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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Indian dynasty between the 3rd and 9th centuries CE
"Pallava" redirects here. For other uses, see Pallava (disambiguation).

Pallava dynasty275 CE–897 CEPallava territories during Narasimhavarman I c. 645. This includes the Chalukya territories.
Prakrit (Rarely)[2]
Sanskrit
Tamil (Official)
Religion Hinduism, Jainism, BuddhismGovernmentMonarchy• 275–300 Simhavarman I• 885–897 Aparajitavarman I
Historical eraClassical India• Established 275 CE• Disestablished 897 CE

Preceded by
Succeeded by

Kalabhra dynasty

Satavahana dynasty

Chola Empire

Kadamba dynasty

Western Ganga dynasty

Today part of India Sri Lanka[3]

Pallava Monarchs (200s–800s CE) Virakurcha(??–??) Vishnugopa I(??–??) Vishnugopa II(??–??) Simhavarm

The Pallava dynasty existed from 275 CE to 897 CE, ruling a significant portion of the Deccan, also known as

The Pallavas became a major southern Indian power during the reign of Mahendravarman I (600–630 CE) and

The Pallavas are most noted for their patronage of Hindu Vaishnava temple architecture, the finest example

Etymology[edit]

The word Pallava means a creeper or branch in Sanskrit.[10][11][12] Pallava also means arrow or spruce in

Origins[edit]

Vaikuntha Perumal Temple, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, considered as the oldest temple, glorified in the Nalanda

Kailasanathar Temple, Kanchi one of the oldest temples in the city

The origins of the Pallavas have been debated by scholars.[16] The available historical materials include three

Sculptures of the legends of pallavas in the Vaikuntha Perumal Temple, Kanchipuram Inner court or the circumambulatory

The proponents of the Andhra origin theory include S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar and K. A. Nilakanta Sastri. The

S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar also speculates that the Pallavas were natives of Tondaimandalam and the name

Another theory is propounded by historians R. Sathianathaier[16] and D. C. Sircar,[27] with endorsements by

According to Sir H. A. Stuart the Pallavas were Kurumbas and Kurubas their modern representatives.[33] The

According to C. V. Vaidya, the Pallavas were Maharashtrian Aryans who spoke Maharashtri Prakrit for centuries

Overlaid on these theories is another hypothesis of Sathianathaier which claims that "Pallava" is a derivative

Rivalries[edit]

With Cholas[edit]

South Asia 350 CE YAUDHEYASARJUNAYANAS MADRAKAS MALAVAS ANDHRA IKSHVAKUS KALABHRA

The Pallavas captured Kanchi from the Cholas as recorded in the Velurpalaiyam Plates, around the reign of

With Kadambas[edit]

The Pallavas were in conflict with major kingdoms at various periods of time. A contest for political supremacy

With Kalabhras[edit]

During the reign of Vishnugopavarman II (approx. 500–525), political convulsion engulfed the Pallavas due to

[Birudas](#)^[edit]

The royal custom of using a series of descriptive honorific titles, *Birudas*, was particularly prevalent among the

[Languages used](#)^[edit]

Coin of the Pallavas of Coromandel, king Narasimhavarman I. (630-668 AD).Obv Lion left Rev Name of Nar

Pallava inscriptions have been found in Tamil,

Prakrit and Sanskrit.

Tamil was main language used by the Pallavas in their inscriptions, though a few records continued to be in

Many Pallava royal inscriptions were in Sanskrit or Prakrit, considered the official languages. Similarly, inscri

[Writing system](#)^[edit]

Main article: [Pallava alphabet](#)

Under the Pallava dynasty, a unique form of Grantha script, a descendant of Pallava script which is a type of

[Religion](#)^[edit]

Pallavas were followers of Hinduism and made gifts of land to gods and Brahmins. In line with the prevalent

[Pallava architecture](#)^[edit]

The Shore Temple at Mamallapuram built by Narasimhavarman II Early Pallava style pillar, 7th c. Further info

Among the accomplishments of the Pallava architecture are the rock-cut temples at Mamallapuram. There a

[Pallava society](#)^[edit]

The Pallava period beginning with Simhavishnu (575 CE – 900 CE) was a transitional stage in southern India

[Chronology](#)^[edit]

[Sastri chronology](#)^[edit]

