



# VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE PART III

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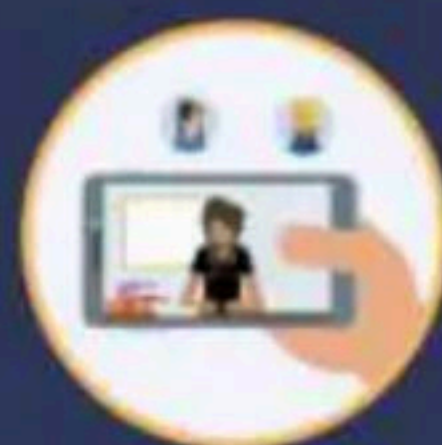
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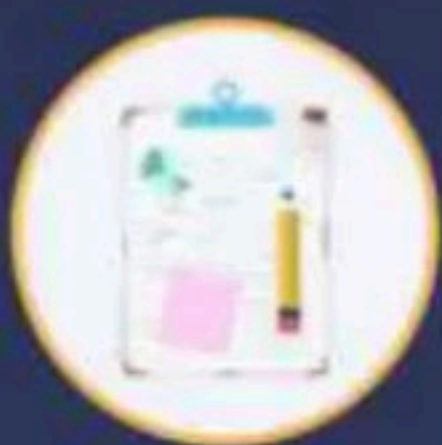
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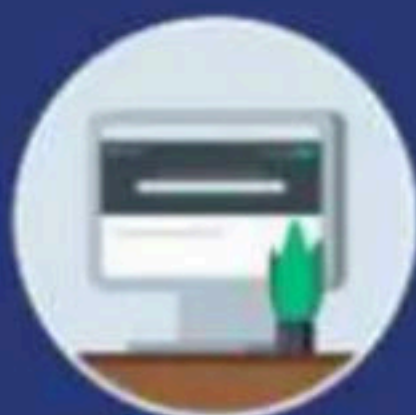
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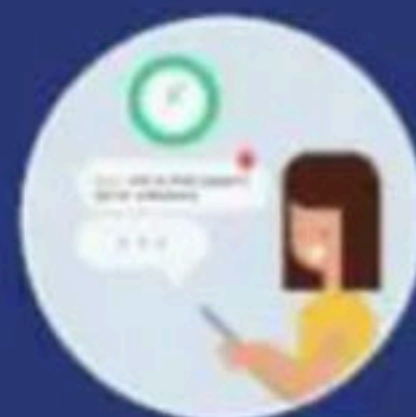
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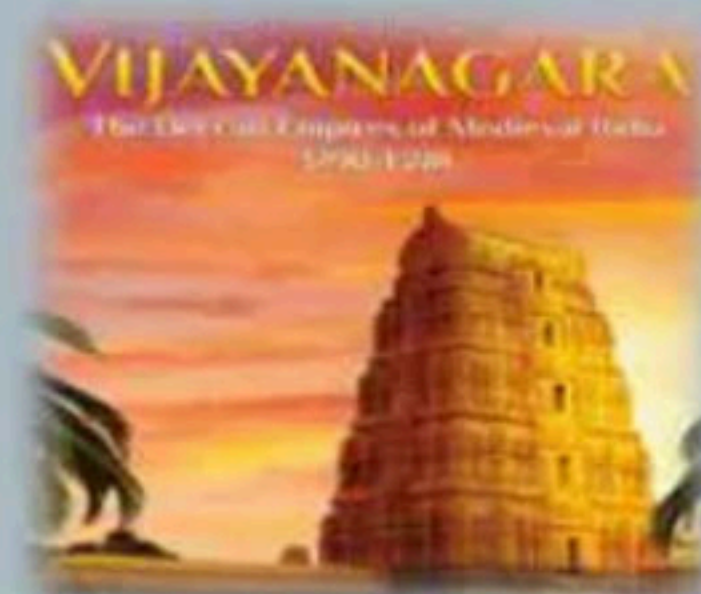
The following are the important topics to study from Medieval History of India:

1. North Indian Kingdoms
2. Kingdoms of the Deccan
3. Delhi Sultanate
4. Islamic Kingdoms in India
5. Vijayanagara Empire
6. Bhakti and Other Cultural & Religious Movements
7. Mughal and Sur rule and the Arrival of Europeans

## TOPICS TO BE COVERED

### ➤ Vijayanagar Kingdom

1. Sources for the study of Vijayanagar kingdom
2. Origin of Vijayanagra Empire
3. Vijayanagra's main rivals
4. ~~Sangam dynasty~~
5. Saluva Dynasty
6. Tuluvas Dynasty
7. Aravidu dynasty
8. Administration of Vijayanagar Kingdom
9. Army and Military Organization
10. Social life and Cultural contribution
11. Economy
12. Conflict with Bahmani Kingdom



## THE VIJAYANAGAR KINGDOM (1336-1672)

- The **Vijayanagara Empire** (also called the **Karnataka Kingdom**) was a medieval Indian Empire that covered much of the region of South India, controlling the lands of the modern states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa, and some parts of Telangana and Maharashtra.
- The Vijayanagar empire as the Karnataka samrajyamu. The empire included people from different cultural regions– the Tamil, Telugu, and Karnataka region– who spoke different languages and belonged to different cultures.
- Vijayanagar or “**city of victory**” was the name of both a city and an empire. In the year 1336 AD, **Harihara** and **Bukka** of the **Sangama dynasty** established the empire.
- Vijayanagar was a vast Hindu Empire of Deccan India established on the banks of River **Tungabhadra** in present-day Karnataka and consisted of the modern states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa and some parts of Telangana and Maharashtra.
- The Capital of vijayanagar empire was named **Humpi**, hence it is also known as **Hampi**. The Vijayanagar period was the golden age of literature in South India.



THE VIJAYANAGAR KINGDOM (1336-1672)

➤ **There are some of the *indigenous literature* of this period.**

1. Krishnadevaraya's → Amukthamalyada
2. Gangadevi's → Maduravijayam
3. Allasani Peddanna's → Manucharitam

➤ ***Foreign travellers* who visited Vijayanagar kingdom and made valuable accounts on the socioeconomic conditions of the time are:-**

1. Moroccan → Ibn Batuta
2. Venetian → Nicolo de Conti
3. Persian → Abdur Razzak
4. Portuguese → Domingo Paes

➤ ***Copper plate inscriptions*** such as the Srirangam copper-plate of Devaraya-II.

➤ The ruins of Hampi and other monuments (provide information about the genealogy and achievements of Vijayanagar rulers).

➤ The numerous *coins* issued by the Vijayanagar rulers contain figures and legends explaining their titles and achievements

## Origin of Vijayanagar Empire

- The **Vijayanagara Empire**, also known as the Karnata Kingdom or Vijayanagara Samrajya, was established in 1336 CE on the southern banks of river Tungabhadra in the present state of Karnataka in India.
- The **Capital of the Vijayanagara Empire was the city of Hampi** (currently in Karnataka). Hampi is declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Geographically, it lies close to the Deccan Plateau of South India.
- The founder of Vijayanagara empire was the brothers Harihara and Bukka belonging to the Sangama Dynasty.
- Harihara and Bukka were members of a pastoralist cowherd community that claimed to be of the Kuruba lineage. Both Harihara and Bukka had also served under the Hoysala King, Vira Ballala III.
- The Vijayanagara period was the golden age of literature in South India.



## VIJAYANAGRA'S MAIN RIVALS

- In the **south**, Sultans of Madurai. By 1377 CE, the Sultanate of Madurai was wiped out and the Vijayanagara kingdom comprised the whole south India.
- In the **north**, they had continuous hostility with the Bahmani Sultanate and Gajapati Rulers of Orissa for control over the fertile river valleys and the resources generated by lucrative overseas trade.

## Geographical Spread of Vijayanagar Empire

- The Vijayanagar Empire ruled over practically all of South India's reigning dynasties at its peak.
- The rulers of the Vijayanagar Empire also drove the Deccan Sultans beyond the Tungabhadra-Krishna River Doab region.
- The Vijayanagar Empire also conquered the Gajapati Kingdom of Kalinga, and annexed modern-day Odisha (formerly Kalinga).

