

Pallav Chaluka and Chola Free PDF By Governmentadda.com

After Harshavardhan, new kingdoms and dynasties emerged. They were big landlords or warrior chiefs who emerged close to 7th century. The Kings acknowledged them as Samanthalas, and received gift from these samanthas, who provided the military support to the kings in need.

They often declared themselves as 'maha-samantals' and 'maha-mahadaleshvara'. For instance, the Rashtrakutas in Deccan, who were initially they were subordinate to Chalukyas of Karnataka. In mid 8th century they gained control over the land.

There were Brahmin rulers like the Kadamba Mayurasharman in Karnataka and Gurjara-Pratihara Harichandara in Rajasthan.

"Tripartite Struggle" between the Rashtrakutas, Palas and Gurjara- Pratihara fought to control Kanauj, towards the end of 8th century AD. This struggle for supremacy among the Palas, Partihars and rashtrakutas was significant event in these centuries.

Generally, the period between 750 AD and 1200 AD is referred to as the Rajput Period. This period has been characterised by a lack of unity in the kingdoms amid foreign invasions.

The Palas of Bengal during Early Medieval Period in India:

The Pala dynasty was founded by Gopala in 750 AD. He was succeeded by his son Dharmapala who revived Nalanda University. He also founded the Vikramsila University (present day Bhagalpur district in Bihar).



He was succeeded by Devapala during 815-855 AD. He built the famous the Mahabodhi temple at Bodhi Gaya. The Palas patronised Buddhism even while it was on decline in other parts of India. They were the followers of Mahayana and Vajrayana schools of Buddhism. Proto-Bengali literature and art flourished during their rule. The UNESCO world Heritage site, Somapura Mahavihara (now in Bangladesh) was constructed during the Pala reign. They ruled over parts of modern day Bengal and Bihar.

The Palas were succeeded by Sena dynasty of Bengal. In the court of Lakshman Sena the author of Gita Govind, Jayadeva was the court poet.

The Pratiharas of Kannauj During Early Medieval History of India:

Also known as Gurjara Pratihara because they probably originated from Gujarat region. Mihir Bhoja was the most important ruler of this dynasty. Kannauj became their capital for a while. They are believed to be a clan of Rajputs. Nagabhatta was the first great ruler of this dynasty. He ruled from about 725 AD to 740 AD. He defeated the Arab Muslim rulers of Sind and prevented them from capturing the central India. He was succeeded by Devaraja, Vatsaraja and Nagabhata II. At its peak, the Gurjara-Pratihara empire included parts of eastern Punjab, awadh, Agra, gwalior, and Rajasthan.

Mihir Bhoja ruled from 840-890 AD, he took the empire to its peak glory by extending the boundaries of empire further. He made Kannauj an important centre in India. Mihir Bhoja maintained large army. He was a patron of art and learning. Himself a vaishnavite, he was tolerant to other religions.

Mahendrapala succeeded Bhoja and maintained the empire.

The Rashtrakutas in Early Medieval Period in India:

Dantidurga was the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty with his capital at Malkhand or Malkhed, in present day gulbarga district in Karataka. The Rashtrakutas built the famous Kailasa Temple at ellora which is remarkable rock-cut architecture.

Other important Rulers of the time:

The Solankis of Gujarat in Early Medieval Period in India:

Initially, they were feudatories of the Pratiharas, later around 10th century, they asserted their independence under their chief, Mularaja. The Solanki capital was Anhilwara. Another significant ruler of this dynasty was Bhima. He witnessed the Gujarat invasion led by Mahmud of Ghazni.

The greatest ruler of the Solanki dynasty was Kumarpala, after whose death, the kingdom declined.

The Sisodias of Mewar in Early Medieval Indian History:

Bappa Rawal was the founder of the Sisodia kingdom. He set up Chittor as his capital. Mewar reached the height of its power under the rule of Rana Kumbha and his grandson, Rana Sanga. Rana Kumbha had defeated the Muslim ruler of Malwa and built Vijay Stambh to commemorate the victory in Chittor. Kumbha was a great warrior, musician, poet and a builder. His successor Maharana Pratap fought many battles against Muslim rulers and did not submit to them.