The earliest documentation on the Pallavas is the three copper-plate grants, now referred to as the Mayidav

The Hirahadagali copper plate (Bellary District) record in Prakrit is dated in the eighth year of Sivaskanda Va

The Hirahadagalli Plates were found in Hirehadagali, Bellary district and is one of the earliest copper plates i

As per the Hirahadagalli Plates of 283 CE, Pallava King Sivaskandavarman granted an immunity viz the gar

In the reign of Simhavarman II, who ascended the throne in 436, the territories lost to the Vishnukundins in t

The following chronology was composed from these charters by Nilakanta Sastri in his *A History of South In*

[Early Pallavas](#)^[edit]

Part of a series on [History of Tamil Nadu](#)

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Simhavarman I (275–300)
Shivskandavarman (unknown)
Vijayskandavarman (unknown)
Skandavarman (unknown)
Vishnugopa I (350–355)
Kumaravishnu I (350–370)
Skandavarman II (370–385)
Viravarman (385–400)
Skandavarman III (400–436)
Simhavarman II (436–460)
Skandavarman IV (460–480)
Nandivarman I (480–510)
Kumaravishnu II (510–530)
Buddhavarman (530–540)
Kumaravishnu III (540–550)
Simhavarman III (550–560)
Later Pallavas[edit]

The rock-cut temples at Mamallapuram constructed during the reign of Narasimhavarman I

Elephant carved out of a single-stone

The incursion of the Kalabhras and the confusion in the Tamil country was broken by the Pandya Kadungon

The Pallava kingdom began to gain both in territory and influence and were a regional power by the end of the 6th century

Simhavishnu (575–600)[64]
Mahendravarman I (600–630)[64]
Narasimhavarman I (Mamalla) (630–668)[64]
Mahendravarman II (668–672)
Paramesvaravarman I (670–695)[64]
Narasimhavarman II (Raja Simha) (695–722)[64]
Paramesvaravarman II (705–710)
Later Pallavas of the Kadava Line[edit]

The kings that came after Paramesvaravarman II belonged to the collateral line of Pallavas and were descended from the

Nandivarman II (Pallavamalla) (732–796) son of Hiranyavarman of Kadavakula[66][64]
Dantivarman (795–846)[64]
Nandivarman III (846–869)[64]
Aparajitavarman (879–897)[64]
Aiyangar chronology[edit]

According to the available inscriptions of the Pallavas, historian S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar proposes the Pal
Based on a combination of dynastic plates and grants from the period, Aiyangar proposed their rule thus:

Early Pallavas[edit]

Bappadevan, chola prince (250–275) – married a Naga of Mavilanga (Kanchi)[citation needed] – The Great

Shivaskandavarman I (275–300)

Simhavarman (300–320)

Bhuddavarman (320–335)

Bhuddayankuran (335–340)

Middle Pallavas[edit]

Visnugopa (340–355) (Yuvamaharaja Vishnugopa)

Kumaravisnu I (355–370)

Skanda Varman II (370–385)

Vira Varman (385–400)

Skanda Varman III (400–435)

Simha Varman II (435–460)

Skanda Varman IV (460–480)

Nandi Varman I (480–500)

Kumaravisnu II (c. 500–510)

Buddha Varman (c. 510–520)

Kumaravisnu III (c. 520–530)

Simha Varman III (c. 530–537)

Later Pallavas[edit]

Simhavishnu (537–570)

Mahendravarman I (571–630)

Narasimhavarman I (Mamalla) (630–668)

Mahendravarman II (668–672)

Paramesvaravarman I (672–700)

Narasimhavarman II (Raja Simha) (700–727)

Paramesvaravarman II (705–710)

Later Pallavas of the Kadava Line[edit]

Nandivarman II (Pallavamalla) (732–796) son of Hiranyavarman of Kadavakula[66]

Dantivarman (775–825)

Nandivarman III (825–869)

Nirupathungan (869–882)

Aparajitavarman (882–896)

Genealogy of M■mallapuram Pra■asti[edit]

The genealogy of Pallavas mentioned in the M■mallapuram Pra■asti is as follows:[43]

Vishnu

Brahma

Unknown / undecipherable

Unknown / undecipherable

Bharadvaja

Drona

Ashvatthaman

Pallava

Unknown / undecipherable

Unknown / undecipherable

Simhavarman I (c. 275)