# Important Dynasties of the Vijayanagar Empire

The most important Vijayanagara dynasty is mentioned below:-



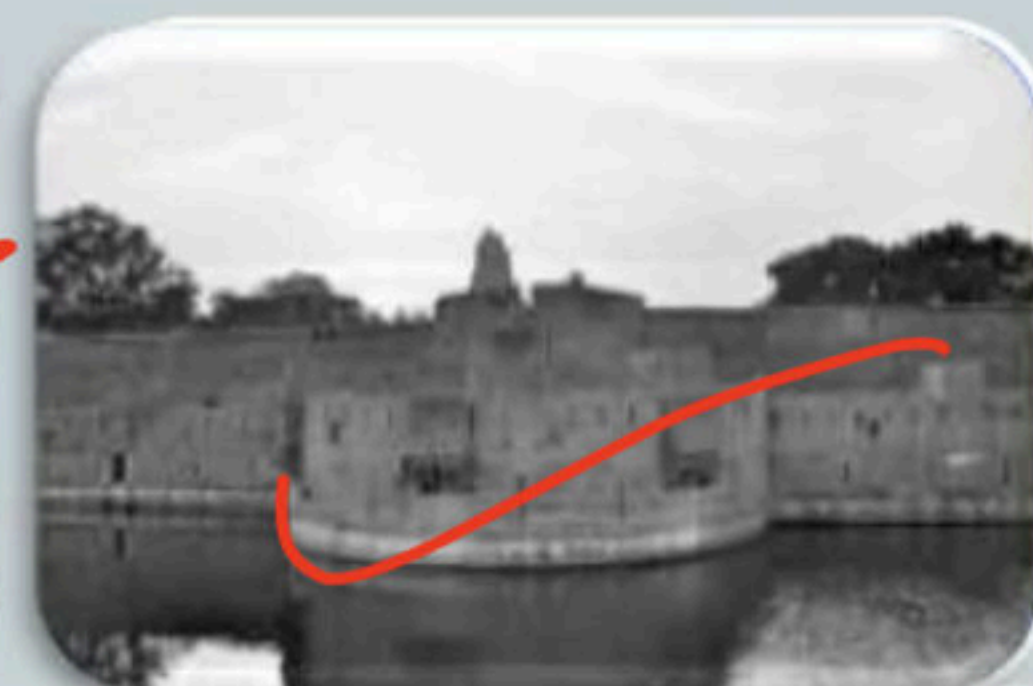
**Sangama Dynasty**  
(1336 CE – 1485 CE)



**Saluva Dynasty**  
(1485 CE – 1505 CE)



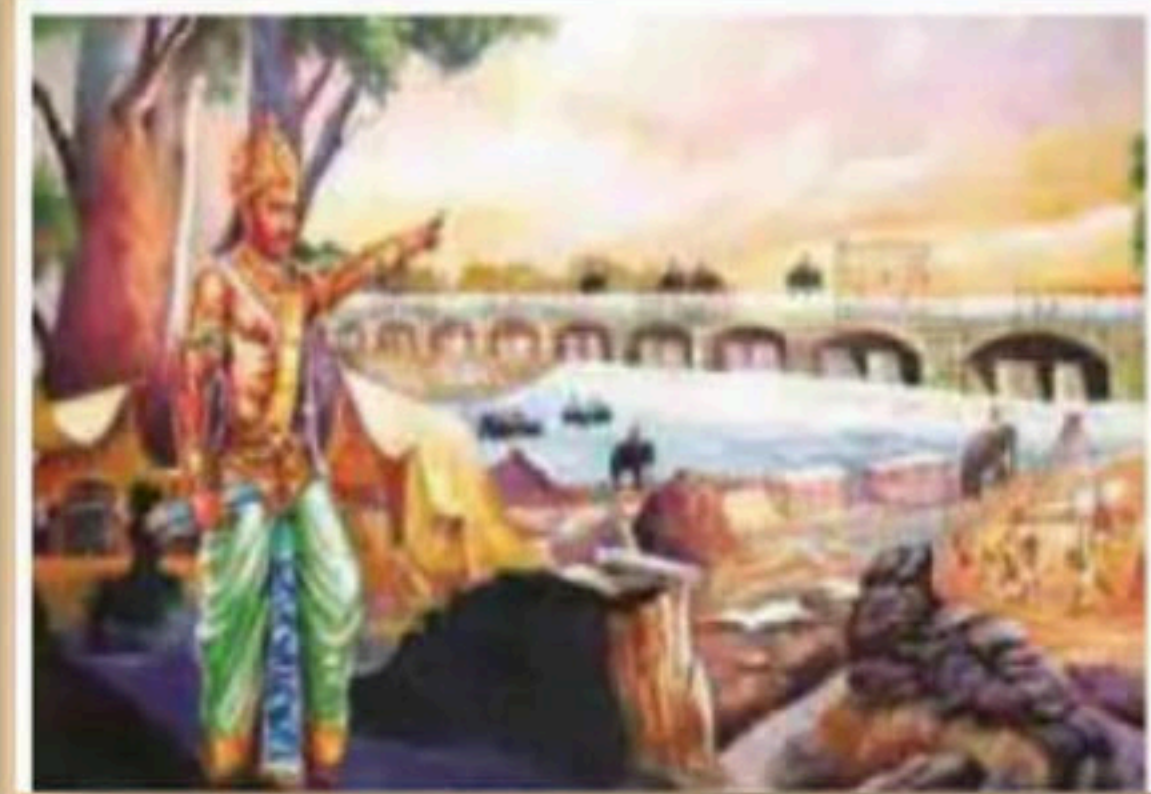
**Tuluva Dynasty**  
(1491 CE – 1570 CE)



**Aravidu Dynasty**  
(1542 CE – 1646 CE)

# Sangama Dynasty (1336 CE – 1485 CE)

- It was the first dynasty of the **Vijayanagara Empire**, with **Harihara Raya I** (1336-1356 AD) as its first ruler. **Bukka Raya, Virupaksha Raya, Deva Raya, Ramachandra Raya, Mallikarjuna Raya, and Praudha Raya** were some of the dynasty's rulers.
- Sangam Dynasty was founded by ***Harihara and Bukka*** (1336–1377), who were originally feudatories of the **Kakatiyas** of Warangal.
- The **Sangama dynasty** was a dynasty of the Vijayanagara Empire founded in the 14th century by two brothers: Harihara I (also called *Vira Harihara* or *Hakka Raya*) and Bukka Raya I. They were the sons of Bhavana Sangama, members of a pastoralist cowherd community that claimed Yadava lineage.
- They went to ***Kampili*** where they were imprisoned and converted to Islam. Later, they returned to Hindu fold at the initiative of the ***saint Vidyaranya***.
- They founded a new city ***Vidyanagar*** on the south bank of river Tungabhadra, which was later renamed as Vijayanagar (city of victory) by Bukka I.



**Sangama Dynasty  
(1336 CE – 1485 CE)**



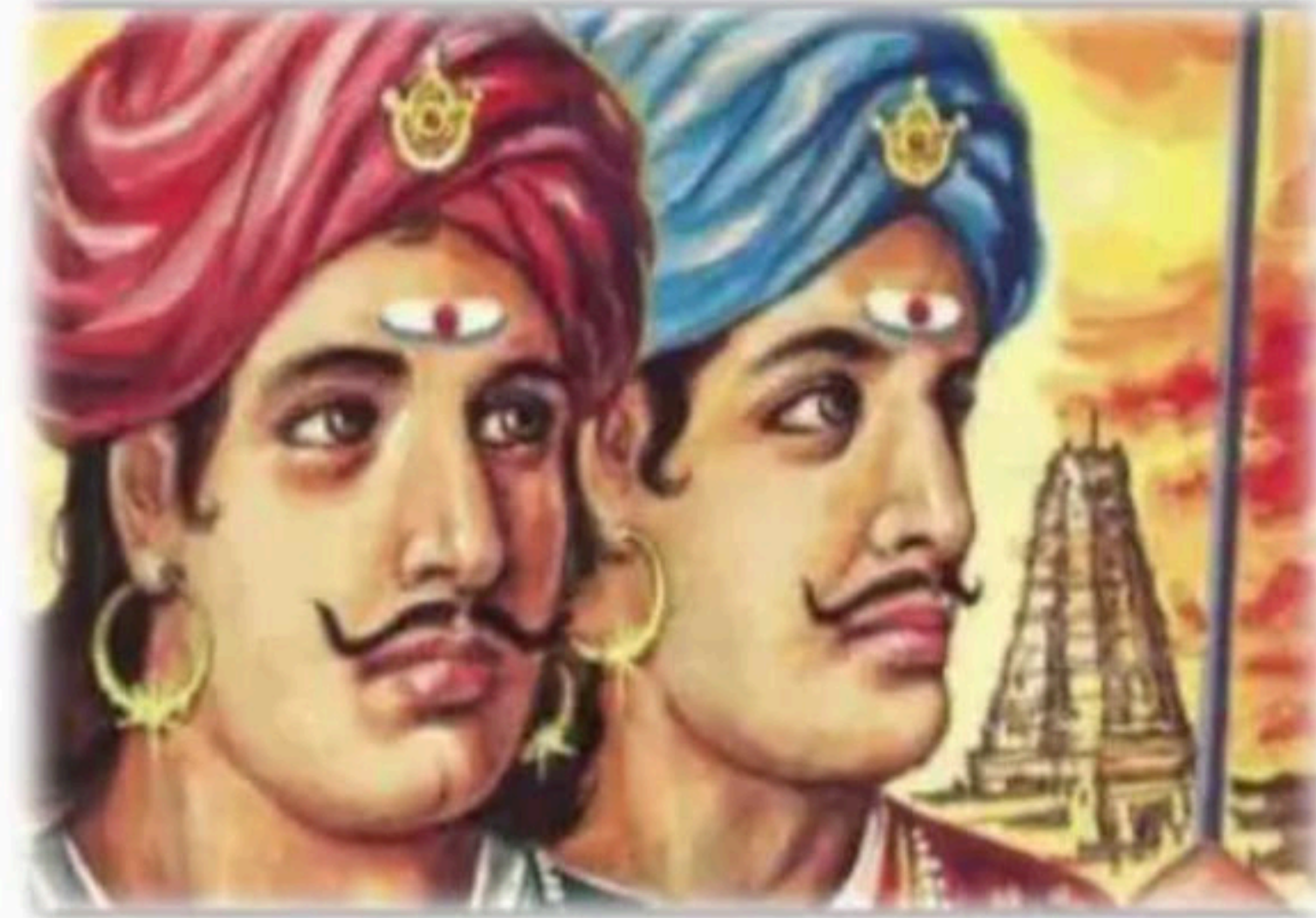
- The decline of **Hoysala kingdom** enabled Harihara and Bukka to expand their newly founded kingdom. By 1346, they brought whole of the Hoysala kingdom under their control.
- The struggle between Vijayanagar and Sultanate of Vijayanagar lasted for about four decades.
- Kumarakampana's expedition to Madurai was described in the **Maduravijyam**. He destroyed Madurai Sultans and as a result, the Vijayanagar Empire comprised the whole of South India up to Rameswaram.
- His greatest success was in wresting Belgaum and Goa in the west from Bahmani Sultanate.
- Bukka's successor, Harihara II, continued Bukka's campaign through southern India and managed to take control of coastal Andhra between Nellore and Kalinga and conquer the Addanki and Srisailam areas as well as most of the territory between the peninsula to the south of the Krishna River.
- Harihara II also managed to conquer many Indian ports such as that of Goa, Chaul, and Dabhol.

