



BON SECOURS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Nationally Accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC
Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli.
UGC Recognized 2(f) and 12(B) Institution
VILAR BYPASS, THANJAVUR – 613006, TAMIL NADU



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE VISIT

Date : 06.12.2019

Visited : Gangaikonda Cholapuram , Poompuhar and Tharangampadi

We the department of History visited Archaeological sites in Gangaikonda Cholapuram , Poompuhar and Tharangampadi with 52 students and three staff members on 6th December, 2019.



The students gained knowledge on the temple that it was constructed in 1035 AD by Rajendra Chola I (1014-44 CE), the son of the famous Chola king Raja Raja Chola I, who built the Brihadeeswarar Temple at

Thanjavur. Some experts believe that the temple was built during 1020, during the 6th regnal year, but inscriptions indicate the 20th regnal year, which is 1035 AD. Rajendra wanted to emulate the temple built by his father after his victory in a campaign across India that Chola era texts state covered Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Bengal. After his victory, he demanded that the defeated kingdoms send pots of Ganges River water and pour them into the temple's well. The well was originally called Cholagangam as it was filled with water from Ganges.



The students of our department gain knowledge about the Poompuhar. It is a town in the Nagapattinam district in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It was once a flourishing ancient port city known as Kaveri poompattinam, which for a while

served as the capital of the early Chola kings in Tamilakam. Poompuhar is located close to the spot where the river Cauveri flows out into the sea.

Most of the original town was destroyed in 500 AD, apparently by a Tsunami. Even so, several important terracotta figurines and pottery from



ancient times have been discovered from Poompuhar.

It is also known to be the oldest inhabited area in Tamil Nadu. Two important landmarks that attract tourists

on a yearly basis are the

Masilamani Nathar Koil and the Silappathikara Art Gallery. The Masilamani Nathar Koil was built in the 14th century AD and has borne the brunt of tidal erosion. It still stands as a rare example of the architectural style of that period.

The students visited the place which dates back to the 14th century. Masilamani nathar (Shiva) temple was built in 1306, in a land given by Maravarman Kulasekara Pandyan I. As of now, this temple is the oldest monument. Until 1620, when the Danes came, the place was under Thanjavur Nayak kingdom. Danish admiral Ove Gjedde felt the place would be a potential

trading centre, made a deal with Raghunatha Nayak and built a fort, which is known as Fort Dansborg.



A Jesuit Catholic congregation in Tranquebar predated the arrival of the Danes by several decades. This congregation descended from Tamil fishermen converted by Portuguese missionaries from

Goa. There was also a sizable population of Indo-Portuguese due to their presence nearby in Nagapattinam. The Catholic church was probably demolished to build the fort. This fort was the residence and headquarters of the governor and other officials for about 150 years. It is now a museum hosting a collection of artefacts from the colonial era.

Outcomes:

During the Archaeological site visit to Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Poompuhar and Tharangampadi 52 students and three staff learnt about the art and architecture and sculptures of the temple . The students learn about the storage of the ancient historical objects. Objects that are exhibited in the museum for the visitors to look upon include cultural objects, tools of beads, burial urns, inscriptions on stone in Tamil and Marathi, coins, sculptures, bronze images, wood carvings, arms, models of contemporary paintings,