



Anang Tal Lake

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Culture has ordered the restoration of Historic Anang Tal lake in South Delhi.

- [National Monuments Authority \(NMA\)](#) and [Archaeological Survey of India \(ASI\)](#) have asked officials to expedite conservation work so the site could be declared a **National Monument**.

What are the Key Points?

- The lake is situated in Mehrauli, Delhi and is claimed to be created by [Tomar King, Anangpal II](#), in 1,060 AD.
 - He is known to have established and populated Delhi in the 11th century.
- The millennium old Anang Tal signifies the beginning of Delhi.
- Anang Tal **has a strong Rajasthan connection** as **Maharaja Anangpal is known as nana (maternal grandfather) of Prithviraj Chauhan** whose fort Rai Pithora is on the list of the ASI.

Who was Anangpal II?

- Anangpal II, popularly known as **Anangpal Tomar, belonged to the Tomar dynasty**.
- He was the founder of Dhillika Puri, which eventually became Delhi.
 - Evidence about the early history of Delhi is inscribed on the iron pillar of Masjid Quwaatul Islam, adjacent to Qutub Minar.
- Multiple inscriptions and coins suggest **Anangpal Tomar was the ruler of present-day Delhi and Haryana** in between the **8th-12th centuries**.
 - He had built the city from ruins and under his supervision, Anang Tal Baoli and Lal Kot were constructed.
- Anangpal Tomar II was **succeeded by his grandson Prithviraj Chauhan**.
 - Delhi Sultanate was established in 1192 after Prithviraj Chauhan's defeat in the Battle of Tarain (present-day Haryana) by the Ghurid forces.

What are the Key Points About the Tomar Dynasty?

- Tomara dynasty is **one of the minor early medieval ruling houses** of northern India.
- Puranic evidence (writings of the Puranas) gives its early location in the Himalayan region. According to bardic tradition, **the dynasty was one of the 36 Rajput tribes**.
- The history of the family spans the **period between the reign of Anangpal, who founded the city of Delhi in the 11th century CE**, and the incorporation of Delhi within the Chauhan (Chahamana) kingdom in 1164.
- Although Delhi subsequently became decisively a part of the Chauhan kingdom, numismatic and comparatively late literary evidence indicates that **Tomara kings such as Anangpal and Madanpal continued to rule as feudatories**, presumably until the final conquest of Delhi by the Muslims in 1192-93.

[Source: IE](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/anang-tal-lake>