



VAJIRAO & REDDY INSTITUTE

India's Top Potential Training Institute for IAS

+918988885050



+918988886060

www.vajiraoinstitute.com



info@vajiraoinstitute.com

YOJANA MAGAZINE ANALYSIS

(June 2024)

(Part 2/3)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

PART 1/3

- FORTS IN INDIAN HISTORY
- ROLE OF FORTS IN INDIAN HISTORY

PART 2/3

- GOLCONDA FORT
- FORTS & PORTS IN MEDIEVAL INDIA

PART 3/3

- INDIA ON UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST



ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



VAJIRAO & REDDY INSTITUTE

India's Top Potential Training Institute for IAS

+918988885050



+918988886060

www.vajiraoinstitute.com



info@vajiraoinstitute.com

GOLCONDA FORT

Golconda Fort, derived from the Telugu word '**Golla Konda**' meaning **shepherd's hill**, is a historic fortress located in **Hyderabad, Telangana**. It has played a significant role in the history of the **Deccan region**.



HISTORY

- **Early History:** Originally ruled by the Kakatiyas, Golconda was fortified and expanded under the Bahmani Sultanate from 1363 AD onwards.
- **Qutb Shahi Dynasty:** Sultan Quli Qutb-ul-Mulk founded the Qutb Shahi dynasty in 1518 AD and established Golconda as the capital.
- **Cultural Patronage:** The Qutb Shahi rulers were patrons of Deccani and Telugu literature, contributing significantly to the cultural landscape of the region.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



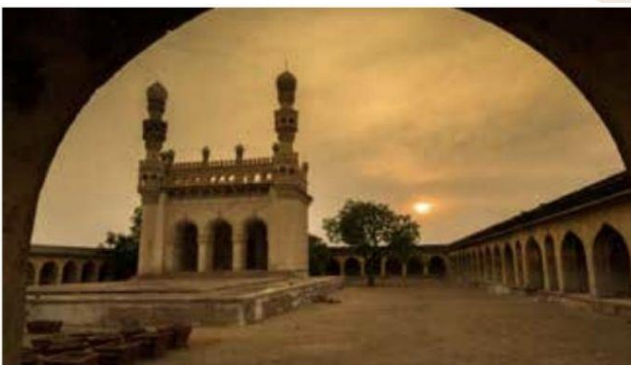
ARCHITECTURE

Fortifications: Golconda Fort features a robust three-tiered fortification with a moat and eight entrance gates, including Fateh Darwaza, Moti Darwaza, and others.

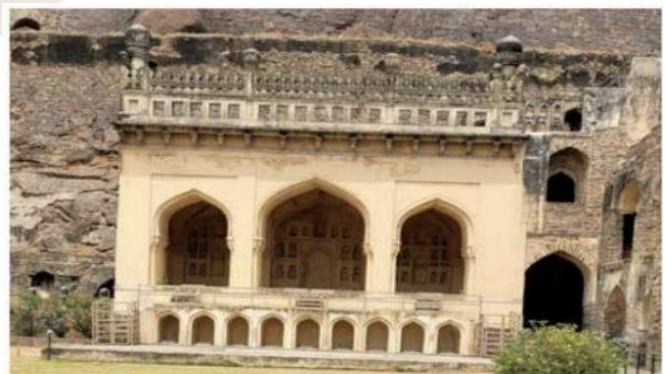
Structures: It includes mosques like Jama-e-Masjid and Taramati Mosque, palaces, audience halls (Diwan-e-Aam, Diwan-e-Khas), and functional buildings like the Aslah Khana (Armoury).

SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

- **Jama-e-Masjid:** Founded by Sultan Quli Qutb Shah I, this mosque is a notable architectural piece inside the fort.



Jama-e-Masjid



Taramati Mosque

- **Taramati Mosque:** Known for its elegant design with three arches and minarets, it reflects the artistic prowess of the Qutb Shahi period.

