

# SOUTH INDIA TOUR

FROM: CHENNAI  
TO: KARNATAKA

DATE : 14/06/2022 – 19/06/2022



# PLACES VISITED



- CHAMUNDI HILLS, MYSORE PALACE, PHILOMENIA CHURCH
- HOYALESWARA TEMPLE, CHENNAKESHAVA TEMPLE
- HAMPI- VIRUPAKSHA TEMPLE, VITHALA TEMPLE
- AIHOLE, PATTADAKAL





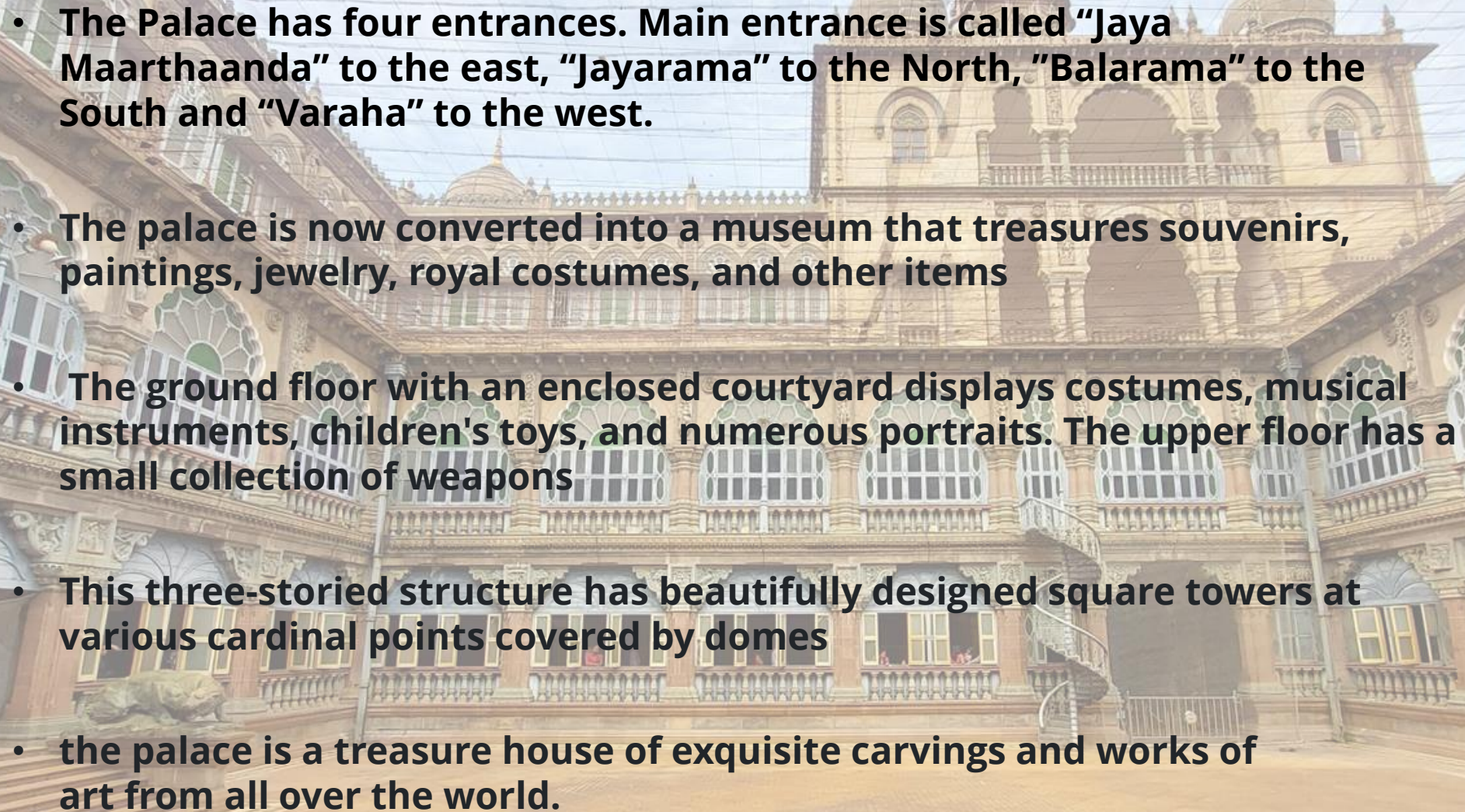
## CHAMUNDESHWARI TEMPLE

- Sri Chamundeshwari Temple is about 13 kms from Mysuru, which is a prominent city in Karnataka State, India. At the top of the hill is the famous Sri Chamundeshwari Temple. 'Chamundi' or 'Durga' is the fierce form of 'Shakti'.
- The temple is of a quadrangular structure. Built in Dravidian style, it consists of the Main Doorway, Entrance, Navaranga Hall, Antharala Mantapa, Sanctum Sanctorum, and Prakara. There is a beautiful seven-tier Gopura or pyramidal tower at the entrance and a 'Vimana' (small tower) atop the sanctum sanctorum. Atop the 'Shikara', the tower at the entrance, are seven golden 'Kalashas'.
- A temple of great antiquity with over 1,000 years of background, it was a small shrine initially

# MYSORE PALACE

- **The Palace of Mysore also known as the Amba Vilas Palace is a historical palace in the city of Mysore in Karnataka. Designed by the English Architect, Henry Irwin.**
- **The present Palace is built in Indo-Saracenic style and blends together Hindu, Muslim, Rajput, and Gothic styles of architecture.**
- **It is a three-storied stone structure, with marble domes and a 145 ft five-storied tower. Above the central arch is an impressive sculpture of Gajalakshmi, the goddess of wealth, prosperity, good luck, and abundance with her elephants**



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- **The Palace has four entrances. Main entrance is called “Jaya Maarthaanda” to the east, “Jayarama” to the North, “Balarama” to the South and “Varaha” to the west.**
  - **The palace is now converted into a museum that treasures souvenirs, paintings, jewelry, royal costumes, and other items**
  - **The ground floor with an enclosed courtyard displays costumes, musical instruments, children's toys, and numerous portraits. The upper floor has a small collection of weapons**
  - **This three-storied structure has beautifully designed square towers at various cardinal points covered by domes**
  - **the palace is a treasure house of exquisite carvings and works of art from all over the world.**

