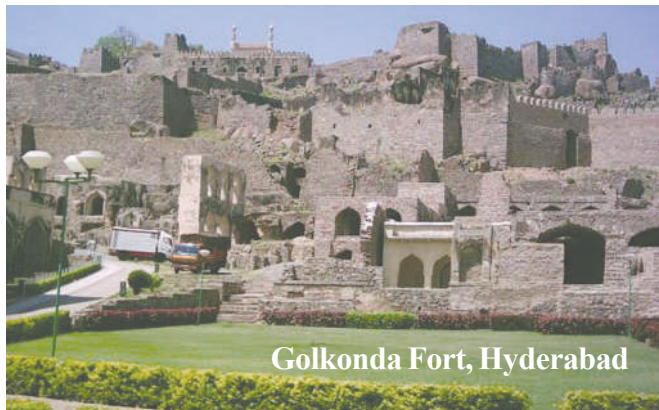




HISTORICAL SITES - WANAPARTI FORT

12.1. Observe the picture and discuss



Golkonda Fort, Hyderabad



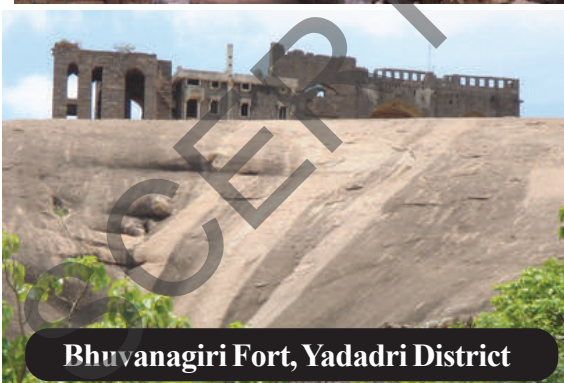
Orugallu Fort, Warangal



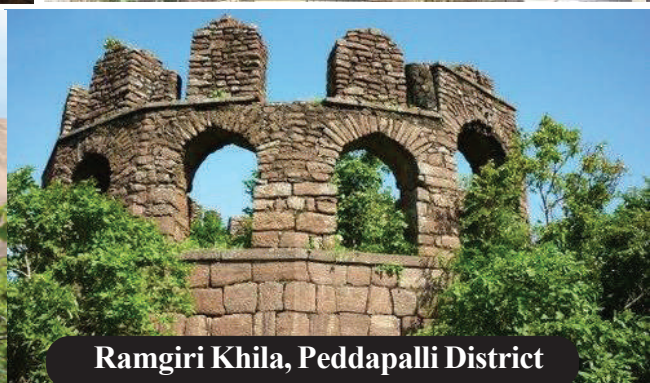
Devarakonda Fort, Nalgonda District



Domakonda Fort, Kamareddy District



Bhuvanagiri Fort, Yadadri District



Ramgiri Khila, Peddapalli District

- Do you know any of the above forts and where they are located? Do you have any such forts in your district?
- How do you feel, when you see the above pictures? Did you ever visit any such place?
- What information do we get either by visiting them or by reading about them?
- Identify the above forts / sites on a map of our state.

12.2. Wanaparti Fort

The house we live in, the clothes we wear, the food we eat, the traditions we follow, etc., reflect our culture. The facilities we are enjoying now were not there in the past. Similarly there will be many changes occurring in the time to come.



It is very interesting to know about the events and specialities of the past. It is called history. We can know the happenings of that time through the monuments on rocks or from books written (literature) during that period.

There are many forts symbolizing the history of Telangana State. Orugallu, Gadwal, Golconda, Rachakonda, Devarakonda, Bhuvanagiri, Domakonda, Wanaparti, etc., are very famous forts. Kings in those days used to construct forts

Collect...



- ♦ Find out from your elders the story behind the name of your village/city.
- ♦ Write the names of the historical monuments in and around your village/city

for protection from enemies or as a symbol of their victories. They stand as an evidence to the hundreds of year of history. Shall we know more about the kings who ruled us and the forts they built?

12.3. Wanaparti Fort - History

The fort seen in the picture is the Wanaparti Fort. It is in Wanaparti district of our State. Wanaparti is 140 Kms away from Hyderabad. There used to be many forests. Hence, the name Wanaparti (vanam – forest).