ADDRESS:

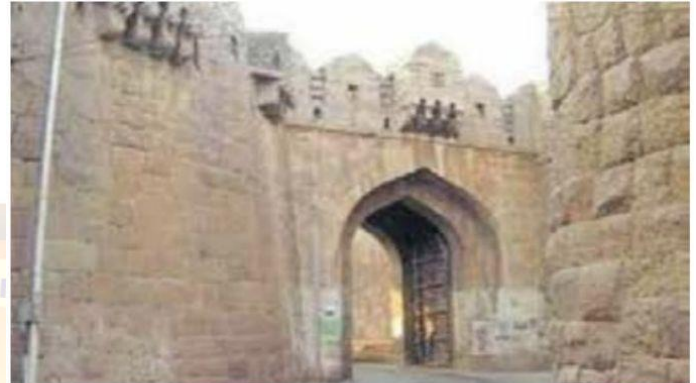
19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **Baradari (Darbar Hall):** A double-story building serving as the General Assembly, offering panoramic views from its high elevation.



Baradari or Darbar Hall



Fateh Darwaza

- **Aslah Khana (Armoury):** A three-story structure once used to store weapons, displaying intricate architectural details.
- **Fateh Darwaza:** To the east of fort is this double gate which was opened by ABdullah Khan Panni in 1687 AD to allow Aurangzeb army to enter.



Armoury or Aslah Khana

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **Water Management**

Durg Tank: A reservoir that supplied water to the fort and its gardens, showcasing advanced hydraulic engineering for the time.

Cisterns: Various cisterns distributed water throughout the fort, ensuring a steady supply for domestic and military needs.

ISSUES

- **Preservation Challenges:** Golconda Fort faces challenges in preservation due to its age and exposure to natural elements.
- **Tourism Impact:** Managing tourism while preserving historical integrity is a continuous challenge.

Significance

- **Cultural Heritage:** Golconda Fort stands as a testament to the rich cultural and architectural heritage of the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- **Tourist Attraction:** It attracts tourists and historians alike, offering insights into medieval Indian fortification and lifestyle.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



FORTS & PORTS IN MEDIEVAL INDIA

Maharashtra's coastal geography has played a significant **role in its history**, especially during the medieval period.

The **Sahyadri mountain range** gives rise to **numerous rivers** that flow into the Arabian Sea, forming creeks along the coast.

These **geographical features facilitated the construction of various forts**, particularly at the mouths of these creeks, to protect trade and commerce.

COASTAL FORTS

- The coastal region of Maharashtra is characterized by bays with narrow inlets or creeks, coastal plains, and headlands. Numerous forts were constructed at strategic points to guard against invasions and to control trade routes. Examples include:
 - Revdanda and Korlai Forts on Kundalika Creek
 - Janjira Fort near Danda Rajpuri Creek
- Out of twenty-eight major creeks in Maharashtra, twenty-one have forts at their mouths as well as further upstream.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



INLAND/HINTERLAND FORTS

Forts situated more than **two kilometres from the coast** are known as **inland or hinterland forts**.

These forts **played a crucial role** in securing the hinterland and ensuring the safe passage of goods to and from the ports.

Notable inland forts include:

- Birwadi Fort
- Avchitgad Fort



PORTS & TRADE

Maharashtra's ports were hubs of trade, interacting with various regions and countries.

Significant ports included:

- Sopara
- Sanjan
- Chaul
- Thana
- Kalyan

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



These ports facilitated **extensive trade with the West** and were mentioned in historical records and travel accounts from various periods.

DECLINE OF PORTS:

The rise of Mumbai as a major port led to the decline of smaller ports like **Chaul and Dabhol**. Siltation of rivers also contributed to the reduced navigability of these ports, further diminishing their significance.

SIGNIFICANCE

- The forts and ports of medieval Maharashtra were instrumental in shaping the region's trade and defense mechanisms.
- They facilitated the flow of goods and people, contributing to the economic and cultural exchanges between India and other parts of the world.
- The strategic construction of forts ensured the protection of these vital trade routes from foreign invasions and internal conflicts.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)