Unknown / undecipherable

Unknown / undecipherable
Simhavarman IV (436–c. 460)

Unknown / undecipherable
Unknown / undecipherable
Skandashishya

Unknown / undecipherable
Unknown / undecipherable

Simhavisnu (c. 550–585)

Mahendravarman I (c. 571–630)

Maha-malla Narasimhavarman I (630–668)

Unknown / undecipherable

Paramesvaravarman I (669–690)

Rajasimha Narasimhavaram II (690–728)

Unknown / undecipherable

Pallavamalla Nandivarman II (731–796)

Unknown / undecipherable

Nandivarman III (846–869)

Relation with the Cholas[edit]

According to historian S. Krishnaswami Aiyengar, the Pallavas were natives of Tondaimandalam and the na

Other relationships[edit]

Pallava royal lineages were influential in the old kingdom of Kedah of the Malay Peninsula under Rudravarm

The similarity of the name ending "-varman" of Pallava rulers with that of Hindu kings during the Hindu/Budd

List of feudatories[edit]

Salankayana dynasty[citation needed]

See also[edit]

List of Tamil monarchs

Kadava dynasty

Pallar

Notes[edit]

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vtMiddle kingdoms of India

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Central India

Southern India

Upper Gangetic Plain (Ganga-Yamuna doab)

Middle Gangetic Plain

Lower Gangetic Plain

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Late Vedic Period(Srauta culture)[a]Painted Grey Ware culture

Late Vedic Period(Shramanic culture)[b]Northern Black Polished Ware

Pre-history

6th century BCE

Gandhara

Kuru-Panchala

Magadha

Adivasi (tribes)

Assaka

Culture

Persian-Greek influences

"Second Urbanisation" Rise of Shramana movements Jainism - Buddhism - ■j■vika - Yoga

Pre-history

5th century BCE

(Persian conquests)

Shaishunaga dynasty

Adivasi (tribes)

Assaka

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Spread of Buddhism

Pre-history

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Culture

Preclassical Hinduism[c] - "Hindu Synthesis"[d] (ca. 200 BC - 300 CE)[e][f]Epics - Puranas - Ramayana - Ma

2nd century BCE

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Shunga EmpireMaha-Meghavahana Dynasty

Satavahana dynastySangam period(300 BCE – 200 CE)Early CholasEarly Pandyan kingdomCheras

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Indo-Scythians

Indo-Parthians

Kuninda Kingdom

2nd century

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3rd century

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Kushan Empire

Western Satraps

Kamarupa kingdom

Adivasi (tribes)

Culture

"Golden Age of Hinduism"(ca. CE 320-650)[g]PuranasCo-existence of Hinduism and Buddhism

4th century

Kidarites

Gupta EmpireVarman dynasty

Andhra IkshvakusKalabhra dynastyKadamba DynastyWestern Ganga Dynasty

5th century

Hephthalite Empire

Alchon Huns

VishnukundinaKalabhra dynasty

6th century

Nezak HunsKabul Shahi

Maitraka

Adivasi (tribes)

VishnukundinaBadami ChalukyasKalabhra dynasty

Culture

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Mlechchha dynasty

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Pala Empire

Eastern Chalukyas Pandyan kingdom Kalachuri

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Gurjara-Pratihara

Rashtrakuta dynasty Eastern Chalukyas Pandyan kingdom Medieval Cholas Chera Perumals of Makkotai

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^ Michaels (2004) p.40

^ Michaels (2004) p.41

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Seal: Srivilliputhur Andal temple tower

Animal: Nilgiri tahr

Bird: Emerald dove

Flower: Gloriosa lily

Fruit: Jackfruit

Tree: Palm tree

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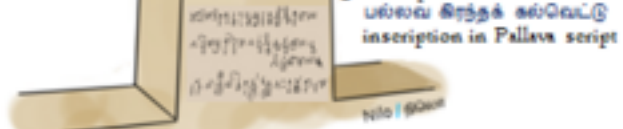
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பல்லவ கிரந்தக் கல்வெட்டு
inscription in Pallava script

Pillar [A], style Pallava ancien, VII^e s.
புறம் தூ.க. பல்லவ காலத்து தூண் 150
Pillar [A], early Pallava style, 7th c.



