



#Static#GK

Important Monuments

By Dr. Gaurav Garg

Part-2



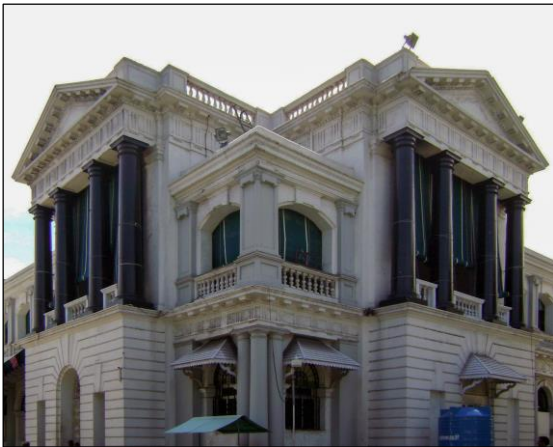
Dindigul Fort, Tamil Nadu



The Dindigul Fort
was built in 16th-century by Madurai **Nayakar Dynasty**
situated in the town of Dindigul in Tamil Nadu.

The fort was built by the **Madurai Nayakar king Muthu
Krishnappa Nayakar** in 1605.

Fort St. George, Chennai



Fort St George (or historically, White Town) is the first English fortress in India, founded in 1644 at the coastal city of Madras, the modern city of Chennai.

The construction of the fort provided the impetus for further settlements and trading activity, in what was originally an uninhabited land.

The fort currently houses the **Tamil Nadu legislative assembly** and other official buildings.

Thirumayam Fort, Tamil Nadu

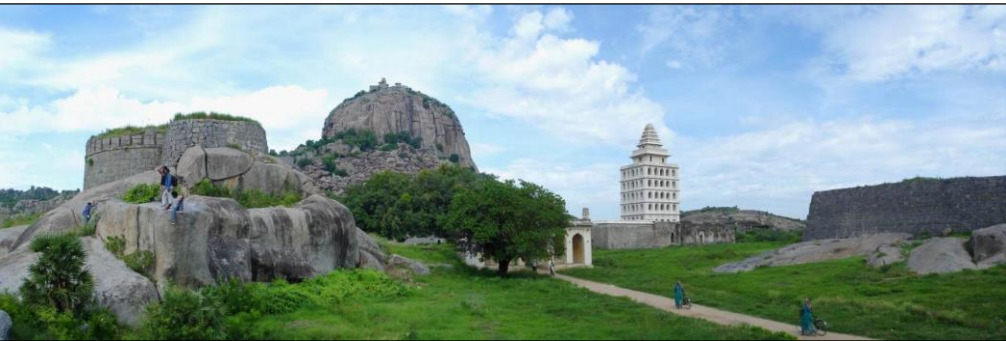


The Thirumayam Fort is a 40-acre wide fortress in the town of **Thirumayam in Pudukkottai District**, Tamil Nadu.

It was constructed by **Vijaya Raghunatha Sethupathi** of **Ramnad Kingdom** (also known as "Maravar Kingdom") in 1687.

The fort has been extensively renovated by Archaeological Survey of India in 2012

Gingee Fort, Tamil Nadu



Gingee Fort or Senji Fort is one of the surviving forts in Tamil Nadu, India.

It lies in **Villupuram District**, 160 kilometres (99 mi) from the state capital, Chennai, and is close to the Union Territory of Puducherry.

The fort is so fortified, that **Chhatrapati Shivaji**, the Maratha king, ranked it as the "most impregnable fortress in India" and it was called the "**Troy of the East**" by the British.

Great Living Chola Temples



The **Great Living Chola Temples** were built by kings of the Chola Empire, which stretched over all of south India and the neighbouring islands.

The site includes three great 11th- and 12th-century Temples: the **Brihadisvara Temple at Thanjavur**, the **Brihadisvara Temple at Gangaikondacholisvaram** and the **Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram**.

Brihadishvara Temple



Brihadishvara Temple is a Hindu temple dedicated to **Shiva** located in South bank of **Kaveri river** in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

It is one of the largest South Indian temples and an exemplary example of a fully realized **Dravidian architecture**.

It is called as **Dhakshina Meru** (Meru of south).

Built by Tamil king **RajaRaj Chola I** between 1003 and 1010 AD.

The temple is a part of the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** known as the "Great Living Chola Temples.

Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikonda Cholapuram



Brihadisvara Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram is a Hindu temple dedicated to **Shiva** in Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Jayankondam, in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Completed in **1035 AD by Rajendra Chola I** as a part of his new capital, this Chola dynasty era temple is similar in design, and has a similar name, as the older 11th century, Brihadeeswarar Temple about 70 kilometres (43 mi) to the southwest in Thanjavur.

Though inland, the temple is near the **Kollidam River**, within the Cauveri River delta with access to the Bay of Bengal and through it to the Indian Ocean.

UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site in 2004

Airavatesvara Temple



Airavatesvara Temple is a Hindu temple of Dravidian architecture located in Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu.

This temple, built by **Rajaraja Chola II** in the **12th century CE** is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**

The temple is dedicated to **Shiva**.

The Airavatesvara Shiva temple has a water tank. This tank has a connected channel that brings in **Cauveri River water** where Hindus gather annually to take a dip

Group of Monuments, Mahabalipuram



This group of sanctuaries, founded by the **Pallava kings**, was carved out of rock along the **Coromandel coast** of the Bay of Bengal, about 60 kilometres (37 mi) south of Chennai **in the 7th and 8th centuries**.