- After Harihara II died the throne was in conflict between Virupaksha Raya, Bukka Raya II, and Deva Raya of which Deva Raya eventually would come out as victor.
- During his reign, Deva Raya managed to successfully control the vast amount of territory in the empire.
- This was until Deva Raya II, who would bring about the golden age of the Sangama Dynasty.
- Deva Raya II's rule, the empire would succeed in completely conquering southern India such as conquering Kondavidu, defeating the ruler of Quilon as well as other chieftains,
- They extending the empire from Odisha to Malabar and from Ceylon to Gulbarga, and also taking over a lot of the major Indian ports.
- Deva Raya II, his incompetent successors would eventually lead to the destruction of the dynasty with the Bahamani Kingdoms continually taking over much of the Vijayanaga territory.
- Virupaksha Raya II was the last emperor of the dynasty.

<b><u>Rulers Of The Sangama Dynasty</u></b>	<b><u>Year Of Their Reign</u></b>
Harihara I	1336 -1356
Bukka Raya I	1356 – 1377
Harihara Raya II	1377 – 1404
Virupaksha Raya	1404 – 1405
Bukka Raya II	1405 – 1406
Deva Raya I	1406 -1422
Ramachandra Raya	1422
Vira Vijaya Bukka Raya	1422 – 1424
Deva Raya II	1424 – 1446
Mallikarjuna Raya	1446 – 1465
Virupaksha Raya II	1465 – 1485
Praudha Raya	1485

## Harihara I (1336 - 1356 CE)

- **Harihara-I** and his brother **Bukka Raya I** of the **Sangama Dynasty** founded the **Vijayanagara Empire**,
- It is also known as the **Karnata Empire** or the **Kingdom of Bisnegar**, in 1336. Its ruins can be found in modern-day Hampi, Karnataka.
- **Harihara I**, also called **Hakka** and **Vira Harihara I**, was the founder of the Vijayanagara Empire, which he ruled from 1336 to 1356 CE.
- He and his successors formed the Sangama dynasty, the first of four dynasties to rule the empire. He was the eldest son of **Bhavana Sangama**
- His initial military exploits established his control over the **Tungabhadra River valley**, and he gradually expanded his control to certain regions of the **Konkan and Malabar Coast**.



Harihara I (1336 - 1356 CE)

- By that time, the **Hoysala ruler Veera Ballala III** had died fighting the Sultan of Madurai, allowing Harihara to emerge as a sovereign power with control over all Hoysala territories.
- An inscription dated 1346 regarding a grant to the **Sringeri matha** describes Harihara I as the ruler of the "whole country between the eastern and western seas" and Vidya Nagara (the city of learning) as his capital.
- Harihara I was succeeded by his brother Bukka I, who rose to prominence as the most distinguished of the Sangama dynasty's five rulers (**Panchasangamas**).



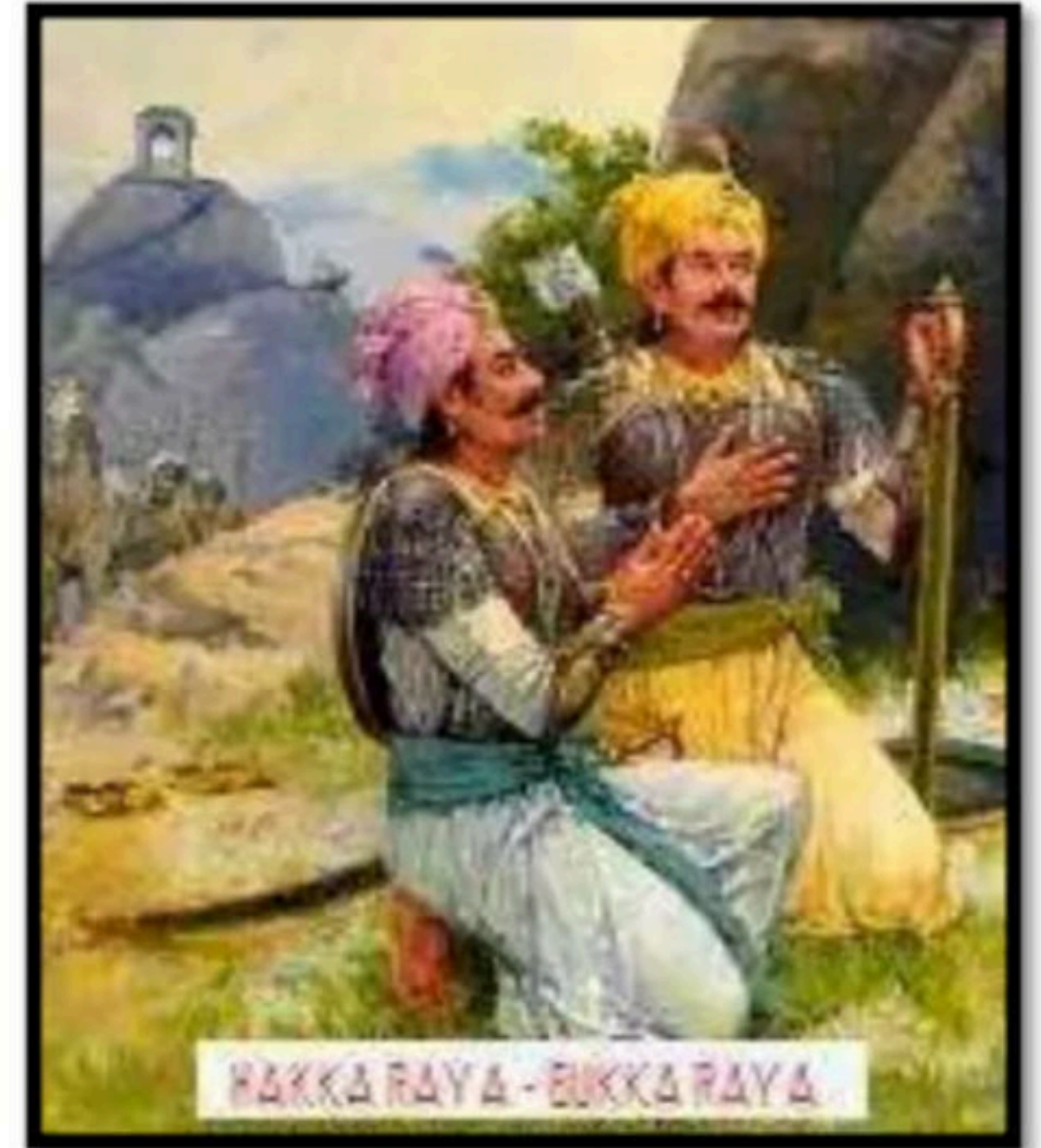
- Harihara was an excellent administrator. Vijayanagar was the first state in southern India to encompass three major linguistic and cultural regions while maintaining a high level of political unity among them.
- The administration of the kingdom sporadically achieved a relatively high degree of centralization, despite the appearance of centrifugal tendencies.
- New rajyas (provinces) were added to the original five held by the Sangama brothers as territories were acquired.
- A complex mosaic of great chiefly houses wielded power to varying degrees within and among these regions, though not with the virtual autonomy that some historians have suggested.
- The central administration had both a revenue and a military side, but raising taxes and troops was primarily the responsibility of provincial governors and their subordinates.
- The central government kept a small army, but it assigned a value to the lands held by the provincial governors and determined the number of troops to be supplied from each province's revenues.

## Bukka (1356 - 1377 CE)

- Bukka Raya I (reigned 1356–1377 CE) was a Sangama Dynasty emperor of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- He was the **son of Bhavana Sangama**, the chieftain of a cowherd pastoralist community that claimed Yadava ancestry.

### ➤ Bukka - Background

- During Bukka Raya's 21-year reign (37, according to Nuniz), the kingdom prospered and expanded as Bukka Raya conquered most of the kingdoms of southern India, steadily expanding the empire's territory.
- By 1360, he had defeated the Shambuvaraya Kingdom of Arcot and the Reddis of Kondavidu, and the region around Penukonda had been annexed.
- Bukka defeated the Sultanate of Madurai in 1371 and expanded his territory all the way to Rameswaram in the south.



- His son, Kumara Kampana, campaigned alongside him, and their efforts were documented in his wife Gangambika's Sanskrit work Madura Vijayam (also known as Veerakamparaya Charitram).
- By 1374, he had gained the upper hand over the Bahmanis for control of the Tungabhadra-Krishna doab and also took control of Goa, a small portion of the kingdom of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty of Odisha (Orya), and Bukka forced the Jaffna kingdom of Ceylon and the Zamorins of Malabar to pay tribute to him.

