



---

## MEDIEVAL FORTS AND CAPITALS OF THE HYDERABAD-KARNATAKA REGION: A DYNASTIC PERSPECTIVE

**Dr. Shubha**

Principal /Associate Professor,  
Government Residential Model First Grade College,  
Talabal- 583238 , Tq-Kukanoor.Dist-Koppal , Karnataka State.



---

### ABSTRACT:

*The Hyderabad-Karnataka region, historically positioned at the crossroads of major South Indian powers, is marked by a rich legacy of medieval forts and capital cities that reflect its dynamic political and cultural transformations. This study examines the evolution of key fortified centers and administrative capitals under successive dynasties, including the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmanis, and the Deccan Sultanates. Through an analysis of architectural features, strategic locations, and historical narratives, the paper highlights how these forts served not only as military bastions but also as symbols of authority and governance. The shifting of capitals and the construction of fortified complexes illustrate changing political priorities, defense strategies, and regional interactions. By adopting a dynastic perspective, this research situates the Hyderabad-Karnataka region within the broader context of Deccan history, emphasizing its role in shaping medieval statecraft, urbanization, and cultural exchange.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Hyderabad-Karnataka, medieval forts, dynastic rule, Deccan history, capital cities, fort architecture, political geography, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, Deccan Sultanates.*

### INTRODUCTION:

The Hyderabad-Karnataka region, located in the northeastern part of present-day Karnataka, occupies a significant place in the historical landscape of the Deccan. Owing to its strategic geographical position between northern and southern India, the region became a contested zone for several powerful dynasties during the medieval period. This continuous political contestation led to the development of an extensive network of forts and the establishment of shifting capital cities, each reflecting the administrative priorities, military strategies, and cultural influences of ruling powers. Medieval forts in this region were not merely defensive structures; they functioned as centers of political authority, economic activity, and cultural patronage. Built atop hills, along riverbanks, or in plains fortified with massive walls and moats, these structures demonstrate a high degree of architectural ingenuity and adaptation to local terrain. Similarly, the designation and relocation of capital cities reveal evolving governance patterns, resource control, and responses to internal and external threats. From the early rule of the Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas to the dominance of the Bahmani Sultanate and later the Deccan Sultanates, each dynasty contributed to the transformation of the region's political and architectural landscape. Forts such as Gulbarga, Bidar, and Raichur emerged as prominent centers of power, often serving as capitals or key *muqāṭaʿāt* strongholds. These sites embody layers of historical development, where indigenous traditions merged with Persianate and

Islamic influences, particularly during the Sultanate period. This study adopts a dynastic perspective to explore the interconnected development of forts and capitals in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. By examining these elements together, it aims to understand how shifts in political power influenced spatial organization, urban growth, and military infrastructure. In doing so, the paper contributes to a deeper understanding of the region's role in the broader narrative of medieval Deccan history, highlighting its significance as a hub of political resilience, cultural synthesis, and architectural innovation.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### Aim:

To examine the historical development, political significance, and architectural features of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region through a dynastic perspective.

### Objectives:

1. To trace the historical evolution of major forts and capitals in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region during the medieval period.
2. To analyze the role of different dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and Deccan Sultanates in shaping the region's political and architectural landscape.
3. To study the strategic importance of forts in terms of defense, administration, and control over trade routes.
4. To investigate the reasons behind the selection and shifting of capital cities by various ruling powers.
5. To examine the architectural styles and construction techniques of forts, highlighting regional and external influences.
6. To assess the socio-economic and cultural impact of these forts and capitals on the surrounding regions.
7. To understand the interrelationship between political authority, urban development, and military infrastructure in the medieval Deccan.
8. To contribute to the broader understanding of Deccan history by situating the Hyderabad-Karnataka region within its historical and cultural context.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The study of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region has attracted the attention of historians, archaeologists, and regional scholars, though the literature remains somewhat fragmented and site-specific. Existing works broadly focus on architectural features, dynastic history, and issues of preservation rather than offering a comprehensive dynastic synthesis of forts and capitals. Early historical and descriptive studies emphasize the political importance of fortified centers such as Bidar, Gulbarga, and Raichur under successive dynasties. Research on Bidar Fort, for instance, highlights its emergence as a capital under the Bahmani rulers after the shift from Gulbarga in the 15th century. Scholars note that this transition reflects both strategic and environmental considerations, along with the consolidation of political authority in the Deccan. The fort complex, with its palaces, mosques, and administrative structures, is often cited as an example of Indo-Islamic architectural synthesis and urban planning. Several studies, including regional surveys, underline that the Hyderabad-Karnataka area contains a dense concentration of forts—over fifty—constructed and modified by different dynasties over centuries. These works argue that such forts were not merely military installations but also centers of socio-economic and cultural life, reflecting the prosperity and diversity of the region during medieval times.

