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KANNADA INSCRIPTION FROM MAHARASHTRA



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Introduction: From earliest times Karnataka made its own impact in the history of India. There were so many sources to focus on political, social, religion, cultural relations with other states. Karnataka's contribution to the culture of India is of prime importance. Karnataka and Maharashtra are both neighbouring States. From ancient times these two, Kannada and Marathi language, have had a cultural exchange. This is one of the reasons these two states are attached with each other. "In the North Indian historian view Deccan land means North part of Tungabhadra River. According to Tamil historian North India means South part of Kaveri River. Because of this for the development of South Indian not mention Karnataka's role by historian". We find all over Maharashtra, sources which have kept Karnataka alive; approximately 300 Kannada inscriptions, Viragallu (hero stones), temples, many Archaeological sources which find in digging, coins, stamps, sculpture, literature etc., focus on Kannada people's life. Shrikantashashtri, Saltore, Shamba Joshi, (S.B. Joshi). B.P. Desai, R.C. Hiremath, Srinivas Ritti, M.M. Kulburgi, Pandit Avalikar, M.V. Narasimhamurthi etc Kannada writers and Rajwade, Bhandarkar, Ranade. Setumadhavrao Pagade, Dhanjay Gadgil, Ramachandra, C. Dher, D.V. Apte etc. Marathi writers tried to focus on both these states History and Cultural relation between Karnataka and Maharashtra near Gurlasur.

Lokmanya Tilak expresses his view about relationship of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Tilak stated that "Mother - Child relationship" (Karalu - Baliya Sambanda). Today's Maharashtra means East Karnataka". Justice Ranade also stated that "Marathi languages roots find in Dravidian states". But this is historical true. Marathi language patronage the Kannada Rulers (Seunars). But Marathi Historians not agree. The senior historian of Maharashtra Bhandarkar old history Maharashtra as 'History of Deccan. Many historians from time to time face problems

while writing Maharashtra History. The reasons are many dynasties which rules Maharashtra were Kannada. Because of this we not separate Karnataka and Maharashtra ancient History differently. At that time both states are in one flag. Kaviraj Marga also focuses that in 9th century. Godavari Karnataka's North place. Not only had this Kannada race reached up to North stated by few historians with sources".

In olden days political supremacy was more strong and important than language. From political point of view Karnataka's supremacy reached up to North India. The ruler Pulakeshi II was titled as "Dakshinapatheshwara" the ruler of Badami Chalukya. Pulakeshi II defeated the North ruler Harshavardhan near Narmada river. It means Vidya and many parts of Indian places under his authority. The Inscriptions of Chalukyas (means power of Karnataka)! After Chalukyas Rashtrakutas ascended the throne and Rashtrakutas were pure Kannadigas. They were famous for the development society, literature, long age culture development of Karnataka. "Rashtrakutas first capital, Reva City was near Narmada, later on known as Malkhed. Many old inscriptions of Rashtrakutas are found in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Varahad. Malkhed and Reva both are in Karnataka. So there was no doubt about Rashtrakutas belonging to Karnataka stated says R.C. Hiremath.

In 8th and 9th century another alternative name of Karnataka was "Kuntalanadu". This Kuntalanadu covers the Banavasi to Vindya Mountain Satavahanas. Chalukyas of Badami, Rashtrakutas dynasties rulers were called Kuntaladipathas. Rashtrakutas patronized the Art & Architecture Kailasa temple of Ellora and other Caves, Sculpture are the contribution of Rashtrakutas.

Rashtrakutas called themselves "Lattalur Purvadishwara". Latur which is near Osmanabad in Maharashtra was their capital. Durba the Rashtrakuta king conquered the Kanauj Krishna III says the Kannada Pratishta records found in Madhya Pradesh inscription near Jabbalpur.

Rashtrakuta Ruler Amoghavarsha Nrupatunga was the devotee of Mahalakshi of Kolhapur. He cut his thumb for getting rid of the drought and blesses his state and subjects. This was mentioned in Panjav inscription. In the period of Krishna III Rashtrakutas reached near Rameshwara up to Madhya Pradesh. Rashtrakutas were poet and patronized the Artists. Today also Ellora Caves express their artist excellence. Rashtrakutas Art exhibits the grace, refinement and technical skill is of very high order. They were mighty builders. As a result of their liberal patronage there appeared many great monuments and pieces of art. They remained even today as a pride in our National Memory. The Ellora

and Elephant Cave temples of Rashtrakutas strike the visitors and is really breath taking. Today's, Elephanta (in ancient Ghorapuri) Pune (Punaka), Mirinje (Miraj) etc cities were under the rule of Rashtrakutas, according to inscriptions.

