

**STUDIES IN
ANDHRA HISTORY
AND CULTURE**

Dr. C. Somasundara Rao

M.A.(Hons.), Ph.D.

Professor (Retd.)

Department of History and Archaeology
Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

EMESCO

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>viii</i>
<i>Foreword</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>Dedication</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>Abbreviations</i>	<i>xvi</i>

SECTION I

1	EARLY HISTORY OF ANDHRA REVISITED	3
2	SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE COINAGE OF ANDHRA PRADESH	24
3	A STUDY OF THE INSCRIPTIONS OF ANDHRA	39
4	TEMPLE, CASTE AND CLASS IN MEDIEVAL ANDHRA	52

SECTION II

5	A NOTE ON THE PUNJAI INSCRIPTION OF KṚSHṆADĒVARĀYA	65
6	IDENTIFICATION OF GAJAPATI GANAPATI	73
7	THE CHĀVALI INSCRIPTION OF SADĀŚĪVARĀYA DATED 1568 A.D.	78
8	THE LAST DAYS OF SADĀŚĪVARĀYA	83
9	THE BATTLE OF PENUKONḌA AND ITS DATE	89
10	THE 'BAYAMA' OF BARRADAS' ACCOUNT	98

SECTION III

11	INTEGRATION OF THE <i>BŌYAS</i> INTO ANDHRA SOCIETY : A STUDY	109
12	KṚṢHṆADĒVARĀYA AND HIS COURT-POETS - AN EPIGRAPHICAL APPRAISAL	119
13	TAX -WAIVER IN THE VIJAYANAGARA INSCRIPTIONS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH	131
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	140

Section I
Presidential Addresses

EARLY HISTORY OF ANDHRA REVISITED

I am greatly indebted to the Executive Committee of the Indian History Congress for electing me president of the Ancient India section. I deem it a great honour for the little work I have done in the early history of Andhra. I am fully conscious of my limitations. I take this opportunity to place before you a few problems that require further investigation and review a few of the recent discussions in respect of the Early History of Andhra.

The period that is covered here relates to the history of the Śātavāhanas and their successors that ruled in different parts of the present Andhra Pradesh. It is usual for historians to include the Ikshvākus of Vijayapuri (Nāgārajunaḥḍa) among the successor families like the Early Pallava, Śālankāyana, Viṣṇukuṇḍi and other minor families like the Bṛihatphalāyanas and the Ānanda-gotrins. It is true to some extent, because their rule was mostly confined to a few districts on the coastal Andhra. But the society and culture of the Ikshvāku period was a replica of the Śātavāhanas. Their assumption of metonymics and patronage of Buddhists on a large scale are reminiscent of the Śātavāhanas.

I shall touch upon only certain of the aspects of this history. I shall deal with (i) the pre-Śātavāhana and Śātavāhana phases (ii) Taxes and obligations mentioned in the inscriptions, (iii) Tutelary deity of the Viṣṇukuṇḍis, (iv) Qualifications of the Brāhmaṇa scholars; and (v) Women donees.

(I) PRE-ŚĀTAVĀHANA AND ŚĀTAVĀHANA PHASES

In recent years, a number of coins and inscriptions have come to light revealing the history of Andhra of the Pre-Śātavāhana times. Inscriptions at Guṇṭupalli, Amarāvati and Vēlpuru and coins relate