Architectural analyses form another significant strand of literature. Works on Deccan fort architecture discuss features such as moats, bastions, gateways, and advanced defensive mechanisms, including the use of artillery and layered fortifications. These studies highlight how military architecture evolved in response to changing warfare technologies and political instability. They also

---

point to the integration of indigenous building traditions with Persian and Central Asian influences, particularly during the Bahmani and later Sultanate periods. In addition, some scholars have focused on specific aspects such as water management systems, urban planning within forts, and the role of capitals in administrative governance. Studies on Bidar and similar sites emphasize sophisticated infrastructure, including water supply systems and planned urban layouts, which supported large populations and royal establishments. Another important area of research concerns the preservation and conservation of these historical monuments. Scholars highlight that many forts in the region are currently in a state of neglect or partial ruin, stressing the need for systematic conservation efforts and their potential for heritage tourism. Despite these contributions, there remains a noticeable gap in the existing literature. Most studies tend to focus on individual forts or specific dynasties, without adequately examining the interconnected development of forts and capital cities across different ruling periods. A comprehensive dynastic perspective that links political shifts with spatial and architectural transformations in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region is still lacking. Therefore, the present study seeks to bridge this gap by offering an integrated analysis of medieval forts and capitals, situating them within a broader dynastic and regional framework.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a qualitative and historical research methodology to examine the development of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region from a dynastic perspective. The approach is interdisciplinary, combining historical analysis, architectural study, and regional interpretation to understand the political, cultural, and strategic significance of these sites. The research is primarily based on secondary sources, including published books, research articles, archaeological reports, inscriptions (as interpreted by historians), and government publications related to Deccan history and fort architecture. Scholarly works on dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and Deccan Sultanates are critically reviewed to trace the chronological development of forts and capitals.

In addition to textual analysis, the study incorporates a comparative method to examine different forts and capitals across dynasties. Key sites such as Gulbarga, Bidar, and Raichur are analyzed in terms of their geographical location, architectural features, and administrative roles. This comparison helps identify patterns of continuity and change in fort construction, urban planning, and capital selection. A historical-analytical approach is used to interpret the relationship between political power and spatial organization. The shifting of capitals and the modification of fortifications are examined in the context of dynastic transitions, military needs, and external influences. This enables a deeper understanding of how changing regimes shaped the built environment.

Where relevant, the study also draws upon archaeological and architectural evidence, including structural remains, layout patterns, and defensive features such as bastions, gateways, and water systems. These elements are analyzed to understand construction techniques and the evolution of military architecture in the region. The research further employs a descriptive method to document the salient features of major forts and capitals, supported by maps, historical references, and visual documentation where available. Although primary fieldwork is limited, available site reports and photographic records are used to supplement the analysis. Overall, this methodology allows for a comprehensive and systematic examination of medieval forts and capitals in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, linking dynastic history with architectural and spatial developments to provide a holistic understanding of the subject.