### ➤ Bukka - Wars During His Reign

- Bukka also clashed with the Bahmani Sultans during his reign. The first occurred during the reign of Mohammed Shah I, while the second occurred during the reign of Mujahid Shah Bahmani.
- During his reign, Bukka is said to have dispatched a mission to China. Bukka died around 1380 and was succeeded by Harihara II.
- It is also worth noting that during Bukka Raya's reign, the Vijayanagara Empire established its capital at Vijayanagara, on the south bank of the river, which was more secure and defensive than their previous capital at Anegondi.

## ➤ Bukka - Cultural and Welfare Activities

- Despite the wars and internal conflicts, Bukka was able to contribute to the city's internal improvements.
- During his reign, important works of literature were also written. **Nachana Soma**, a well-known Telugu poet, was appointed as his court poet. **Vidyaranya and Sayana** supervised the lives of dozens of scholars.
- A group of scholars led by Sayana produced commentaries on the Samhitas of the four Vedas, as well as several Brahmanas and Aranyakas, under the patronage of Bukka and other early Vijayanagar kings.

## Harihara Raya II 1377 – 1404

Harihara II was a Sangama Dynasty emperor of the Vijayanagara Empire. He supported the Jaina Kannada poet Madhura. During his reign, an important work on the Vedas was completed. He was bestowed with the titles **Vaidikamarga Sthapanacharya** and **Vedamarga Pravartaka**.

### ➤ Harihara II - Background

- When Bukka Raya I died in 1377, he became ruler and reigned until his death in 1404. He was succeeded by **Virupaksha Raya**.
- During his reign, he continued to expand the kingdom's territory by fighting the Reddis of Kondavidu for control of the Andhra between Nellore and Kalinga.
- Harihara II conquered the Addanki and Srisailam areas, as well as most of the territory between the peninsula and the river Krishna, leading to battles with the Velamas of Rachakonda in Telangana.



- Harihara II took advantage of Mujahid Bahmani's death in 1378 to extend his control into the northwest, controlling ports such as Goa, Chaul, and Dabhol.
- Harihara II ruled from Vijayanagara, now more commonly known as Hampi. Among the Hampi ruins are what are thought to be the ruins of Harihara's palace.
- His general Iruguppa was a student of Jain teacher Simhanandi. He constructed a tank for Gomatteshvara (Bahubali) and the Kumthu-Jinanatha stone temple in Vijayanagara.
- During his battle with the Reddis of Kondavidu, he delegated Mysore's rule and the task of fighting the Dalvoys in Mysore to Yaduraya, appointing the first ruler of another mighty future-kingdom.

- Bukka II, son of Harihara II, led a raid northwards of Bahamani territory in 1398, with his father's permission, in order to seize the Raichur Doab, which lay between the Krishna and Tungabhadra rivers and was a source of contention between the Vijayanagara Empire and the Bahamani kingdom.
- **Firuz Shah Bahmani** opposed and defeated him, and peace was reached by the middle of 1399, with Firuz exacting a large indemnity.
- However, as evidenced by several inscriptions, during Harihara II's reign, Vijaynagar authority was extended throughout Southern India, including Mysore, Kanara, Chingleput, Trichinopoly, and Conjeevaram ( Kanchi).

## Deva Raya I (1406 - 1422 CE)

- **Deva Raya I** ruled the Vijayanagara Empire (of the Sangama Dynasty) from **1406 until 1422 CE**.
- After Harihara II died, his sons had a power struggle over the throne, with Deva Raya I emerging victorious.
- He was a skilled monarch who was known for his **military prowess and assistance for irrigation projects** in his kingdom.

### ➤ Background Deva Raya I

- He modernised the Vijayanagara army by improving the cavalry, hiring skilled archers from the Turkish clan, and increasing the fighting capacity of his Arabian and Persian bowmen and horses.
- The **Italian traveller Nicolo Conti**, who visited Vijayanagara around 1420, was a devotee of Deva Raya I.



- Deva Raya I was a supporter of Kannada literature and architecture. **Madhura**, a noted Jain poet, was in his court (and also in the court of his father, King Harihara II).
- He wrote in Kannada the **Dharmanathapurana** on the life of the fifteenth Jain Tirthankar (Dharmanatha), as well as a poem in eulogy of Gommateshvara of Shravanabelagola.
- During his reign, the well-known **Hazare Rama temple** was built, which is an excellent example of Deccan architecture.
- **Bhima Devi**, one of Deva Raya's queens, was a student of Jain guru Abhinava Charukirti Panditacharya.
- She was a devotee of Shantinatha, the 16th Jain tirthankara, and built a temple in Shravanabelagola's Mangayi Basti.

## ➤ Deva Raya I - Irrigation Works

- Deva Raya I is credited with making the Vijayanagara Empire's capital city one of the largest cities in the 15th century.
- He recognised that a lack of water supply, both for drinking and irrigation, was limiting the royal capital's growth.
- In 1410, he had a barrage built across the Tungabhadra River and commissioned a 24-kilometer-long aqueduct from the river to the capital.
- Nuniz's account details the projects undertaken by Deva Raya I that brought prosperity to the Kingdom.

## ➤ Deva Raya I - Administration

- In administrative matters, he maintained a secular stance. He built a mosque and a slaughterhouse for the convenience of his army's Muslim soldiers.
- A property dispute between the Shanka Jainalya of Lakshmeshwara and the palace's Someshvara temple trust was settled in 1413 in favour of the Jains.
- Deva Raya I had a Muslim bodyguard who built a choultry in the king's honour.

## ➤ Deva Raya I - Military Campaigns

- Throughout his reign, Deva Raya was at odds with the Velamas of Telangana, the Bahmani Sultan of Gulbarga, the Reddis of Kondavidu, and Vijayanagara's traditional rivals, the Gajaptis of Kalinga.
- Deva Raya I was able to manage the vast territory he controlled by employing skilled Turkish clan archers and increasing the fighting capacity of his bowmen.
- Following a squabble in the Reddi kingdom, Deva Raya I formed an alliance with Warangal in order to divide the Reddi kingdom.
- The Warangal split shifted the balance of power in the Deccan. Firoz Shah invaded Pangal around 1420, but the two-year siege ended in disease and disaster for Firoz Shah's armies.
- Firoz Shah suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Deva Raya. The Sultan was forced to cede control of his kingdom's southern and eastern districts to Deva Raya I.

- As a result, by 1422, Deva Raya I had gained control of territory up to the Krishna-Tungabhadra river doab, including Pangal.
- In the days that followed, the distressed Sultan died after leading a pious life and abdicating power to his brother Ahmad.
- Unable to accept this turn of events, Odisha's Gajapati King Bhanudeva invaded Rajamahendri.
- When war with Vijayanagara seemed imminent, Vijayanagara chief Dodda Alla used astute diplomacy to avert it.
- Deva Raya would be succeeded by his sons Ramachandra Raya and, later, Vijaya Raya.

## Deva Raya II (1425 - 1446 CE)

- Deva Raya II ruled the **Vijayanagara Empire** from 1425 to 1446 CE.
- He was the most powerful ruler of the Sangama dynasty, and **he was a skilled administrator, warrior, and scholar.**
- He wrote well-known **Kannada works (Sobagina Sone and Amaruka)** as well as **Sanskrit works (Mahanataka Sudhanidhi).**
- He encouraged secular literature development, and the noted **South Indian mathematician Parameshvara** of the Kerala school of astronomy and mathematics lived in his empire.
- He is also known as **Prouda Devaraya.**



## ➤ Background of Deva Raya II

- Deva Raya II, also known as Proudha Deva Raya. From 1422 to 1446, he ruled the Vijayanagara Empire.
- According to historian Sastri, Deva Raya II was known as **Gajabetegara**, which literally means "Hunter of Elephants," an honorific that explained his addiction to hunting elephants or a metaphor referring to his victories over enemies "as strong as elephants."
- He defeated Kalinga's army. He annexed Knodavidu and extended his authority up to Rajahmundry.
- The war with the Bahmani kingdom raged on, and Ahmad Shah slaughtered the women and children of Vijayanagara mercilessly. When the number of Hindus killed reached 20,000, he held a three-day carnival.
- Deva Raya was so impressed with the Muslim Cavalry's efficiency that he decided to recruit Muslim horsemen for his own army. While doing so, he was unconcerned about his own religious prejudices.
- In 1443, a new war with the Bahmani Kingdom began, and the Muslims inflicted heavy losses on him. He was eventually been forced to pay tribute to the Bahmani rulers.

## ➤ Wars with Gajapati Empire

- The reign of Deva Raya II was a golden age in the history of South India, particularly Karnataka. He succeeded his father Veera Vijaya Bukka Raya, who had a brief two-year reign.
- Even as a crown prince in 1423, he had tasted victory against the Bahamani Sultanate, forcing them to relocate their capital to Bidar in 1426.
- Deva Raya II fought three major battles against the Gajapati of Odisha: the **battle of Kondavidu in 1427** against King Bhanudeva IV, the **battle of Rajamahendri in 1436** against King Kapilendra when the latter attempted to conquer Rajamahendri, and again in 1441.
- An invasion by the Reddis of Kondavidu was also repulsed, and by 1432, all of the region's petty chiefs were brought under Vijayanagara control.



