

Kakatiya dynasty



About Kakatiya Dynasty

- The Kakatiyas were powerful rulers of large parts of Deccan for almost 300 years (c.950– 1323 ce).
- Their capital was Orugallu, now known as Warangal. It was eventually conquered by the Delhi Sultanate. First they were attacked and defeated by Alauddin Khalji for plunder, then again they were subdued by Ulugh Khan (son of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq) and was renamed as Sultanpur.
- Before Orugallu, Hanamakonda was their capital.
- It was Kakatiya Dynasty which mined the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond.

Why in News?

A temple constructed by Emperor Ganapati Deva, a mighty ruler of Kakatiya dynasty, in Dharanikota near present Andhra Pradesh capital

Amaravathi has been converted into an abode of local goddess Balusulamma (Goddess Durga).

Architectural Significance of the temple

- ✓ The ceiling of the temple bears decorations of lotus medallions and no sikhara on its top. These architectural features are totally akin to their counterparts found in shrines at Hanamkonda and Warangal fort etc., - the original home land of Kakatiya dynasty.
- ✓ The goddess is gracefully seated in Padmasana with eight hands. Her facial physiognomic features are oval, distinguished with slender cheeks, wide open eyes, an elongated nose and closed tender pair of lips. She has eight hands and poses eight different special attributes. Her lower right hand is benevolently blessing the devotees.
- ✓ This is a very rare and unique image possessed with best iconographical illustrations of the Kakatiya sculptures and pointing towards a most distinguished cult deity.
- ✓ With passage of time, when patrons became extinct the shrine was neglected and unpreserved, the idol rolled out from its original place in the sanctum and mutilated.