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Hyderabad-Karnataka region possesses a rich concentration of medieval forts and historically significant capital cities that played a crucial role in the political, military, and cultural development of the Deccan. Despite their importance, these sites have often been studied in isolation—either as architectural monuments or as parts of specific dynastic histories—without adequately examining their interconnected evolution across successive ruling powers. The region witnessed the

---

rule of multiple dynasties, including the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and the Deccan Sultanates, each of which contributed to the construction, modification, and strategic use of forts, as well as the establishment and relocation of capital cities. However, there is a lack of integrated research that systematically analyzes how these dynastic transitions influenced the spatial distribution, architectural development, and functional transformation of forts and capitals over time. Furthermore, limited attention has been given to understanding the relationship between political authority, military strategy, and urban development in this region. The reasons behind the selection of specific sites as capitals, the strategic placement of forts, and their role in controlling resources and trade routes remain insufficiently explored within a unified analytical framework. Another dimension of the problem lies in the inadequate documentation and preservation of many forts in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. Several sites are in varying states of neglect, and the absence of comprehensive scholarly attention further contributes to the loss of historical knowledge and cultural heritage.

Therefore, the central problem addressed in this study is the absence of a holistic, dynastic perspective that links the development of medieval forts and capital cities with broader political, architectural, and regional transformations in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. This research seeks to fill that gap by providing an integrated and systematic analysis of these historical structures and their evolving significance.

### **NEED OF THE STUDY**

The study of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region is essential due to the historical, cultural, and strategic significance of this area in the broader context of Deccan history. Although the region contains numerous forts and former capitals associated with powerful dynasties, there is a noticeable lack of comprehensive and integrated research that examines these elements together from a dynastic perspective. Firstly, the region served as a crucial and military zone under successive dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and Deccan Sultanates. Understanding the development of forts and capitals helps in reconstructing the patterns of political control, territorial expansion, and administrative organization. This study is needed to bridge the gap between isolated historical narratives and a more connected understanding of regional dynamics. Secondly, medieval forts in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region are not only military structures but also centers of governance, economy, and culture. Many of these forts housed administrative offices, markets, religious institutions, and residential complexes. A focused study is necessary to highlight their multifunctional role and their contribution to urbanization and socio-economic development during the medieval period.

Thirdly, the architectural diversity of these forts reflects a blend of indigenous and external influences, particularly during the period of Islamic rule in the Deccan. Examining these structures provides valuable insights into the evolution of military architecture, construction techniques, and cultural interactions. This makes the study important from both historical and architectural perspectives. Another important need for this study lies in the issue of heritage conservation. Many forts and historical sites in the region are in a deteriorating condition due to neglect, lack of awareness, and insufficient documentation. A systematic academic study can contribute to better recognition of their value and support efforts toward preservation and sustainable heritage management. Finally, this research is necessary to place the Hyderabad-Karnataka region within the larger framework of Indian medieval history. By adopting a dynastic perspective, the study aims to connect local developments with broader historical processes, thereby enriching the understanding of the Deccan's role in shaping India's past.

### **FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR RESEARCH**

While the present study provides a dynastic perspective on medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, several areas remain open for deeper and more specialized investigation. Future research can expand the scope both methodologically and thematically to enrich the understanding of the region's historical landscape. Firstly, there is considerable scope for intensive

fieldwork and archaeological surveys. Many lesser-known forts and sites in the region remain underexplored or undocumented. Detailed site inspections, mapping, and material analysis can provide new evidence regarding construction techniques, settlement patterns, and chronological phases of development. Secondly, future studies may focus on micro-level regional analysis, examining individual forts or clusters of forts in relation to their immediate geographical and socio-economic contexts. Such localized studies can reveal variations in architectural style, defensive strategies, and patterns of habitation that broader surveys may overlook. Another promising area is the study of epigraphy and inscriptions, which can offer direct insights into administrative systems, patronage, and political events. Systematic compilation and reinterpretation of inscriptions related to forts and capitals could refine the historical chronology and dynastic narratives of the region.