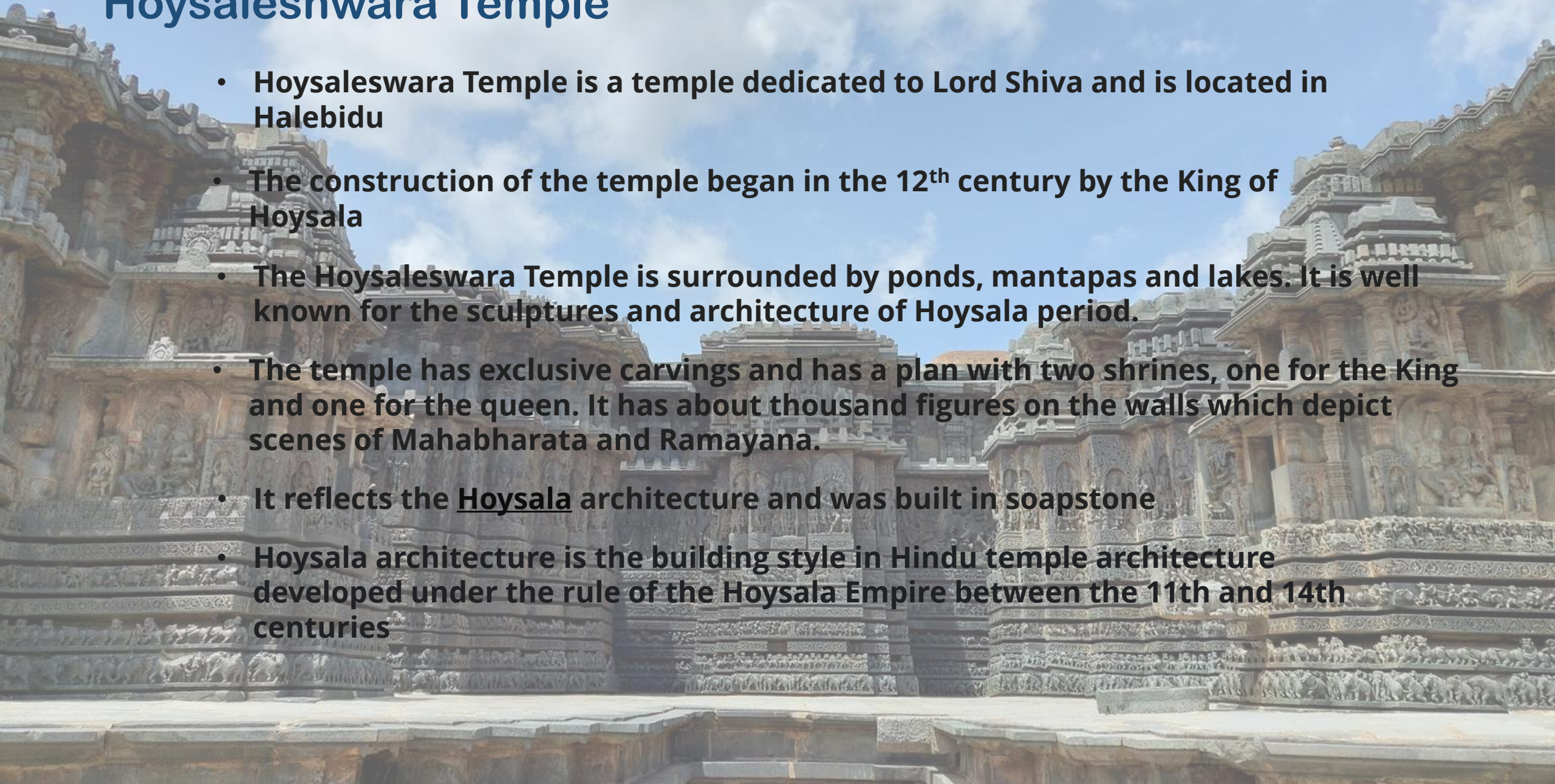
# St.Philomena's Church



- St.Philomena's Church was built in 1956 and is one of the largest churches in the country
- Drawing inspiration from Germany's Cologne Cathedral, this colossal church built in the neo-Gothic style.
- The twin spires of the Cathedral, 175 feet in height, are seen from miles around making it a distinctive city landmark.
- The main hall or nave of the cathedral can seat up to 800 people.
- A Frenchman named Daly designed the church. The floor plan of the cathedral is in the form of a cross. The long part of the cross is the 'nave', which is the congregation hall. The two arms of the cross are the 'transepts'.
- The St. Philomena's Church in Mysore is one of the oldest churches in India. It is over 200 years old.