The site has **40 ancient monuments and Hindu temples**, including one of the largest open-air rock reliefs in the world: the **Descent of the Ganges or Arjuna's Penance**.

Known as **the Seven Pagodas** in many colonial-era publications, they are also called the Mamallapuram temples or Mahabalipuram temples in contemporary literature.

In 1984, the site was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

Moovar Koil, Tamil Nadu



Moovar Koil or "The Three temples" is a Hindu temple complex situated in the village of Kodumbalur, 36 kilometres from Pudukkottai in Tamil Nadu.

Kodumbalur was also the site of a fierce battle between the Pandyas and the Pallavas.

Chittor Fort



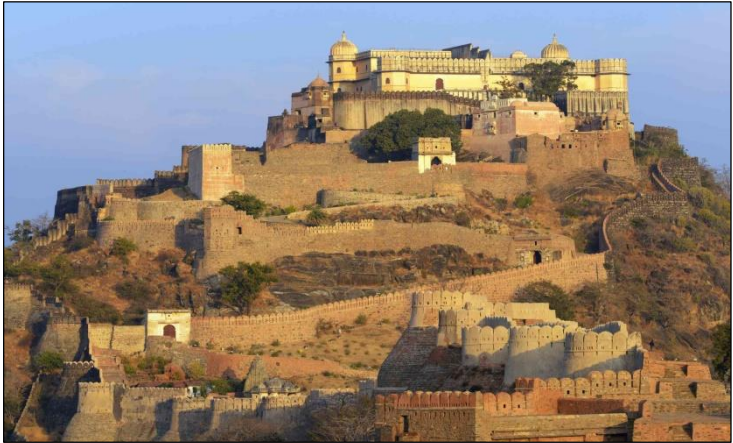
The Chittor Fort or Chittorgarh is the largest forts in India. It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

The fort was the **capital of Mewar** and is located in the present-day town of Chittor.

It sprawls over a hill 180 m (590.6 ft) in height spread over an area of 280 ha (691.9 acres) above the plains of the valley drained by the **Berach River**

It is said to have been built by the local Maurya ruler **Chitrangada Maurya**

Kumbhalgarh Fort



Kumbhalgarh (literally "Kumbhal fort") is a Mewar fortress on the westerly range of Aravalli Hills, in the Rajsamand district near Udaipur of Rajasthan state in western India.

It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** included in **Hill Forts of Rajasthan**.

Hill Forts consist of:

Chittor Fort at Chittorgarh
Kumbhalgarh Fort at Kumbhalgarh
Ranthambore Fort at Sawai Madhopur
Gagron Fort at Jhalawar
Amer Fort at Jaipur
Jaisalmer Fort at Jaisalmer

Built during the course of the 15th century by **Rana Kumbha**.

He was the ruler of **Mewar kingdom** of western India. He belonged to the Sisodia clan of Rajputs

Ranthambore Fort

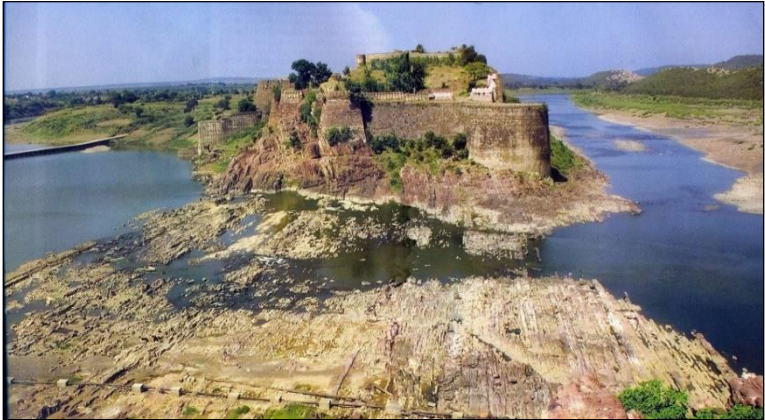


Ranthambore Fort lies within the Ranthambore National Park, near the city of **Sawai Madhopur**, the park being the former hunting grounds of the Maharajahs of Jaipur until the time of India's Independence.

The fort was held by the **Chahamanas (Chauhans)** until the 13th century, when the Delhi Sultanate captured it.

It was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

Gagron Fort



Gagron Fort is situated in **Jhalawar district** of Rajasthan, in the Hadoti region of India. It is an example of a hill and water fort.

It is a hill and water fort, one of 12 kinds of Vedic fort architecture known as **JalDurg**.

A mausoleum of **Sufi Saint Mitthe Shah** just outside the fort is the venue for an annual colourful fair held during the month of Moharram. The fort is surrounded from 3 sides by the serene waters of **Ahu and also Kali Sindh**

It is included in **UNESCO World Heritage Site list**

Amer Fort



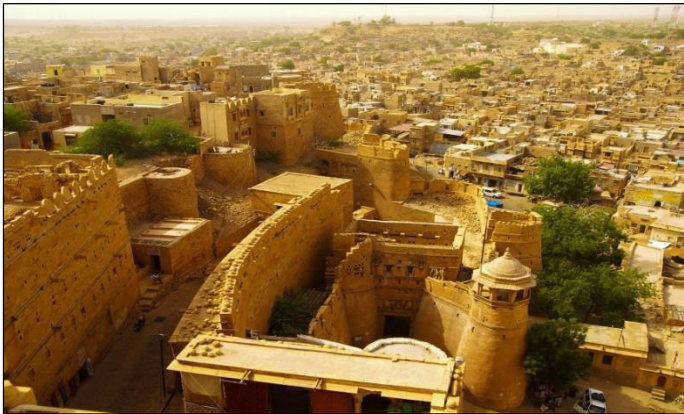
Amer Fort or Amber Fort is a fort located in Amer, Rajasthan, India.