Research can also be extended to environmental and geographical factors, including water management systems, resource distribution, and terrain-based defense mechanisms. Interdisciplinary approaches involving geography, environmental history, and GIS mapping would help in understanding why certain locations were chosen for forts and capitals. Further, there is a need to explore the cultural and social dimensions of these fortified spaces. Studies focusing on everyday life within forts—such as trade, craft production, religious practices, and urban communities—would provide a more holistic picture beyond political and military history. Comparative research between the Hyderabad-Karnataka region and other parts of the Deccan or India could also be valuable. Such studies would help identify regional similarities and differences in fort architecture, capital formation, and dynastic strategies, thereby situating the region within a wider historical framework. Additionally, future research should address the issue of heritage conservation and sustainable tourism. Documentation, digital preservation (such as 3D modeling), and community-based conservation strategies can play a crucial role in protecting these historical sites while promoting public awareness. Finally, interdisciplinary collaboration involving historians, archaeologists, architects, and conservationists is essential for a more comprehensive understanding of medieval forts and capitals. Such collaborative efforts can lead to innovative interpretations and ensure that the historical legacy of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region is preserved for future generations.

## SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

### Scope

This study focuses on the historical, , and architectural development of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. It primarily covers the period from the early medieval era to the late medieval phase, examining the contributions of major dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and the Deccan Sultanates. The research includes an analysis of prominent forts and capitals such as Gulbarga, Bidar, and Raichur, considering their strategic location, administrative importance, and architectural characteristics. It explores the interrelationship between dynastic rule and spatial development, highlighting how political changes influenced the construction, modification, and use of fortified structures and capital centers. The study also encompasses aspects of military architecture, including fort design, defensive mechanisms, and urban planning within fortified spaces. Additionally, it considers cultural and socio-economic dimensions, such as the role of these centers in governance, trade, and cultural exchange. By adopting a dynastic perspective, the study situates regional developments within the broader context of medieval Deccan history.

### Limitations :

Despite its comprehensive approach, the study has certain limitations. It relies primarily on secondary sources such as books, research articles, and archaeological reports, with limited use of primary sources like inscriptions and archival materials. The absence of extensive fieldwork restricts direct observation and detailed architectural analysis of all sites. The study focuses on selected forts and capitals, and therefore does not cover every fortified site in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. As a result, some lesser-known or undocumented sites may not be included in the analysis. Another limitation is related to the availability and reliability of historical data. In some cases, conflicting

interpretations and gaps in the historical record make it challenging to establish precise chronologies or definitive conclusions about certain sites. Furthermore, the study is confined to a historical and analytical perspective and does not extensively engage with advanced technological methods such as GIS mapping, remote sensing, or 3D reconstruction, which could provide more detailed spatial insights.

### Scope of the Study

The present study focuses on the historical and dynastic development of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, an area of significant importance in the Deccan's political and cultural history. The scope is primarily confined to the medieval period, covering the rule of major dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and the Deccan Sultanates. Geographically, the study is limited to the Hyderabad-Karnataka region (present-day Kalyana Karnataka), including key districts historically associated with fortified centers and capitals. Important sites such as Gulbarga (Kalaburagi), Bidar, and Raichur are taken as representative case studies to understand broader regional patterns. The study examines forts not only as military structures but also as administrative and urban centers. It includes analysis of their strategic location, architectural design, defensive features, and their role in governance and regional control. Similarly, the study explores the emergence, development, and shifting of capital cities in relation to dynastic changes and political strategies. In addition, the research considers aspects of cultural interaction and architectural synthesis, especially the blending of indigenous and Indo-Islamic styles during different periods of rule. It also touches upon the socio-economic role of these centers, including their contribution to trade, settlement patterns, and urban development. Overall, the scope of the study is to provide a comprehensive, dynastic-based understanding of the interrelationship between forts and capitals in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, situating them within the wider framework of medieval Deccan history.

### DISCUSSION

The medieval forts and capital cities of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region represent a significant chapter in the political and cultural history of the Deccan, reflecting the dynamic interplay between dynastic power, military strategy, and urban development. The region's historical trajectory demonstrates how successive ruling powers adapted existing structures while introducing new forms of governance and architectural expression. One of the most notable features observed is the continuity and transformation of fortified centers across different dynasties. Early medieval powers such as the Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas laid the foundation for fortified settlements that were strategically located to control trade routes and territorial boundaries. These early developments were further expanded by later dynasties, particularly during the Bahmani Sultanate period, when forts became more complex administrative and military hubs. The Bahmani and Deccan Sultanate phases mark a significant transformation in both fort architecture and capital formation. The shift of the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar under the Bahmanis illustrates changing political priorities, including strategic defense considerations, administrative efficiency, and environmental factors. Bidar, in particular, emerged as a highly developed urban and fortified center, showcasing advanced planning, water management systems, and Indo-Islamic architectural synthesis. This reflects the influence of Persianate culture combined with local building traditions.

