

**CLASS:-12<sup>TH</sup> , HISTORY NOTES, CHAPTER:- 07**

**An Imperial Capital: Vijayanagara**

**DATE:- 21/08/21**

- The Vijayanagara Empire was the most dignified and glorious empire of South India. Its Capital was Hampi.
  - Hampi was discovered by Colin Mackenzie, the first Surveyor General of India in 1815.
  - His (Colin Mackenzie's) arduous work, gave a new direction to all the future researcher.
  - Alexander Greenlaw took the first detailed photography of Hampi in 1856, which proved quite useful for the scholar.
  - J.F. Fleet in 1876, began compilation and documentation of the inscription from the walls of the walls of temples in Hampi.
  - John Marshall began the conservation of Hampi in 1902.
  - In 1976, Hampi was declared as a site of national importance and in 1986 it was declared as world Heritage centre.
  - Vijayanagara Empire was founded by the two brothers, Harihara and Bukka in 14th century.
  - The ruler of Vijayanagara empire were called Rayas.
  - The most powerful ruler of Vijayanagara empire was Krishnadeva Raya. During his tenure, the empire touched its glory.
  - Administration of the Vijayanagara Empire was very good and its people were very happy.
  - The Vijayanagara Empire began to decline by 16th century and this might empire ended in 17th century.
  - Four dynasties ruled over Vijayanagara:
    - The Sangama Dynasty
    - The Saluvas Dynasty
    - The Tuluva Dynasty
    - The Aravidu Dynasty
  - The Sangama Dynasty founded the empire, Saluva expanded it, Saluva took it to the pinnacle of its glory, but it begun declined under Aravidu.
  - Various causes such as weak central government, weak successors of Krishnadeva Raya, different dynasties struggles against the Bahamani Empire, weak empire, etc. contributed in the downfall of the empire.
  - The most striking feature of the empire was its water requirement were met from natural barn formed by the Tungabhadra river.
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- The ruler of Vijayanagara also had made vast fortification. The archaeologist made an elaborated study of roads within the city and the roads which led one out of the city.
  - The Royal centres were located in the south-western part of the settlement, which included over sixty times.
  - The sacred centre was situated on the rocky northern end on the bank of the river Tungabhadra. According to tradition rocky hill served as a shelter to the monkey Kingdom of Bali and Sugriva which were mentioned in the Ramayana.

**Vijayanagara or 'City of Victory' was the home of both a city and an empire. It stretched from the river Krishna in the North to the extreme South of the Peninsula. People remembered it as Hampi, a name derived from that of the local mother Goddess, 'Pampadevi'.**