The fort overlooks **Maota Lake** which is the main source of water for the Amer Palace.

The settlement at Amer was founded by **Raja Alan Singh**, a ruler from the **Chanda clan of Meenas** in 967 CE.

It is listed in as declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**

Jaisalmer Fort



Jaisalmer Fort is situated in the city of Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.

It is believed to be one of the very few "living forts" in the world (such as Carcassonne, France), as nearly one fourth of the old city's population still resides within the fort.

Legend has it that the fort was built by Rawal Jaisal, a Bhati Rajput, in 1156 CE.

The fort's massive yellow sandstone walls are a tawny lion colour during the day, fading to honey-gold as the sun sets, thereby camouflaging the fort in the yellow desert.

For this reason it is also known as the **Sonar Quila or Golden Fort**.

The fort stands amidst the sandy expanse of the **great Thar Desert** on **Trikuta Hill**.

Included in **UNESCO World Heritage Site**

Deeg Palace, Rajasthan



Deeg Palace is a palace 32 km from **Bharatpur** in Rajasthan, India built in 1772 as a luxurious summer resort for the rulers of Bharatpur State.

Deeg was the capital of the **Jat kings** before they shifted to Bharatpur. **Badan Singh**, who came to the throne in 1721, built a palace here.

Due to its strategic location and proximity to Agra, Deeg had to face repeated attacks by invaders

His son, **prince Suraj Mal**, began the construction of a fortress around the palace around 1730. The fort had massive walls and a deep moat to keep away raiders.

Two huge water tanks, **Gopal Sagar and Rup Sagar**, on either side also helped to bring down the temperature.

Konark Sun Temple, Odisha



Konark Sun Temple is a 13th-century CE Sun temple at Konark in Odisha.

The temple is attributed to king **Narasimhadeva I** of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty about 1250 CE.

The cause of the destruction of the **Konark temple is unclear and remains a source of controversy.**

Theories range from natural damage to deliberate destruction of the temple in the course of being sacked several times by Muslim armies between the **15th and 17th centuries**

This temple was called the "Black Pagoda" in European sailor accounts as early as 1676 because its great tower appeared black.

Similarly, the Jagannath Temple in Puri was called the "White Pagoda".

It was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1984

Rajarani Temple, Odisha



Rajarani Temple is an 11th-century Hindu temple located in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

The temple is believed to have been known originally as Indreswara. It is locally known as a "**love temple**" because of the erotic carvings of women and couples in the temple.

The temple was constructed of **dull red and yellow sandstone** locally called "**Rajarani**".

Daulatabad fort, Ahmadnagar



Daulatabad Fort, also known as **Devagiri or Deogiri**, is a historical fortified citadel located in Aurangabad.

It was the capital of the **Yadava dynasty** (9th century–14th century CE), for a brief time the capital of the **Delhi Sultanate** (1327–1334), and later a **secondary capital of the Ahmadnagar Sultanate** (1499–1636).

In 1327, **Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq** of the Delhi Sultanate **renamed the city as "Daulatabad"** and shifted his imperial capital to the city from Delhi.

Fifteen temples at Lonar, Buldana District, Maharashtra



Fifteen temples are Named as

1. Papaharshwar temple
2. Kumareshwar temple
3. Yajaneshwar temple,
4. Ramgaya temple,
5. Mahadev temple,
6. Bagichatemple,
7. Waghtemple,
8. Mor Temple
9. Kamalja Devi temple
10. Mahadev temple near Kamaljadevi temple
11. Amberkhana temple
12. MunglaMahadevtemple
13. Deshmukhtemple
- 14 ChopdaMahadevtemples,
15. Peer kiChattri.

These temples were built around the crater lake around 11th - 12th century AD.

These temples follow the contemporary regional styles, quite homogeneously termed as **Hemadpanti**.

The temples are dedicated mainly to **Lord Šiva**, though there are few to other deities too.

Kamalja Devi temple is one amongst these, dedicated to Šakti, Goddess Kamalja, where yearly annual fairs are organised during the festival of Navaratra.

Gawilghur Fort, Amravati District, Maharashtra



Gawilghur (also Gawilgarh or Gawilgad) was a well-fortified mountain stronghold of the Maratha Empire north of the Deccan Plateau, in the vicinity of Melghat Tiger Reserve, Amravati District, Maharashtra.

According to the local tradition the fort was constructed in 12th Century by Gawali King who belongs to the family of Yadavas, because of king Gawali it was called as Gawilgad

The exact date of construction is not known but according to the Persian historian, Firishta, records that **Ahmed Shah Wali**, the **ninth king of the Muzaffarid dynasty** built Gawilgarh when he was encamped at Ellichpur in 1425.

The fort was successfully assaulted by an Anglo-Indian force commanded by **Arthur Wellesley on 15 December 1803** during the **Second Anglo-Maratha War**.

Bibi Ka Maqbara



The Bibi Ka Maqbara (Tomb of the Lady) is a tomb located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India.