After Sangam Age in Tamil country, Kalabhara rule for 250 years. The, Pallava kingdom in Tondaimandalam and capital at kanchipuram.

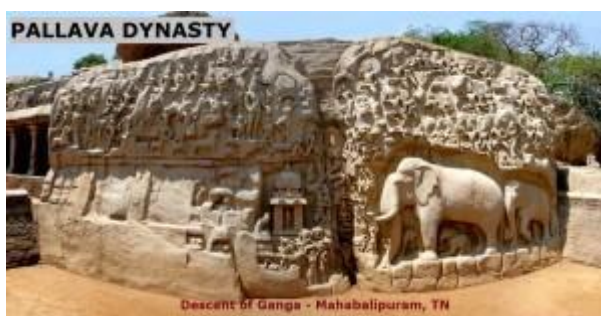
Origin of Pallava is disputed while many consider them to natives. Issued earlier inscriptions in Prakrit & Sanskrit. patronised Brahmanism.

Vishnugopa was defeated by Samundragupta in his Southern expedition.

Simhavishnu – real founder of Pallava dynasty. He was a great ruler, who defeated Kalabhras, Cholas to extend territory till Kaveri .

Mahendravarman I (600-630 A.D.): Conflict between Pallava -Chalukya began. Pulakeshin II marched against them & captured northern part of kingdom. He was a Jain follower but converted to Saivism after being influence of Saiva saint, Tirunavukkarasar/Appar.

He is considered a builder of cave temples, built temples for Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. He also promoted art and music.



Narasimhavarman I (630-668 A.D.) : Also known as Mamalla which means 'great wrestler'.

Defeated Pulakesin II of western Chalukyas in Battle of Manimangalam near Kanchi. He captured and destroyed the capital city of Vatapi. He then assumed the title 'Vatapikonda'. He led a naval expedition to Sri Lanka.

During his reign, Hiuen Tsang visited Kanchipuram. He called it big and beautiful with one hundred Buddhist monasteries with ten thousand Buddhist monks. Ghatika at Kanchi was a great centre of learning.

Narsimhavarman I was the founder of Mamallapuram and monolithic Rathas.

Narsimhavarman II (695-722 A.D.): Also known as Rajasimha.

His rule was peaceful and offered ample opportunities for development of arts. Shore temple at Mamallapuram and Kailasanatha at Kanchipuram.

Dandin was a court poet of Rajasimha. Narsimhavarman II sent embassies to China. Maritime trade flourished during his reign.

Parameshwaravarman II and Nandivarman II were the successors of him.

Pallava rule lasted till 9th century A.D. **Aparajita** was the last Pallava ruler who was defeated by Aditya I of Chola dynasty.

Administration under Pallava Dynasty:

State divided in kottams (administered by officers of king). They had a well-trained army. Land grants to temples were called *Devadhana*. To Brahmanas the land grants were called *Brahmadeya*. No tax was charged for these land grants.

Irrigation was a responsibility of the State. Construction of irrigation tanks at Mahendravadi and Mamandor during Mahendrarman I's reign.

The land tax was the primary source of government revenue. The Village Sabhas maintained the village land records, local affairs and temple management.

Society under Pallava Dynasty:

Tamil society under the caste system became rigid. Brahmins were given a high place. The period saw rise of Saivism and Vaishnavism, while Buddhism and Jainism declined.

The **Saiva Nayanmars** and **Vaishnava Alvars** led the Bhakti Movement. They composed Tamil hymns.

Education and Learning during Pallava Rule:

The **Ghatika at Kanchipuram** was a popular centre of learning. Various noted pupils of Ghatika were – **Dandin** (Sanskrit writer in Narsimhavarman I's court), **Bharavi** (Sanskrit scholar in time of

Simhavishnu), **Dharmapala**(who later became the head of Nalanda), **Dinganaga**(Buddhist writer), **Mayursarman**(Founder of Kadamba dynasty who studied vedas in Kanchi).

Mahendravarman I wrote *Mattavilasaprahasanam*. Perundevanar patronized by Nandivarman II translated Mahabharata into *Bharathavenba* in tamil.

