

South Indian Kingdom - I Pallavas

1. How long did Kalabhra rule last in Tamil Country?

250 years

2. Where did Pallavas establish their rule?

The Pallavas established their kingdom in Tondaimandalam with its capital at Kanchipuram

3. What are the views of origin of the Pallavas?

- There are different views on the origin of the Pallavas.
- They were equated with the Parthians, the foreigners who ruled western India.
- Another view was that the Pallavas were a branch of the Brahmin royal dynasty of the Vakatakas of the Deccan.
- The third view relates the Pallavas with the descendents of the Chola prince and a Naga princess whose native was the island of Manipallavam.
- But these theories on the origin of the Pallavas were not supported by adequate evidences.
- Therefore, the view that the Pallavas were the natives of Tondaimandalam itself was widely accepted by scholars.

4. How did Pallavas issue their earlier inscriptions?

The Pallavas issued their earlier inscriptions in Prakrit and Sanskrit because of their Satavahana connections, and also patronized Brahmanism.

5. Who are the early Pallava rulers?

Sivaskandavarman and Vijayaskandavarman

6. What was the period of early Pallava rule?

The early Pallava rulers from 250 A.D. to 350 A.D.

7. What was the second line of Pallava rulers?

The second line of Pallava rulers who ruled between 350 A.D.

8. Who was the important ruler of Second line Pallavas?

The most important ruler of this line was Vishnugopa who was defeated by Samudragupta during his South Indian expedition.

9. When was the period of third line rulers of Pallavas?

The rulers of the third line who ruled from 575 A.D. to their ultimate fall in the ninth century issued their charters both in Sanskrit and Tamil.

10. Who was the first ruler of Third line rulers?

Simhavishnu was the first ruler of this line

11. Name some important rulers of Third line Pallava rulers?

Mahendravarman I, Narasimhavarman I, and Narasimhavarman II.

12. What was the period of Mahendravarman I?

600 – 630 A.D

13. What was the religion followed by Mahendravarma I?

Mahendravarman I was a follower of Jainism in the early part of his career. He was converted to Saivism by the influence of the Saiva saint, Thirunavukkarasar alias Appar.

14. What are the titles given to Mahendravarma I?

Gunabhara, Satyasandha, Chettakari (builder of temples) Chitrakarapuli, Vichitrachitta and Mattavilasa.

15. Where are the rock cut temples of Mahendravarma I found?

Rock-cut temples are found in a number of places like Vallam, Mahendravadi, Dalavanur, Pallavaram, Mandagappattu and Tiruchirappalli

16. What was the period of Narasimhavarman I ?

630-668 A.D.

17. Who was called as Mamalla?

Narasimhavarman I was also known as Mamalla, which means 'great wrestler'.

18. What was the title assumed by Narasimhavarman I?

Narasimhavarman I assumed the title 'Vatapikonda'.

19. During whose period did Hiuen Tsang visited the Pallava capital Kanchipuram?

Narasimhavarman I

20. Why id Narasimhavarman I works in Kanchi is vivid?

Narasimhavarman I description of Kanchi is vivid. He calls it a big and beautiful city, six miles in circumference. It had 100 Buddhist monasteries in which about 10,000 Buddhist monks lived.

21. Who was the founder of Mamallapuram?

Narasimhavarman I was the founder of Mamallapuram and the monolithic rathas were erected during his reign.

22. Who succeeded Narasimhavarman I?

Narasimhavarman I was succeeded by Mahendrarvarman II and Parameswarvarman I and the Pallava – Chalukya conflict continued during their reign .

23. What was the famous temple built during the period of Narasimhavarman II?

The Shore temple at Mamallapuram and the Kailasanatha temple at Kanchipuram were built in this period.

24. Who is the famous Sanskrit scholar of Narasimhavarman II?

The famous Sanskrit scholar is Dandin.

25. Who is called as Rajasimha?

Narasimhavarman II

26. What are the titles assumed by Narasimhavarman II?

Sankarabhakta, Vadhyavidyadhara and Agamapriya

27. What are the Administration of the Pallavas?

- The Pallavas had a well organized administrative system.
- The Pallava state was divided into *Kottams*.
- The *Kottam* was administered by officers appointed by the king.
- The king was at the centre of administration in which he was assisted by able ministers.
- He was the fountain of justice.
- He maintained a well-trained army.
- He provided land-grants to the temples known as *Devadhana* and also to the Brahmans known as *Brahmadeya*.
- It was also the responsibility of the central government to provide irrigation facilities to the lands

28. What are exempted from tax?

The *Brahmadeya* and *Devadhana* lands were exempted from tax

29. Who contributed to the growth of Saivism and Vaishnavism?

The Saiva Nayanmars and the Vaishnava Alwars contributed to the growth of Saivism and Vaishnavism.

