

# INDIA

## Group of Monuments at Pattadakal



© UNESCO

### II.1 Introduction

**Year of Inscription** 1987

#### Organisation Responsible for the Report

- Archaeological Survey of India, Dharwad, Karnataka  
Person in charge: Superintendent Archaeologist  
Dharwad – 580007  
India  
Telephone: 91836-447539/443678  
Fax: 91836-447539  
E-mail: asidwd@sancharnet.in

### II.2 Statement of Significance

**Inscription Criteria** C iii, iv

#### Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows (new):  
“Pattadakal (the seat of coronation of the Chalukyan Kings) in Karnataka represents the high point of an electric art during the 7th-9th centuries AD under the Chalukya - Rashtrakuta dynasties. The temple architecture here achieved a harmonious blend of architectural forms of Southern Dravida Vimana and Northern Rekha - Nagara- Prasada through a series of experimentation that commenced at Aihole, continued at Badami and culminated at Pattadakal. The site has a Megalithic Dolmen, an impressive series of nine Hindu temples, a Jain temple of the Rashtrakuta times and a quarry site. The inscriptions containing the names of the artisans both at the quarry and the temple sites are noteworthy. One masterpiece from the group excels- the temple of Virupaksha, built in circa 740-745 AD by Queen Lokamahadevi, to commemorate her husband's victory over the Pallava Kings of the South India.”

#### Status of Site Boundaries

- The demarcation line and buffer zone are adequate.
- No revision considered.

### II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

#### Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- Values and authenticity/integrity maintained.
- No changes in future.

### II.4 Management

#### Administrative and Management Arrangements

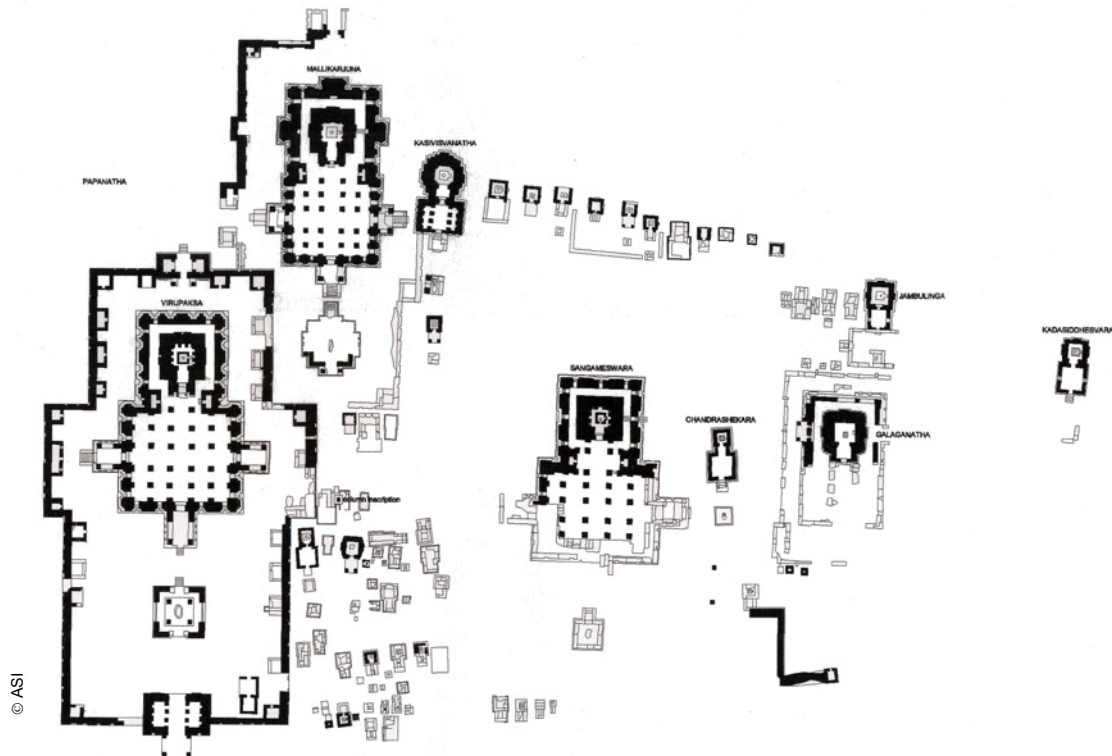
- 16 acts and rules listed. The site is protected by legislative arrangements sufficient to preserve its values.
- Overall management made at a regional level. There is no need to revise the above arrangements.
- No Management plan: but a site management plan is under preparation.
- Actions foreseen in the future: posting of technical staff, developing the sculpture shed into a Museum, information centre and establishment of a management plan.