Nayanmars composed *Devaram* and **Alwars** composed *Nalradivya Prabandan*.

The Chalukyas ruled from 543 to 755 A.D. in the area of Western Deccan. Pulakeshin I was the founder of the Chalukya dynasty. They remained a dominant power in the Deccan during sixth to eighth century AD.

Pulakeshin I established a small kingdom in western Deccan with Vatapi or Badami as its capital (located in present day Bijapur district of Karnataka). He performed Ashwamedha sacrifices also.

Pulakeshin II (608-642 A.D.)

The Aihole inscription composed in Sanskrit by his court poet *Ravikirti* has praises of Pulakeshin II. He is said to have overthrown Kadambas at Banavasi, and compelled the Gangas of Mysore to acknowledge his suzerainty. Pulakeshin II defeated Harshavardhan's army at Narmada checking his advance in Deccan.

He fought twice with the Pallavas, in his first expedition, he defeated King Mahendravarman I and wrested the Krishna-Godavari region from him (later this region came to be known as Vengi).

In his second battle with Pallava King Narsimhavarman II, he was defeated near Kanchi. Narsimhavarman II captured the Chalukyan capital Vatapi.

During the reign of Pulakeshin II, Chinese scholar Hiuen Tsang visited the Chalukya Kingdom.

Vikramaditya II: He overran the Pallava capital Kanchi thrice and completely defeated the Pallava dynasty.

Kirtivarman II: He was the last Chalukyan ruler. He was defeated by Dantidurga, the founder of Rashtrakuta dynasty.

Administration under Chalukya Dynasty:

The Chalukya Kingdom was a highly centralized administration unlike the Pallavas and Cholas. There was no village autonomy.

Chalukyas had great Maritime power, Pulakeshin II had 100 ships under his control along with a small standing army.

The Chalukyas were Brahmanical Hindus who gave importance to Vedic rites and rituals. While, they also respected other religions.

Hiuen Tsang mentions about decline of Buddhism in western Deccan, while Jainism progressed. Ravikirti, the court poet of Pulakeshin II who wrote the Aihole inscription was a Jain.

Chalukya Dynasty Art and Architecture:

They developed Vesara style, reached its peak under Rashtrakuta and Hoysalas. Strutural temples at Aihole, Badami, Pattadakal. Cave temple architecture is exemplified in Ajanta, Ellora, Nasik.

Chalukyan painting – Badami cave temple and Ajanta caves (including reception to Persian embassy depicted in Ajanta painting).

1. Aihole temples of Chalukya Dynasty: (town of temples because 70 temples)

- Ladh Khan temple (Surya Temple) with low, flat roof with pillared hall.
- Durga temple resembling a Buddhist Chaitya .
- Huchimalligudi temple
- Jain temple/ Jinendra at Meguti by Ravikirti.

2. Badami temples of Chalukya Dynasty:

Muktheeswara temple and Melagulti Sivalaya. There are four rock-cut temples at Badami.

3. Pattadakal temples of Chalukya Dynasty:

There are total ten temples in Pattadakal.

- Four temples in Northern Nagara style – Papanatha temple
- Six temples in Dravidian style – Sangamesvara temple, Virupaksha temple(it is like Kailashnath temple of Kanchipuram).
- **History of Rashtrakuta Dynasty, Art and Architecture**
- The Rashtrakutas rose to power between 6th and 10th centuries among the dynasties of south India. According to popular belief they were of Kannada origin. Their capital was Malkhed near Sholapur. The geographical position of Rashtrakutas led to their being involved in alliances as well as wars with both their northern and southern neighbouring kingdoms. It has been recorded that the earlier rulers of Rashtrakuta dynasty were Hindus but later rulers were Jains.

• Dandidurga, the founder of Rashtrakuta Dynasty:

- The founder of Rashtrakuta dynasty was Dantidurga(752-756 AD) who defeated Gurjaras and captured Malwa from them. He later Annexed Chalukya kingdom by defeating Kirtivarman II. At that time in history if Indian Sub-continent, the Pala dynasty and the Pratihara dynasty of Malwa.

