



Kakatiya Dynasty

Why in News

A **temple constructed by** emperor Ganapati Deva, a mighty ruler of **Kakatiya dynasty**, in **Dharanikota** (Andhra Pradesh) has been **converted into an abode of local goddess Balusulamma** (Goddess Durga).

- The **presiding deity at this 13th-century temple was Kakati Devi**, the tutelary deity of Kakatiya rulers.
- Due to **ravages of time and for no upkeep**, the presiding deity got damaged. The villagers of Dharanikota, who had no knowledge about the past of the temple, installed Balusulamma idol and started worshipping.

Key Points

- Kakatiyas is an **Andhra dynasty** that **flourished in the 12th century CE**. The Kakatiya dynasty **ruled from Warangal (Telangana) from CE 1083-1323**.
- They were known for the **construction of a network of tanks for irrigation and drinking water** and thereby gave a big boost to the overall development of the region.
 - Telangana has launched a massive rejuvenation movement in the form of **“Mission Kakatiya”** which involves the restoration of irrigation tanks and lakes/minor irrigation sources built by the Kakatiya dynasty.
- There are **hundreds of Hindu temples** built under the patronage of Kakatiya kings like **Ganapati Deva, Rudrama Devi** and **Prataparudra** of Kakatiya dynasty. E.g.
 - **Thousand Pillar Temple or Rudreshwara Swamy Temple**, Telangana. It is a star-shaped, triple shrine (Trikotalayam) dedicated to Vishnu, Shiva and Surya.
 - **Ramappa Temple**, Warangal, Telangana.
- **Golconda Fort** in Hyderabad (Telangana) was also constructed by the Kakatiya rulers.
 - Later, it became the **capital of the Qutb Shahi kings**, who ruled from CE 1518-1687.

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