

Gingee Fort

Prelims: *Current events of National & International importance | Art and culture*

Why in News?

Recently, Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu was recognised as UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Gingee fort

- **Located in** - Villupuram district, **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Located atop three hillocks** - Rajagiri, Krishnagiri and Chandragiri
- **Built by** - Ananta Kon of the **Konar Dynasty**.
- **Built in** - 1200 CE.
- **Known as** -The 'Troy of the East.'
- **Part of** -The Maratha Military Landscapes.



- **Historic legacy** - It was under the possession of several empires, such as the Vijayanagar Nayaks, Marathas, Mughals, Nawabs, the French and British.
- **Features**- Stepped well, a Kalyana Mahal, a durbar hall, a cannon, a clock tower, an armoury, an elephant tank, a stable, a granary, a gymnasium, the Venkataramana temple, and the Sadathtulla mosque.
- **Water supply system** -It consists of two elaborate systems for water supply, which ensured that even the top of the structure had continuous supply of water.

Maratha Military Landscapes of India

- The *network of 12 forts* demonstrates the strategic military vision and architectural ingenuity of the Maratha Empire.
- **Located in** - Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
- **Constructed during** - 17th to 19th centuries CE.
- **Selected sites** - Salher, Shivneri, Lohgad, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg, and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra.
- Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.
- **Classifications** -Based on the location
 - **Hill forts** - Salher, Shivneri, Lohgad, Raigad, Rajgad, and Gingee.
 - **Hill forest forts** - Pratapgad.
 - **Hill-plateau fort** - Panhala.
 - **Coastal fort** - Vijaydurg.
 - **Island forts** -Khanderi, Suvarnadurg, and Sindhudurg.

Reference

[PIB| UNESCO World Heritage Site- Maratha Military Landscapes](#)