30. Which attracted students from all parts of India and abroad?

The *Ghatika* at Kanchi was popular and it attracted students from all parts of India and abroad.

31. Who was the founder of the Kadamba dynasty?

The founder of the Kadamba dynasty, Mayurasarman studied Vedas at Kanchi

32. Who was the Head of the Nalanada University?

Dharmapala, was the Head of the Nalanada University, belonged to Kanchi.

33. Who composed *Mattavilasaprahasanam*?

Dandin, a Sanskrit writer adorned the court of Narasimhavarman II. Mahendravarman I composed the Sanskrit play *Mattavilasaprahasanam*.

34. Which was the first stage of Pallava architecture?

Mahendravarman I introduced the rock-cut temples. This style of Pallava temples are seen at places like Mandagappattu, Mahendravadi, Mamandur, Dalavanur, Tiruchirappalli, Vallam, Siyamangalam and Tirukalukunram

35. What is the second stage of Pallava architecture?

The second stage of Pallava architecture is represented by the monolithic *rathas* and Mandapas found at Mamallapuram. Narasimhavarman I took the credit for these wonderful architectural monuments. The five *rathas*, popularly called as the *Panchapanadava rathas*, signifies five different styles of temple architecture. The mandapas contain beautiful sculptures on its walls. The most popular of these mandapas are Mahishasuramardhini Mandapa, Tirumurthi Mandapam and Varaha Madapam.

36. Which is the third stage of Pallava architecture?

In this stage, Rajasimha introduced the structural temples. These temples were built by using the soft sand rocks. The Kailasanatha temple at Kanchi and the Shore temple at Mamallapuram remain the finest examples of the early structural temples of the Pallavas. The Kailasanatha temple at Kanchi is the greatest architectural master piece of the Pallava art.

37. Which is the last stage of Pallava architecture?

The last stage of the Pallava art is also represented by structural temples built by the later Pallavas. The Vaikundaperumal temple, Muktheeswara temple and Matagenswara temples at Kanchipuram belong to this stage of architecture.

38. Which is called as fresco painting in stone?

Ganges or the Penance of Arjuna is called a fresco painting in stone.

39. During whose period did *Dakshinchitra* compiled?

The commentary called *Dakshinchitra* was compiled during the reign of Mahendravarman I, who had the title Chittirakkarapuli.

South Indian Kingdom-II Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas

1. What was the period of Chalukyas ?

543 – 755 A.D.

2. What is the Chalukyas offshoots?

The family of Western Chalukyas had its offshoots like the Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi and the Chalukyas of Kalyani

3. Who was the founder of Chalukya dynasty?

Pulakesin I was the founder of the Chalukya dynasty

4. What was the capital of Chaukya dynasty?

Vatapi or Badami

5. What was the period of Pulakesin II?

608-642 A.D

6. With whom did Pulakesin II fight?

He fought with the Kadambas of Banavasi and the Gangas of Mysore and established his suzerainty

7. What was the notable achievement of Pulakesin II?

Another notable achievement of Pulakesin II was the defeat of Harshavardhana on the banks of the river Narmada. He put a check to the ambition of Harsha to conquer the south.

8. What was the important aspect in the rule of Pulakesin II?

The most important event in the reign of Pulakesin II was the visit of Hiuen Tsang to his kingdom.

9. Who was the successor of Pulakesin II?

The successor of Pulakesin II was Vikramaditya

10. Who was the last of the rulers of the Chalukyas?

Kirtivarman II was the last of the rulers of the Chalukyas

11. Who was the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty?

Dantidurga, the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty

12. How many ships did Pulakesin II in his navy?

One Hundred

13. Who performed the asvamedha sacrifice?

Pulakesin II

14. Who composed the Aihole inscription?

Ravikirti, the court poet of Pulakesin II who composed the Aihole inscription was a Jain.

