet of Bengal and the author of Geet Govinda)**, Dhoyi, and Umapati Dhar were present at Lakshmana Sena's court.
- ❖ **Halayudha, his prime minister**, was a talented poet in his own right. Being a man of letters, the king finished the **work Adbhutsagara** that his father had started, as per tradition.
- ❖ The Sena kingdom began to fall apart in the final years of his rule. Sena suzerainty was rejected by Kamrupa, Orissa, and South Bengal. Additionally, there were invasions by Central Asian invaders of Turkish descent who practiced Islam.
- ❖ One of Muhammad Ghori's generals, Muhammad Bin Baktiyar Khalji, conquered Nabadwip around the start of the 13th century (about 1203-1204 CE), then invaded Bengal and Bihar and annexed them to the Islamic kingdom.
- ❖ Although Sena continued to hold control of eastern Bengal, he took the northwest. The **Deva dynasty, however, overthrew the Senas by the middle of the 13th century.**

Chedis/Kalachuris of Tripuri:

- ❖ The Kalachuri dynasty ruled the **state of Chedi**, which was located between the Narmada and Godavari rivers.
- ❖ The Kalachuris of Chedi, often referred to as the Kalachuris of Tripuri, were once under the Pratiharas' control, much like the Chandellas, but they began to assert their independence in the middle of the 10th century CE.
- ❖ Their capital was at Tripuri, close to the present-day Jabalpur, MP, and they dominated the historical Chedi region (**also known as Dahala-mandala**).
- ❖ The Chandellas of Jejakabhukti were a frequent adversary of the Tripuri Kalachuris, with whom they subsequently formed marriage relationships.
- ❖ Additionally, they had to protect their land against the Palas and a coalition of the Cholas, Pallavas, and Pandyas.

Important Rulers of Chedi/Kalachuri Dynasty:

- ❖ Vamaraja-deva (675-700 CE)
- ❖ Shankaragana I (750-775 CE)
- ❖ Lakshmana-raja I (825-850 CE)
 - Voppa-raja, described as Kokalla's predecessor in the Gyaraspur inscription.
- ❖ **Kokalla I (850-890 CE):** His younger son established the Ratnapura Kalachuri branch
- ❖ Shankaragana II (890-910 CE), alias Mugdhatunga
- ❖ Balaharsha (910-915 CE)
- ❖ **Yuvaraja-deva I (915-945 CE)**
- ❖ **Lakshmana-raja II (945-970 CE)**
- ❖ Shankaragana III (970-80 CE)
- ❖ Yuvaraja-deva II (980-990 CE)
- ❖ Kekalla II (990-1015 CE)
- ❖ **Gangeya-deva (1015-1041 CE)**
- ❖ Lakshmi-karna (1041-1073 CE), alias Karna
- ❖ Yashah-karna (1073-1123 CE)
- ❖ Gaya-karna (1123-1153 CE)





- ❖ Nara-simha (1153-1163 CE)
- ❖ Jaya-simha (1163-1188 CE)
- ❖ Vijaya-simha (1188-1210 CE)
- ❖ Trailokya-malla (c. 1210- at least 1212 CE)

Kokkala I (845-885 CE):

- ❖ He was the **founder** of the dynasty and participated in **numerous military operations**. Invading the Northern Konkan, he supported Krishna II of the Rashtrakuta kingdom in his fight against the Eastern Chalukyas and the Pratiharas.
- ❖ His eldest son is thought to have ascended to the throne following his death, while the other sons were named kings of various mandalas or provinces.
- ❖ He **married a Chandella princess**. This caused the kingdom to split up because one of these people's descendants established a new kingdom in South Kosala with Tummana as its capital.



Yuvaraja (c. 915-945 CE):

- ❖ An additional significant ruler who expelled and routed the Rashtrakuta army.
- ❖ The **well-known poet Rajasekara** presented his play **Vidda Salabhanjika** to commemorate this significant triumph.
- ❖ Yuvaraja is credited in the Kalachuri inscription with successful raids into Kashmir and the Himalayan region.

Lakshmanaraja (945-970 CE):

- ❖ He was also a great conqueror, as evidenced by the fact that he not only invaded and subdued Vangala (south Bengal) and the **Somavamsi king of South Kosala**, but he also invaded and subdued Lata in the west, which was at the time ruled by a **feudatory of the Rashtrakutas**, and subdued the king of Gurjara, most likely **Mularaja**.

