CHAPTER - 2

NORTH INDIA BETWEEN 750-1200

For Agnikula Rajput

The four class dominated by early Rajputs which they founded arose from the ruins of the older Pratihara Kingdom. These were-

- 1. The Pratihara-also known as Parihara who based themselves in Southern Rajasthan.
- 2. The Chauhans-Ruled and area in Eastern Rajasthan, helped Praithara against Arabs.
- 3. The Solankis-also called Chalukyas of Gujarat were based in Kathiawar.
- 4. The Pawars of Parmars-established their control in Malwa with their capital at Dhar near Indore.

All the four claimed descent from my thical figure who arose out of the vast sacrifical fire pit near Mt. Abu. Consequently they were described as the Agnikula of the fire family.

Chola

Chola Cultural Achievements

- Temple architecture, particularly Dravida or the South Indian style of architecture reached the pinnacle of glory during the Cholas. The chola continued the Pallava architectural style. The Dravida style of architecture of the Chola had certain special features. It included a (Storey) Vimana, a mandapa, (getway) gopuram, lion pillars, brackets and composite pillars.
- Vijayalaya built the Vijaylayacholeshwar temple at Narttamalai.
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- Parantaka I built Korangnath temple at Srinvasnatlur. Rajaraja built the Rajarajjeshwar temple (also called Brihadeshwar) at Tanjore.
- Rajendra built Brihadeshwar temple at Gangaikonda-Cholapuram.
- The Tanjore temples had murals on prranas and sculptures of Rajaraja and his queen

- Lokamahadevi and the Gangaikondacholapuram temple has that of Rajender and his queen Cholamahadevi.
- The Cholas were famous for bronze statue Of Nataraja; (dancingshiva) used cireperdue method.
- The system of canals in the south is a contribution of the Cholas
- Tiruvasakam- The master piece of Tamil literature was produced during Chola period.
- Kamban's Ramayan was another achievement in literature.

Village Types

Mainly 3 types of villages were found in India during this period.

- 1. The village with multicast population, paying taxes to the king, was most frequent.
- 2. Brahmadeya or agrahara village- granted to the brahamins and entirely inhabited by them, was less frequent.
- 3. Devdeya Village-Those granted to god similar to the first. During the Pallava period first two types were predominant, but under the Chola the third type gained popularity.

Chola Self Government

The cholas are best known for their lical self-government at village level. In Uttaramerur inscription Dantivarman pallav and Purantaka I have thrown sufficient light on the local self government of Cholas. The assemblies were of 3 types Ur, Sabha and Nagaram. The appointment of these assemblies were made by election, "Vyavasthas"

- (a) The Three Types of General Assemblies
 - Ur: a general assembly of the village consisting of the taxpaying residents.
 - Sabha or Mahabhasa: Its membership was restricted to the Brahmana of the village. Found in Bramadeya and Agrahara villages.



- Nagaram: was found more commonly in trade centers such as cities and town.
- (b) Committees of Assemblies
 - Alunganattar- Executive committee of Ur
 - · Varium- Executive committee of Sabha
 - Samvastarvarium-Annual committee
 - Tottavarium-Garden committee
 - Eri varium-Tank committee
 - · Pon varium-Gold committee
 - · Udasin varium-Committee of ascetics
 - Nayattar-Judicial committee
- (c) Qualification to be a member of Sabha
 - He should be aged between 35 to 70.
 - He should have one and a half hectare of land.
 - He should have own house.

Even after having these qualifications one could be disqualified if.

- He had served in a committee during the last 3 years,
- He had not furnished details of his account while serving in a committee.
- · Who had been guilty of crime and theft.