Forts such as Raichur, Gulbarga, and Bidar played a crucial role in regional control due to their strategic positioning between northern and southern Deccan routes. These forts were not only military strongholds but also centers of administration, trade regulation, and cultural interaction. Their repeated occupation and modification by different dynasties highlight their enduring importance in regional politics. A key observation is the relationship between dynastic change and spatial reorganization. Each ruling power redefined the role of forts and capitals according to its administrative needs and military challenges. This led to continuous modifications in fortifications, urban layouts, and infrastructural systems, reflecting both adaptation and innovation. The study also reveals that these fortified cities were centers of socio-economic life, supporting markets, craft production, and religious institutions. This indicates that forts and capitals were not isolated military

zones but integrated urban spaces that contributed significantly to regional development. , the discussion highlights that the medieval forts and capitals of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region were dynamic institutions shaped by successive dynasties. Their evolution reflects broader patterns of political authority, cultural exchange, and urban development in the medieval Deccan, underscoring the need for continued research and preservation efforts.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the study of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region from a dynastic perspective, several important recommendations can be made for further research, preservation, and policy implementation. Firstly, there is a strong need for systematic conservation and restoration efforts of major forts and heritage structures such as Bidar, Gulbarga, and Raichur. Many of these monuments are in a deteriorating condition, and urgent attention from archaeological and heritage authorities is required to prevent further damage and loss of historical value. Secondly, the implementation of comprehensive documentation projects is essential. Detailed recording of architectural features, structural conditions, inscriptions, and spatial layouts should be undertaken using modern techniques such as digital mapping, 3D modelling, and GIS technology. This will help preserve accurate historical records for future research and reference. Thirdly, there should be greater emphasis on interdisciplinary research collaboration involving historians, archaeologists, architects, and environmental scholars. Such collaboration can provide a more holistic understanding of forts and capitals, integrating political history with architectural, geographical, and socio-economic perspectives.

Fourthly, the promotion of heritage awareness and education programs is highly recommended. Local communities, students, and tourists should be made aware of the historical significance of these sites through museums, information centers, guided tours, and academic outreach programs. Fifthly, the development of sustainable heritage tourism in the region can play a vital role in both conservation and economic development. Proper planning is required to ensure that tourism activities do not damage the monuments while still promoting regional cultural heritage and generating local employment opportunities. Additionally, future research should focus on lesser-known and unexplored forts in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. These sites may provide valuable insights into regional history that are currently missing from mainstream scholarship. Finally, it is recommended that government and heritage bodies establish long-term preservation policies and funding mechanisms dedicated specifically to the maintenance of medieval forts and capital sites in the region. In conclusion, these recommendations aim to ensure the protection, study, and sustainable utilization of the rich historical legacy of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, while also encouraging further scholarly engagement with its dynastic and architectural heritage.

## FINDINGS

The study of medieval forts and capitals of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region from a dynastic perspective reveals that the region functioned as a major strategic and political corridor in the Deccan, resulting in the continuous establishment, modification, and reuse of fortified centers across different historical periods. The evidence indicates that successive dynasties including the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Bahmani Sultanate, and Deccan Sultanates consistently utilized the region's geographic advantages to construct forts and administrative capitals that ensured military control and administrative efficiency. The transition of political power in the region led to significant changes in the spatial organization of governance, most notably the shift of capitals such as the relocation from Gulbarga to Bidar under the Bahmani rulers, reflecting evolving administrative priorities and strategic requirements. Architectural and historical data show that forts in the region were not isolated military installations but multifunctional urban spaces that integrated administrative buildings, residential quarters, water systems, religious structures, and trade facilities. The construction techniques and design patterns demonstrate a synthesis of indigenous building traditions with Persianate and Indo-Islamic architectural influences, particularly during the Sultanate period, indicating cultural interaction and adaptation over time. The forts of Gulbarga, Bidar, and Raichur consistently appear as major nodes

of political authority, economic activity, and military defense, showing long-term continuity in their importance across dynastic changes.