It was commissioned in **1660** by the **Mughal emperor Aurangzeb** in the memory of his first and chief wife Dilras Banu Begum (posthumously known as **Rabia-ud-Daurani**) and is considered to be a symbol of Aurangzeb's 'conjugal fidelity'.

It bears a striking resemblance to the **Taj Mahal**, the mausoleum of **Aurangzeb's mother**, Mumtaz Mahal.

Due to the strong resemblance, it is also called the **Dakkhani Taj (Taj of the Deccan)**

An inscription found on the main entrance door mentions that this mausoleum was designed and erected by **Ata-ullah**, an architect and **Hanspat Rai**, an engineer respectively.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus



Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus , also known by its former name **Mumbai Victoria Terminus (until 1996)** and **Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (until 2017)**, is a historic terminal train station and UNESCO World Heritage Site in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.

The terminus was designed by British born architectural engineer Frederick William Stevens, in an exuberant Italian Gothic style.

Its construction **began in 1878**, in a location south of the old Bori Bunder railway station, and was completed in 1887, the year marking 50 years of **Queen Victoria's rule**, the building being named, Victoria Terminus.

In 2017, the station was again renamed **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus** where Maharaj is also a royal title. The terminus is the headquarters of **India's Central Railway**

Sanchi Stupa, Madhya Pradesh



Sanchi Stupa is a Buddhist complex, famous for its Great Stupa, on a hilltop at Sanchi Town in Raisen District.

The Great Stupa at Sanchi is one of the oldest stone structures in India, and an important monument of Indian Architecture.

The original construction work of this stupa was overseen by Ashoka, whose wife Devi was the daughter of a merchant of nearby Vidisha.

Sanchi was also her birthplace as well as the venue of her and Ashoka's wedding

The monuments at **Sanchi** today comprise a series of **Buddhist monuments** starting from the **Maurya Empire period** (3rd century BCE), continuing with the **Gupta Empire period** (5th century CE), and ending around the 12th century CE.

It is probably the best preserved group of Buddhist monuments in India.

The monuments have been listed among other famous monuments in the **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** since **1989**.

Gwalior Fort, Madhya Pradesh



Gwalior Fort (Gwāliiyar Qila) is a hill fort near Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, central India.

The fort has existed at least **since the 10th century**, and the inscriptions and monuments found within what is now the fort campus indicate that it may have existed as early as the beginning of the 6th century.

The present-day fort consists of a defensive structure and two main palaces, **Gujari Mahal and Man Mandir**, built by Man Singh Tomar (reigned 1486–1516 CE). The Gujari Mahal palace was built for **Queen Mrignayani**. It is now an archaeological museum.

The word Gwalior is derived from one of the Hindu words for saint, Gwalipa.

According to a local legend, the fort was built by a local king named Suraj Sen in 3 CE. He was cured of leprosy, when a sage named Gwalipa offered him the water from a sacred pond, which now lies within the fort.

Khajuraho Group of Monuments, Madhya Pradesh



The **Khajuraho Group of Monuments** is a group of Hindu temples and Jain temples in **Chhatarpur district**, Madhya Pradesh.

They are a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. The temples are famous for **their nagara-style** architectural symbolism and their erotic sculptures.

Most Khajuraho temples were built between 950 AD and 1050 AD by the **Chandela dynasty**.

The Khajuraho group of temples were built together but were dedicated to two religions, **Hinduism and Jainism**.

Historical records note that the **Khajuraho temple** site had **85 temples** by the 12th century, spread over 20 square kilometers. Of these, only about 25 temples have survived.

Of the surviving temples, the **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple** is decorated with a profusion of sculptures with intricate details, symbolism and expressiveness of ancient Indian art.

The Khajuraho temples feature a variety of artwork, **of which 10% is sexual or erotic art outside and inside the temples.** Some of the temples that have two layers of walls have small erotic carvings on the outside of the inner wall.

Shahi Qila, Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh



The **Shahi Qila** was a majestic palace in **Burhanpur**, located to the east of the **Tapti River**.

Little except ruins remain of the palace. However, the parts that still stand display amazing works of sculpture and exquisite carvings.

History of the Shahi Qila states that it was originally built by the **Farooqui rulers** and **resided by Shah Jahan**, at a time when he was the governor of Burhanpur.

The **Shahi Qila, Burhanpur is mostly in ruins** now, except a few beautifully carved parts of the palace that still stands as a symbol of the glorious Qila it was in the olden days.

The main attraction at the palace is the **hamam or the royal bath**. It was specifically built for Shah Jahan's wife, Begum Mumtaz Mahal

Bhojeshwar Temple, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh



The **Bhojeshwar Temple** is an incomplete Hindu temple in Bhojpur village of Madhya Pradesh, India. **Dedicated to Shiva**, it houses a 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high lingam in its sanctum.

The temple stands magnificently over the rocky outcrop lying on the right bank of the **river Betwa (ancient Vetrawati)**

The Bhojpur temple is believed to have been constructed by the **11th-century Paramara king Bhoja**.

Roopmati Pavilion, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh



Rani Roopmati's Pavilion was built as an army observation post. From this picturesque pavilion perched on a hilltop, the queen could gaze at her paramour's palace, and also at **the Narmada flowing by, below.**

Rani Roopmati's double pavilion perched on the southern embattlements afforded a beautiful view of the Narmada valley.

