CLASS-7 HISTORY MODULE - 1 CHAPTER - 6

TOWNS, TRADERS AND CRAFTSPERSONS

Administrative Centres

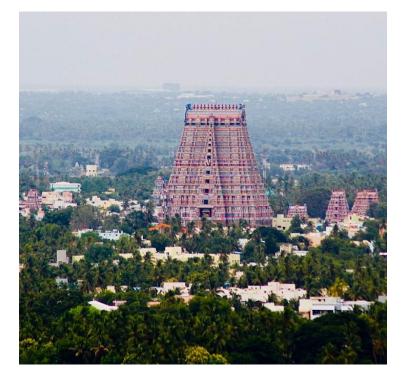


- Thanjavur was capital of the Cholas. It is situated on the banks of Kaveri river.
- Rajarajeshvara temple was built by king Rajraja Chola.
- Kunjaramallan Rajaraja Perunthachchan was an architect who has proudly carved his name on the temple wall.
- In Thanjavur, there were palaces with mandapas or pavilions. King hold court in these mandapas, issuing orders to their subordinates. There were also barracks for the army.
- Water supply for the town comes from wells and tanks.
- At Svamimalai, the sthapatis were making exquisite bronze idols and tall ornamental bell metal lamps.

Temple Towns and Pilgrimage Centres

- Temple Towns represent a very important pattern of urbanisation, the process by which cities develop.
- Temples were often central to the economy and society.
- Rulers built temples to demonstrate their devotion to various deities.
- They also endowed temples with grants of land and money to carry out elaborate rituals, feed pilgrims and priests and celebrate festivals.
- Pilgrims who flocked to the temples also made donations.

Temple Towns and Pilgrimage Centres





CHOLA BRONZE SCULPTURE

Chola bronze statues were made by using the "Lost wax" technique.





Temple Towns and Pilgrimage Centres

- Temple authority used their wealth to finance trade and banking.
- A large number of priest, workers, artisans, traders, etc. settled near temples to cater its needs and those of the pilgrims.
- > Pilgrimage centres also slowly developed into townships.
- Important temple towns were Bhillasvamin in Madhya Pradesh, Somnath in Gujarat, Kanchipuram and Madurai in Tamil Nadu and Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh.
- Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti, the celebrated Sufi saint who settled in Ajmer in the twelfth century attracted devotees from all creeds.