



Available online at: <http://www.advancedscientificjournal.com>
<http://www.krishmapublication.com>

IJMASRI, Vol. 3, issue 1, pp. 404- 409, Oct. -2023

<https://doi.org/10.53633/ijmasri>

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY
ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
(IJMASRI)**

ISSN: 2582-9130

IBI IMPACT FACTOR 1.5

DOI: 10.53633/IJMASRI

RESEARCH ARTICLE

**THE ROLE OF MUSEUMS IN THE RESTORATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
A STUDY OF DISTRICT AECHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF WARANGAL**

Mallaiah N

*Associate Professor of History, Kakatiya Government College, Hanumakonda,
Telangana State- 506001*

Email id: nallamallaiahedu@gmail.com

Abstract

The District Archaeological Museum of Warangal is renowned for its diverse collection of artifacts. The study focuses on the role of museums, particularly the District chaeological Museum of Warangal, in preserving and restoring cultural heritage. The museum, stablished in 1991, is located in Warangal, Telangana, India and houses a diverse collection of Hindu, Buddhist, Jain sculptures, stone and bronze sculptures, inscriptions, coins in a single-storeyed building and arms and weapons. . The study aims to analyze the influence of the historical culture of the Kakatiya dynasty on present life, understand cultural differences through museums, spread awareness about the significance of museums and their historical cultural heritage, present notable restorations of cultural heritage through museums, and promote awareness and importance of Indian museums. The methodology includes referring to books and articles from the district museum, online research, and field trips to the museum. Notable pieces include a large Nandi, several Saivite sculptures, a marble Buddha, and Chamunda. The study also highlights Warangal's history under the Kakatiya sovereigns and their contribution to Telugu culture through the above items located in the museum. Though the museum's sculptures are majestic and full of life. The facilities at the museum are well-maintained and present and exhibit historical monuments interestingly. However, there are concerns about the proper protection and maintenance of historical monuments with regard to available space and their renovation. The study tries to find out the measures needed to address these issues.

Key words: Museums, cultural heritage, awareness, maintenance, measures

Introduction

A museum is a place where historical, scientific, artistic, or cultural interest are stored and exhibited

Museum studies, also known as musicology, is defined by the United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as the theoretical

404

study of museum practices, encompassing the history and development of museums, infrastructural organization, and museum management. The word "museum" comes from the Greek mouse ion, meaning "seat of the muses, emphasizing the inspirational nature of these cultural institutions. Museums can range from Archaeology museums, Art museums, Historic House museums, History museums, Living museums, Maritime museums, Military and War museums, Natural history museums, Science museums, Digital museum, Mobile museums, Pop-up museums, and Open-air museums. A museum is a place where collections are stored and heritage is placed, it is a place to gain knowledge and learn past cultural heritage.

The **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** is an Indian government agency that is responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural historical monuments in the country. It was founded in 1861 by **Alexander Cunningham** who also became its first Director-General.

Apart from the ASI, archaeological work in India and conservation of monuments is also carried out in some states by state government archaeological departments. Most of these bodies were set up by the various princely states before independence. When these states were annexed to India after independence, the individual archaeological departments of these states were not integrated. The ASI. Instead, they were allowed to function as independent bodies.

A dedicated Museums Branch was established in 1946 by Mortimer Wheeler, which now maintains a total of 50 museums spread across the country.

Classification of Museums

Museums can be classified on the basis of their Purpose.

- **Art Museum:** Art Museum Includes Artwork, Fine Artwork.
- **Architectural Museum:** You Can Collect Information About Architectural Styles, Architectural Development Etc.

- **Archiology Museum:** Archaeology museum are specialized in the display of archaeological items in themuseum.
- **Biographical Museum:** Are related to the life historyof one person are many people working in some area.

India's place in World Heritage

India has the 6th largest number of sites in the world. The first sites to be listed were the Ajanta caves, the Ellora caves, the Agra fort and the Tajmahal all of which were inscribed in the 1983 session of the world heritage committee. In India 40 properties inscribed on the World heritage list.

Aims and Objectives

- Collection of antiquities and art objects.
- Preservation of the antiquities.
- Displaying and storing the objects.
- Creating awareness among the citizens.
- Publishing different books about the antiquities, art objects and the traditional culture.
- To install sense of the national pride in the people.
- To make the national and international medium to promote the sense of culture.