Chalukyas of Kalyana : Chalukyas of Kalyana were the successor of Rashtrakutas, who ruled most of the parts of Maharashtra. Kannada Inscriptions from Maharashtra belongs to this dynasty. Here Sanskrit inscription also focus the conquest as achievements of Chalukyas of Kalyana. They made Kalyana as their capital, but they did not rule complete Maharashtra, but through their feudatories ruled it

Jayasimha II : According to historians, Jayasimha II ascended throne in 1015 A.D. but Murab inscription (Osmanabad district) he ascended in 1013 A.D. In this on inscription Jayasimha II's officer Rajarasa ruled the sub branches of Gujjee 700 and Morab 80 mention under this rule.

Someshwara I (A.D.1044 – 1068) : Someshwara I related 13 Kannada inscriptions & Sanskrit inscriptions are available in Maharashtra, 1047 A.D. Nanded Districts Tadkhela inscription was important from historical point of view. This inscription in prose and poetry form mentions the whole genealogy of Chalukya of Kalyana. This inscription focuses on Someshwara I's conquering the Konkan, Malava and Chola rulers; and upto vengi, Kalinga his conquest is mentioned (or expressed) in this inscription.

Vikramaditya VI (1076 – 1126 or 1077 – 1127 A.D) : Vikramaditya usurped the throne in şaka 998 on 076 – 7 A.D. He assigned the province of Banavasi to Jayasimha. He reigned peacefully for about 50 years. He started a new era in his own name (Chalukya Vikrama Era). More than 60 inscriptions were available in Kannada and Sanskrit in Maharashtra. He had many feudatories under his rule, and their rule queen family, children and many more matters are found in these inscriptions. Under his rule the feudatories were Karkaparasa, Chappattayya, Repaladevi, Samatatakura, Kalichorarasa, Jogamarasa Kavilasa, Narayana Dhatt, Magarasa, Kalimya etc mentioned in inscriptions. Shilahas of Akkalakote, Kalachuris of mangalveda were the feudatories of Vikaramaditya VI. Pawak and Vaji family officers took important part in his rule.

Mallikarjuna, the son of Vikramaditya VI was by the side of his father in conquest and extended his territories Sholapur district Bhandarkavate inscription mentions about Vikramadityas & his son's expeditions of 109 A.D. In 1122 A.D Bhimra inscription of Deglur mentions the queen of Vikramaditya Rani Malanidevi. Along with this, his another wife Suggaladevi's name is also mentioned. Both his queens participated in

many administrative and religious functions cleared by this inscription. More or less whole Maharashtra was under the rule of Vikramaditya.

Somesvara III (A.D. 1127 – 1139 A.D): After Vikramaditya his second son, Someshwara III succeeded his father. Numerous Kannada inscription focus on his rule. He bore the titles Bhulokamalla (the Wrestler of the earth) and Sarvajna Chakravarti (the Omniscient Emperor)".

Yerayamasa, Sridarya, Vaijanath, Mahamanda lesvara, Magarasa, Gonenayaka, Malliyananayaka etc, generals played important role in his administrative through various inscriptions focused about them. In the period of Chalukyas of Kalyana, the Kalachuris of Magalveda became as their feudatories. Ardicharavbasa, Avaravadi, Alanuru, Bhodana Alunuru etc, political parties existed at that time. Aurad inscription of Sholapur district mentioned that Bijjale II who the Kalachuri feudatory became much more powerful. The Kalachuris of Karnataka had earlier settled down in Tarikanadu. Mangabvedhe was their capital. The shilahras of Akkalkote agreed the feudatories of Chalukya of Kalyana focused by these inscriptions. The Chalukyas of Kalyana granted for religious purpose and built many temples stated by these inscriptions.

The capital of Kalyana was near Maharashtra. Naturally the Chalukyas rule influenced Maharashtra. Their cultural, traditions and systems continued here also. For this reason a temple in every village is built in Maharashtra. The building of many temples shows good economic condition of that period. In the time of Chalukyas of Kalyan Bhogeshwara temple (Narangwadi inscriptions), Keshawa temple (Arege inscription), Somanatha Temple, Doreshwara Temple (Karadkhed inscription), many temples (Tadkhel inscription), Nigaramakmar Jinalaya (Karadikal inscription), Revanewara Temple), (Bhimma inscription), Chandraeshwara temple (Akkalkote inscription) Rameshwara Temple (Umrani inscription)etc., hundreds of temples existing in these places, inscription more focus on this matter.

