

Tenali Rama Krishna

Tenali Ramakrishna (22 September 1480 – 5 August 1528) was a Telugu poet, scholar, and advisor in the court of Sri Krishnadevaraya of the Vijayanagara Empire.

Early life:

Tenali Ramakrishna was born in Tenali in a Telugu-speaking Brahmin family.

Despite lack of formal education, his thirst for knowledge led him to become a renowned scholar.

Vijayanagara court:

Appointed as an advisor by King Krishnadevaraya, he gained fame for his wit and humour.

He was part of the Ashtadiggajas and assisted the king in various matters.

He is often referred to by the title "Vikatakavi," meaning "jester poet," reflecting his unique ability to blend humour with wisdom.

Literary works:

His notable work, Panduranga Mahatmyam, is considered a great Telugu Kavya.

He also composed Udbhataradhya Charitamu, showcasing his deep connection to Shaivism.

Death:

Died in 1528 reportedly due to a snakebite.