

Vijayanagar King Krishnadevaraya

Why in News

The first-ever epigraphical reference (an inscription) to the date of death of Vijayanagar king Krishnadevaraya has been discovered at Honnenahalli in Tumakuru district, Karnataka.

Normally, the death of kings was not recorded in the inscriptions and this was one of those rare records.

Key Points

Findings:

- As per the inscription, Krishnadevaraya, one of the greatest emperors of India who ruled from the South, died on 17th October, 1529 (Sunday).
 - Incidentally, this day was marked by a lunar eclipse.
- The inscription is engraved on a slab kept on the north side of the Gopalakrishna temple at Honnenahalli in Tumakuru district.
- The inscription also registers the gift of village Honnenahalli in Tumakuru for conducting worship to the god Veeraprasanna Hanumantha of Tumakuru.
- · The inscription is written in Kannada.

Krishnadevaraya:

- He was the ruler of the **Tuluva dynasty** of **Vijayanagar empire** (1509-29 AD).
- His rule was characterised by expansion and consolidation.
- He is credited with building some fine temples and **adding impressive gopurams** to many important south Indian temples.
- He also founded a suburban township near Vijayanagar called Nagalapuram after his mother.
- He composed a work on statecraft in Telugu known as the Amuktamalyada.

Vijayanagara Empire:

- Vijayanagara or "city of victory" was the name of both a city and an empire.
- The empire was founded in the fourteenth century (1336 AD) by Harihara and Bukka of the Sangama dynasty.
 - They made Hampi the capital city. In 1986, Hampi was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO.
- $\circ\,$ It stretched from the river Krishna in the north to the extreme south of the peninsula.
- Vijayanagar Empire was ruled by four important dynasties and they are:
 - Sangama
 - Saluva
 - Tuluva
 - Aravidu

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