



THE ROLE OF PETTY KINGDOMS IN PROTECTING THE SAMSTHANAS

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ABSTRACT:

In the 16th century, after the prolapsed of Vijayanagara and Bahamani kingdoms, the representatives of these kingdoms like Inamdars, Jaageers, and enslaved people paid the tax to nawabs of Golconda and Bijapur after collecting it from the people these Inamdars and jaegers were obedient to nizam nawab and paid the tax to him and for that even helped by sending army whenever needed. Nizam Government gifted valuable lands to these people. They paid part of the tax collected from the lands to the nizam Government and declared themselves independent. Meanwhile, these people became local rulers after the same time established samsthanas. Depending upon their powers and domination, the samsthanas merged the number of villages and emerged as ruling samsthanas. So many samsthanas have emerged in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states. The popular samsthanas are Venkata Giri Vijayanagara, saloor, Srikalahasti, Bobbili, Karvetinagaram, Vallur, Challapalli, and Polavaram in Andhra Pradesh, whereas Gadwal, Atmakur, Wanaparthi, Panugallu, Jataprole, Gopalpet, and Omakonda, Palvancha, and Papannapeta in Telangana. All the above samsthanas were under the jurisdiction of Hyderabad and protected the kingdom by converting into Giridurgas, Jala Durga, Vanadurgas by having solid and tall protecting walls. Among them, panugallu,koilakonda,ghanapuram,gandikota and hanumakonda where giri Durga's,and nizam konda,gurramkonda were jaladurgas while munnanuru kanduru and narayana vanam were vanadurgas. These durgas protected themselves and the kingdom for 600years and merged into independent India after 1947 by the efforts of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel.

INTRODUCTION

In the initial days up to 1883, the capital of Palamuru samsthanam was Nagar Kurnool. However, after 1883, the sixth nizam Meer Mahabub Aliposha shifted the capital to Mahabubnagar, which was named on his behalf. In Deccan Indian history, there was much importance to Palamuru district and Nalgonda districts among all giridurgas. Since Palamuru and Nalgonda districts are the major places that connect north-Andhra and south Andhra or travel place for solider to Tamilnadu and also connects north-Andhra and Karnataka, these places

were often treated as battlegrounds. Since the Palamuru district has rivers, Krishna and Tungabhadra as borders after a fight between Vijayanagara and Bahumani kingdoms as Palamuru district was the battleground. The region between river Krishna and Tungabhadra was called Raichur. The kings had constructed strong giridurgas because this region was a pass for soldiers. These giridurgas constructions were easy because the Palamuru district was very close to Nallamala forest. Among these important giridurgas are Ponugallu, Koilakonda, Khillaganapuram and Gadwala. since Panagallu and Ghanapuram durgas through which the army passed from north Andhra to the Deccan region and Koilakonda durgam has borders from north Andhra to Karnataka, these giridurgas were made as capitals and soldiers' shelters. Later on, these giridurgas emerged to protect Durga's. Therefore, Palamuru district has many specialty. This district has five samsthanas.

They are Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Jataprolu, Atmakuru, and Gapalapeta. Hindu kings ruled these during the period of Nizam. And further, the Nizam Government was under the control of the British. This samsthanam was the largest samsthanam among all. The king of this samsthanam has paid rupees 540 per year as tax to the Nizam. These kings helped Nizam in not only the army but also Mughal Emporer Aurangzeb. These kings felicitated the country's poets, crudites, singers, and artists. That is why the Gadwal samsthanam was also called "vidhyadgadwala" the samsthanam also had the right to print it is own coins for monetary purpose.

On behalf of the founder of this samsthanam "Somanadri," the Panchangakarthis have taken "Somanadri sathakam" into consideration. These kings had constructed forts, trees, and temples. Also, this samsthanam had the rivers Krishna and Tungabhadra as borders. These kings constructed a large fort and trees. Gadwall samsthanam is the largest one in the Mahaboob Nagar district. It's founder was Somabupla, and he constructed the fort in a circular shape with clay and shifted the capital from Poodur to Gadwall. He constructed to largest. Strong watch towers to the fort with clay and inside the fort with stones as one layer. The clay wall was ruined due to heavy rains, but the stone wall is still present.

The trenches were constructed around the fort and filled with water and crocodiles to avoid enemies' entry. This trench is full of drainage water, and the entrance to this fort is on the west side. There were shelters on the right-hand side for soldiers, but they were now ruined. Upon continuing on the right-hand side, we can find their temples. The main temple is Sri Chennakesavaa Swami, built on an elevated stage. This temple has Sivalavayam on one side and Sri Anjaneya temple on the other. There are three entries into the temple. one is on the East side, and the watch tower is so high that it is visible to the entire town. While entering this tower, there is an enormous bell attached to stone pillars. Another way is on the north side. Even though there is another entry on the south side, we will find a deep well on the way. The king and queens often took baths in these rivers and went to the temple. There were palaces in two lines in the southeast direction adjacent to the temple. These were two-floor buildings on the side of these palaces. There was an excellent architectural design to the walls and windows. On the north side, the queen palace was designed with wood on two floors.