Where are the other forts? Who built them?

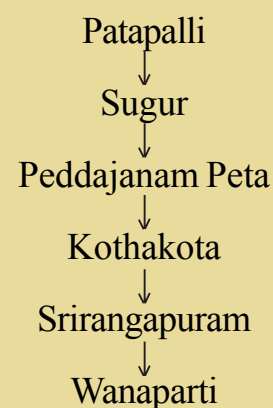
Monument	District	Built by
Orugallu	Warangal	The Kakatiyas
Gadwal	Jogulamba	Somanadri
Golconda	Hyderabad	Quli Qutub Shah
Rachakoonda	Nalgonda	Recharla Singama Nayaka
Domakonda	Kamareddy	The Kamineni Dynasty
Bhuvanagiri	Yadadri	Tribhuvana Malla Vikramaditya
Devarakonda	Nalgonda	Recharla PadmaNayaka
Khammam Qila	Khammam	The Kakatiyas
Medak Qila	Medak	Prathaparudra
Falaknuma	Hyderabad	Sir Viqar-Ul-Umra

The founder of Wanaparti estate was Janum Veera Krishna Reddy. He lived in Patapalli in 1510 A.D. Later, he built a fort in Sugur near Patapalli and shifted his residence to Sugur. It was named the Sugur Estate from then onwards. The Sugur Estate was a subordinate kingdom under Golkonda Sultans. During those days, Golkonda was ruled by Sultan Quli Qutub Shah. The Estate rulers were called Reddy Rajulu (Reddy Kings).



The capital of the estate was changed from Patapalli to Sugur, from there to Peddajanam Peta, then to Kothakota, later to Srirangapuram. RamaKrishna Rao, one of the Reddy lords shifted the capital from Srirangapuram to Wanaparti in 1807 A.D. Wanaparti continued to be its capital until it merged in the Indian Union.

Capitals of Wanaparti Estate



Think and say

- ♦ Why did the Kings in the past shifted the capital from one place to another?
- ♦ How many years back was the fort constructed ?

Out of fifteen generations that ruled The Wanaparti estate from 1510 A.D. to 1948 A.D., there were seventeen kings and six queens. The kings of this estate worked hard for the development of agriculture. They constructed 7 huge tanks in the villages that fall under the range of the estate. They were called 'Seven Seas' (Saptha Samudralu) They provided irrigation facilities to thousands of acres of land. Drinking water needs were also served by the tanks.



Do you know?

- After India became independent, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel merged all the estates in the Indian Union. The smaller estates in our state were also merged.
- The Nizam's estate was the last to be merged in the Indian Union.

Seven Seas (Sapta Samudras)

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Sankara Sea | - Kanayapalli |
| 2. Ranga Sea | - Sri Rangapuram |
| 3. Veera Sea | - Thatipamula |
| 4. Mahabhupal Sea | - Pebberu |
| 5. Krishna Sea | - Sankiredypalli |
| 6. Gopala Sea | - Velturu |
| 7. Rama Sea | - Rayinpeta |

Think and say

- ◆ Discuss in the class why were these called "the seven seas"?

Do you know?

- Raja Rameshwara Rao, one of the rulers of the Wanaparti Estate constructed Sarala Sagar after his mother Saraladevi. Its speciality is that the gates of this tank open by themselves once the tank is full. This is called 'syphon' system. It is the first of its kind in Asia.

12.4. Arts

The Reddy Kings had a good taste in arts. Many colourful designs are found on the walls and the roofs of the buildings constructed by them. Even today, those designs are intact. They brought men and material from Germany to make those designs. It reflects the artistic grandeur of those days. They encouraged music, dance and handicrafts as well.



Think and say

- ◆ Look at the roofs given above. What is the difference between the roofs in the forts and the roofs in our houses?
- ◆ Look at the pictures on the previous pages. How is their construction?
- ◆ What are the things used mostly in their construction?
- ◆ Why do you think they used those things?



Think and say

- ♦ Why did they build battlements in the fort?
- ♦ There are there holes in the battlement why?
- ♦ What is the use of fort wall?