• Krishna I of Rashtrakuta Dynasty

- Krishna I was son of Dantidurga. He was a great conquerer who defeated the Ganga dynasty and the eastern Chalukyas of Vengi. He further expanded the boundaries of the Rashtrakuta empire. He is most remembered for commissioning the Rock-cut monolithic Kailash Temple at Ellora.
- Next important ruler of Rashtrakuta Dynasty was Govinda III who won over several North Indian Kingdoms. He extended the Rashtrakuta empire from banaras to broach and from Kannauj to cape comorin. It was during his time that the tripartite struggle for control over Kannauj was at peak between the Palas , the Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas.

• Longest reigning king of Rashtrakuta Dynasty, Amoghvarsha I

- He was the successor of Govinda III. Amoghvarsha is considered the greatest ruler of Rashtrakuta Dynasty who ruled for 64 long years. He was a devout Jain, who was initiated into Jainism by Jinasena. Amoghvarsha was a patron of art and himself authored “Kavirajamarga” in Kannada language. Amoghvarsha I is credited with establishment of the Rashtrakuta capital at Malkhand or Malkhed situated in present day Gulbarga district of Karnataka. It remained the capital of Rashtrakuta empire till its collapse.
- He assumed the title of Viranarayana after defeating the Eastern Chalukyas. His reign was peaceful otherwise, which supported and enriched the arts, literature and religion in the empire. He was a religiously tolerant ruler who took keen interest in arts and literature while maintaining peace in his empire, for this reason he is often referred as the “Ashoka of South”.

• Krishna II of Rashtrakuta Dynasty:

- Krishna II was the successor of Amoghavarsha I. His reign saw revolts from Eastern Chalukyas, and hence the size of empire was reduced.

• Krishna III, the last prominent ruler of Rashtrakuta Dynasty:

- He consolidated the empire which had become scattered due to series of weak kings prior to him. Krishna III defeated the Cholas in Battle of Takkolam and captured Tanjore. He expanded further to Rameshwaram. He also built Gandmartandamitya and Krishneshwara temple at Rameshwaram. During his reign the great kannada poet Ponna rote Shantipurana.
- The last ruler of Rashtrakuta dynasty was Karka II.

• Administration under Rastrakutas:

- The provinces under Rastrakutas were known as ‘rashtras’ and they were under control of ‘rashtrapatis’. These rashtras were divided into ‘vishyas’ that were governed by ‘vishayapatis’. Next Subdivision under the Vishyas was bhukti which consisted of fifty to

seventy villages under bhogapati(directly appointed by the central government). The Village assemblies played a significant role in carrying out the administration of village.

- **Society and Economy of Rashtrakutas:**
- Vaishnavism and shaivism both were prominent religions in the Rashtrakuta reign. While one third of the population was following Jainism. There were many prosperous Buddhist settlements in Kanheri, Sholapur and Dharwar.
- The centres of learning also flourished at places in under Rashtrakutas. A college at Salatogi in Bijapur district was run by income from endowments made by rich people and villagers on occasion of functions and festivals.
- The trade and commerce between Deccan and Arabs. The Rashtrakutas maintained good relations with Arab traders.

● **Art and Culture during Rashtrakutas :**

- They patronized Sanskrit literature. Under the Rashtrakutas, Trivikrama wrote 'Nalachampu', Halayudha wrote 'Kavirahasya' under the reign of Krishna II.
- Amoghavarsha patronized Jaina scholars. His teacher Jinasena wrote 'Parsharvabhudaya' containing verses about Parsharvanath. Under his patronage, the kannada literature began to develop. Infact, Amoghavarsha's Kavirajamarga is the first poetic work in Kannada.
- Under the Rashtrakutas, Gunabhadra wrote 'Adipurana', based on life of Jain saints. Sakatayana wrote grammar 'Amogavritti'. Viracharya, the mathematician wrote 'Ganitsaram'.
- Two great poets of Kannada language during the Rashtrakuta regime were Pampa and Panna. Pampa wrote 'Vikramasenavijaya'. Panna wrote 'Santipurana'.