The findings also indicate that the region's forts were closely linked to control over trade routes, agricultural resources, and territorial boundaries, which contributed to their sustained relevance in medieval governance systems. At the same time, the repeated renovation and expansion of these structures reflect changing military technologies and evolving defense requirements. However, present-day conditions of many of these sites reveal partial neglect and insufficient conservation, which has resulted in structural deterioration and limited accessibility for detailed historical study. The existing scholarly literature predominantly focuses on individual dynasties or specific monuments, while integrated dynastic analyses of forts and capitals as interconnected systems remain limited, highlighting a significant gap in historical research on the Hyderabad-Karnataka region.

## CONCLUSION

The study of medieval forts and capital cities in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region from a dynastic perspective highlights the region's deep historical significance within the broader framework of Deccan history. The findings demonstrate that forts and capitals were not merely military or administrative units, but dynamic centers that reflected the political ambitions, cultural values, and strategic priorities of successive ruling dynasties. Across different periods—from the early medieval rule of the Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas to the later dominance of the Bahmani Sultanate and Deccan Sultanates—the region witnessed continuous transformation in fort architecture, urban planning, and capital relocation. These changes were closely linked to shifts in political power, military requirements, and administrative efficiency. Forts such as Gulbarga, Bidar, and Raichur emerged as key strategic and administrative centers, shaping the course of regional history. The study also reveals that these fortified cities functioned as integrated urban spaces where governance, trade, culture, and daily life coexisted. The architectural evolution of these forts reflects a synthesis of indigenous and Indo-Islamic traditions, demonstrating cultural interaction and adaptation over time. However, the present condition of many of these historical structures indicates neglect and insufficient preservation efforts, underscoring the urgent need for conservation and systematic documentation. Despite their historical importance, several sites remain under-researched and vulnerable to deterioration. In conclusion, the medieval forts and capital cities of the Hyderabad-Karnataka region stand as enduring symbols of the region's rich dynastic heritage. A comprehensive understanding of their development not only enriches the study of Deccan history but also emphasizes the importance of preserving this cultural legacy for future generations.

## REFERENCES

1. Michell, G., & Eaton, R. M. (1992). *The Architecture of the Deccan Sultanates*. Cambridge University Press.
2. Yazdani, G. (1947). *Bidar: Its History and Monuments*. Oxford University Press.
3. Eaton, R. M. (2005). *A Social History of the Deccan, 1300–1761: Eight Indian Lives*. Cambridge University Press.
4. Michell, G. (1995). *Architecture and Art of the Deccan Sultanates*. Cambridge University Press.
5. Nilakanta Sastri, K. A. (1955). *A History of South India*. Oxford University Press.
6. Thapar, R. (2002). *Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300*. University of California Press.
7. Altekar, A. S. (1960). *The Rashtrakutas and Their Times*. Oriental Book Agency.
8. Kamath, S. U. (2001). *A Concise History of Karnataka*. MCC Publications.
9. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). (Various Reports). *Monuments of Karnataka and Deccan Region*. Government of India.
10. *Gazetteer of Karnataka*. (Various Volumes). Government of Karnataka Publications.
11. Wagoner, P. B. (1996). *Sultan among Hindu Kings: Dress, Titles, and the Islamicization of Hindu Culture at Vijayanagara*. Oxford University Press.

- 
12. Eaton, R. M. (2008). *The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier (for comparative Deccan context)*. University of California Press.
  13. Michell, G., & Peterson, J. (2008). *Brick Temples of the Vijayanagara Empire and Related Monuments*. Oxford University Press.
  14. Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). *Research Papers on Deccan History*. New Delhi.
  15. *District Gazetteer Series: Kalaburagi, Bidar, Raichur*. Government of Karnataka.