12.5. Temples

The Vanaparti Kings built many temples. King Bahiri Gopala Rao visited the temples in Tirupati, Kanchi and Srirangapatnam and built Sri Ranganayaka Swamy temple in Sri Rangapuram. It stands as a proof to the wonderful sculpture during those days. This temple is called as Northern Sri Ranga Kshetra.



Think and say

- ♦ List out the 'do's' and 'don'ts' followed when we visit, ancient / old monuments
- ♦ What is the greatness of those ancient monuments?

Do this



- ◆ When you visit a monument or a temple observe the pictures on their roofs and the walls.
- ◆ Find out who built those monuments and what are those art forms known as?

Think and say

- ◆ What is the greatness of ancient temples?
- ◆ When compared with the temples of past what differences do you observe in the temples of present day?
- ◆ Some ancient temples are in a dilapidated condition, why are they so? What can we do to preserve them?

12.6 Literary Service

Among the Reddy Kings Bahiri Gopala Rao was a scholar in eight languages. Hence he was called “Ashta Bhasha Kovidulu” (expert in eight languages). Among the kings of the estate, many were not only patrons of literature but were poets themselves. Pavuram Rangacharyulu of this Estate, was the author of more than a hundred books. He participated in the literary discussions with Tirupati Venkata Kavulu. Kadukuntla Papa Shastri, author of Bhramarambika Samvadham, Anumula Venkata Subrahmanya Shastri, author of Sri Krishna Charitra Sangraham and Kavyagutcham were known as great poets of the Estate.

12.7 Administration

The kings of the estate used to measure the lands and then impose tax accordingly. They divided the estate into three parts. They are: 1) Sugur region 2) Vanaparti region 3) Keshampeta region. They possessed powerful army. Southern borders of Nizam’s kingdom were protected by this army.

Do you know?

- Sugur Sikkas : The Nizam King Sikandar Shah permitted Ramakrishna Rao to print coins independently. They were valid not only in the Vanaparti Estate but also in the Nizam’s kingdom. These were named as Sugur Sikkas (Sugur coins).

Keywords

monuments	taxes	battlements
fort	tower	hall (mandapam)
estate	tanks	sugur sikkas
sea	history	handicrafts



What we have learnt?



1. Conceptual Understanding

- How did the Wanaparti Fort get its name?
- What are the seven seas? Why are they called so?
- Classify the lands in the range of the Wanaparti Estate?
- Describe the services rendered by the Wanaparti kings to literature?
- Why were forts built?

2. Questioning and Hypothesis

- ♦ Latha visited the Golconda Fort with her uncle. What questions she might have asked to know more about the fort?

3. Experiments - Field Observations

- Visit any building or ancient temple nearby, observe and write a note about it.
- The Archeological Department displays a board at the historical sites and temples. Read and explain such boards to your friends.

4. Information skills, Projects

- ♦ Collect information about the historical buildings or the old temples of your district, in detail and tabulate it.

5. Communication through Mapping Skills, Drawing Pictures and Making Models

- Draw the design of any roof.
- Point out Mahabubnagar and Wanaparti on a map of Telangana
- Make model of any fort using clay.
- You had a look at the forts in the beginning of the lesson. Mark them on a map of Telangana. Mark the districts, where the forts are built.

6. Appreciation, Values and Creating Awareness towards Bio-diversity

- What important aspects of Wanaparti Fort attracted you? Why?
- The construction of the fort involved the labour of many people. Write a note appreciating their hard work.
- Is it necessary to preserve historical buildings? Give reasons.
- State the precautions you take when you visit the historical places?
- How can we protect these places?
- Name the materials used in building the forts. Where do they get them from?

I can do this

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. I can explain about the importance of the ancient buildings and forts. | Yes / No |
| 2. I can ask questions to know more about the ancient buildings. | Yes / No |
| 3. I can seek and tabulate the information about these buildings. | Yes / No |
| 4. I can mark historical sites on a map of Telangana. | Yes / No |
| 5. I can prepare sketches of these places and can make models too. | Yes / No |
| 6. I can explain the necessity of preserving the historical buildings. | Yes / No |

