

## The historical point of view from Patan (Anhilpur Patan)

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### Abstract :

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Vanraj Chavda had founded Anahilpur Patan in 802 CE as the capital of his state. The capital was named on his friend name Anhil Bharvad. Anahilpur Patan was famous as capital in the era of Vanraj Chavda and Solanki or the Chaulukya dynasty. Patan was ruled by powerful kings like King Bhimdev, Siddhraj Jaisinh, Kumarpal. Udan, Munjal Mehta, Tejpal – Vastupal were secretaries to Kings in different eras of Chaulukya kingdom. Jain Scholars like Hemchandrachrya, Shanti Suri and Shripal had guided to the kingdom. Acharya Hemchandrachrya was a Jain scholar, poet, and polymath who wrote on grammar, philosophy and contemporary history. He gained the title “Kalikal Sarvgn”, “the all-knowing of the Kali Yuga”.

This research paper seeks to reach the historical information of Patan. What did patan do in the past and where is he going today? Attempts are also made to inform the historical information of Patan and its tourist sites.

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### Introduction:

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Patan was founded in the 8th century by the Chavada ruler Vanaraja as "Anahilpattak". During the 10th – 13th centuries, the city served as the capital of the Chalukyas, which suppressed the Chavadas. Historian Tertius Chandler estimates that Anhilwara (Patan is built on this ancient city) was the tenth-largest city in the world in the year 1000, with a population of about 100,000.

Muhammad's commander and later Delhi's Sultan Qutb-ud-din Aybak sacked the city between 1200 and 1210, and it was destroyed in 1298 by Alauddin Khilji. The modern city of Patan later flourished near the ruins of Anhilwara. From 1304 to 1411, after the fall of the Delhi Sultanate at the end of the 14th century, the first Patan was the Diocese headquarters of the Delhi Sultanate and the capital of the Gujarat Sultanate. A new fort was built by these subs, a large portion of which (with some gates) still remains. The old fort of the Hindu kingdom has almost disappeared and only one wall can be seen on the way from Kalka to Rani's Vav. In 1411, Sultan Ahmad Shah moved the capital to Ahmedabad.

Patan was a part of Baroda state from the mid-18th century until India's independence from 1947 when Baroda became a part of the Bombay state, which was separated into Gujarat and Maharashtra in 1960.

The valor of Vanararaj Sinh is reflected in the fact that he made the state capital on the plains of North Gujarat. No hill, no huge fort. It was said that western and northern India did not have the same power axis during his tenure.

### **Information on the World Heritage and other sights.**

Two famous architectural monuments have the status of national monuments. One of them is Sahastralinga Talab and the other is Queen Charanvati. Rani Ki Vav is a complex construction site located in Patan city of Gujarat, India. It is situated on the banks of river Saraswati. Rani ki Vav was built by King Bhimdev of the 11th century as a memorial for his queen Rani Udmati. It was added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites on 22 June 2014. Another historical monument of Patan is the Sahastralinga tank or Sahastralinga Talav, a medieval artificial water tank that was commissioned during the Chalukya (Solanki) rule.

Hemachandracharya library, Jain temple and Kalika Mataji temple of King Siddharaj Jai Singh are important places in Patan. Patan was an important part of the era of Vadodara state. The newly formed Patan district has a taluka of Radhanpur, which was part of the Babi Nawab dynasty. Siddhpur is famous as the "Matru Tarpan Tirth" for the historic Rudra Mahal and Bindu lake. Shankheshwar Jain Temple is located in the center of Shankheshwar city in Patan district. The temple is dedicated to the Lord Parshwanath, an important place of pilgrimage for followers of Jainism.

The ancient capital of Gujarat state "Anilpur Patan" is famous for its golden history as a cultural center with intricate sculptures of patola sarees and handicrafts.

### **Currently About Patan**

Patan district was formed on 2-10-97 from parts of Mahesana and Banaskantha districts. Patan district was formed including Patan, Siddhpur, Chansma, Harij and Sami taluka of Mahesana district and Radhanpur and Santalpur taluka of Banaskantha district. The district headquarters is Patan.

Patan district consists of nine talukas: Patan, Santalpur, Radhanpur, Siddhpur, Harij, Sami, Chensma, Saraswati and Sankeshwar. Patan district is located between 20 ° 41 'to 23 ° 55' north latitude and 71 ° 31 'east longitude to 72 ° 20'. The area of Patan district is 5600 sq km. Banaskantha district is bordered on the north and northwest and Kutch district in the west. To the south and south-east, is the desert of Kutch and some part of Surendranagar district. Apart from this, located in the east part of Patan is Mahesana district.