Rani Roopmati was a poet and the consort of the **Sultan of Malwa, Baz Bahadur.**

The Pavilion is located in **Mandu.**

Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka, Madhya Pradesh



The Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka are in the foothills of the **Vindhyan Mountains** on the southern edge of the central Indian plateau.

Spans the prehistoric **Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods**, as well as the **historic period**

It exhibits the earliest **traces of human life** on the Indian subcontinent and evidence of Stone Age starting at the site in Acheulian times.

It is located in the **Raisen District** in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh

It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** that consists of seven hills and over 750 rock shelters distributed over 10 km (6.2 mi).

At least some of the shelters were inhabited more than 100,000 years ago

The site consists of seven hills: Vinayaka, Bhonrawali, Bhimbetka, Lakha Juar (east and west), Jhondra and Muni Babaki Pahari.

Humiliated and banished from their own kingdom for 12 years, the Pandavas of the Hindu epic Mahabharata—Yudhisthira, Bhima, Arjuna, Nakula and Sahadeva—spent these years living in forests.

Legend has it that one of their resting places was **Bhimbetka** (Bhim Baithaka, the place where Bhima sat).

Group of Monuments at Mandu, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh



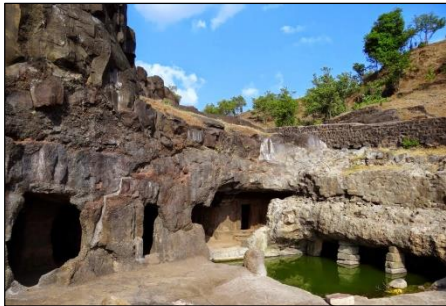
The group of monuments of Mandu are situated about 42 km south-east of Dhar, 112 km south-west of Indore and 300 km south-west of Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh.

There are **61 monuments including fort** wall protected and declared as monuments of national importance.

1) Caves and Temples:

The rock-cut caves known as **Lohani caves** were probably excavated in or about the eleventh century A.D. The area around them yielded 80 sculptures.

Some **Saiva temples** appear to have existed near the caves which were destroyed for use in the Muslim buildings



2) Dilawar Khan's Mosque

The earliest Indo-Islamic building at Mandu is Dilawar Khan's mosque.

Dilawar Khan Ghorī was governor of the Malwa province of central India and laterly Sultan of the Malwa Sultanate during the decline of the Delhi Sultanate.

It consists of a central courtyard, enclosed by colonnade all around and mehrab on the west. The prayer hall has ceiling in Hindu style and its architecture is considerably influenced by Hindu workmanship.



3) **Hindola Mahal**: The Hindola Mahal (“Swinging Palace”), is a large meeting hall, or durbar, in the ancient Indian city of Mandu.

The Hindola Mahal might have been constructed **during the reign of Hoshang Shah about 1425 C.E.** but may date to the end of the 15th century during the reign of Ghiyas-al-Din.

The plan of the **Hindola Mahal is a T-shape**, though examination of the exterior walls leads to the conclusion that the crossbar was added later

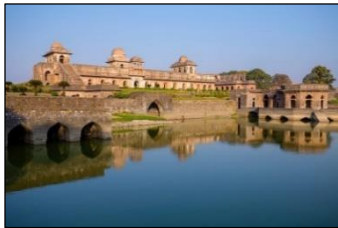


4) Jahaz Mahal

It is known as "**Ship Palace**" as it is on the narrow strip of land between the waters of the Munj and Kapur tanks.

Ghiyas-ud-din (Khalji dynasty of Malwa), in 1469 and ruled for the next 31 years.

He had a **large harem** and built the **Jahaz Mahal** for housing the women, numbering thousands



Leh Palace



Leh Palace or Lhachen Palkhar is the most conspicuous building on the ridge of Tsemo hill above the old settlements and occupies a commanding position of Leh town below.

According to oral tradition the site was chosen by the king Jamyang Namgyal.

The construction of the Palace was completed around 1630 A.D during the reign of King Senge Namgyal.

The main designer of the building was a Balti Muslim named Chandan Ali Singge also known as Shinkan Chandan.

The palace was abandoned when **Dogra forces took control of Ladakh** in the mid-19th century and forced the royal family to move to **Stok Palace**.

It is **nine storeys high**; the upper floors accommodated the royal family, while the lower floors held stables and store room

Kudakkallu Parambua



Kudakkallu Parambu is a prehistoric Megalith burial site situated in
Chermanangad of Thrissur District of Kerala.

The site has 69 megalithic monuments spread over a small area.

The Archaeological Survey of India says that these monuments were
built around 2000 BCE

Devidol, Gaurisagar, Assam



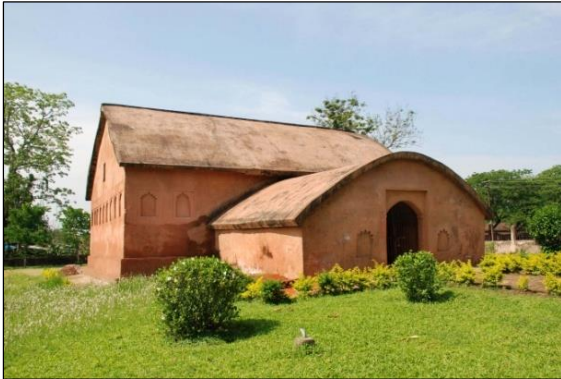
Devidol (Dol means temple) is the biggest among the three temples of Gaurisagar temple complex.

The temple was built with stone and brick, plastering with lime surkhi.