Review of the Literature

The information about the museums is available in the books, journals, and articles. But the local museums like Warangal museum do not have much publicity and is not found in mainstream literature. Therefore our study primarily focuses on finding out the significant and unique features of these much neglected museums. Our study provides much more information on this museum.

Methodology

- We have referred some books and articles

from the district museum.

- We have gone through Google and some YouTube channels to gather some additional information.
- We visited district archaeological museum of Warangal as apart of field trip and we have keenly observed the collection of Hindu, Buddhist and Jain sculpture and we noted down our observations and findings.

We interviewed a few museum officials and other historians

Archaeological Museum-Warangal

In this part of our motherland, Warangal is largest city of state Telangana located at a distance of 148 kms from the state capital of Telangana it has so far creditability passed through from pre-historic times to the present days. It is a historical city that was earlier known as *Orugallu* or *Ekashila Nagaram*. This region has provided a strongbase of foundation of Satavahana and Chalukya emperors and was ruled by Kakatiyas king during 1001-1323 A.D. During this period the region was acknowledged as significant progress. The real beauties of temples located in this area discover the age of old capital of Kakatiya kingdom. The rich culture and heritage is still maintained till today.

The historical monument of this region with excellent architectural styles has been attracting a wide variety of people from various parts of the world. It is an important cultural centre like, *Rajamahendravarma*, which give birth to *Adikavi Nannaya*. It could claim equal status as the great poet. Pothana the author of *Srimad Bhagavatham*, one of the finest creations in classical Telugu, born in this place. The city was mute witness to raise and fall of many kingdoms with a rich historical past.

The History of the origin and the growth of Indian museum is oneof the remarkable events towards the development of heritage and culture of India. Warangal ASI Museum is a museum located in the musical garden complex in Warangal, Telangana, India. The District Archaeological Museum of Warangal houses a wide range of artefactsrelated to different historic periods. With the foundation of Indian museum in 1814, the museum movement started rolling

in India and through the years from then, culminated into the fruitful existence of more than 400 Museums in the country. The Kakatiyas Rule marked the prosperity in economy and cultural resulting, we can see in the museums. It has a collection of Hindu, Buddhist and Jain sculpture housed in a single -storied building. The Notable Pieces in the garden are a large Nandi and several *Saivite* sculptures along with the marble *Buddha* and *Chamunda*. The District Archaeological Museum of Warangal were Established on February 22, 1991. The Museums is the brightest star in the galaxy of History, It shows the past cultural Heritage, and the topic chosen is, “ Role of museums in the Restoration of culture Heritage, A case study of District Archeological Museum of Warangal”.

Warangal, known originally as *orugallu*, *ontikonda* or *Ekashilanagaram* mainly due to the existence of a huge hillock which seems to be carved out of a single stone, was the erstwhile capital of the Kakatiya kingdom during the 12th-14thcentury, at the start of the 11th century.

To house the various artifacts and relics of a glorious past for future generations to marvel at, a museum was built as a historical and cultural centre. Inaugurated on February 22, 1991, it is constructed on sprawling grounds amidst pictures quell landscaped gardens. The building consists of a big hall, three rooms and an enclosed gallery.

At the entrance, sitting as if to greet visitors, is a massive black basalt Nandi sculpture, carved in typical Kakatiya style. Dating back to the 13th century A.D., it is adorned with *Muvvalapatteda* (girth band), depicted in profusely ornamental filigree work, and *Kirtimukha* design with highly ornate, floral and beautiful geometric patterns on the back. The majestic sculpture pulsates with force and vigour and the flared nostrils and bulging muscles bring its power alive.

Prola-II, who was ruling Hanamkonda under the *Chalukyas*, proclaimed independence from them and laid the foundation for theKakatiyas dynasty. The Kakatiyas, who ruled for more than 200 years, left behind many grand monuments and architectural marvels. Traveller *Marcopolo*, also mention this historic city.