● **Architecture under Rashtrakuta dynasty:**

- The Rashtrakuta architecture is exemplified by Ellora and Elephanta.
- The cave architecture reached its excellence in the **Kailashnath temple at Ellora**. It was built under Krishna I. This temple is carved out a massive block of rock that is 200 feet long and hundred feet width and height. It has four parts in all- the main shrine, entrance gateway, intermediate shrine for Nandi and a mandapa surrounding the courtyard. The height of the Kailash Temple at Ellora is 25 feet, endowed with elephant and lion figures. The three-tiered Shikhara resembles Shikara of Mammalapuram Rathas. The most significant part of the temple is its sculptures which make this Kailash Temple an architectural marvel. It has sculpture of Durga slaying buffalo demon. Another sculpture has Ravana attempting to lift Mount Kailash. There are scenes from Ramayan carved out on the walls of the temple. This temple is considered a piece of Dravidian style of Architecture.

The Imperial Chola Dynasty Empire

After Sangam, the Chola became feudatories of Uraiyur. These later Cholas are termed as "Imperial Cholas" because they exercised control over Sri Lanka and Malay Peninsula. thousands of inscriptions in temples tell about their administration, society, economy and culture.

Muttaraiyar family in Kaveri delta, were subordinate to the Pallava kings of Kanchipuram. **Vijayalaya Chola** belonging to Uraiyur captured the Kaveri delta from Muttaraiyar in mid 9th century. Vijayalaya built Thanjavur town with temple for Goddess 'Nishumbhsudhini'(Goddess Durga).

His son **Aditya** defeated the Pallava king Aparajita and annexed Tondaimandalam. He was succeeded by **Parantaka I**, who defeated Pandayas and the Ceylonese ruler. But he lost the Battle of Tokkolam with Rashtrakutas. Parantaka I built temples, provided golden roof on Vimana of Nataraja temple at Chidambaram. The Uttaramerur inscription describing village administration under Cholas belong to his reign.

After 30 years of Parantaka I, **Rajaraja I** usurped the throne for duration of 985 AD to 1014 AD. He defeated Chera and Pandayan rulers, extending his empire upto river Tungabhadra. He led naval expedition against Maldives and captured it. Rajaraja I held titles like: Mummidin Chola, Jayankonda, Sivapadasekara. He was a follower of Shaivism, hence built temple for Shiva, Rajarajeshwara temple popularly known as Bhrihadeshwara temple at Thanjavur in 1010 AD. This temple is part of UNESCO World Heritage Site in India under "Great living Chola Temples". He also patronized a Buddhist monastery at Nagapattinam.

Rajendra I succeeded his father in 1014-1044 AD. The 1000th Year of his Coronation completed in 2014. He defeated the Ceylonese king Mahinda V and conquered the whole Sri Lanka including the northern and Southern parts. He also defeated Jayasimha II of Western Chalukyas and marked Tungabhadra as marked boundary between Cholas and Chalukyas. Rajendra I crossed the Ganges and conquered many on his way to strengthen the Chola empire. To commemorate this feat, he constructed and founded Gangaikondacholapuram. He also summoned excavation of a large irrigation tank at Cholagangam. He also sent Naval expedition to Kadaram or Sri Vijaya (Malay Archipelago) to confront them for stopping Chola trade with China. Chola Empire achieved its peak under Rajendra I. He assumed titles like, Mudikondan, Gangaikondan, KadaramKondan, PanditaCholan. Rajendra I was a Shivite and gave huge endowments to Lord Nataraja temple at Chidambaram. He was tolerant to Vaishnavism and Buddhism.

After Kulottunga I and Kulottunga II, Rajendra III was last Chola who defeated Pandayan King Jatavarman Sundarapandya II.



Chola Art and Architecture :

The Dravida style of architecture reached its zenith during the Chola empire. The main feature of Chola style of Architecture is a building of five to seven storeys in a typical style known as “Vimana” above the chief pillared hall with flat roof was placed in front of the sanctum known as “mandap”. This mandap functioned as an audience hall and a place for various ceremonies. Sometimes, a passage was also constructed around the sanctum to enable devotees to walk around it, where many images of other Gods were placed. This passage was then enclosed with high walls and large gateways known as “Gopurams”.

