



Administrative divisions in Telangana under the Chalukyas during the medieval period: A study

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Abstract

The Sovereigns of Ancient India right from the Mauryan times to the present day have paid careful attention to the proper administration of their territories by dividing them into a number of administrative units such as desa, rastra, Nadu, Vishaya, Bhoga, Kampana, Vadi, Sthala and Seema and the like. These divisions were basically revenue and each of them headed by an official appointed by the sovereign. The entire kingdom was divided into major as well as minor administrative units in a hierarchical order.

An attempt is made in this paper to identify the each administrative division under Chalukyas in Telangana during the Medieval Period. Barring available on inscriptional evidence each and every administrative unit has been identified in the Historical geography Present day Telangana State.

Keywords: hierarchical order, appellations, jurisdiction, dominion, principalities

Introduction

It is interesting to note that sovereigns of ancient India, right from the Mauryan period, have paid careful attention to the proper administration of their territories by dividing them into a number of administrative units such as rastra, Vishaya, Bhoga etc. This system was continued everywhere in India by the rulers of small principalities. These divisions were basically revenue units and each of them was headed by an official appointed by the sovereign. Thus, the entire territory or princely state was divided into major as well as minor administrative units in a hierarchical order. However, the exact limit or extent of the ancient kingdom is not known. The study and identification of the administrative divisions referred to in the inscriptional records of a particular territory should reveal the approximate extent of that territory. Thus the historical geography of a political set can be visualised and demarcated by releasing the extent of the administrative divisions.

An attempt is made in this paper to study the administrative divisions under the Chalukyas i.e. The Badami Chalukyas - The Kalyani Chalukyas and their subordinate chiefs. Badami Chalukyas rule was extended from Rayalaseema region to Telangana region gradually in the succeeding periods. The Badami Chalukyas was succeeded by Rastrakutas and followed by Kalyani Chalukyas and latter Kakatiya was succeeded.

The Present paper continued to only Chalukyan Ruled territorial divisions in Telangana. Most of the administrative divisions emerged in Telangana during the Badami Chalukyan period to Kalyani Chalukyan period. During the Kakatiya period earlier administrative divisions re-arranged, re-organised due to politico-economic, Geographical toponymy factors.

The historical geography of India have revealed by the different appellations of desa, Nadu, bhoga, Sthala, Vishaya,

Kampana, Vadi, Mandalam, Velanadu, Ahara Kottam, nadu, Vadi, Padi and the like. The appellations of administrative divisions varied from region to region and Dynasty to Dynasty. But basically any administrative division grouped into several villages. Village is the basic unit for the formation or creation of administrative units.

AiJe-300, Two records of the Kalyana Chalukya king Somesvara II one from Siddhesvaram (*ARE.1943; B:18*) in Nandikotkuru Taluk and the other from alampur (*ARE 1960.B-115*) refer to AiJe 300. Another record of the same King refers to Pariyatalirtha belonging to this division (*EL36:69AP*). One more inscription belonging to the region of Vikramaditya VI style this division variously as AyaJe.300. Ayeje-300 and Ayeje Nadu. (*ARE.1960. 13.125, 1963. 13.62.192*) after the down fall of the Kalyani Chalukyas the Kakatiyas held sway over the same region. The division corresponds to some parts of alampur and Gadwal Taluks of Mahaboobnagar district. Its head quarters is identified with Aije in Gadwal Taluk.

Aleru 40

An Inscription at the time of the Kalyana Chalukyan King Jaya Simha II Jagadekamalla, dated A.D. 1034 A.D. from Saidapur, Bhonagiri Taluk of Nalgonda district. Two constituent villages of this unit were Muppanapalli and Gottipadu in Bhongiri Taluk of Nalgonda district. The region was probably situated on the banks of the river aleru near Kollipaka.