- Vijayanagara was drawn into war with their traditional foes, the Bahamani Sultanate, after a brief period of peace.
- However, the outcomes of these wars were mixed. Ala-ud-din II ascended the Bahamani throne in 1436 and immediately dispatched his brother Muhammad to collect tribute.
- According to the Sastri, Deva Raya II was forced to pay a large tribute in order to achieve peace.
- During this period, the Vijayanagara armies were routinely defeated by the Bahamani armies, and Deva Raya II struggled to find a solution, which eventually led to the inclusion of many skilled Muslim soldiers in the Vijayanagara army.
- Some accounts claim Deva Raya II lost the fort at Mudgal in a military clash in 1436, but a 1436 inscription at Mudgal shows the fort remained under Vijayanagara control, according to historian Kamath.
- Some regions in the Tungabhadra-Krishna river doab were lost to the Bahamani Sultanate during an uncertain period that followed in 1443, when the king appears to have been the victim of an attempted assassination.

## Success in the South

- Deva Raya II's empire included Kerala, where he defeated the ruler of Quilon as well as other chieftains in the region.
- His capable commander, Lakkanna, invaded Ceylon and collected large tributes there.
- The Zamorin of Calicut, as well as the kings of Burma ruling at Pegu and Tanasserim, paid tribute. This information was gleaned from Nuniz's writings.
- Though the Zamorin maintained his independence, according to Razzak, he feared and respected Deva Raya II.

## Culture and Arts

- Deva Raya II's reign was a watershed moment in Kannada literature, with fierce competition between Vaishnava and Veerashaiva writers and frequent literary clashes between the two sects.
- Chamarasa and Kumara Vyasa, two of the most famous Kannada writers of the 15th century.
- Chandrashekara (Chrakavi), who wrote on secular subjects; and the king's zealous Veerashaiva ministers and writers.
- Lakkana Dandesa and Jakkanarya (who himself patronised the Kannada poets Kumarabankanatha and Mahalingadeva) were all in his court.

## Decline of Sangama Dynasty

- Deva Raya II died in 1446 and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Malikarjuna, who repelled a combined attack on his capital by the Bahmani Sultan and the Raja of the Hindu Kingdom of Orissa and managed to keep his kingdom intact during his reign.
- ✓ Virupaksha Raya II was a Sangama Dynasty king of the Vijayanagara Empire. Virupaksha Raya II succeeded his uncle, Mallikarjuna Raya, a corrupt and weak ruler who consistently lost to the empire's enemies, in 1465.
- During his reign, the Saluva chief Narasimha of Chandragiri, whose ancestors had faithfully served the Vijayanagara kingdom as its feudatories, rose to prominence and resisted the Bahmani kingdom and the King of Orissa.
- Raja Purusottama Gajapati of Orissa advanced as far south as Tiruvannamalai, while the Bahmani advanced into the Doab between Krishna and the Tungabhadra.
- To protect the kingdom from these threats, Narasimha Saluva deposed his worthless master and seized the throne for himself around 1480.
- Thus, the Sangam dynasty was deposed in what has come to be known as the "first Usurpation," and Vijaynar became part of the **Saluva dynasty**.

## SALUVA DYNASTY (1485 CE – 1505 CE)

- The Saluva dynasty was created by the Saluvas, who by historical tradition were natives of the Kalyani region of northern Karnataka in modern India.
- The Gorantla inscription traces their origins to this region from the time of the Western Chalukyas and Kalachuris of Karnataka.
- The term "Saluva" is known to lexicographers as "hawk" used in hunting.
- They later spread into the east coast of modern Andhra Pradesh, perhaps by migration or during the Vijayanagara conquests during the 14th century.
- The earliest known Saluva from inscriptional evidence in the Vijayanagara era was Mangaldeva the great grandfather of Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya.
- Saluva Narasimha was the first king of the dynasty ruling from 1486–1491.



They are three rulers of Saluva Dynasty

<u>Rulers Of The Saluva Dynasty</u>	<u>Year Of Their Reign</u>
<u>Saluva Nasaimha Deva Raya</u>	1485 -1491
<u>Thimma Bhupala</u>	1491
<u>Narasimha Raya II</u>	1491 – 1505

## Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya (1485 -1491)

- **Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya** (or **Saluva Narasimha**, **Saluva Narasimha I**, 1431–1491 CE) was an emperor of the Vijayanagara Empire from the Saluva Dynasty.
- A patron of the Madhwa saint Sripadaraya, he authored the Sanskrit work *Rama Bhyudayan*. He also patronised Kannada poet Kavi Linga.
- In 1452, he was given the title **Maha Mandaleshwara** of Chandragiri during the reign of **Mallikarjuna Raya**. His father Saluva Gunda was the governor of Chandragiri.
- Saluva Narasimha tried to expand the empire, he continually faced difficulties caused from rebelling chieftains.
- By 1491, he lost Udayagiri to Gajapati Kapilendra Deva of Orissa while the Chiefs of Ummattur in the Mysore region, **Saluvas of Hadavalli** and **Santharas of Karkala** from coastal Karnataka region, **Srirangapatna** and **Sambetas of Peranipadu** in Cuddapah still remained threats to the empire.
- **Saluva Narasimha** would die in 1491 with sons that were too young to ascend to the throne.

## Narasimha Raya II 1491 – 1505

- **Narasimha Raya II ( 1491-1505) ( Narasimha II, Immadi Narasimha Raya or Dhamma Thimma Raya) .**
- He was the third and last ruler of the Saluva dynasty and the second of the four dynasties to rule the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Narasimha's father, also named Narasimha .He had begun life as an army commander serving the Sangama dynasty, which was the dynasty that had founded the Empire in the 13th century.
- The senior Narasimha was crowned Emperor and became known as Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya. He died in 1491, only six years after usurping the throne, and left behind two young sons as his heirs.
- The elder son, Thimma Bhupala, was killed within a few weeks after his father's death by an army commander loyal to the old Sangama dynasty. This brought the second son, Narasimha, to the throne.
- In 1505, only two years after the death of the old regent Tuluva Narasa Nayaka, Emperor Saluva Narasimha was assassinated at his fortress of Penukonda, probably by henchmen of Vira Narasimha.
- With his death ended the reign of the Saluva dynasty, whose three emperors (father and two sons) had reigned for a total of only twenty years.

## Tuluva Dynasty (1491 CE – 1570 CE)

- **The Tuluva Dynasty** was the third dynasty to rule the **Vijayanagar Empire**. They were chiefs from coastal Karnataka. The Tuluva Dynasty was one of the decision-making lines of the Vijayanagara Empire of Southern India.
- During this time, the Vijayanagar empire reached its pinnacle of splendour, with Krishna Deva Raya as its most celebrated king. From 1491 to 1570, they had five emperors. They ruled over much of South India, with Vijaynagar as their capital.
- The kingdom's original home was the western Tulu-speaking region. A Sanskrit epigraph on the eastern wall of Tirumala temple describes Krishnadevaraya's ancestors.
- Timmabhupati and his wife Devaki are the first Tuluva ancestors to be mentioned. Timmabhupati is followed by his son Ishvara and consort Bukkamma, and then by a certain Narasa Bhupala, who is none other than Emperor Krishnadevaraya's father, Tuluva Narasa Nayaka.



- Tuluva Narasa Nayaka, a powerful warlord, is credited with the conquest of the Gajapatis as well as certain Muslim rulers.
- **Krishnadevaraya**, a Tulu speaker, was noted for being linguistically neutral while ruling a multilingual empire. He is known to have patronised poets and issued inscriptions in languages as diverse as Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada, and Telugu.
- However, he elevated Telugu as a royal language, possibly due to the dominance of Telugu-speaking chiefs, and wrote the epic poem **Amuktamalyada** in it.
- Tuluva rulers were devout Vaishnavas who supported **Vaishnavism**. Krishnadevaraya's Kulaguru was Dvaita saint Vyasatirtha.
- The fall of the Tuluva dynasty marked the beginning of the Vijayanagar empire's demise.

# Rulers of Tuluva Dynasty

The rulers of the Tuluva dynasty with the year of their reign.

Rulers Of The Tuluva Dynasty	Year Of Their Reign
Tuluva Narasa Nayaka	1491 – 1503
Vira Narasimha Raya	1503 – 1509
Krishna Deva Raya	1509 – 1529
Achyuta Deva Raya	1529 – 1542
Venkata I	1542
Sadasiva Raya	1542 – 1570

### Vira Narasimha Raya (1505 - 1509 CE)

- Tuluva Narasa Nayaka (1491-1503 CE) was the commander of the Vijayanagar army under the rule of Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya and became the de-factor ruler of the kingdom after the death of Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya.
- He successfully defended the kingdom against the Bahamani sultans, Gajapatis, and disloyal chieftains.
- Tuluva Nayaka's death sparked feudatory revolts in the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Immadi Narasa Nayaka ascended the throne immediately after Tuluva Nayaka's death, and his regime lasted two years before he was assassinated.
- Vira Narasimha Rao ascended to the throne in 1505, though the majority of his reign was marked by constant conquests and fighting battles against rebellious warlords.



## Vira Narasimha Raya - Wars During His Reign

- **Yusuf Adil Khan**, the ruler of the Bijapur province at the time, attempted to expand his territory to the southern borders of the Tungabhadra area.
- **Adil Khan**, on the other hand, lost the struggle against **Aliya Rama Raya**, the Vijayanagara Empire's regent. Thimma, the son of Aliya Rama Raya, a member of the Aravidu family, was also part of Vijayanagara's army.
- Vijayanagara then annexed the Kurnool and Adani territories. Around this time, the head of the Ummattur region revolted, and Vira Narasimha Raya marched south to put down the uprising.
- In his absence, **Krishna Deva Raya** was installed as Vijayanagara's king.
- In this political dispute with the chief of Ummattur, Vira Narasimha Raya received support from Portugal.
- Narasimha Raya was supplied with artillery and a large number of horses by Portugal.
- Vira Narasimha Raya had to hand over sovereignty of the port of Bhatkal to the Portuguese soldiers in exchange for their cooperation.