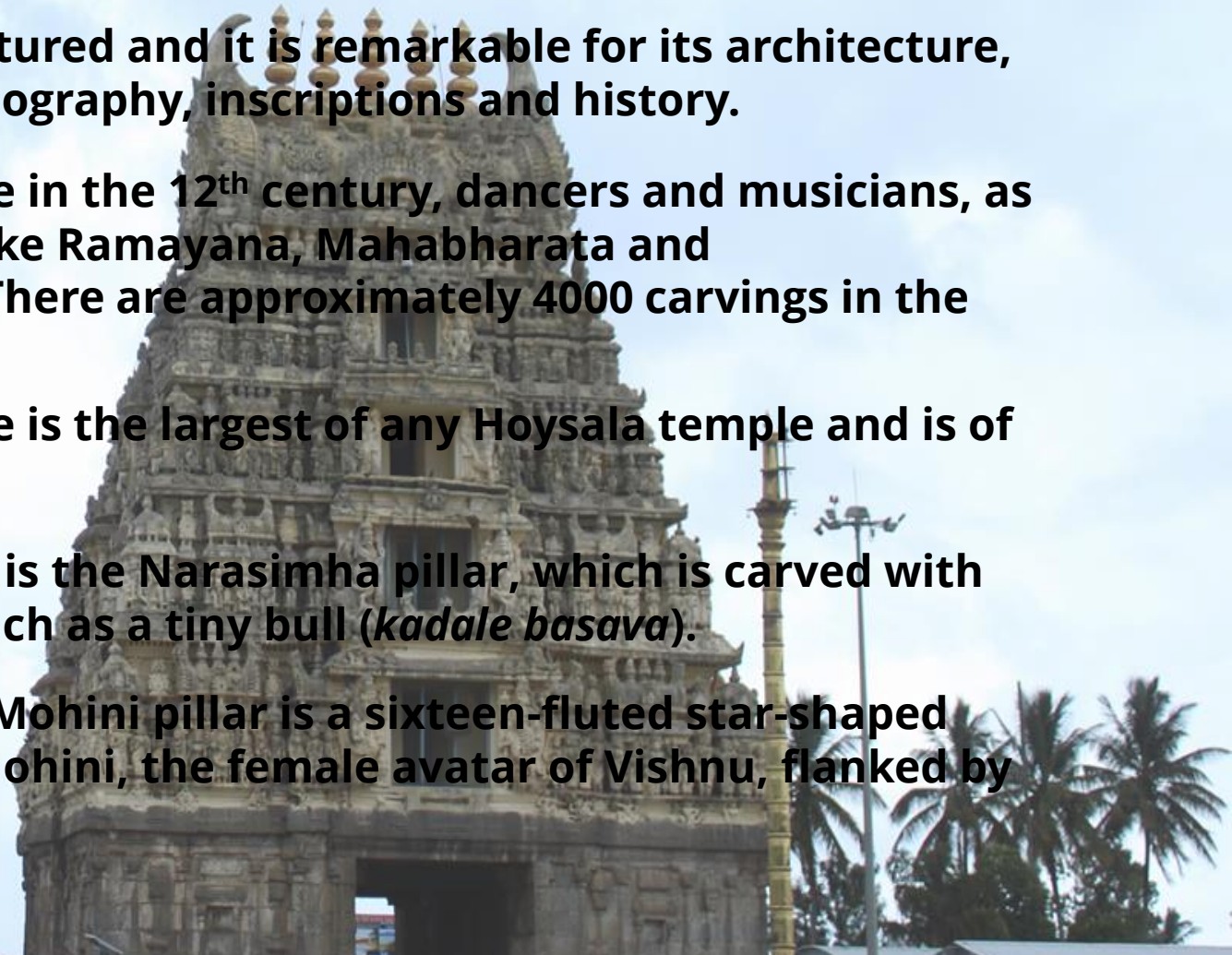
# Hoysaleswara Temple

- Hoysaleswara Temple is a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva and is located in Halebidu
- The construction of the temple began in the 12<sup>th</sup> century by the King of Hoysala
- The Hoysaleswara Temple is surrounded by ponds, mantapas and lakes. It is well known for the sculptures and architecture of Hoysala period.
- The temple has exclusive carvings and has a plan with two shrines, one for the King and one for the queen. It has about thousand figures on the walls which depict scenes of Mahabharata and Ramayana.
- It reflects the Hoysala architecture and was built in soapstone
- Hoysala architecture is the building style in Hindu temple architecture developed under the rule of the Hoysala Empire between the 11th and 14th centuries



# CHENNAKESHA TEMPLE

- The temple was built in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century by the Hoysala ruler, Vishnuvardhana, when the town of Belur was the site for the capital of the Hoysala kingdom.
- The exterior of the temple is richly sculptured and it is remarkable for its architecture, sculptures, reliefs, friezes as well its iconography, inscriptions and history.
- The artwork depicts scenes of secular life in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, dancers and musicians, as well as a pictorial narration from texts like Ramayana, Mahabharata and the Puranas through numerous friezes. There are approximately 4000 carvings in the temple!
- The central hall (*navaranga*) in the temple is the largest of any Hoysala temple and is of a *triratha* (diamond-shaped) layout.
- Two pillars are particularly notable. One is the Narasimha pillar, which is carved with miniature figures from top to bottom, such as a tiny bull (*kadale basava*).
- The other pillar is the Mohini pillar. The Mohini pillar is a sixteen-fluted star-shaped pillar with a large enchanting figure of Mohini, the female avatar of Vishnu, flanked by a Chauri bearer and a *garuda*.