The Brihadeshwara temple/ Rajrajeshwara Temple at Tanjore is classic example of Dravida style of architecture under Chola empire. Gangai-kondan Cholapuram temple is another such example.

The Pallava dynasty ruled over which region in ancient India?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Solution: b) Tamil Nadu

The capital city of the Pallava dynasty was:

- a) Kanchipuram
- b) Hampi
- c) Badami
- d) Mahabalipuram

Solution: a) Kanchipuram

The Pallavas were patrons of which form of temple architecture?

- a) Dravidian
- b) Indo-Islamic
- c) Nagara
- d) Gandhara

Solution: a) Dravidian

The famous Shore Temple in Mahabalipuram was built by which Pallava king?

- a) Narasimhavarman I
- b) Mahendravarman I
- c) Rajasimha
- d) Nandivarman II

Solution: a) Narasimhavarman I

The Chalukya dynasty ruled over which region in ancient India?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Solution: a) Karnataka

The capital city of the Chalukya dynasty was:

- a) Kanchipuram
- b) Hampi
- c) Badami
- d) Mahabalipuram

Solution: c) Badami

The Chalukyas were known for their patronage of which art form?

- a) Painting
- b) Sculpture
- c) Architecture
- d) Dance

Solution: c) Architecture

The famous rock-cut temples of Pattadakal are attributed to which Chalukya ruler?

- a) Pulakeshin I
- b) Pulakeshin II
- c) Vikramaditya I
- d) Vikramaditya II

Solution: b) Pulakeshin II

The Cholas were a dynasty that ruled over which region in ancient India?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh

d) Maharashtra

Solution: b) Tamil Nadu

The capital city of the Chola dynasty was:

a) Kanchipuram

b) Hampi

c) Tanjavur

d) Mahabalipuram

Solution: c) Tanjavur

The Chola dynasty reached its height of power and influence under which ruler?

a) Rajendra Chola I

b) Rajaraja Chola I

c) Rajendra Chola II

d) Parantaka Chola II

Solution: b) Rajaraja Chola I

The Cholas were known for their maritime trade and naval power. Which port city served as their major trading hub?

a) Mamallapuram

b) Kaveripattinam

c) Nagapattinam

d) Arikamedu

Solution: c) Nagapattinam

The famous Brihadeeswara Temple, also known as the Big Temple, was built by which Chola king?

a) Rajendra Chola I

b) Rajaraja Chola I

c) Rajendra Chola II

d) Parantaka Chola II

Solution: b) Rajaraja Chola I

The Cholas had a well-developed administrative system with a division of territories called:

- a) Mandalam
- b) Samsthana
- c) Nadu
- d) Rajya

Solution: c) Nadu

The Cholas made significant contributions to which field of literature?

- a) Sanskrit poetry
- b) Tamil poetry
- c) Prakrit literature
- d) Pali scriptures

Solution: b) Tamil poetry

The famous literary work "Silappadikaram" was composed during the reign of which dynasty?

- a) Pallavas
- b) Chalukyas
- c) Cholas
- d) Pandyas

Solution: a) Pallavas

The Pallavas, Chalukyas, and Cholas played a significant role in the spread of which religion in South India?

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Hinduism
- d) Islam

Solution: c) Hinduism

The Pallava king Mahendravarman I was a patron of which famous Sanskrit poet and playwright?

- a) Kalidasa
- b) Bharavi

- c) Bhasa
- d) Bhavabhuti

Solution: a) Kalidasa

The Badami Chalukyas were overthrown by which dynasty in the 8th century CE?

- a) Rashtrakutas
- b) Hoysalas
- c) Pandyas
- d) Vijayanagara Empire

Solution: a) Rashtrakutas

The Chola kingdom declined after the invasion of which dynasty from the north in the 13th century CE?

- a) Delhi Sultanate
- b) Mughals
- c) Pallavas
- d) Hoysalas

Solution: a) Delhi Sultanate

The Pallava king Narasimhavarman II, also known as Rajasimha, was a patron of which famous poet-saint?