15. Where did structural temples of the Chalukyas exist?

The structural temples of the Chalukyas exist at Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal

16. Name places where cave temple can be found?

Cave temple architecture was also famous under the Chalukyas. Their cave temples are found in Ajanta, Ellora and Nasik.

17. Which is the best specimens of Chalukya paintings?

The best specimens of Chalukya paintings can be seen in the Badami cave temple and in the Ajanta caves

18. How is Chalukya temples divided?

The Chalukya temples may be divided into two stages.

19. Name four important temples of Aihole?

- Ladh Khan temple is a low, flat-roofed structure consisting of a pillared hall.
- Durga temple resembles a Buddha Chaitya.
- Huchimalligudi temple.
- The Jain temple at Meguti.

20. Which is marked by high workmanship?

A group of four rock-cut temples at Badami are marked by high workmanship

21. Name the second stage of Chalukya temple?

The second stage is represented by the temples at Pattadakal. There are ten temples here, four in the northern style and the remaining six in the Dravidian style.

22. Name the important Dravidian temple?

The Sangamesvara temple and the Virupaksha temple are famous for their Dravidian style.

23. What was the period of Rashtrakutas?

755 – 975 A.D.

24. What was the mother tongue of Rashtrakutas?

The Rashtrakutas were of Kannada origin and Kannada language was their mother tongue.

25. What was the ruling period of Amoghavarsha I?

Amoghavarsha I (815- 880 A.D.) ruled for a long period of 64 years

26. Which is the capital city of Rashtrakutas?

Malkhed or Manyakheda

27. What was the administration features of Rashtrakutas?

- The Rashtrakuta Empire was divided into several provinces called rashtras under the control of rashtrapatis.
- They were further divided into vishayas or districts governed by vishayapatis.
- The next subdivision was bhukti consisting of 50 to 70 villages under the control of bhogapatis.
- These officers were directly appointed by the central government.
- The village administration was carried on by the village headmen.
- However, the village assemblies played a significant role in the village administration.

28. How did Rashtrakuta kings promoted the Arab trade?

The Rashtrakuta kings promoted the Arab trade by maintaining friendship with them.

29. Who patronized the Sanskrit literature?

The Rashtrakutas widely patronized the Sanskrit literature

30. Who wrote Nalachampu?

Trivikrama wrote Nalachampu

31. Who wrote Halayudha?

Kavirahasya

32. Who wrote Parsvabhudaya?

Jinasena

33. Who wrote Adipurana?

Gunabhadra

34. Which was the first poetic work in Kannada language?

Amogavarsha's Kavirajamarga was the first poetic work in Kannada language

35. Where do the art and architecture of the Rashtrakutas found?

The art and architecture of the Rashtrakutas were found at Ellora and Elephanta

36. What is the feature of Kailasa temple?

- At Ellora, the most remarkable temple is the Kailasa temple.
- It was excavated during the reign of KrishnaI.
- It is carved out of a massive block of rock 200 feet long, and 100 feet in breadth and height.
- The temple consists of four parts - the main shrine, the entrance gateway, an intermediate shrine for Nandi and mandapa surrounding the courtyard.
- The temple stands on a lofty plinth 25 feet high.
- The central face of the plinth has imposing figures of elephants and lions giving the impression that the entire structure rests on their back.
- It has a three-tiered sikhara or tower resembling the sikhara of the Mamallapuram rathas.
- In the interior of the temple there is a pillared hall which has sixteen square pillars.
- The Kailasa temple is an architectural marvel with its beautiful sculptures.

- The sculpture of the Goddess Durga is shown as slaying the Buffalo demon.
- In another sculpture Ravana was making attempts to lift Mount Kailasa, the abode of Siva.
- The scenes of Ramayana were also depicted on the walls.
- The general characteristics of the Kailasa temple are more Dravidian

37. Which is called as Sripuri?

Elephanta is an island near Bombay. It was originally called Sripuri

38. What do the Elephanta represents?

It represent the three aspects of Shiva as Creator, Preserver and Destroyer.

Imperial Cholas

1. Who became feudatories in Uraiyur?

The Cholas became feudatories in Uraiyur.

2. Which was the capital of Cholas?

Tanjore

3. Why did Cholas get the name as Imperial Cholas?

They became prominent in the ninth century and established an empire comprising the major portion of South India. Their capital was Tanjore. They also extended their sway in Sri Lanka and the Malay Peninsula. Therefore, they are called as the Imperial Cholas.