Built by **Phuleswari Devi**, the chief queen of **king Siva Singha** (1714-44 CE), the temple was consecrated to Devi (goddess Durga)

Sutanphaa (also Siva Singha) (reign 1714–1744) was a King in Assam in the early 18th century.

Devidol, Joysagar, Assam



Built by the **Ahom King Rudra Singha** (1696-1714 CE), this small brick temple was consecrated to goddess Durga.

Rectangular on plan, the temple is typically a, **do-chala Assamese** hut like structure.

The main shrine is 7.74 m high. A small south facing **mukhamandapa** is annexed with the main temple.

Devidol, Sivasagar, Assam



Devidol was dedicated to Devi (goddess Durga) and built by Queen Ambika Devi, one of the chief queens of king Siva Singha (1714-44 CE).

The main shrine is 19.56 m high. On axial plan, the temple consists of garbhagriha with an attached mukhamandapa.

The Ahom Raja's Palace, Garhgaon, Sivasagar, Assam



The Royal Palace at Garhgaon is a fine specimen of the **Ahom architecture**.

Garhgaon was one of the **principal capitals of the Ahom kings** from the reign of King Sulhengmung (1539-1552 CE) or Garhgayan Raja.

It is believed that the Royal Palace was first **built by King Sulhengmung** with wood and other impermanent materials in c.1540 CE.

The present brick built chariot like palace was reconstructed and enlarged with an underground tunnel connecting the palace with that at **Rangpur in 1752 CE by King Rajeswar Singha (1751- 1769 CE).**

King Pramatta Singha (1744-1751 CE) constructed a brick wall and masonry gateway in the capital complex.

Vishnudol, Gaurisagar



Built by Phuleswari Devi, the chief queen of the Ahom king Siva Singha (1714-1744 CE), the temple was dedicated to Lord Vishnu.

It is an imitation of the Joydol of Joysagar

Vishnudol, Joysagar



Popularly known as Joydol (dol means temple), Vishnudol was dedicated to Lord Vishnu.

The presiding deity of the temple was known as Keshavaraya Vishnu.

In 1698 CE, The Ahom King Rudra Singha (1696-1714 CE) built this temple in the memory of his mother Joymati.

Vishnudol, Sivasagar



Dedicated to Lord Vishnu, Vishnudol (Dol means temple) was built by **Queen Ambika Devi**, one of the chief queens of king Siva Singha (1714-44 CE).

The main shrine is 21.9m high. The temple consists of **garbhagriha, antarala and mandapa** as axial units.

Gola Ghar or Magazine House



The **Gola Ghar** (Assamese for 'Cannon House') is a historical monument located in Joysagar, 4 km from Sivasagar, Assam.

It is an ammunition store house used by the Ahoms and is situated near the **Talatal Ghar**.

The Gola Ghar was built during the reign of **Chakradhwaj Singha (1663-1669 AD)**.

popularly known as Gola-Ghar, this hut is said to be used as **magazine house** during Ahom period.

Talatal Ghar



The **Talatal Ghar** is located in Rangpur, 4 km from present-day **Sivasagar, in Upper Assam.**

It is one of the grandest examples of **Tai Ahom architecture.** The Talatal Ghar is also the largest of **all Tai Ahom monuments.**

The floors of the Talatal Ghar below **the ground have been sealed off,** **as visitors tended to get lost within its mazy structure** and were never heard of thereafter.

Swargadeo Rudra Singha shifted the capital of the Ahom Kingdom from talatal Garhgaon to Rangpur in AD 1702-03.

He was a Tungkhungia (Tungkhungia dynasty were a branch of the Ahom dynasty) king of the Ahom kingdom under whom the kingdom reached its zenith of power and glory.

Rang Ghar



The Rang Ghar (rong ghor meaning "House of Entertainment") is a two-storeyed building which once served as the royal sports-pavilion where Ahom kings and nobles were spectators at games like buffalo fights and other sports at Rupahi Pathar (pathar meaning "field" in Assamese) - particularly during the Rongali Bihu festival in the Ahom capital of Rangpur.

The building was first constructed during the reign of Swargadeo Rudra Singha with bamboo and wood.

It was later rebuilt with brick by Swargadeo Pramatta Singha in AD 1744-1750

Adinatha Basadi, Hassan, Karnataka



The Adinatha Basadi was probably built during the time of
Vishnuvardhana (Hoysala Empire)

During his regime, different cults like **Hinduism and Jainism** co-existed with utmost religious harmony.

Jain Basadi complex in Halebidu, Hassan district consists of three Jain Basadis (Basti or temples) dedicated to the **Jain Tirthankars Parshvanatha, Shantinatha and Adinatha**.

The **Adinatha Basadi** is the smallest of the Jain basadis.

Thomas Inman's Dungeon



Inman's Dungeon is situated at the north-west corner of the fort at **Srirangapatna** and discovered in 1895.

It is an oblong structure of about 12.8x9.76 m concealed within the fort with low vaulted roof of brick-and-mortar.

Srirangapatna Fort is a historical fort located in Srirangapatna, the historical capital city in the South Indian state of Karnataka.

Built by the **Timmanna Nayaka in 1454** (a ruler of **Vijayanagar Empire in 1454 CE**). The river **Kaveri surrounds** the fort in one of the sides

Spot where Tipu's Body was found, Srirangapatna



During the Fourth Mysore War, the British troops entered the strong fort of Srirangapatna by breaching the fort wall.

