

THE GREATER / LATER / IMPERIAL CHOLAS [850-1258 A.D.]

Capital : Tanjore / Tanjavar

Port : Kaveripattanam

Emblem : Tiger

Replaced the Pallavas

RULERS

1. VIJAYALAYA

- Founder
- Declared Independence from Aparajitha Varman and made Tanjore capital
- Saivite

For 29 years Pallavas were contemporary and co-existed.

2. ADITYA CHOLA

- Son of Vijayalaya
- In 879 A.D - he killed Aparajitha Varman in the
Battle of Tondaimandalam
- Thus real founder

3. PARANTAKA CHOLA

- * Great Builder
- * He constructed - The Nataraj temple @ Chidambaram (TN)
 - It is the golden temple of South as its roof was plated with gold.
- * Defeated the Pandyas and Cheras
- * Saint/ Scholar / Great warrior
- * He was defeated by the Rashtrakuta ruler - Krishna-III in the Battle of Takkolam
- * After the battle Cholas became petty chiefs of the Rashtrakutas
- * Died of humiliation.
- * His son became the next ruler

4. SUNDARA CHOLA

- * Nothing eventful happened

5. UTTAMA CHOLA

- * Recovered some territories from the Rashtrakutas
- * Scholar

6. RAJA RAJA CHOLA [985-1014 A.D.]

- * Greatest Chola ruler
 - * Very ambitious / welfare oriented
 - * Established the Naval supremacy and made Kaveripattanam as Naval Head Quarters
- Submerged under water

CONQUESTS

1. He attacked and annexed Rashtrakutas, Cheras, Pandyas, ECV under direct control and took the title.

Mumudi Chola: The king who has taken the crown of three kings

2. He attacked and annexed Ceylon → **Indirect control**

3. He attacked and annexed - Lakshadweep, Maldives, Java, Indonesia ← Sumatra, Malay peninsula, ↗ Singapore & Malaysia
Srivijaya kingdom, Laos, Vietnam & Cambodia etc.

4. Transformed dynasty into an empire - made the bay of Bengal as **chola lake**

RRC (contd.)

* In 1010 A.D.: He constructed the

Brihadeshwara temple @ Tanjore

or Periyalkoil
Big temple

↳ **UNESCO SITE**

* Has a monolithic

① Linga

② Nandi-bull

③ Shikara-roof

- Introduced the local self-government called "Mahasabha".

The local self government is a precursor to Panchayati raj system

7. RAJENDRA CHOLA

- * Son of Rajaraja
- * Followed his father's administrative policies
- * Welfare oriented
- * Ambitious / Scholar
- * He annexed Ceylon and put it under direct control
- * He annexed Andaman
- * He attacked and annexed the Northern part of Australia and put it under indirect control in 1017 A.D.
 - ↳ Thus, Australia declared Tamil as the fourth language. in 2017

* He attacked the Pala ruler and defeated Mahipala but did not annex the kingdom.

* Mahipala gifted Rajendra with 15,000 pots of Ganges water.

* Rajendra constructed a new city called - **Gangaikonda Cholapuram** : Chola kingdom with Ganga water

* At centre of the city, water tank was constructed and these 15,000 pots of Ganges water was poured in. Symbolising the entry of Ganga to the Chola kingdom

* He constructed a Shiva temple called **Gangai Konda Cholapuram temple**

* Similar to Brihadeeswara temple constructed by his father
↳ full granite - 1st granite temple of India

* Made of Granite and burnt bricks

* UNESCO site

* Contains monolithic linga

Weak successors continued.

RAJENDRA III

* Last Ruler

* Was killed by the Pandya ruler Sundara Pandya in 1258 A

- End of Cholas -