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Administration under Pallavas. Pallava dynasty had a clear administration. The Hirahadagalli copper plate inscription which was issued during 8th century describes the Pallava administration as "the king at the top and under him all the ministers who are in charge of different administrative matters". Kingship was hereditary and on some occasions king was being elected. The early work of Pallavas on the copper plate now known as Mayidayolu, Hirehadagali and the British Museum plates were written in Prakrit language during Skandavarman I period. It is believed that Skandavarman I was the first ruler of Pallava dynasty. Hirahadagali copper plate (Bellary District) confirms the gift given by Sivaskanda Varman's father and is explained as Bappa-Deva. Pallava Administration. Under the Pallavas, kinship was held to be of divine origin and was hereditary. The king took high-sounding titles, some of which, such as maharajadhiraja, were borrowed from north Indian traditions. Most scholars agree that Aryanisation or the northern influence on the south picked up pace during the Pallava period. This is evident from the royal grants issued by the kings. Monasteries continued to be the nucleus of the Buddhist educational system and were located in the region of Kanchi, and the valleys of the Krishna and the Godavari rivers. Buddhist centres were concerned with the study of Buddhism, particularly as this was a period of intense conflict between orthodox and heterodox sects. But Buddhism was fighting a losing battle. Pallava refers to a dynasty of South India, flourishing around 6th-8th century AD, and to a beautiful writing system employed under their reign, which spawned almost all the scripts of SE Asia. A surprising lack of accessible information about this script has prompted the creation (and continuing development) of this page. In May 2013, I initiated the page on Wikipedia.

### 1.1 Historical & geographical context.

The Pallava dynasty was established in the region of modern-day northern Tamil Nadu and southern Andhra Pradesh, and centered at Kanchipuram. Official languages were Tamil, Telugu and Sanskrit. Vedic religion was practised, and Buddhism was also supported.

### PALLAVA ARCHITECTURE History

Pallava architecture can be sub-divided into two phases - the rock cut phase and the structural phase.

#### The Rock Cut Phase

The rock cut phase lasted from the 610 to 668 AD and consisted of two groups of monuments - the Mahendra group and the Mamalla group. The Mahendra group is the name given to monuments constructed during the reign of Mahendravarman I (610 - 630 AD). The historical information about construction of temples which is available today is mostly inscribed on the stones slabs, metal plates, palm leaves and manuscripts. The knowledge and skills of the construction techniques were passed on verbally from generation to generation among the temple architects.

#### Administration under Pallava Dynasty:

State divided in kottams (administered by officers of king). They has well trained army. Tamil society under the caste system became rigid. Brahmins were given a high place. The period saw rise of Saivism and Vaishnavism, while Buddhism and Jainism declined. The Saiva Nayanmars and Vaishnava Alwars led the Bhakti Movement. They composed tamil hymns. Education and Learning during Pallava Rule: The Ghatika at Kanchipuram was a popular centre of learning.