Warangal attracts many tourists thanks to its important place in history, exquisite monuments, grand temples, superb gardens, beautiful lakes, and sanctuaries with rich fauna and flora. The main attractions include *Warangal fort*, the 13th century Shiva temple on a six-foot high star shaped platform, *Bhadrakali temple* and thousand pillared temple. Wildlife sanctuaries at Pakhal and *Eturnagaram*, *Ramappa Lake*, and *Pakhal Lake* are other sports which are worth visiting.

Highlights of Warangal Museum

The unceasing wonders at the museum include incredible wood fossils (dating back 25 lakh years)

Palaeolithic hand axes (2.5 lakh years B.C.); microlithic blades (10,000 B.C to 3000 B.C-1500 B.C). Megalithic (1000 B.C.-300AD) and early historical pottery (2nd CBC- 4thCAD) from excavations in the region; stone sarcophagi; stucco figuring's; terracotta idol with oval face, half closed eyes, thick nose and lips, prominent chin and ushnisha on the fore head, is especially noteworthy.

The other fine specimens on display include Bidriware, Chinaware, celadon ware, Enamelware items. In addition Deccan paintings and sculptures, scriptures, photographs of artistic rocks, paintings, Menhirs Dozzz

And one of the main highlight is that, we can see in the entrance, there is a wood fossil. This belongs to 3crores years. It can be seen in Warangal museum only.

Warangal, the City of Kakatiya Sovereign

Warangal is Located 150 km away from Hyderabad and as it has the most historical heritage; it should not be missed to visit during a trip to Telangana.

The Kakatiya sovereigns have left their several monuments which are distinguished by their elaborate architecture, one of these vestiges, the arches of the victory of the Warangal fort, which is now the emblem of the Telangana state.

The Kakatiya dynasty of Telugu Culture, ruled from 1083 to 1323 on a realm encompassing

approximately the current Andhra Pradesh, and whose capital was Orugallu. During their rule, The Kushmahal is used as a museum which now contains several statues recovered from the site of the fort. The Thousand pillars temple, the *Badrakali temple*, the *Khila-Warangal fort*, and the *Ramappa temple* and the entire cultural and historical heritage can be found in a single museum.

The international museum date is celebrated, on May 18-2023. On every year to raise awareness among people about museum.

The Warangal Museum has a variety of collections like the *Jain*, *Buddha*, *Shivate* and *Nizam* all these are collected from different places of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

There are 7 Museums in Telangana. The Warangal Museum is of them, Warangal Museum has all the collections that were in remaining 6 Museums of Telangana. When we visit Warangal Museum, we can see all the Artefacts that were present in the rest of the Museum. It has unique collection of Artefacts. It has a great importance and unique features among the other museums in Telangana state. The Warangal museum is famous for the collectibles ranging from the age of many dynasties. These collectibles are the major attractions for visitors.

Major Attractions

- 1) Stone Sculptures -339
- 2) Coins and Ornaments -395
- 3) Terra kotta (mattikota)-113
- 4) Arms and weapons-64
- 5) Structure figures-8
- 6) Pro- historic tools and potery-104

1. Stone Sculptures:

The museum is noted for its amazing collection of ancient stone sculptures that speak of unmatched craftsmanship and keen eye for detail. We also found notable and precious masterpieces, different stone sculptures, fossils, cores & flakes artefacts etc. There are total 339 stone sculptures in Warangal Museum.

These are the major and unique sculptures or the historical items, which belongs to 500year.

Lord Ganesha (Sand stone)

The sculptures of Ganesha idol were belonging to Jains. The Ganesha torso was appear on right side in this idol others Ganesh idols torso were appear on the left side.

The stones sculpture like *Kalamukha* which is 7feet height this type of Veeragallu sculpture were found only in Warangal Museum.

2. Inscriptions

The museum has number of rare inscriptions with one of Kakatiya Mahadeva datable to 1197 A.D. being of special significance.

- There are mainly 18 inscriptions we can see in the museum.
- The inscriptions were belongs to different regions & dynasties.

3. Coins

The Warangal museum has variety collections of coins displayed in the central gallery are from different eras. These include rare coins belonging to the indo-Greek, Satavahana, Roman, Vijayanagara, Vishnukundhins, Ikshvaku, QutubShahi, Aurangazeb, AsafJahi periods, made of gold, silver, copper, lead and tin.