Ane-Marga

An inscription at the time of Kalyana Chalukya King Jayasimha II dated A.D. 1032. (*CARE.1962: 13:71*) refers to this unit and included in it the village Gudicheruvu which has been identified this unit was a sub-division of Kollipaka 7000.

Atukuru – 70

The Repaka inscription of the Vemulavada Chalukya king Arikesari III gives details about a family of disciples of the Jaina faith who were holding fief over Atukuru 70 and Pammi-12. (*IAP.KN.NO.51*) Pammi is known by the same name today in Khammam district.

Chalukya Vishaya

This division belonged to the Badami Chalukya dominion. It might have been their original home as well. An inscription of Pulakesi II refers to some of its villages namely Pulikuropu, Santanuru and Tumbayanuru (*PIM.40 ff*) of their villages Pulikuropu is represented by the Village of Pulikallu in Gadwal Taluk. The division has been identified with the region along the Krishna comprising Gadwal, Vanaparathi and Kolhapur taluks of Mahaboobnagar district.

Kadi palu 70

The Kalyani Chalukyan inscription (*I.A.P.KN:10*) from Karimnagar district refers to this sub-division of Armakonda 7000. Since Kadipala is identified with Kadaparti in Karimnagar taluk the division is located around Kadaparthi in Karimnagar district.

Kalavachedu 40

A record of the Kalyani Chalukyan monarch Vikramaditya VI in his 37th regnal year, refers to this unit (*SEAP.No.II*) It was a sub-division of Kollidesa or Kollipaka- 7000. One of its constituent villages was Nellutla which has been identified with Nellutla in Jangaon Taluk, Warangal district.

Kanduru Nadu

1000. It was a large division of the Kalyana Chalukyan Kingdom. In the inscription of Somesvara I it was called Kanduru - Nadu. Which was included the subdivision of Vaddavana-500 which again included Yettapi-90 in which the smallest unit called Anmaballe II. (*E.I.35:25*) The whole division under the Kalyani Chalukya as corresponds to a major part of the modern Mahaboobnagar district.

Kasavul -70

This division is recorded in an inscription of the Kalyana Chalukya King Tailapa II obtained from Koropolu Medak district. (*I.A.P. MP-5*) This inscription mentions a town in this division called Korapola. The division is identified with the region around Koropolu in Medak district.

Kodada-12

An inscription from Kolanupaka, Bhongiri taluk of Nalgonda district issued by the Kalyani Chalukyan King Vikramaditya VI dated A.D. 1088 refers to Kodada 12. (*ARE.1962:B:63, 70, 94*) and three of its villages Kodada-12 might have been one of the several mini-units of Kollipaka-7000.

Kollipaka Nadu – 7000

This was a major Administrative division in Telangana region during the medieval period. During the Rastrakuta period, one of their feudatories or governors named Sankara gandarasa was ruling over Kollipaka - Nadu 20,000. (*I.A.P.Wg.No.3*). The Kolanupaka inscription of the Kalyana Chalukya King

Jagadekamalla I dated A.D. 1033 refers to the village of Gadicheruvu in Kollipaka 7000. (*I.A.P.Wg-50*). Under Vikramaditya VI this division was known as Kollipaka -7000. Kollipaka 2000 and Kollipakadesa (*I.A.P.Wg.No.27, ARE 1962 B 84,85*) Being a large administrative divisions, it might have been comprised of the Modern taluks of Bhongiri in Nalgonda district, Siddhipet in Medak district, Jangaon in Warangal district and some parts of Karimnagar district.

According to Parabrahma Sastry (*1979:72*) it is likely that the even Vemulavada in Sabbi-1000 and Anuma konda Vishaya, owing to their proximity, were included in that 20,000 province of Kollipaka during the Rastrakutas and their successors.

Kosavala - 1,25,000

Rajaditya, a subordinate of the Kalyana Chalukya king Vikramaditya VI defeated the Cholas and Karumbas while he was administering Chabbi-21,000 (*from its head quarters at Vemulavada*) which was a subdivision of Kosavala, 1,25,000 (*IAP.KN.18*) Chabbi is a variant of sabbi. Being a large subdivision, it must have several subdivisions and extended far beyond Karimnagar district probably up to south Kosala.

