Karempudi

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Karempudi is a village and a mandal located on the banks of river Naguleru in Guntur district in the state of Andhra Pradesh in India. It occupies an important place in Telugu history as the place where the famous Battle of Palnadu (Palnati Yuddam) took place in 12th century AD. The war of Palnadu in the 12th century is marked in legend and literature as 'Andhra Kurukshetra War'. A whole generation of the warriors of Andhra perished in the war.[1] [2]

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Location [edit]

Karempudi is derived from the "karyam"pudi. Karyam have lot of meanings it also means "Yuddam" (war), here Palnati yuddam held so this place called Karyamapudi after that with time it changed to karempudi. Karempudi is located about 90 km from the district headquarters Guntur and is almost equidistant to three important towns Narsaraopet, Vinukonda, Macherla.

The battle of Palnadu (Palnati Yuddam) [edit]

The battle of Palnadu (Palnati Yuddham) was immortalized in Telugu literature by the poet Srinatha in his 'Palnati Vira Charita'. The only other scholarly book on the subject was written by Gene Roghair titled "Epic of Palnadu: Study and Translation of Palnati Virula Katha, a Telugu Oral Tradition from Andhra Pradesh". It was a battle between two factions of the Kalachuris (Haihaya).[3]

Nalagama Vira Raju was the son of Alugu Bhupathi Raju of the Palanati Kalachuris. His step brother was Malideva Raju, who was married to a princess of the Kalyanibranch of Kalachuris. Recherla Dodda Naidu and Palanati Brahmanaidu of Velamacaste were vassals of the Velanti Chodas (Vassals of the Chola-
Chalukyas and responsible for the administration of their Andhra territories) they belonged to the Telaga Caste and tried to usher in a new era in which caste distinctions would be abolished. Nalagama was against this and tried to check their progress. He was supported by Nagamma, a Reddy female statesperson who became his chief adviser. The differences in ideology led to Brahma Naidu leaving with his supporters, including Nalagama’s half brother Malideva and set up an independent court in Macherla. Mutual suspicion and rivalry reached a high pitch between the two courts and Nagamma, under the pretext of Malideva’s defeat in a cock-fight, exiled them for seven years from Palnadu. After the exile was over Brahma Naidu sent Alaraja, the son of Kalachuri Kommaraja of Kalyani, and the brother-in-law of Malideva to claim Malideva’s share. The demand was turned down and Alaraja was poisoned to death under the orders of Nagamma in Cherlagudipadu. The enraged Kalyani Kakachurisand Brahma Naidu declared war on Gurazala. The battle was fought in Karempudi on the banks of the river Naguleru. The Kakatiya dynasty, Kota Vamsa, Paricchedis and Hoysalas supported Nalagama and the Vengi Kakachuris. The Velanati Chodas and Malideva were supported by the Kalyani Kakachuris.

The faction led by Palanati Brahmanaidu and Malideva was victorious. But Malideva died in the battle, so Brahma Naidu reinstated Nalagama. The civil war shook the Velanadu kingdom to its foundation. A whole generation of the warriors of Andhra perished in the war. The tragedy hastened the end of the Chalukyan rule in Vengi. It exposed their weaknesses and allowed the Hoysalas, Kakachuris, Eastern Gangas and the Kakatiyas to eventually overrun them.

A temple is built at the battle ground on the banks of Naguleru called "Palnati Veerula Gudi" to commemorate all the warriors with all the weapons the warriors used in the war. Only once a year mostly in the months of November or December the temple is opened for 5 days and prayers are offered. For this five days are celebrated in karempudi and in all adjacent villages as "Tirunalla or Jatara".

Geography

Archaeologically, Karempudi belongs to the Lower Paleolithic Age of India, and can prove itself to be the first or earliest instances of hafting from anywhere in the world. For this specific reason, Andhra Pradesh can be called as the "Treasure House" of Lower Paleolithic in India because of its sites in Nagarjuna Konda and Karempudi which yielded large deposits.

Karempudi is said to be located in the eastern ghats. The river Naguleru originates in the hills and flows through and eventually drains into river krishna. The soils are mainly Red and Black soils. The area is one of the places with low rain fall in the state and in the past mainly rainfed crops are only cultivated. But nowadays all crops are being cultivated as there is Right Canal og Nagarjuna sagar passing through karempudi feeding the agricultural needs. The ground water acquifiers are also marginally low in the total palnadu region. Water tastes mainly soar in the palnadu area leaving out karempudi with some good quality water. Paddy, chillies, ground nut,and cotton are the main crops.

Important temples in Karempudi

1. Palnati Veerula Gudi: This temple is built in 12th century AD after the Palnadu war. In the temple there are weapons of the warriors which are offered prayers for long lasting peace in the region. The temple is
opened only once in a year for five days mostly in the months of November or December.

2. **Ankalamma temple**: This temple is much older than the palnati veerula gudi. This temple is located at the centre of the village and prayers are offered all days.

3. **Chenna kesava Swamy temple**: This temple is believed to be built at the time of ankalamma temple and prayers are offered all days.

4. **Mantralamma Temple**: This temple is located in the forest about 5 km from karempudi village towards vinukonda. The goddess is said to be very powerful and there are people who come from very long distances in the state to offer prayers.

4. **Anjaneyaswami temple**: This temple is recently built after people found a large statue of the god while digging the right canal of nagarjuna sagar. The temple is located about 2 km from the village on the bank of nagarjuna sagar right canal.

5. **Sai Baba Temple**: This temple is recently built by y.harnath garu.it is a very famous in the karempudi town.it is located in near ankallamma temple.in this temple also builds anjaneya swmi temple.

6. **poleramma temple** it is located in near bus stand&it is afamous temple in karempudi.it is built by karempudi honerable peoples.

See also [edit]

- Villages in Karempudi mandal

References [edit]