- a) Tiruvalluvar
- b) Adi Shankara
- c) Basavanna
- d) Manikkavacakar

Solution: d) Manikkavacakar

The Chalukya dynasty was known for its architectural masterpiece, the Kailasanatha Temple, located in which city?

- a) Hampi
- b) Pattadakal
- c) Aihole
- d) Badami

Solution: b) Pattadakal

The Cholas established an extensive maritime trade network that stretched to which region?

- a) Southeast Asia
- b) East Africa
- c) Mediterranean
- d) Persian Gulf

Solution: a) Southeast Asia

The Pallava king Mahendravarman I is credited with the construction of which famous cave temple?

- a) Kailasanatha Temple, Ellora
- b) Ajanta Caves
- c) Kailasanatha Temple, Kanchipuram
- d) Elephanta Caves

Solution: c) Kailasanatha Temple, Kanchipuram

The Cholas were great patrons of which art form that combined music, dance, and drama?

- a) Bharatanatyam
- b) Odissi
- c) Kathakali
- d) Kuchipudi

Solution: a) Bharatanatyam

The Pallava dynasty came to an end with the invasion of which dynasty in the 9th century CE?

- a) Cholas
- b) Pandyas
- c) Rashtrakutas
- d) Vijayanagara Empire

Solution: c) Rashtrakutas

The Chalukyas were known for their architectural style known as:

- a) Dravidian

- b) Indo-Islamic
- c) Nagara
- d) Vesara

Solution: d) Vesara

The Pallavas, Chalukyas, and Cholas played a major role in the development of which form of Indian classical music?

- a) Hindustani
- b) Carnatic
- c) Dhrupad
- d) Khyal

Solution: b) Carnatic

The famous Airavatesvara Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is located in which town?

- a) Kumbakonam
- b) Thanjavur
- c) Darasuram
- d) Madurai

Solution: c) Darasuram

The Pallava king Nandivarman II was also known by which title?

- a) Mamalla
- b) Mahendravarman
- c) Rajasimha
- d) Parantaka

Solution: a) Mamalla

The famous Shaivite saint and poet-saint, Appar, belonged to which period and dynasty?

- a) Pallavas
- b) Chalukyas
- c) Cholas
- d) Pandyas

Solution: c) Cholas

The famous Virupaksha Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is located in which city?

- a) Hampi
- b) Pattadakal
- c) Aihole
- d) Badami

Solution: a) Hampi

The Chalukya dynasty was founded by which ruler?

- a) Pulakeshin I
- b) Pulakeshin II
- c) Vikramaditya I
- d) Vikramaditya II

Solution: a) Pulakeshin I

The Pallava dynasty had strong cultural ties with which Southeast Asian kingdom?

- a) Angkor
- b) Srivijaya
- c) Champa
- d) Majapahit

Solution: b) Srivijaya

The Chola king Rajendra Chola I embarked on a successful military expedition to which region?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Myanmar (Burma)
- c) Indonesia
- d) Maldives

Solution: c) Indonesia

The Pallava king Narasimhavarman I is also known by which title?

- a) Mamalla
- b) Mahendravarman
- c) Rajasimha
- d) Parantaka

Solution: a) Mamalla

The Chola kingdom reached its territorial peak under the reign of which ruler?

- a) Rajendra Chola I
- b) Rajaraja Chola I
- c) Rajendra Chola II
- d) Parantaka Chola II

Solution: a) Rajendra Chola I

The Pallava dynasty had close cultural and artistic ties with which ancient Indian dynasty?

- a) Mauryas
- b) Guptas
- c) Satavahanas
- d) Kushans

Solution: b) Guptas

The Chola king Rajendra Chola I built a magnificent temple known as Gangaikonda Cholapuram in honor of his conquest of which region?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Myanmar (Burma)
- c) Kerala
- d) Kalinga

Solution: d) Kalinga

The Pallavas, Chalukyas, and Cholas are collectively known as the "Great Triliumvirate" of which region in ancient India?

- a) Deccan

b) South India

c) North India

d) Northeast India

Solution: b) South India