Kudala :12

This small unit has been referred to in an inscription of the Kalyana Chalukyan King Somesvara I from Sangamesvaram in Alampur Taluk, Mahaboobnagar district (*A.P.E. 1963, B.209*) Kudala may be identified with Kudali Sangam. Kudala got its name on account of its being the meeting point of the river Krishna and Tungabhadra.

Combulike 70

The Chilkur pillar inscription of the Kalyana Chalukya King Vikramaditya VI. (*EA 2 No.7*) refers to this division. An unpublished inscription of Vikramaditya VI dated 1090 shows that Chilkur, the find spot of the above inscription was the capital of Combulika- 70 Chilkur is a village 32 KM from Hyderabad.

Pammi -12

This small unit belonged to the Vemulavada Chalukyan dominion. The Repaka inscription of Arikesari III (*IAP.KN.5*) speaks of a family of disciples of the Jaina faith who were holding brief, comprising Atukuru 70 and Pammi-12. Pammi is the modern Village of the same name in Khammam district.

Panugal-500

The Chinnatambalam inscription of the Kalyana Chalukya King Vikramaditya VI dated A.D.1092 refers to Panugal 500 (*SII.IX.161*) which is identified as modern Panugallu in Nalgonda district.

Podana Nadu

It was established by the Rastrakutas and not heard of in the successive regimes. The Chennuru inscription of Krishna III refers to this Nadu situated on the banks of Godavari. Its chief town Podana, known as Bodhana or Bahudhanya Nagara during the Kalyani Chalukyan Period, has been identified with Bodhan in Nizambad district. The division was spread over Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Adilabad along the river

Godavari.

Pulgunuru-70

This small division along with one of its villages named sanagara has been Identified to in a record dated A.D.1100 of the Kakatiya chief Beta II. When he was a subor- dinat of the Kalyana Chalukya King Vikramaditya VI. (*EI.4: 74 ff*) It was a sub-division of sabbi-1000 in the Kalyani Chalukyan domain. When the Jurisdiction of Sabbi 1000 was handed over to Beta II. Pulugu nuru 70 became part of the Kakatiy territory. Its Head Quarters Pulugunuru is Identical with pulluru in Siddhipet Taluk, Medak district and the village of Sanagara is known as sanigaram in Karimnagar taluk. The division was comprised of parts of these two adjacent taluks.

Ramudu Vishaya

A record of the Vemulavada Chalukya King Arikesarin III from Kollipara refers to othis division and its villages of Belmogam, Parivaturla Potu vodupi, Pula cheruvulu and so on (*Bharathi, 7:297 ff*). The division has been identified in the region between karimnagar and Sirisilla Taluks of Karimnagar district.

Sabbi Sahasra

Sabbi -1000/ Sabbi Nadu. During the Vemulavada Chalukyan times this divi- sion was known Sabbi Sahasra. An inscription from parbhani, Maharashtra state, reveals that the unit of Repaka-12 belonged to this division (*ARE, 1962 : A:33*) under the Kalyani Chalukya period it was known as Sabbi 1000. The Vemulavada Bhimeswara inscription of Vikramaditya VI, dated A.D.1106, records the grant of a flower garden situated on the south of Lemula vada agrahara in Veni sala-70 of Sabbi1000. (*IAP.KN.No.20*) A little earlier inscription of the same king in the Rajeswara temple, dated 1083, refers to lemulavada as the Capital of Sabbi-21, 000 which was counted as a constituent unit of Kosaval 1,25,000 (*I.A.P. KN.No.18*). This shows that the division sabbi, was very large one in the early years of Vikramaditya VI and that he divided the bigger divisions into smaller ones for the sake of efficient administration since Vemulavada its chief town, the division under the Kalyana Chaluky as should be located around Vemulavada, probably occupyig a major portion of Karimnagar district.