4. Who was the founder of Imperial Chola?

Vijayalaya

5. Who put an end to the Pallava kingdom by defeating Aparajita and annexed Tondaimandalam?

Aditya

6. Who provided the vimana of the famous Nataraja temple at Chidambaram with a golden roof?

Parantaka I

7. What was the period of Rajaraja I?

1010 – 1014 A.D.

8. What were the military conquests of Rajaraja I?

- The defeat of the Chera ruler Bhaskararavivarman in the naval battle of Kandalursalai and the destruction of the Chera navy.
- The defeat of the Pandya ruler, Amarabhujanga and establishment of Chola authority in the Pandya country.
- The conquest of Gangavadi, Tadigaipadi and Nolambapadi located in the Mysore region.
- The invasion of Sri Lanka which was entrusted to his son Rajendra I.
- As the Sri Lankan king Mahinda V fled away from his country, the Cholas annexed the northern Sri Lanka.
- The capital was shifted from Anuradhapura to Polanaruva where a Shiva temple was built
- The Chola victory over the growing power of the Western Chalukyas of Kalyani.
- Satyasraya was defeated and Rajaraja I captured the Raichur Doab, Banavasi and other places. Hence the Chola power extended up to the river Tungabhadra.
- The restoration of Vengi throne to its rulers Saktivarman and Vimaladitya by defeating the Telugu Chodas. Rajaraja gave his daughter Kundavai in marriage to Vimaladitya.
- Rajaraja's last military achievement was a naval expedition against the Maldives which were conquered.

9. What were the other names of Rajaraja Chola?

Rajaraja assumed a number of titles like Mummidi Chola, Jayankonda and Sivapadasekara

10. Who built Rajarajeswara temple or Brihadeeswara temple?

Rajaraja Chola

11. What was the period of Rajendra I?

1012-1044 A.D.

12. Name some important wars of Rajendra I?

- Mahinda V, the king of Sri Lanka attempted to recover from the Cholas the northern part of Ceylon. Rajendra defeated him and seized the southern Sri Lanka. Thus the whole of Sri Lanka was made part of the Chola Empire.
- He reasserted the Chola authority over the Chera and Pandya countries.
- He defeated Jayasimha II, the Western Chalukya king and the river Tungabhadra was recognised as the boundary between the Cholas and Chalukyas.
- His most famous military enterprise was his expedition to north India. The Chola army crossed the Ganges by defeating a number of rulers on its way. Rajendra defeated Mahipala I of Bengal. To commemorate this successful north-Indian campaign Rajendra founded the city of Gangaikondacholapuram and constructed the famous Rajesvaram temple in that city. He also excavated a large irrigation tank called Cholagangam on the western side of the city.
- Another famous venture of Rajendra was his naval expedition to Kadaram or Sri Vijaya. It is difficult to pin point the real object of the expedition. Whatever its objects were, the naval expedition was a complete success. A number of places were occupied by Chola forces. But it was only temporary and no permanent annexation of these places was contemplated. He assumed the title Kadaramkondan.
- Rajendra I had put down all rebellions and kept his empire intact.

13. Name some titles assumed by Rajendra I?

Mudikondan, Gangaikondan, Kadaram Kondan and Pandita Cholan

14. Who are the rulers of Chola power?

Kulottunga I and Kulottunga

15. Who was the last Chola king?

Rajendra III

16. What was the elaborate administrative machinery comprising various officials?

Perundanam and sirudanam.

17. Which is called as puravubarithinaikkalam?

The land revenue department was well organized. It was called as puravubarithinaikkalam

18. Which is called as ur nattam?

The residential portion of the village was called ur nattam.

19. What was the title given by Kulottunga I who became famous by abolishing tolls?

Sungam Tavirtta Cholan

20. What was called as Kaikkolaperumpadai?

The royal troops were called Kaikkolaperumpadai.

21. How was Chola Empire divided?

The Chola Empire was divided into mandalams and each mandalam into valanadus and nadus

22. What were the qualifications to become a ward member in Chola dynasty?

- Ownership of at least one fourth veli of land.
- Own residence.
- Above thirty years and below seventy years of age.
- Knowledge of Vedas.

