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There were five prominent dominions of the Kalinga Ganga family in initial days: Kalinganagara (Srikakulam), Svetaka Mandala (Ganjam), Giri Kalinga (Simhapur), Ambabadi Mandala (Gunupur, Rayagada) and Vartanni Mandala (Hinjilikatu, Ganjam).

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

ThenTriKalinga defination was different.

In the heartland of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty had 3 parts of Kalinga namely, Daksina Kalinga (Pithapura), Madhya Kalinga (Yellamanchili Kalinga or Visakhapatnam), Uttara Kalinga (districts of Srikakulam, Ganjam, Gajapati and Rayagada).

During the rule of Vajrahasta V from 1038-1070 A.D the Gangas started playing a prominent role from the southern horizon of the already weakening later Somavanshi kingdom.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

He introduced the Anka year of calculation system for the regnal years of the kings and this continued as a standard norm for future kings of ancient Odisha.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

One of his predecessors had tried to unite the Ganga dominions in the Kalinga Dandapat area unsuccessfully. Vajrahasta V had not only united the Ganga domain but also had defeated the Somavanshis in his northern frontiers.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

He established firm diplomatic and military relations with the Kalachuris (enemies of the Somavanshi) by marrying a princess from their family. He was also married to a princess of Ceylonese royal descent.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Rajaraja Deva I expanded his successor expanded the kingdom over the united Ganga dominions. He ascended the throne in 1070 A.D, the same as the year of ascension of the Chola Kulottunga I (later crowned as Chola emperor).

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

One of his Ganga Prasasti inscriptions clearly says that he fought the Chola king over the territories of Vengi in the south, which means he invaded the opponent to be certain. he was married to Chola princess Rajasundari.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Despite ruling for only eight years, Rajaraja I was able to defeat the Somavanshi ruler 'Mahasivagupta' Janmenjaya II at the time of its pinnacle of achievements taking into consideration the completion of architectural marvels like the Lingaraja Temple.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

The Southern portion of the Somavanshi territory became a Ganga domain. The Dirghasi temple inscription of Rajaraja I mentions his Brahmin commander in chief called Vanapati had assisted him in conquests.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

He succeeded in defeating all the enemies on multiple fronts like the Chola, Utkala (Somavanshis), Gidrisingi, Khemidi, Dakshina Koshala (Kalachuris) and Vengi (Eastern Chalukyas).

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Chodaganga Deva: he lost, his father Rajaraja Deva I at the age of five while his younger brother Parmardi was only three years. He was heir to the expanding Ganga dominion, which was directly in conflict with the Cholas and Somavanshis

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

The territory of Vengi became a fierce contest for the Gangas though ruled by the Cholas directly after defeating the Eastern Chalukiyas.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

The relations between Chola Dynasty and Eastern Ganga Dynasty were strong due to Marital and trade ties. However, during the rule of the third governor Vikramchoda Chola, hostilities began again.

The Tamil classic Kalingattuparani says that due to non-payment of tributes (in defiance to Chola authority) Kulotunga sent the Chola army who defeated the Ganga kingdom and returned to his master collecting lots of wealth.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Historical estimation says that Chodaganga was married to Chodadevi, a Chola princess as per Daksarama inscription. Virachoda the former governor of Vengi had married off his daughter to him and settled in Kalinga acting as a guardian to him.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Chodaganga was, invited by the Somavanshi Brahmin minister and general, Vasudeva Ratha to oust the incompetent Somavanshi king. According to folklores, Chodaganga Deva reached Bhubaneswar with his army and dressed as a performer at the Somavanshi court..

..in Jajpur, he sneaked into their defenses with some of his companions. The overthrowing of the Somavanshi rule was an internal coup, which reinstated Chodaganga as king.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Dagoba inscription says that he fought with the Pala king of Bengal, Ramapala with the help his rival Sena chief, Vijaya Sena and defeated him at Aramayinagar.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty.

After many other conquests and reclamations, Chodaganga Deva unified most of the ancient Kalingan geography except the western regions and an imperial era began. He was the undisputed ruler of a landmass stretching from the river Ganga to Godavari.

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

Stone panel at a temple in Puri depicting Gangeswara Anantavarman Chodaganga Deba

Eastern Ganga Dynasty

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