The steps for this building were designed so that it seems like a crocodile is swallowing a boy. Right now, this building is ruined completely. Instead of protecting those samanthanas, the Government wholly demolished and constructed new buildings. On the south side of the palace, it seems that the kings in the fort had a picnic also. They constructed a tunnel adjacent to this well. This tunnel might connect gadwall and Kurnool. People used to say that the kings might have used to escape during emergencies. There was constructed a jaladurgam in the middle of river Krishna near Beechupally. This was also called nizam fort. The wife of somanadri lingam constructed this fort and Durga temple inside it. This construction was completed in the period of Tirumala Rao. It became famous as the "nizam fort." the king of gadwall samsthanam helped the nizam nawaab and Golconda Nawab in all aspects. Finally, this samsthanam was merged into the Indian union on 17 September 1948 in the period of maharani Adilaxmidevi. This samsthanam, ruled by different kings between 1663 and 1949, merged into the Indian Government. The state government established the first govt. Degree college in this Gadwala fort in 1962 on behalf of the queen mahogany Aadi Laxmi devamma (MALD) degree collage. This college building has 54 rooms and is divided into 4 blocks. There is a beautiful garden inside the building, with the statue of Pedda somabhupala sitting on the throne. During the golden jubilee of the college, there was the inauguration of the statue of maharani adi Laxmi devamma, the queen of gadwall samsthanam. This degree college has got NAAC " B " grade.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- Gadwal samsthanam was a vassal of the Nizam of Hyderabad. It was once part of Raichur District.
- Gadwal samsthanam one of the Three Important samsthanas the other Two being Wanaparthi and Jatprol Samsthanam.
- Gadwal Fort Constructed by Nalla Somanadri in 1663AD to 1713AD.
- Gadwal has developed around a fort built by the Gadwal ruler Nalla Somanadri.
- The fort consists of Three Sub-divisions, Three temples and water bodies.
- The Artistic 32 feet long cannon had been the symbol of victory of the ruler peddha Somabhupala over Nawab of Kurnool.
- In 1948 Adi Laxmi devamma was the feudatory queen of Gadwal samsthanam during Nizam rule.
- She aided force led by Sardhar Vallabhai Patel to Annex Hyderabad state into Independent India and let those forces to enter Hyderabad state Through Gadwal.
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh is taking up steps and actions of developing the Fort into a major tourist attraction centre and protect the Heritage of the Fort.

OBJECTIVES:

- Historical wealth should be protected by everyone.
- Archaeological evidence related to Gadwal fort should be preserved in
- Archives.

- The sculptural wealth of the temple in the fort should be preserved.
- Government should protect properties related to Gadwal fort from encroachers.
- Everyone should preserve the historical buildings of Gadwal fort.
- Information about Gadwal fort should be provided to future generations.

FINDINGS:

- Inside the fort corrupt people have been vandalizing for the sake of historical treasures.
- The moat around the fort was occupied by people.
- The tunnel route from Gadwal fort to Kurnool is closed.
- In front of the Lord Anjaneya swamy temple inside the fort robbers were stealing gold mines.
- The wells inside the fort are destroyed.

SUGGESTIONS :

- The land around the fort should be protected from the government.
- The tunnel route from Gadwal fort to Kurnool should be identified and published.
- The Chennakesava temple and surroundings should be protected and shown to future generations.

CONCLUSION: Gadwal samsthanam was one of the most essential samsthanam in Mahabubnagar District. This samsthanam was developed around a fort built by the Gadwal ruler Nalla Somanadri. Gadwal samsthanam was a vassal of the Nizam of Hyderabad. Mallichetti Vamshiyulu protected it. The Nagireddy we fondly know Nagappa was an Ayngarashakulu of Gadwal samsthanam. He died in the war with Fanatic Sultans. Then Nagappa was Gadwal samsthanam Ayngarashakulu, but unfortunately, he had to leave the palace for some reason. Gadwal samsthanam rulers developed irrigation and built lingambavi, Chukkambavi are two wells. Nalla Somanadri constructed these wells. They were patronized poets and given to the free lands donations. Gadwal fort is an imposing structure around which the old town sprawls. The fort houses several old temples, the most important of which is Sri Chennakesava Swamy temple. Another well-known temple Jammulamma is located in the city. In 1948 Adilaxmidevamma was the feudatory queen of Gadwal Samsthanam during Nizam rule. She aided forces led by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to annex Hyderabad state into independent India and let those forces enter Hyderabad state through Gadwal.

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