## Krishna Deva Raya (1509 - 1529 CE)

- **Krishna Deva Raya** was **Vijayanagara Empire's** medieval Indian emperor from 1509 to 1529. He was **Tuluva dynasty's third ruler**. 20
- After the fall of the Delhi Sultanate, he ruled the largest empire in India. Many Indians regard him as an icon for presiding over the empire at its pinnacle.
- He defeated the sultans of Bijapur, Golconda, the Bahmani Sultanate, and the Gajapatis of Odisha to become the dominant ruler of the peninsula, and he was one of India's most powerful Hindu rulers.
- The greatest of the Vijayanagar rulers, was also known as **Abhinava Bhoja**, **Andhra Pitamah**, **Andhra Bhoja** (as he was a great patron of literature and art).



## Features of Krishna Deva Raya

- He was a member of the Tuluva Dynasty and was Vijayanagara Empire's emperor from 1509 to 1529.
- Krishna Deva Raya was also known as **Kannada Rajya Rama Ramana, Andhra Bhoja, and Mooru Rayara Ganda.**
- The great south Indian mathematician **Nilakantha Somayaji** also lived in Krishna Devaraya's Empire.
- During his reign, Portuguese travellers **Domingo Paes and Fernao Nuniz** also visited the Vijayanagara Empire.

## Krishna Deva Raya - Administration

- During his reign, he maintained strict control over his ministers and dealt harshly with any minister who committed wrongdoing. He got rid of obnoxious taxes like the marriage fee.
- To increase revenue, he cultivated new lands, ordered deforestation in some areas, and undertook a large-scale project to obtain water for irrigation around Vijayanagar.
- Foreign visitors to Vijayanagar, such as Paes, Nunez, and Barbosa, praised his administration's efficiency and the people's prosperity during his reign.
- The empire was administered along the lines outlined in his Amuktamalyada. He believed that the King should always rule in accordance with Dharma.
- His concern for the welfare of the people is amply demonstrated by his extensive annual tours throughout the empire, during which he personally studied everything and attempted to redress people's grievances and punish evildoers.

## TITLES OF KRISHNADEVARAYA

1. **Karnataka Ratna Simhasana De Eshwara** (Lord of the jeweled throne of Karnataka )
2. **Kannada Rajya Rama Ramana** (Lord of the Kannada Empire)
3. **Andhra Bhoja Yaani** (Scholar of Andhra)
4. **Gaubrahmana Pratipalaka Yaani** (Protector of Brahmins and Cows)

## BOOKS WRITTEN BY KRISHNADEVARAYA

1. Amuktamalyada
2. Jambavati Kalyanam
3. Madalasa Charita
4. Satyavadu Parinaya
5. Rasamanjari

### Deccan Success

- During the Raya's reign, the Deccan sultans stopped raiding and plundering Vijayanagar towns and villages.
- In 1509, they clashed with Krishnadevaraya's armies, and Sultan Mahmud was severely injured and defeated. Yusuf Adil Shah was assassinated, and Raichur Doab was annexed.
- Taking advantage of the victory, the Raya merged Bidar, Gulbarga, and Bijapur into Vijayanagar, earning the title "establisher of the Yavana kingdom" when he released Sultan Mahmud and made him de facto ruler.
- Timmarusu, the prime minister of Sri Krishnadevaraya, defeated the Sultan of Golconda, Sultan Quli Qutb Shah.

## Gajapatis of Orissa

- The Odisha Gajapatis ruled a vast land that included Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha.
- Krishna Deva Raya's victory at Ummatur provided the impetus for his campaign into the Coastal Andhra region, which was under the control of Gajapati Raja Prataparudra Deva.
- In 1512, the Vijayanagar army besieged Udayagiri fort. The campaign lasted a year before the Gajapati army disintegrated due to starvation.
- Following that, Krishna Deva Raya and his wives Tirumala Devi and Chinnama Devi offered prayers in Tirupati.
- The Gajapati army was then met at Kondaveedu, where the armies of Vijayanagara began to retreat after establishing a siege for a few months due to heavy casualties.
- Then Timmarusu discovered a secret entrance to the fort's unguarded eastern gate and launched a night attack that resulted in the fort's capture and the imprisonment of Prince Virabhadra, Prataparudra Deva's son.
- Following that, Vasireddy Mallikharjuna Nayak took over as governor of Kondaveedu.

## War with Kalinga

- Krishnadevaraya planned an invasion of Kalinga, but Prataparudra learned of it and devised his own strategy to defeat Krishnadevaraya and the Vijayanagara Empire at Kalinganagar Fort.
- But the cunning Timmarusu discovered Prataparudra's plan by bribing a Telugu deserter from Prataparudra's service.
- When the Vijayanagara Empire invaded, Prataparudra was driven to Cuttack, the Gajapati Kingdom's capital.
- Prataparudra eventually surrendered to the Vijayanagara Empire and married Sri Krishnadevaraya's daughter, Princess Jaganmohini.
- Krishnadevaraya returned all of the lands captured by the Vijayanagara Empire north of the Krishna River, establishing the Krishna River as the boundary between the Vijayanagar and Gajapati Kingdoms.

## Literature of Krishna Deva Raya

### ➤ Telugu Literature

- Krishna Deva Raya's reign is regarded as the golden age of Telugu literature.
- Eight Telugu poets, known as **Ashtadiggajas**, were considered the eight pillars of his literary assembly.
- Krishna Dev Raya wrote the epic Telugu poem **Amuktamalyada**.
- Telugu culture and literature flourished and reached their zenith during Krishnadevaraya's reign.
- Eight Telugu poets were regarded as the eight pillars of the literary assembly in his court. It was once thought that eight elephants were holding the earth in eight different directions.
- The title Ashtadiggajas honours this belief, and thus the court was also known as **Bhuvana Vijayam (Conquest of the World)**.

## ➤ Kannada literature

- He supported Kannada poets **Mallanarya**, who wrote **Veera-shaivamruta**, **Bhava-chinta-ratna**, and **Satyendra Chola-kathe**; **Chatu Vittalanatha**, who wrote **Bhagavatha**, and **Timmanna Kavi**, who wrote a eulogy for his king in **Krishna Raya Bharata**.
- **His Rajaguru was Vyasatirtha**, the great Dvaita saint from **Mysore** of the **Madhva tradition**. **Krishna Deva Rayana Dinachari** in Kannada is a recently discovered work.
- The record highlights contemporary society during Krishna Deva Raya's time in his personal diary. However, it is unclear whether the record was written by the king himself.

## ➤ Tamil literature

- Krishna Deva Raya supported the Tamil poet **Haridasa**, and Tamil literature flourished over time.

## ➤ Sanskrit literature

- Vyasatirtha wrote in Sanskrit **Ehedo-jjivana**, **Tat-parya-chandrika**, **Nyaya-mrita** (a work critical of Advaita philosophy), and **Tarka-tandava**.
- Krishna Deva Raya, an accomplished scholar, wrote **Madalasa Charita**, **Satyavadi Parinaya**, **Rasamanjari**, and **Jambavati Kalyana**.

## Religion and Culture

- Krishna Deva Raya respected all Hindu sects. He is known for encouraging and supporting various sects and places of worship.
- He reconstructed the Virupaksha Temple as well as other Shiva shrines. He granted land grants to Tirumala, Srisailem, Amaravati, Chidambaram, Ahobilam, and Tiruvannamalai temples.
- He lavished numerous priceless objects on the Tirumala Venkateswara Temple, ranging from diamond-studded crowns to golden swords to nine types of precious gems. Venkateshwara became Krishna Deva Raya's patron deity.
- He went to the temple seven times. 229 of the Tirumala Devasthanam's approximately 1,250 temple epigraphs are attributed to Krishna Deva Raya.

- The Tirumala temple complex contains a statue of Krishna Deva Raya with two of his wives. These statues can still be seen at the temple's exit. He also helped to build parts of the Srisailam temple complex, including rows of mandapas.
- Krishna Deva Raya was the first person to be formally initiated into the Sri Vaishnava Sampradaya.
- The Amuktamalyada is a Telugu work he wrote about Andal, a Tamil Sri Vaishnava female saint. Venkata Tathacharya of the Sri Vaishnava sect was Krishna Deva Raya's Rajaguru and a powerful figure.
- According to the Madhwa text Vyasayogicarita, the Madhwa seer Vyasatirtha was Krishna Deva Raya's rajaguru.