Gangeya-deva (c.1019-40 CE):



- ❖ One of the most significant kings of the Kalachuri dynasty who, thanks to his military prowess, elevated the Chedis to the status of one of India's most powerful political forces at the time.
- ❖ He adopted the prestigious title of **Trikalingadhipati** as a symbol of his significant win (**the Lord of Trikalanga**).
- ❖ He adopted the name Vikramaditya as well.



According to some historians, **Sultan Mahmud's catastrophic attacks**, which impacted the majority of the other great kingdoms to its north and north-west, did not damage his kingdom, which is thought to have played a significant role in his success.

- ❖ He produced coins in a variety of sizes, weights, and metals, including copper, silver, base gold, silver gold, and silvery copper (billon).
- ❖ During his rule, the four-armed Lakshmi statue was created. She is seated cross-legged on a lotus, holding a lotus in her top two hands, and has the inscription "**Shrimad-Gangeyadeva**" written in Nagari script on the back.

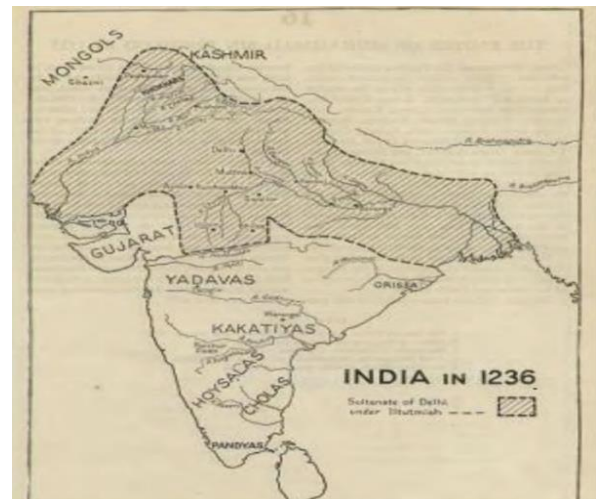
Lakshmi-Karna (c.1041-73 CE):

- ❖ He was also referred to as the **Karna**, and like his father, he was a legendary general. He outperformed his father in the south as well as the north-west, and he carried the banner of his triumph up the eastern coast all the way to Kanchi.
- ❖ He is credited with overthrowing a number of southern dynasties, including Someshvara I, the Pallavas, Kungas, Muralas, and Pandyas (South).

Yashkarna (c.1073-1125 CE):

- ❖ His reign was distinguished by a series of invasions, including raids by the Deccan Chalukyas and the Paramaras, who ravaged his capital and set up camp on the Narmada for a while.
- ❖ The Chandellas also succeeded in defeating him. The **Kalachuris were eventually made weaker** by all these defeats.

Vijayasimha (1177-1211 CE):



- ❖ When **Chandella ruler Trailokyavarman** nearly completely overthrew the Kalachuri kingdom, the final king of the dynasty included Baghelkhand and Dahala Mandala.
- ❖ The Chedi lands were also lost to emerging dynasties like the **Vaghela Rajputs, the Yadavas of Devagiri, and the Ganpatis of Warangal** during the start of the 12th century CE.

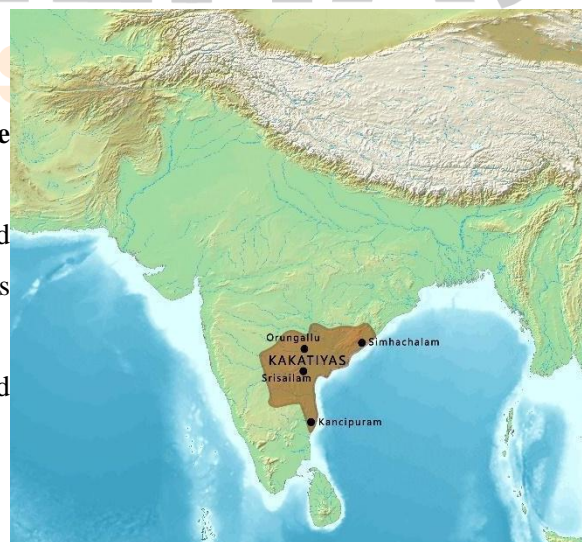
Yadavas of Devagiri:

- ❖ **Seunachadra (880 – 900)**: He secured feudatory status from Rashtrakutas.
- ❖ **Bhillama V (1187-1191)**: He laid the foundation by overthrowing Kalyani Chalukyas supremacy.
- ❖ **Simhana (1210-1246)**: He was the most powerful ruler of this dynasty.
 - **Sarangdeva composed Sangitaratnakara**, an important work on music in his court.
- ❖ **Ramchandra (1271-1308)**: During his reign, Allauddin Khalji attacked Devagiri and compelled him to sue for peace.