#### Present State of Conservation

- Alluvial deposits susceptible to erode causing disturbances to foundations, pavement and superstructure.
- Non adapted blocks of stone have been used to fashion the monument's supporting structures, resulting in cracks which affect structural stability.
- Use of monuments as residential dwellings or cattle sheds resulting in an accumulation of debris from 2 to 3 meters high. Cleaning chemical residues have weakened the structures.
- Monuments affected by vehicular traffic resulting from increase in tourist numbers.

#### Staffing and Training Needs

- Staff total number not mentioned but is not sufficient to monitor the site. Additional staff needed for conservation, archaeological and horticulture.
- The staff needs training in structural conservation, chemical preservation, tourism management, modern documentation techniques.



*Plan of the principal monuments of Pattadakal*

## Financial Situation

- Funds from Central Government. Annual budget for maintenance for visitors, conservation of monuments and documentation, exploration and excavation.
- Budget is considered to be sufficient, no figures supplied.
- \* International Assistance from WHF: none.

## Access to IT

- 4 sets of computers on site, with email and Internet access.
- No use of GIS.

## Visitor Management

- Approx. 132,886 visitors in 2001-02.
- Basic facilities available at site.
- Needed facilities: sculpture gallery to be upgraded as a site museum, to enhance existing facilities, hotel and restaurant, information centre, brochures, signage.
- No public use tourism/visitor plan. It is needed and planned.
- Communication of WH values through: photo exhibition, WH day and week for cultural awareness raising, volunteer participation, painting and essay writing competitions, heritage walk, display of heritage slogans.
- Educational programmes exist: illustrated lectures, special educative exhibitions, training workshops, visits to monuments, special lectures by experts.

- Role of the inscription into the List of World Heritage: increase in visitor numbers, awareness building activities an increase.

## II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

### Threats and Risks

- Expanding settlements; horizontal & vertical housing expansion, obstructing visual connections; untidiness due to the vendors.
- Small-scale clandestine quarrying which disfigures the topography.
- Sand storms & sand-laden winds cause erosion of carved surfaces.
- Soil erosion during monsoon.
- Poor quality sandstone in buildings susceptible of weathering and wind erosion.
- Alighting of visitors with vehicles; vehicle parking causes pollution; scribbling and touching leave stains and cause monument and sculpture abrasion; one temple use for worship during Car Festival, maximum damage to monuments.
- Number of inhabitants: 3,500-4,000 villagers near the site.
- Bat colonies in some temples are a nuisance to visitors & harm monuments.

### Counteractive Plans

- No emergency plan.
- Improvements needed: managing development pressures and visitors' pressures.
- Impacts of factors: decreasing.
- Measures adopted or planned: general, physical interventions aiming at conservation; physical barriers, fencing, enclosures, restriction and regulation of paths, approach ways, visitor routes; restriction and regulation of visitor facilities within the core zone; indirect, formulation of policies in co-ordination regarding ecology, environment and their direct impact; formulation of tourism policies; formulation of development policies regulating/restricting developmental activities.



© ASI

*Weathering action on an inscribed pillar*

### II.6 Monitoring

#### Monitoring Arrangements

- Monitoring system in place, but it depends on periodical visits and detailed inspection notes and requires remedial measures.

#### Monitoring Indicators

No indicators.

- Indicators needed: periodical monitoring of erosion; improper foundations result in horizontal and vertical cracks; monitoring load bearing architectural members susceptible for easy exfoliation and erosion.

### II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

#### Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- Values: between Papanatha and Virupaksha more houses should be acquired; buffer zone of 300m width clearly defined; existing limits adequate; WH values maintained.
- Management and factors affecting property: expanding settlements, misuse by locals, visitors and pilgrims; unorganised vehicular traffic; vending; clandestine quarrying; sand laden winds; soil erosion; poor quality sandstone; fairs and festivals in the temple; bat colonies; etc.
- Future actions: preparation, implementation of a site management plan, addressing factors/pressures affecting property, enhancing, emphasising significance by exploration, excavation and documentation projects, sustainable awareness actions.
- Timetable for the implementation of the Plans: 5 years.

#### \* No State of Conservation Reports