Near the water gate, (towards north, near Gangadhara temple), a stranded Tipu was attacked by the British soldiers. One of them tried to snatch his golden belt.

Tipu tried to ward him off with his sword. Fearing for his friend's life, another British soldier shot Tipu in the temple.

Late in the evening, British officers found the body of Tipu under the heap of dead bodies. A memorial has been erected at the spot in the form of a stone tablet.

Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangapatna



The Ranganthaswamy temple (usually referred to as "Sri Ranganathaswamy") in Srirangapatna, in the Mandya district of Karnataka state, is dedicated to the Hindu god Ranganatha (a manifestation of the god Vishnu).

It is one of the five important pilgrimage sites of Sri Vaishnavism along the river Kaveri for devotees of Ranganatha.

These five sacred sites are together known as Pancharanga Kshetrams in Southern India.

The following temples are considered the five sacred sites of worship of the god Ranganatha

Temple	Location
Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple	Srirangapatna, Karnataka
Sri Ranganatha Swamy Temple	Srirangam, Tami Nadu
Sarangapani Temple	Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu
Sri Appakkudathan Temple	Trichy, Tamil Nadu
Parimala Ranganatha Perumal Temple	Indalur, Mayiladuthurai, Tamil Nadu
Ranganatha Temple, Nellore	Nellore, Andhra Pradesh

Chennakesava Temple, Somanathapura



The **Chennakesava Temple**, also referred to as Chennakeshava Temple, **Keshava Temple** or **Kesava Temple**, is a Vaishnava Hindu temple on the banks of **River Kaveri** at Somanathapura, Karnataka, India.

It was built in A.D. 1117 by the **Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana**.

Kedareshwara Temple, Halebidu



Kedareshwara Temple (also spelt "Kedaresvara" or "Kedareshvara") is a **Hoysala era construction** in the historically important town of **Halebidu, in the Hassan district** of Karnataka state.

The temple was constructed by **Hoysala King Veera Ballala II (r. 1173–1220 A.D.)** and his **Queen Ketaladevi**, and the main deity is Ishwara (another name for the Hindu god Shiva).

The temple is protected as a monument of national importance by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Bellary Fort



The Bellary Fort ("Bellary Kote") was built on top of a hill called the "Ballari Gudda" or the Fort Hill.

It is situated in the historic city of **Bellary**, in the **Bellary district**, in Karnataka state.

It was built in two parts namely, the **Upper Fort** and the **Lower Fort**.

The Upper Fort was built by **Hanumappa Nayaka**, a feudatory of Vijayanagara Empire, but the Lower Fort was built by **Hyder Ali** in **later part of the 18th century**.

Bidar Fort

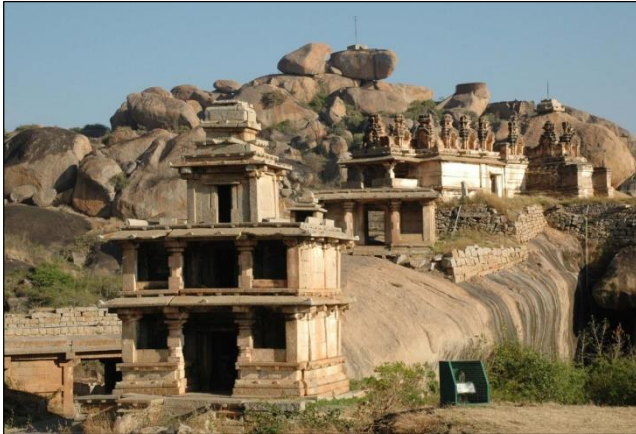


Bidar Fort is a fort situated in the Bidar, Karnataka.

Bidar fort constructed between 1426 – 1432 A.D. by Sultana Ahmad Shah, was considered to be one of the most formidable forts if India.

There are over 30 monuments inside Bidar fort

Chitradurga Fort



Chitradurga Fort, is a fortification that straddles several hills and a peak overlooking a flat valley in the **Chitradurga District, Karnataka**.

The fort was built in stages between the **11th and 13th centuries** by the dynastic rulers of the region including the **Chalukyas and Hoysalas**, later the **Nayakas of Chitradurga of the Vijayanagar Empire**

The Nayakas of Chitradurga, or Palegar Nayakas, were most responsible for the expansion of the fort between the 15th and 18th centuries.

The fort was taken over for a short while by **Hyder Ali** at Chitradurga in 1779.

The fort was captured by the British forces twenty years later, when they **defeated his son Tipu Sultan**.

Chitradurga Fort lies in the midst of a valley formed by the **Vedavati River**.

The **Tungabhadra River** flows to the northwest of the fort.

Durga temple, Aihole



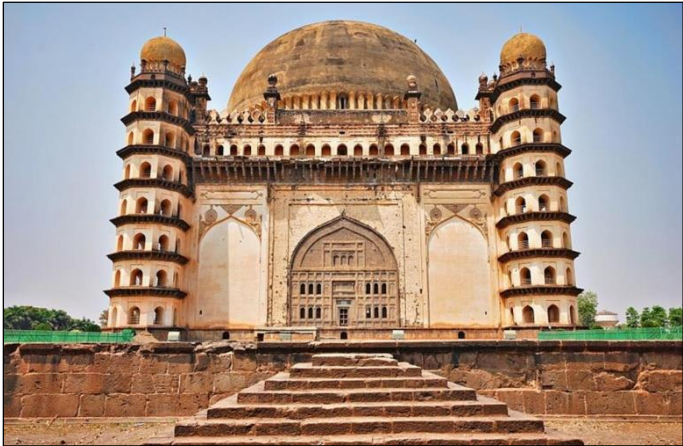
The Durga temple is a medieval Hindu temple located in Aihole in the state of Karnataka.