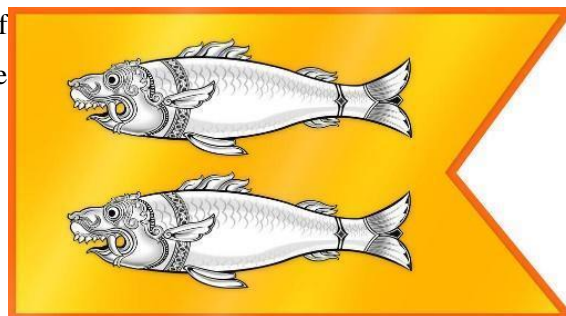
Kakatiyas of Warangal:

- ❖ **Beta I**: He was the earliest known feudatory of Western Chalukyas.
- ❖ **Prola II**: He threw off the overlordship of Chalukyas.
- ❖ **Rudradeva (1175-1244)**: He built a **thousand pillar temple** at Hanumakonda and also founded Orugallu (Warangal).
- ❖ **Ganapatideva**: He completed the city of Warangal land and shifted the capital to it. **Rudramadevi (1262-1289)**: She was the daughter of Ganapatideva, the greatest ruler.
- ❖ **Prataparudra (1289-1323)**: He was the last ruler/repeated Muslim invasion/first by Khiljis and later by Tughlaq.



Pandyan Dynasty:

- ❖ The Pandyan dynasty was an **ancient Tamil dynasty**, one of the three Tamil dynasties, the other two being the Chola and the Chera.



- ❖ The entire Pandyan dynasty could be divided into following three phases:
 - The early Pandyas (3rd BCE - 3rd AD)
 - First Pandyan dynasty (6th c- 10th c)
 - Second Pandyan Dynasty (10th c - 14th c)
- ❖ The Early Pandyans ruled parts of Southern India from at least 4th century BCE.
- ❖ Pandyan rule ended in the first half of the 16th century CE. They initially ruled their country Pandya Nadu from Korkai, a seaport on the southernmost tip of the Indian Peninsula, and in later times moved to Madurai.
- ❖ Pandyas were experts in **water management, agriculture and fisheries** and they were eminent sailors and sea traders too. Pandyan was well known since ancient times, with contacts, even diplomatic, reaching the Roman Empire.
- ❖ The Pandya kings were called either **Jatavarman or Maravarman**. They were Jains in their early ages but **later became Shaivaites**.
- ❖ During their history, the Pandyas were repeatedly in conflict with the **Pallavas, Cholas, Hoysalas** and finally the Muslim invaders from the **Delhi Sultanate**.
- ❖ The **Islamic invasion** led to the end of Pandyan supremacy in South India and in 1323, **the Jaffna Kingdom of Sri Lanka** declared its independence from the crumbling Pandyan Empire.

Under Reign of Imperial Cholas:

- ❖ After Vijayalaya Chola **conquered Thanjavur by defeating the Muttarayar** chieftains who were part of Pandya family tree around 850, the Pandyas went into a period of decline.
- ❖ They were constantly harassing their Chola overlords by occupying their territories.
- ❖ Parantaka I invaded the Pandya territories and **defeated Rajasimha III**.
- ❖ However, the Pandyas did not wholly submit to the Cholas despite loss of power, territory and prestige.
- ❖ They tried to forge various alliances with the Cheras and the Kings of Lanka and tried to engage the Cholas in war to free themselves from Chola supremacy.

- ❖ But right from the times of Parantaka I to the early 12th century up to the times of **Kulottunga Chola I** the Pandyas could not overpower the Cholas who right from 880-1215 remained the most powerful empire spread over South India, Deccan and the Eastern and Western Coast of India during this period.