23. Which was widely prevalent during the Chola period?

Caste system

24. What were the two major divisions among the castes?

Valangai and Idangai

25. From where did horses were imported in large numbers to strengthen the cavalry?

Arabia

26. Which gives details on the colleges existed during chola period?

The inscription at Ennayiram, Thirumukkudal and Thirubhuvanai provide details of the colleges.

27. Which are the two master-pieces of Chola age?

The Ramayana composed by Kamban and the Periyapuram or Tiruttondarpuranam by Sekkilar are the two master-pieces of this age

28. Which is a master-piece of South Indian art and architecture?

The Big Temple at Tanjore built by Rajaraja I is a master-piece of South Indian art and architecture.

29. Give some examples of later Chola temples?

The Airavathesvara temple at Darasuram in Tanjore District and the Kampaharesvara temple at Tribhuvanam are examples of later Chola temples.

30. Where are Chola paintings found?

The Chola paintings were found on the walls of Narthamalai and Tanjore temples.

The Spread of Indian Culture in Other Asian Countries

1. What are the result of contact of India with other countries?

It had inevitably resulted in the spread of Indian languages, religions, art and architecture, philosophy, beliefs, customs and manners.

2. Which was a great centre of Indian culture in the early centuries of the Christian era?

Central Asia

3. Which was the important centers of Indian culture?

Khotan and Kashkar remained the most important centers of Indian culture.

4. How was China influenced?

China was influenced both by land route passing through Central Asia and the sea route through Burma.

5. Name some Chinese pilgrims who visited India?

A number of Chinese pilgrims like Fahien and Hiuen Tsang visited India

6. Name some important Buddhist monks who visited China?

Gunabhadra, Vajrabothi, Dharmadeva and Dharmagupta

7. In which century did India influence Tibet?

Tibet was influenced by India from the seventh century.

8. Which was the city found by Gampo?

The famous Buddhist king Gampo founded the city of Lhasa and introduced Buddhism

9. From whom did the Srilankan`s got the art of stone carving?

India

10. Who consolidated Hinayana Buddhism?

Buddha Ghosha visited Sri Lanka and consolidated there the Hinayana Buddhism

11. What is Suvarnabhumi?

The ancient traditions refer to traders' voyages to Suvarnabhumi, (the land of gold) a name generally given to all the countries of the East Asia.

12. When was Cambodia colonized by Indians?

Cambodia was colonised by Indians in the first century A.D

13. Who influenced Cambodia?

They influenced the native people called the Khemers. The ruling dynasty was known as Kambojas and their country was Kamboja or modern Cambodia.

14. What do the Kamboja empire included?

The Kamboja empire at its greatest extent included Laos, Siam, part of Burma and the Malay peninsula. Numerous Sanskrit inscriptions give us a detailed history of its kings. A number of Hindu literary works like the Vedas, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, Panini's grammar, Hindu philosophical treatises were all known to the people of Cambodia

15. Name some well-known rulers of Cambodia?

Yasovarman and Suryavarman

16. When did the Kamboja empire decline?

The Kambhoja kingdom declined only in fifteenth century

17. Who established the first Hindu dynasty?

The first Hindu dynasty was established by Sri Mara in the second century A.D.

18. How was the traditional laws of that Thailand composed?

The traditional laws of that country were composed on the model of Dharmasastras.

19. Who has remained an important link between India and the Far East?

The Malay Archipelago had remained an important link between India and the Far East.

20. Who was the most important Hindu kingdom in the big island of Sumatra?

The most important Hindu kingdom in the big island of Sumatra was Sri Vijaya.

21. When was Hindu kingdom established in Java?

A Hindu kingdom was established in Java as early as the fourth century A.D.

22. Which was the greatest monument of Indo- Java art?

The greatest monument of Indo- Java art is the Borobudur which was built during

A.D. 750-850 under the patronage of the Sailendras

23. Which put an end to the artistic activity in Java?

The fall of Majapahit brought to an end all artistic activity in Java.

24. When did the Bali come under the rule of Hindu dynasties?

Bali came under the rule of Hindu dynasties as early as the sixth century

25. What do I-Tsing refers to?

I-Tsing refers to the prevalence of Buddhism in the seventh century

26. How was cultural contacts between India and Burma happen?

The cultural contacts between India and Burma (now Myanmar) dates back to the period of Asoka, who sent his missionaries there to preach Buddhism.