

## Jakkammal Karadu

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### Why in News?

Recently, The Centre for Heritage and Ecological Research through Arts and Literature (Cheral) has urged the Tamil Nadu government to declare Jakkammal Karadu for a dual recognition.

- **Jakkammal Karadu** - It is a historically significant hill and archaeological site.
- **Location** - Andipatti, Theni district, Tamil Nadu.
- **Dual recognition**
  - It is to be recognised as an Archaeological protected monument under the Tamil Nadu Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1966,
  - Biodiversity heritage site under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

### Archaeological Significance

- **Evidence of Human Habitation** - The hill shows continuous human presence from the Neolithic period (early stone age) up to recent times.
- **Archaeological Discoveries**
  - Neolithic tools and Megalithic potsherds found on the site.
  - Megalithic cave paintings (white pigment) on the northern side of the hill.
  - A 9<sup>th</sup>-century Jain Tirthankara sculpture on the western side.
  - A 400-year-old hero stone near the hill.
- **Current scenario** - These relics are decaying due to lack of protection and without conservation, they face the risk of disappearing permanently.

### Quick Facts

## **The Centre for Heritage and Ecological Research through Arts and Literature (Cheral)**

- It is a ***Madurai-based*** non-profit research organization.
- The centre champions the ecological conservation of indigenous habitats.

### **Reference**

[The Hindu| Jakkammal Karadu](#)