# HAMPI

**Hampi, the city of ruins, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Situated in the shadowed depth of hills and valleys in the state of Karnataka, this place is a historical delight for travellers. Surrounded by 500 ancient monuments, beautiful temples, bustling street markets, bastions, treasury building and captivating remains of Vijayanagar Empire, Hampi is a backpacker's delight.**

**Most of the structures at Hampi are constructed from local granite, burnt bricks and lime mortar.**

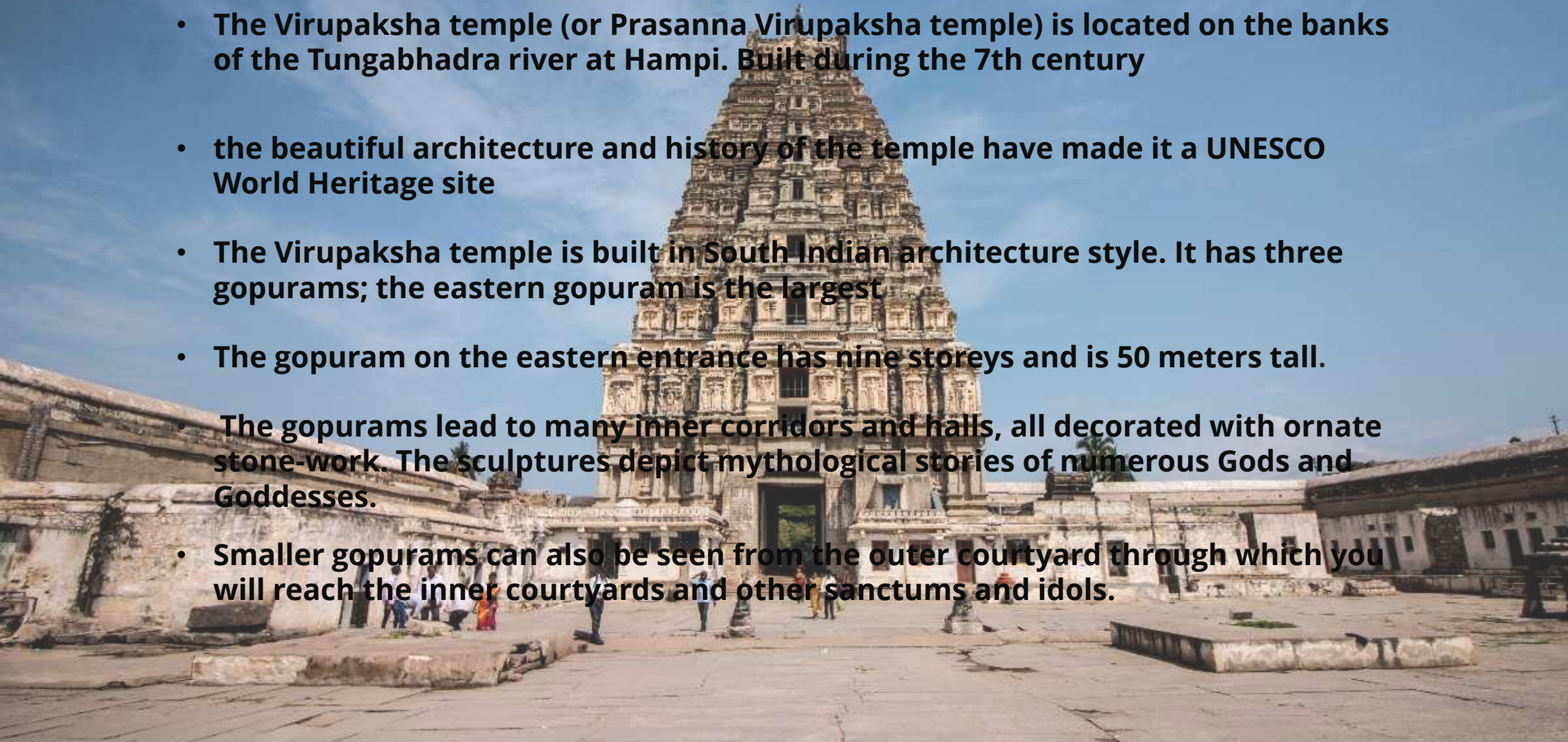


# VITTALA TEMPLE

- The temple was originally built in the 15th century AD. Many successive kings have enhanced the temple campus during their regimes to the present form.
- The Maha-Mantapa contains four open halls within. The south, north and the east ones are still intact. The central western hall is collapsed, probably due to the arson that followed the fall of the capital.
- The main highlight of the Maha-Mantapa is its richly carved giant monolithic pillars. The outermost of the pillars are popularly called the musical pillars. These slender and short pilasters carved out of the giant pillars emit musical tones when tapped.
- The eastern hall which is called the musicians hall is notable for sculptures of musicians on the pillars. Each of the pillars surrounding this hall is sculptured with musicians, drummers and dancers.
- The ceilings of the halls too are of interest with the lotus like carving at the centre.