The Kalachuris : The Kalachuri family to which Bijjala belonged was a branch of the Kalachuri family of central India. This held Karnataka, Maharashtra Sway over that part of the country in the 6 – 8th century. Kalanjara was their capital. Its members appear to have dispersed in different regions forming different branches. One of them came and settled in the Sholapur Mangalavedha region as the subordinates of the ruling king, the Chalukyas. As noted above, finding an opportunity, Bijjala of this family took advantage of the situation and established his independent rule. During Bijjala period it saw the most unique socio religious revolution under the leadership of Basaveshwara. Basaveshwara spend few days in

Mangalveda as a Minister of Bijjala Kalachuris took interest and patronized the temples' social work says inscriptions.

Seunas : The Seunas are generally known in history as the Yadavas of Devagiri. They describe themselves Yadavanarayana and the 'Lords of the city of Devaravati. For this reason they were believed to have come from the north. But a careful study of the inscriptions of this family and those of the contemporary families indicate that they hailed from Karnataka and as subordinates of the ruling kings, they were posted as governors of the Northern regions of their kingdom. Names of the members of this family are Kannada and their matrimonial relationships were effected with Kannada language. One of the kings of the family bore the title Karnataka Vamsabhirama. Billanja V selected Devagiri as his capital. He ruled Sholapur, Kolhapur, Pandarpur, Akkalkote and tried to destroy the power of Hoysalas. Seuna rulers patronized the virasaiva religion and gave special provision to Marathi language few inscriptions were also written in Marathi language. In this way in 11th and 12th A.D Seuna rulers patronized Marathi Literature and Culture for the harmony of State & Society.

Shilaharas : Shilararas were the rulers who ruled today's Maharashtra and Karnataka. These Shilaharas did not build any dynasty. But they were the feudories who were under the Karnataka rulers. Shilaras inscription are in Kannada, Sanskrit and Marathi Language. These Shilaharas made their capitals in Thane (which is near Mumbai's District place), Karhad, Akkalkot, Kolhapur etc, cities and ruled there.

Shilaharas of Akkalkote : These rulers made today's Akkalkote (in ancient name Akulage) says numerous inscriptions that were found in and around Sholapur district.

Vaji Race: we find Vaji race in many Kannada inscription of Maharashtra. They took a major role in expending the Chalukya of Kanlyani's territories. More of less complete Nanded was in their hands. Dandanayaka Nagavarma, Madhava, Kalimaya Revanayya, Nagaraja etc., favored Chalukyas of Kalyani rulers.

Vahini or Pavakvansha : Pavaka race took a great role in period of chalukyas of kalyani. Pavaka race conquest and bravery is mentioned in Kannada inscription of Maharashtra.1112 Nanded district Adampur inscription focuses on Rebaldevi, a woman who worked as a Mahamandaleshwara. She was the first in history to reach the Mahamandaleshwara post. Political division made like Gulbarga, Karad,Solapur,Nanded Satara and Miraj etc. Totally all these political divisions were ruled by the Kannadigas. The old Karnataka system of

education was continued here. Temples and Mathas were the higher education centers.

Conclusion: Most of the Karnataka rulers adopted the tolerant religious policy. And inscription focuses this point in a clear manner. The Chalukyas of Badami Rashtrakutas had religious tolerance and it was continued by their further dynasties of Karnataka. Virasaiva religion got special importance in the period of Kalachuris and Seunars. A small village of Sholapur Sonaligima Shilaharas contributed the Kolhapur as a pilgrimage centre of Jains. These inscription help us lot to build the history of cultural relations between Karnataka and Maharashtra. Numerous inscriptions place name & person name plays a major role. Today also many places like Sholapur, Ellora, Pune, Masnur, Pandarapur, Sangli Karhad, Nanded, Miraj, Akkalkote, Khidrapur, Nasik, Aurangabad etc, focus on Kannada related material to us. To remove the hatred between these two states on the basis of Language, knowing and rewriting the history is very necessary in this modern period. Karnataka contributed a lot to the history of Maharashtra, and Maharashtra also helped a lot to write the history of Karnataka. Thus, both these states' relation is like mother and son relation which cannot be forgotten easily. In this paper, I tried to focus how Karnataka rulers ruled over few parts of Maharashtra and How Maharashtra State has helped to write the Karnataka history in a rich manner.

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