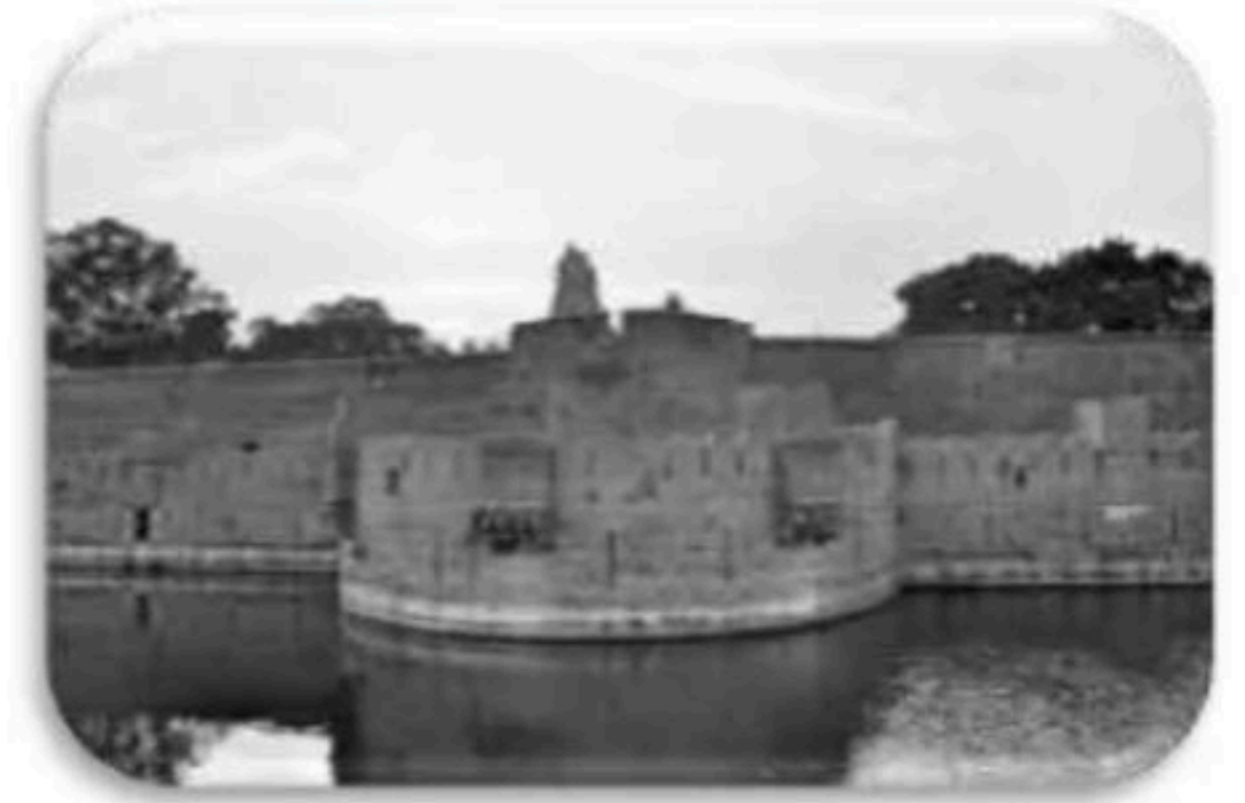
- He built large tanks and canals for irrigation.
- He developed the naval power understanding the vital role of overseas trade.
- He maintained friendly relations with the Portuguese and Arab traders.
- He increased the revenue of his government.
- He patronized art and architecture.
- It was during his period the Vijayanagar Empire reached its zenith of glory.
- Krishnadeva Raya was a great scholar.
- Ashtadiggajas: A group of eight scholars adorned his court and they were:-
  1. Allasani Peddanna – the author of Manucharitram, he was also known as Andhra Kavita-pitamaha
  2. Nandi Thimmana – the author of Parijathapaharanam
  3. Madayagari Mallana
  4. Dhurjati
  5. Ayyalaraju Ramabhadra Kavi
  6. Pingali Surana
  7. Ramaraja Bhushana
  8. Tenali Ramakrishna

The title Ashtadiggajas (Ashta + dik + gaja) means elephants in eight directions. The court in which the Ashtadiggajas used to work was also called Bhuvana Vijayam (Conquest of the World).

Most of these Ashtadiggajas were from the southern part of present-day Andhra Pradesh. The village of Thippalur in the present-day Cuddapah district was given to the Ashtadiggajas by the emperor.

## Achyuta Deva Raya (1529 - 1542 CE)

- Achyuta Deva Raya was the ruler of the South India Vijayanagara Empire.
- He was Krishna Deva Raya's younger brother, whom he succeeded in 1529.
- Fernao Nuniz was a Portuguese traveller, chronicler, and horse trader who spent three years in Vijayanagara during the reign of Achyutaraya.



### During his Reign

- Achyuta Deva Raya became king during a difficult period. The days of peace and prosperity under Krishnadevaraya were drawing to a close.
- Feudators and enemies were waiting for a chance to bring the empire down. In addition, Achyuta Deva Raya had to compete for the throne with the powerful Aliya Rama Raya.
- While Nuniz's works portray Achyuta Deva Raya as a king given to vices and cruelty, there is sufficient evidence to show that the king was notable in his own right and fought hard to keep the kingdom's prosperity alive.
- Krishna Deva Raya had personally chosen him as his successor.

## Regime of Political Unrest

- Political unrest and power struggles marked Achyuta Deva Raya's regime.
- Rivals of the Vijayanagara Empire attempted numerous times to bring the kingdom down, including Aliya Rama Raya, who was secretly conspiring against Achyuta Deva Raya in order to take the throne.
- According to historical records, this young ruler was pious and bravely fought many wars to bring peace and prosperity to Vijayanagara.
- Krishna Deva Raya is said to have chosen Achyuta Deva Raya as his successor because he showed signs of being a capable ruler.
- Bijapur's Ismail Adil Shah invaded the area around Raichur Doab. However, Achyuta Deva Raya's army was able to defeat Quli Qutb Shah of Golconda and the Gajapatis of Orissa.
- Following that, Achyuta Deva Raya accompanied Salakaraju Tirumala, his general, with the intention of bringing the chiefs of Ummattur and Travancore under his command. This was accomplished with little difficulty.
- The army of Achyuta Deva Raya took control of the Doab region, which is located near the northern portion of Tungabhadra, and retook the forts of Mudgal and Raichur.
- The Tiruvengalanatha Temple was built during Achyuta Raya's reign in Vijayanagara and was known as the Achyutaraya Temple. This ancient temple's presiding deity was Lord Venkateshwara.

## Decline of Kingdom During Achyuta Deva Raya's Reign

- During his reign, Achyuta Deva Raya was forced to contend with Rama Raya's manipulations, as he replaced many of the Kingdom's loyal servants in high positions with people in his favor.
- In the game of power-sharing, the Bahamani sultans were repeatedly called upon to act as an intermediary between the king and Aliya Rama Raya.
- Sultan Bahamani was summoned frequently to settle disputes between Achyuta Deva Raya and Aliya Rama Raya.
- Ismail Adil Shah of Bijapur took control of the area around Raichur Doab.
- Taking advantage of the victory, Rai reunited Bidar, Gulbarga, and Bijapur in Vijayanagar and received the title of "founder of the kingdom of Yavan" when he freed Sultan Mahmud and made him the de facto ruler.
- He defeated many local rulers, including Dharanikota Kammas, the feudal rulers of the Gajapati, and the leaders of the Ummatura rebels.
- Paradise defeated the local rulers, the Reddis of Kondaveedu and the Velamas of Bhuvanagiri, and conquered lands as far as the Krishna River.
- He ruled India's largest kingdom after the fall of the Delhi Sultanate.

## Temples Built During his Reign

- During his reign, the Tiruvengalanatha temple in Vijayanagar was built.
- It is now known as the Achyutaraya temple, rather than the name of the deity Lord Venkateshwara, to whom the temple was dedicated.
- The Timmalapura Shiva temple was built in 1539 AD during the reign of Achyuta Raya.



## Sada Siva Raya (1542 - 1570 CE)

- **Sadasiva Raya (1542–1570)** ruled the **Vijayanagara Empire** in 16th century India, a powerful Southern Indian empire based in the Deccan region. Sadasiva escaped the clutches of the ambitious regent **Salakam Timmu Raju** and was later elevated to the throne by the **minister Rama Raya**, who initially acted as regent but gradually became the de facto ruler of the kingdom.

### Background of Sada Siva Raya

- When the Vijayanagara ruler Achyuta Raya, Krishnadevaraya's younger brother, died in AD 1542, his son Venkata I (Venkata Raya or Venkatadri Raya) succeeded him. Six months later, he was murdered.
- Sadasiva Raya, Achyuta Raya's nephew ascended to the throne in accordance with the Aliya Santana laws that were prevalent among the Tuluvas.
- Sadasiva Raya, alone with his minister Rama Raya, restored the Vijayanagara Empire's power, which had dwindled following Krishna Deva Raya's rule.
- Sadasiva Raya was the undisputed ruler of the Vijayanagar Empire at this point.
- All the nobles and imperial officers throughout this vast kingdom recognized him as their king. However, he was only a ceremonial ruler; real power belonged to Rama Raya and his two brothers **Tirumala and Venkatadri**.
- When King Sadasiva reached adulthood, Rama Raya imprisoned him. Sadasiva was only presented to his subjects once a year.


## ➤ Battle of Talikota (1565 CE)

- The battle of Talikota was a watershed moment in the history of the Vijayanagara empire. The battle took place over a distance of 40 kilometres.
- This battle took place near Talikota, between the villages of Rakkasagi and Tangadagi. As a result, it was known as the **Talikota or Rakkasa-Tangadi battle**.
- The emperor of Vijayanagara at the time was Sadasiva Raya of the Tuluva dynasty.
- Sadasiva Raya was a puppet ruler, while his minister Rama Raya had actual power. Vijayanagara was defeated in the fight, leading in its following weakening.
- According to some scholars, the decisive battle was fought at Krishna-Bannihatti. As a result, it is known as the **Battle of Bannihatti**.