The temple was probably built in the late 7th century by the dynasty of the Chalukyas; it is the largest of a group of over 120 temples at Aihole.

The architecture of the temple is predominantly Dravida with Nagara style also is used in certain areas.

The Durga Temple belongs to Badami Chalukya architecture

Gol Gumbaz



Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur is the mausoleum of king **Muhammad Adil Shah, Adil Shah Dynasty**.

Construction of the tomb, located in Vijayapura (formerly Bijapur), Karnataka, India, was started **in 1626 and completed in 1656**.

The name is based on Gola gummata derived from **Gol Gombadh meaning "circular dome"**. It follows the style of Indo-Islamic architecture.

The Gol Gumbaz is **second in size only to St. Peter's Basilica, Rome**

Group of Monuments at Hampi



Hampi, also referred to as the Group of Monuments at Hampi, is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** located in east-central Karnataka, India.

It was the capital of the **Vijayanagara Empire** in the 14th century.

Hampi was a prosperous, wealthy and grand city near the **Tungabhadra River**, with numerous temples, farms and trading markets.







Group of Monuments at Pattadakal



Pattadakal, also called Paṭṭadakallu or Raktapura, is a complex of 7th and 8th century CE **Hindu and Jain temples** in northern Karnataka (India).

Located on the west bank of the **Malaprabha River** in Bagalakote district. this is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Hindu temples are generally dedicated to **Shiva**, but **elements of Vaishnavism and Shaktism** theology and legends are also featured.

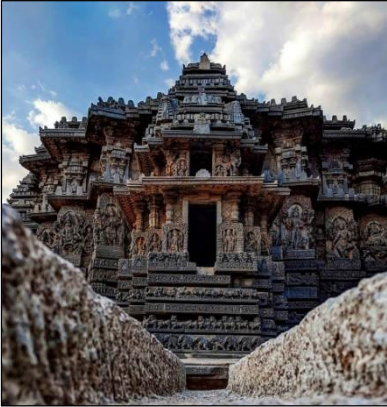
Pattadakal ("place of coronation") was considered a holy place.

As its name implies, it was used during the **Chalukya dynasty** for coronation ceremonies, such as that of Vinayaditya in the 7th century CE.

The oldest temple at Pattadakal is **Sangamesvara** built by Vijayaditya Satyasraya (AD 697-733).

The **Kasivisvesvara temple** was the last to be built in early Chalukyan style

Hoysaleswara Temple



Hoysaleswara temple, also referred simply as the Halebidu temple, is a 12th-century Hindu temple dedicated to **Shiva**.

It is the largest monument in Halebidu, a town in the state of Karnataka

The temple was built on the banks of a large man-made lake, and sponsored by **King Vishnuvardhana of the Hoysala Empire**.

Its construction started around **1121 CE** and was complete in **1160 CE**.

Ibrahim Rauza

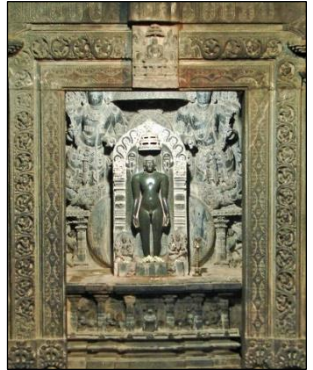


Ibrahim Rauza ('Rauza' means "tomb") also known as Ali Rauza, built in 1627, contains the tomb of Ibrahim Adil Shah II and his queen Taj Sultana. It was originally intended to be the tomb for the queen.

Ibrahim Adil Shah II (1571 – 12 September 1627) was king of the Sultanate of Bijapur and a member of the Adil Shahi dynasty.

The tomb is built in Bijapur Fort. The **tomb (of Ibrahim Adil Shah II, his two sons, and his mother)** on the left and a mosque on the right within it are set in a walled garden

Jain Temple, Lakkundi



The **Jain Temple**, Lakkundi or Brahma Jinalaya is located in the historically important temple town Lakkundi in the Gadag District of Karnataka.

The town of Lakkundi was known as Lokkigundi in medieval times, the town was of considerable importance during the 11-12th century
A.D. Western Chalukya rule.

Golden Temple



The **Darbār Sahib** or **Harmandir Sahib**, meaning "abode of God" also known as **Golden Temple**, is a Gurdwara located in the city of Amritsar, Punjab.

The Gurdwara is built around a **man-made pool (sarovar)** that was completed by the **fourth Sikh Guru, Guru Ram Das** in 1577.

Guru Arjan, the fifth Guru of Sikhism, requested Sai Mir Mian Mohammed, a Muslim Pir of Lahore, to lay its foundation stone in 1589.

In 1604, Guru Arjan placed a copy of the Adi Granth in Harmandir Sahib, calling the site Ath Sath Tirath.

The Gurdwara was repeatedly rebuilt by the Sikhs after it became a target of persecution and was destroyed several times by the Mughal and invading Afghan armies.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh after founding the Sikh Empire, rebuilt it in marble and copper in 1809, overlaid the sanctum with gold foil in 1830. This has led to the name the Golden Temple



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Important Monuments

By Dr. Gaurav Garg

Part-2