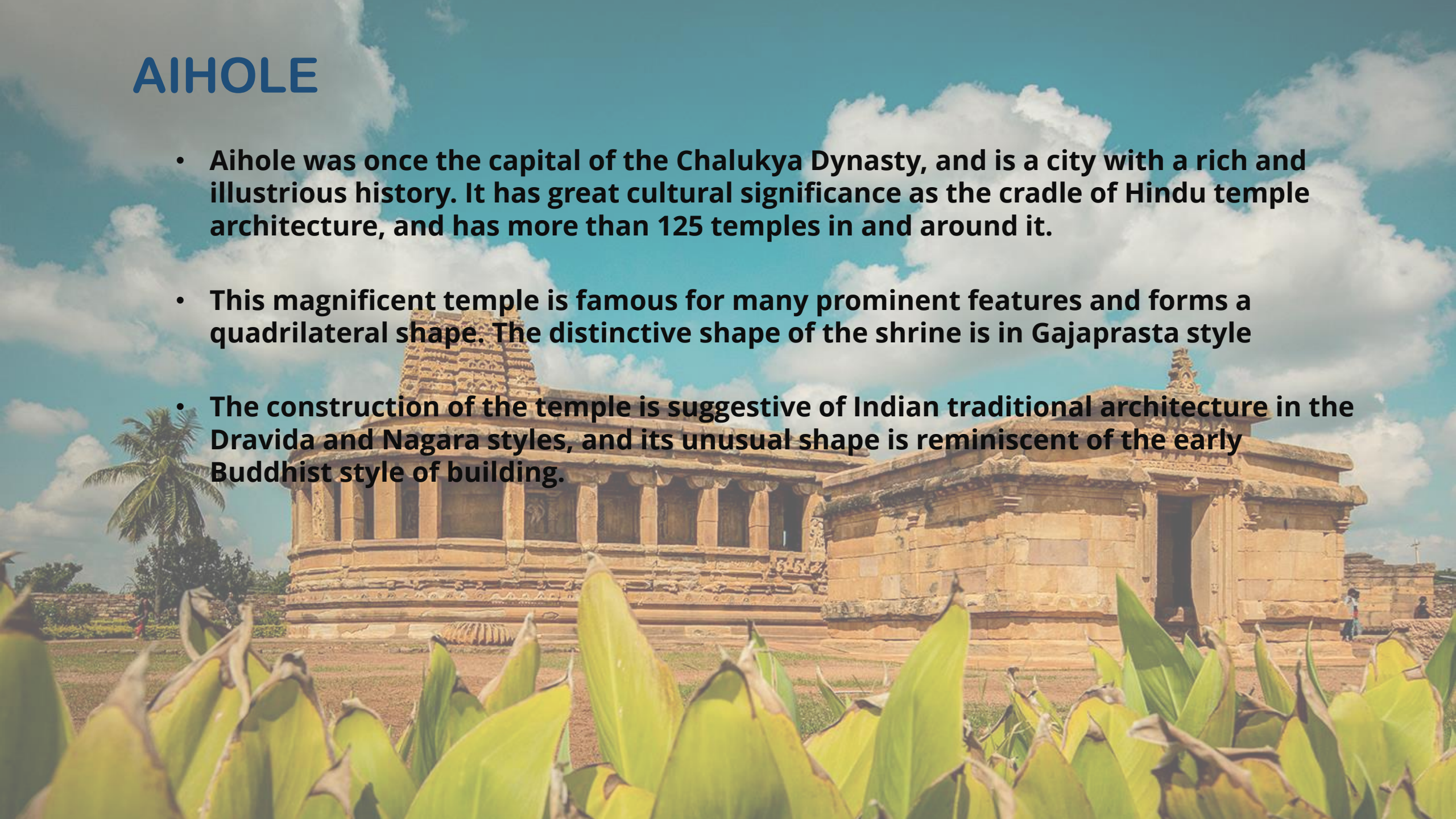
# VIRUPAKSHA TEMPLE

- The Virupaksha temple (or Prasanna Virupaksha temple) is located on the banks of the Tungabhadra river at Hampi. Built during the 7th century
- the beautiful architecture and history of the temple have made it a UNESCO World Heritage site
- The Virupaksha temple is built in South Indian architecture style. It has three gopurams; the eastern gopuram is the largest
- The gopuram on the eastern entrance has nine storeys and is 50 meters tall.
- The gopurams lead to many inner corridors and halls, all decorated with ornate stone-work. The sculptures depict mythological stories of numerous Gods and Goddesses.
- Smaller gopurams can also be seen from the outer courtyard through which you will reach the inner courtyards and other sanctums and idols.



# AIHOLE

- **Aihole was once the capital of the Chalukya Dynasty, and is a city with a rich and illustrious history. It has great cultural significance as the cradle of Hindu temple architecture, and has more than 125 temples in and around it.**
- **This magnificent temple is famous for many prominent features and forms a quadrilateral shape. The distinctive shape of the shrine is in Gajaprasta style**
- **The construction of the temple is suggestive of Indian traditional architecture in the Dravida and Nagara styles, and its unusual shape is reminiscent of the early Buddhist style of building.**



# PATTADAKAL



- Pattadakal is situated on the banks of the Malaprabha River
- There are 10 major temples in Pattadakal, all dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temples contain elements of both South Indian (Dravidian) and North Indian (Nagara) styles of architecture.