- The Vijayanagara troops were led by Aliya Ramaraya. The Shahi Sultan coalition army was on the other side.
- The troops in this grand army included Adil Shahis from Bijapura, Nizam Shahis from Ahmadnagar, Kutub Shahis from Golkanda, and Barid Shahis from Bidar.
- In 1565, Rama Raya was assassinated in the battle of Talikota, and Vijayanagar was sacked by the Deccan Sultans.
- Tirumala then succeeded his brother as regent of the empire.
- The battle of Bannihatti is widely regarded as the end of Vijayanagara's great age. Although the kingdom lasted nearly a century longer, its territory shrank steadily, and the raya was no longer a factor in south Indian politics

# Administration of Vijayanagar Kingdom

- The Rayas (king) had absolute authority in executive, judicial, and legislative matters. He was the highest court of appeal.
- He was assisted by a council of ministers in his day-to-day administration.
- Succession to the throne was on the principle of hereditary, but sometimes usurpation to the throne also occurred.
- Kingdom was divided into different administrative units called **Mandalams, Nadus, Sthalas, and** finally into **gramas**.
- The governor of the Mandalam was called Mandaleswara or Nayak.
- Vijayanagar Rulers gave full powers to the local authorities in the administration.
- Chola traditions of village self-government weakened under the Vijayanagar rulers. The growth of hereditary nayakships tended to curb their freedom.

-  Governors of provinces were royal princes at first. Later, persons belonging to vassals of ruling families and nobles were also appointed as governors.
- Provincial governors had a large measure of autonomy as they held their own courts, appointed their own officers, and maintained their own armies. They even issued their own coins.
- Each governor paid a fixed contribution in men and money to the central government. Thus, Vijayanagar was more a confederacy than a centralised empire.
- Land revenue was fixed at generally one sixth of the produce.
- Besides land revenue, tributes, and gifts from the vassals and feudal chiefs, customs collected at ports, taxes on various professions were other source of income to the government.
- The expenditure of the government includes personal expenses of kings and charities given by him and military expenditure.
- In matter of justice, harsh punishments such as mutilation and throwing to elephants were followed.

# Army and Military Organization

- Vijayanagar army was very well-organized and efficient.
- Vijayanagar rulers imported high quality horses from across the Arabian Sea from Arabia and Gulf countries. Port of Malabar was the centre of this trade.
- The **amara-nayaka system** was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire. It is likely that many features of this system were derived from iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.
- The amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya.
- They collected taxes and other dues from the peasants, craft persons, and traders in the area.
- The amara-nayakas sent tribute to the king annually and personally appeared in the royal court with gifts to express their loyalty.
- Kings occasionally asserted control over them by transferring them from one place to another.

- The top-grade officers of the army were known as **Nayaks or Palaiyagars or Poligars**. They usually spoke Telugu or Kannada. These officers were granted land called **amaram** in lieu of their services while soldiers were usually paid in cash.
- The Nayaka was responsible for expanding agricultural activities in his amaram (land).
- He collected taxes in his area and with this income maintained his army, horses, elephants, and weapons of warfare that he had to supply to the Raya (the Vijayanagara ruler).
- The nayaka was also the commander of forts. Some of his revenue also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works. Soldiers were usually paid in cash.
- In the 17th century, several of these nayakas such as those of Tanjore and Madurai became independent and established separate states and emerged as a powerful section that challenged Vijayanagar authority.
- The Vijayanagar state also employed Turkish and Portuguese experts to train the soldiers.
- They had both small firearms such as rifles and pistols, and certain heavy arms such as canons, which had to be put on a bullock cart or on an elephant and pushed into the battlefield.

## Social life and Cultural contribution

- The Vijayanagar Empire maintained a **rigid caste system**, or cultural hierarchy, with community delegates for each caste, from lowest to highest. Muslims were also given the opportunity to speak.
- **Brahmins** were the highest caste in India, and they were often religious teachers and authors. They also held judicial positions.
- **Brahmins, Kshatriya, Vaisyas, and Sudras** are the four castes that exist.
- **Virupaksha** was the family deity of the Sangama monarchs, who were mostly Saivaites. Other dynasties, though, were Vaishnavites.
- Low caste writers did, in fact, exist and produce popular literature. The caste system did allow for military advancement, so people born into lower castes had the potential to make a name for themselves in the empire's service.
- **Bracelets, necklaces, anklets, and earrings** were worn by both wealthy women and wealthy men.

- They also used **rosewater** and **musk fragrances** to scent themselves. Men wore **silk turbans**, which were sometimes adorned with **gold**.
- Nobles lived in luxury, wore opulent attire, and were pampered by the big staff.
- During this time, the culture placed a strong emphasis on **physical fitness**, and both men and women participated in sports.
- Males would wrestle with males and females would wrestle with females, and **gymnasiums** were created specifically for the troops to stay in shape.
- **Cockfighting** was a popular form of entertainment.
- During this time, Indian women enjoyed some liberty and were able to work in government administration as well as in businesses such as trading. Women could also use art and writing to express themselves.

## Economy of Vijayanagar Empire

- The empire's economy was heavily dependent on agriculture. All of the rulers had implemented favourable agricultural policies in various parts of **Vijayanagar**.
- The land was very fertile, and most of the land in the countryside was farmed. The agricultural wealth was supplemented by a variety of industries.
- The kings' government encouraged the development of industries, the most common of which are **textile, mining, perfumery, and metallurgy**. There was thriving inland, coastal, and international trade, which was a major source of general prosperity.
- The main exports were doth, spices, rice, iron, saltpetre, sugar, and so on. Horses, elephants, pearls, copper, coral, mercury, China silks and velvets were among the most important imports.
- **Vijayanagar empire's coins** were made of gold, copper, and silver. They bore emblems of various gods and animals.
- The symbol on coins changed according to the King. As a result, Harihara and Bukka I engraved a picture of Hanuman (Hindu God) on the money, while Krishna Dev Raya used Venkatesh and Balkrishna figures.

NAME OF TRAVELLERS	FROM	VIJAYANAGARA-RULER
Abu Abdullah/ Ibn Batuta (Book:Rihla)	Morocco	Harihara I
Nicolo de Conti	Italy	Devaraya-II
Abdur Razzaq	Persia	Devaraya-II
Athanasius Nikitin	Russia	Virupaksha Raya II
Ludvico de Vortheima	Italy	Krishna Deva Raya
Duarte Barbosa	Portugal	Krishna Deva Raya
Dominigo Paes	Portugal	Krishna Deva Raya
Fernao Nuniz	Portugal	Achyuta Deva Raya
Marco Polo	Venice	—

# Literature

## • Few ~~Sanskrit~~ works are.

- Gangadevi wrote- Madhuravijayam
- Krishnadevaraya wrote – usha parinayan, jambavanti kalyanam, madalasa charita.
- Guru vidyaranya wrote—Raja kalanirnaya

## • Literary works in Telugu

- Krishnadevaraya wrote – Amuktamalyada
- Allasani pedanna wrote – Manucharita
- Nandi timanna wrote – Parijathaparahana etc

## • Literary works in Kannada.

- Chamarasa wrote – prabhulingaleele
- Kanakadas wrote- Ramadhanacharite, nala charite, mohantarangini
- Kumaravyasa wrote – Karnataka katha manjari
- Purandardas — keertanas

## Conflict with Bahmani Kingdom

- The control of **Raichur doab** (territory between the rivers Krishna and Tungabhadra), was a major source of conflict between **the Bahmani and Vijayanagar kingdoms**.
- The fertile region of **Raichur Doab** touched the northern **Vijayanagar Empire** and southern borders of the **Bahmani Kingdom**.
- This region has abundant natural resources along with fertility.
- In the eastern portion of the doab region were the renowned **Golconda diamond mines** and both kingdoms wanted to control them.
- The terrain of both kingdoms and limited expansion options to the **Tungabhadra region of the Deccan** are also other factors.
- The **Marathwada region** and the **Krishna-Godavari delta** were the other hotspots of strife.

- Both regions had productive land and significant ports that governed trade with other nations.
- For instance, the **Konkan belt, which included the port of Goa** was a significant place for trade.
- In this port, export, and import particularly the import of horses from Iran and Iraq, was a fertile area in the Marathwada region.
- **Hindu-Muslim conflicts** could also be seen as a cause of clash between the Bahmani and Vijayanagar states.
- Though the major reasons for the war were purely territorial and commercial.

- The history of the Vijayanagara Empire's rise and demise is essentially one of incessant wars and battles. Administration of the Vijayanagar empire was good, law was strict and women enjoyed their freedom to write books and to express their feelings. The most famous king of this empire was Krishnadeva Raya. After the battle of Talikota the Vijayanagar empire fell down.

## Judicial Administration

- The king was the supreme judge.
- Severe punishments were given for the guilty.
- Those who violated the law were levied.

## Position of Women

- Women occupied a high position and took an active part in the political, social and literary life of the empire.
- They were educated and trained in wrestling, in the use of various weapons of offence and defence, in music and fine arts.
- Some women also received an education of high order.
- Nuniz writes that the kings had women astrologers, clerks, accountants, guards and wrestlers.

## Social life

- The society was systemized.
- Child marriage, polygamy and sati were prevalent.
- The kings allowed freedom of religion.

## Economic conditions

- Controlled by their irrigational policies.
- Textiles, mining, metallurgy perfumery, and other several industries existed.
- They had commercial relations with, the islands in the Indian Ocean, Abyssinia, Arabia, Burma, China, Persia, Portugal, South Africa, and The Malay Archipelago.

Unacademy  
According to Portuguese writer Nuniz, the women in the Vijayanagara empire were expert in which of the following areas? (2021)

1. Wrestling ✓

2. Astrology ✓

3. Accounting ✓

4. Soothsaying ✓

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a. 1, 2 and 3 only

b. 1, 3 and 4 only

c. 2 and 4 only

d. 1, 2, 3 and 4