The Kakatiya chief Beta II in return for his loyalty submission and allegiance to the Kalyani chaluky as monarch Vikramaditya VI received from the latter a gift of a region called Sabbi Sahasra. This division may be identified a major portion of the present Karimnagar district.

Sarimala-12

This small unit along with its villages Vrepikatla has been referred to an in- scription of Vikramaditya VI dated A.D.1100 from Malleswaram Kolhapur Taluk (*Ei.36.76ff*) It was a part of Yetlapi 90 which itself was a subdivision of Vaddavana-500 in Kanduru Nadu. Sarimala-12, therefore it was situated near the present Yettam and Nagarkurnool in Mahaboobnagar district.

Vaddavana-500

The Agastyeswaram temple inscription of the Kalyana

Chalukya king Taila II (*Ti.2 K.Ch.No.39,41*) as well as the malleswaram temple inscript on of Someswara I of the same family (*EI.35: 253 ff*) refers to Vaddavana-500. Besides being itself a subdivision of Kundunadu (*9.v*) it included within it Yattapi-90. The Head quarters of Vaddavana 500 is identified with the village of Vardhamana Puram in Nagar Kurnool taluk. The division, there fore comprised parts of Kolhapur, Wanaparathi and Nagar kurnool taluks of Mahaboobnagar district.

Vanguruvadi Vishaya

The Amudalapadu inscription of the Badami Chaluky as King Vikramaditya I dated A.D.660, refers to this Vishaya (*Ei 32:175 ff*). Its head quarters is known today as Vanguru in Kalvakurthi taluk. Hence the division comprised the region between and around Vanguru and Vipanagundla in Mahaboob nagar district.

Velugonda-24

An inscription of the Kalyan Chalukya King Vikramaditya VI dated A.D.1124 from Guduru, Nalgonda district speaks of Velugonda 24 (*APRE 1961:B.107*) The head quar- ters of this division velugonda is represented by the modern Zafargadh in Warangal district (*K.Eswart dutt 1963:311*).

Venisala-70

The Lemulavada inscription of the Kakatiya cheif Beta, dated A.D. 1106 refers to this unit of seventy grammas of which the inscriptions mentions, Lembavadi (*APAS, 3KN.No.6*) which has been Identified with the find-spot. Lemalavada or Vemulavada in Sirisilla Taluk, Karimnagar district.

Yattapi -70 Baliya

The Malleswaram temple inscription of the Kalyan Chalukya King Someswara I informs about Yattapi-90 as a Kampana of Vaddavani 500 in Konduru Nadu (*Ei.35: 253 ff*) Its head quarters Yattapi is identified with Yetam in Kolhapur Taluk. The division corresponds to the contiguous parts of Kolhapur, Nagarkurnool and Wanaparathi taluks of Mahaboobnagar district.

The most significant feature in the study of the administrative divisions in Telugu Kannada and Tamil regions regions seems to have been continued more or less unchanged. The study of administrative divisions of the Chalukya period i.e. from 7th Century to 11th A.D. Clearly indicates the steady and Successive growth of administrative divisions. During the Badami Chalukya period two or three administrative divisions mentioned in the inscriptions. The divisions are very large, later the Rastrakutas was succeeded and introduced administrative divisions with Numerical appellations which were continued by the succeeding the Kalyani Chaluky as. In Telangana a large number of administrative divisions emerged during the Kalyani Chalukyan period. All the administrative divisions are village based, and are evidently created for Revenue purposes. During the period of our Study most of the administrative divisions names continued the administrative in the inscriptions. Most of administrative divisions are conotined until to the Kakatiya rule in Telangana.

The formation of new village settlements and expansion of existing rural settlements led to the creation of new

administrative divisions from time to time. The Chalukyas administrative are re-organised by the succeeding Kakatiya in Telangana.

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