- The Chalukyas were famous as patrons of art and culture. They were blessed with some of the most skilled artisans of their time, and their combined efforts gave rise to several architectural edifices of incomparable beauty.

## VIRUPAKSHA TEMPLE

Virupaksha Temple (previously known as Lokesvara Temple) is the largest temple

## JAIN TEMPLE

This is the only Jain temple in Pattadakal. The architectural vocabulary of this edifice is Dravidian

## **KASHIVISHWANATHA TEMPLE**

**This monument was constructed in the 8<sup>th</sup> century by the Rashtrakutas. The architectural style used in this temple is predominantly the Nagara style.**

## **GALAGANATH TEMPLE**

**This temple dates back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century. It faces to the east and is located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River. It is noteworthy for an exquisite sculpture of Lord Shiva killing the demon Andhakasura.**

## **SANGAMESHWARA TEMPLE**

**This edifice was constructed following the Dravidian style of architecture and is remarkable for its intricate and detailed design and architecture.**

## **MALLIKARJUNA TEMPLE**

**The temple contains several aspects of Dravidian architecture, including a 4 storied Vimana with a circular griva and shikara.**

## **PAPANATHA TEMPLE**

**This monument dates back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century and is built in the Vesara style of architecture. Construction was initially begun using Nagara techniques as a reference, but later the architects switched to using the Dravidian style**