- All these coins were collected from different places of AndhraPradesh and Telangana region.
- There are total 97 coins available in Warangal museum.

4. Bronze

The museum boasts of a vast section of bronze sculptures with an important specimen being the idol of Umasahita Chandrasekhara Murthy dating back to the 14th-15th century A.D. from Kanaparathi village of Warangal district.

- Bidriware is a metal handicraft from the city of Bidar in southern India. It was developed in the 14th century C.E. during the rule of the Bahmani Sultans.
- The metal used is white brass that is blackened and inlaid with silver & gold.
- Bidriware techniques and style are influenced by Persian art.
- Kaiser worked with local craftsmen and the partnership resulted in bidriware under the rule of Ahmed Shah and his son Second Alauddin Bahmani.

4. Arms & Weapons

The instruments of war at the museum are also noteworthy and arms & weapons which we can see in the museum were belonging to the *Nizam* rulers. The huge bronze cannons, small iron cannons, cannon balls from Zaffargadh fort are displayed in the garden. Swords, Shields, Kataras, Jambias etc. are displayed in the gallery. A huge iron drum called "RanaBheri" used to rally troops in battle, is another attraction.

- There are total 64 arms and weapons in the museum Kataras, Jambias etc. are displayed in the gallery. A huge iron drum called "Rana Bheri" used to rally troops in battle, is another attraction.
- There are total 64 arms and weapons in the museum
- We can see a variety of arms and weapons with different sizes and styles.
- There is a Ranabheri which we can see in the museum.
- This was played before the start of war.
- It has the height of 11 feet.
- It is also one of the unique collections in Warangal museum.

We can see a variety of arms and weapons. With different sizes and styles, like there is a war helmets, protective shields etc.

We can see a variety of arms and weapons. With different sizes and styles, like there is a war helmets, protective shields etc.

Library

There is a library in the Warangal museum, there are more than 1500 collections of books, and many Indian history books were available, and we have original records of *Nizam*.

The books give brief information about different kingdoms history and the culture & heritage of those days.

Cultural Representation

As we are discussing, that the Museum are the Restoration of cultural heritage. Let's observe how you respects the culture there is a Kondaparthi Shasanum. It says that, when there is a land disputes between the two persons. It was compromised by the king by giving betel leaf. This say's how the king entered deeply in to the peoples, where it closely related to the life of the people. Where it was now preserved in museums. And the coins, that says about the economic standard of those people. During Kakatiya period the people used gold coins for the trade purpose. It shows how they have a strong economy. That we can see in museums and the different stone sculptures and idol's shows us different cultures that followed in those days and the pot's and Bronze Items that were used in the house hold purpose all these say's about the culture. That we can see in the Museums.

Conclusion

Our verdict is the museum represents about our cultural & heritage and it represents the life styles of the people how they lived and ruled at that time we know this kind of things through museums and we well know about our ancestor's history through museums .

Findings and Suggestions

There is no proper protection and maintenance of the historical monuments and the place is very congested. This problem should be addressed by the government. There is only one museum in Warangal. But it does not have much publicity. There is no proper access to the museum. There is no separate and adequate space being allotted to preserve many sculptures. There are no glass covers on such precious sandstone. There are no guides to explain the significance of the museum which contains more than 1200 historically significant remnants. There are no facilities for the visitors. There are no ramp facilities for the physically challenged visitors. Many posts at the museum are lying vacant. Budget allocations are meagre. There should be much publicity about it among the schools so that all the children should visit such important places. District education department and other higher education institutions should take special care in this regard.

References

1. Parabrahma Sastry, P. V. (1978). The Kakatiyas of Warangal, Hyderaad.1978.
2. Goala Krishna Murthy.S. (1964). The Sculture of Kakatiyas, Hyderabad.1964.
3. Venkataramanayya. N. (1974). Inscriptions of Andhra Pradesh-Warangal District, Hyderabad.1974.
4. Sarma.M. R. K. (1972). Temples of Telangana,Architecture,Iconography and Sculpture of the Chalukyan and Kakatiya Temples, Hyderabad, 1972.
5. Yazdani's Reports on Monuments and Archaeology in Hyderabad Deccan 1930-1940 in the Nizam VIIth Period.