Later Pandyas:

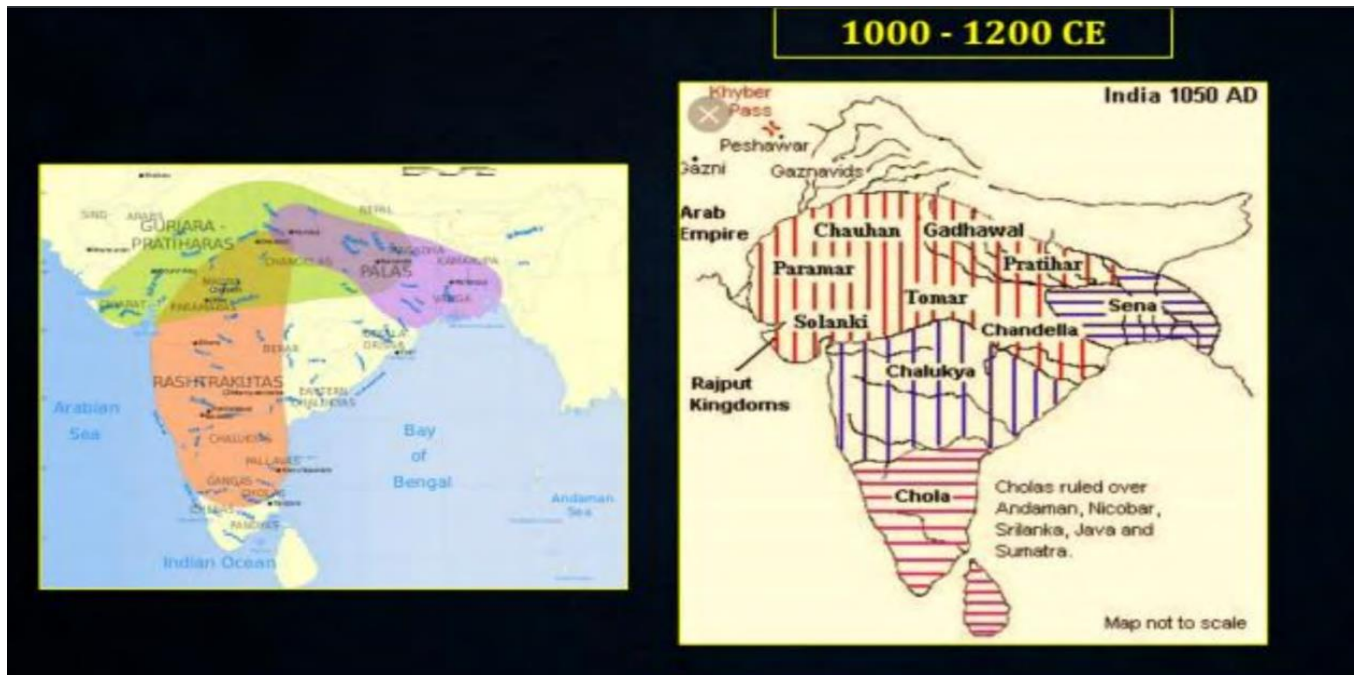
- ❖ The 13th century is the greatest period in the history of the Pandyan Empire. This period saw the rise of **seven prime Lord Emperors (Ellarkku Nayanar Lord of All) of Pandyan**, who ruled the kingdom alongside Pandyan princes.
- ❖ The foundation by **Maravarman Sundara** Pandyan took place early in the 13th century.
- ❖ The power of the Later Pandyas reached its zenith under **Jatavarman Sundara Pandyan** in the middle of the 13th century or at 1251 AD.

Pandya Kings (13 th -14 th Centuries CE)	
Pandya ruler	Reign
Maravarman Sundara I	1216-1238 CE
Sundaravarman Kulasekara II	1238-1240 CE
Maravarman Sundara II	1238-1251 CE
Jayatavarman Sundara I	1251-1268 CE
Maravarman Kulasekara I	1268-1310 CE
Sundara Pandya IV	1309-1327 CE
Vira Pandya IV	1309-1345 CE

Decline of Pandyan Empire:

- ❖ Later Pandyans had to face expeditions from the:
 - **1314:** Khalji Sultanate led by Khusro Khan (later Sultan Nasir-ud-din).
 - **1323:** Muhammad bin Tughluq under Sultan Ghiyath al-Din Tughluq.
- ❖ The last **attack of Muhammad bin Tughlaq** shattered the Pandyan empire beyond revival.

- ❖ While the previous invasions were content with plunder, Ulugh Khan annexed the former Pandyan dominions to the Delhi Sultanate as the province of Malabar.
- ❖ Afterwards, it fragmented among **Hoysala rulers and Vijayanagar rulers**.
- ❖ Nayaka chieftains were appointed by Vijayanagar rulers to govern the region.



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