### **Rani ki Vav ( Queen's Stepwell )**

Rani ki Vav or 'Queen's Stepwell' is a unique step in a small town in Gujarat called Patan. Situated on the banks of the Saraswati River, it is not only a distinctive form of water resources and storage system, but also represents unique craftsmanship. Rani Ki Vav is a complex construction site located in Patan city of Gujarat, India. It is situated on the banks of river Saraswati. Rani ki Vav was built as a memorial to King Bhimdev I of the 11th century. It was added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites on 22 June 2014. Stepwells are a typical form of underground water resources and storage systems on the Indian subcontinent. And has been constructed since the third millennium BC. Rani ki Vav was constructed in the intricate Maru-Gurjara architectural style with seven levels of inverted temple and staircase and has more than 500 major sculptures.

Rani Ki Vav won the title of "Cleanest Iconic Place" in India at the Indian Sanitation Conference (INDOCIN) 2016 in October 2016 in New Delhi. The conference was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### **Jain Temple Panchasara**

Patan has 100 more temples dedicated to various deities, including some Jain temples. The most famous of these are Mahavir Swami Daiser in Dhanadherwad and Panchsara Daiser. The other five are the waterways. In this complex, there are Dharamshala and Bhojashalas with all facilities for the last several years, a three-day festival is celebrated on the occasion of the anniversary of Jinlaya.

One of the largest temples is the Panchasara Parshwanath Jain Derasar, which has sophisticated stone carvings and white marble floors, depicting huge Jain architecture. All Jain temples were first built in wood, but the builder Uday Mehta announced that all the temples would be built in stone, as a small accident could destroy the entire temple. The Gyan Mandir has about

twenty five thousand ancient manuscripts of Sanskrit and Prakrit, due to which Patan became a seat for learning Sanskrit and Prakrit. It is the richest collection of its kind in India and testifies to the fact that Patan was once a place where real scholars flourished. Hemachandracharya Gyan Mandir is located near Panchasara Jain Temple.

## Sahastraling lake

Sahasralinga lake is a medieval artificial water tank in Patan, Gujarat, India. It was commissioned during the Chaulukya (Solanki) rule. It is a Monument of National Importance protected by Archaeological Survey of India

The Sahastraling lake was originally known as Durlabh Saravor and was constructed by King Durlabh Raja and was repaired and renovated by King Siddharaj during 1093 – 1143 A.D. This is one of the biggest tanks of the Solanki period. The chronicles and inscriptions of the period mentioned the construction of lakes, wells, reservoirs, etc. by the royal personages as well as citizens. Of the lakes and tanks, specimens are in the lake at Viramgam, called Mansarovar or Mansar Lake, Tank at Modhera and the famous Sahastralinga Talao at Patan. The tank at Viramgam is almost circular and having a flight of steps, which leads down to the water. Many small shrines are constructed on the surface platform. In Sahastraling Talao the water was taken from river Saraswati in the deep RudraKupa and it was allowed to run through the channels in the stone inlet and then in the circular tank. Small temples, nearly 1000, were constructed in between inlet and RudraKupa. These temples are approached through the bridge, as the water was flowing all around the temples.

## Patola Of Patan

Beautiful hand woven Patola sarees are famous all over the world and Patan is said to be the home of Patola artists. It is one of the most sought-after constipation for women. Patola is a double ikat woven saree, usually made from silk, made in Patan, Gujarat, India. The word patola is a plural form; The singular is patolu. They are very expensive, belonging only to royal and aristocratic families. These sarees are popular among those who can afford high prices. Velvet Patola styles are also made in Surat. Patola-weaving is a closely guarded family tradition. Three families in Patan weave these highly prized double ikat sarees. It is said that this technique is not taught to anyone in the family, but only to sons. It can take from six months to a year to make a saree before weaving together, due to the long process of dying each strand separately. Patola

woven in Surat, Ahmedabad and Patan. Highly valued in Indonesia, it became part of the local weaving tradition.

### **Evaluation**

Patan is an ancient Garhwali town, founded in 745 AD. The most prominent king of the Chavada Empire was by Vanraj Chavda. He named the city "Anhilpur Patan" or "Anhilwad Patan" after his close friend and Prime Minister Anil Gadaria.

Rani-ki-Vav, on the banks of the Saraswati River was initially built as a memorial to a king in the 11th century AD. Stepwells are a distinctive form of ground water resource and storage systems on the Indian subcontinent and have been constructed since the 3rd century BCE. They evolved from a pit in sandy soil towards elaborate multi-story works of art and architecture. Rani-ki-Vav was built at the height of the craftsman's ability in the stepwell construction and Maru-Gurjar architectural style, reflecting the mastery of this complex technique and the great beauty of detail and proportion. Built as an inverted temple highlighting the sanctity of the water, it is divided into seven levels of stairs with sculptural panels of high artistic quality; More than 500 theory sculptures and more than a thousand minors combine religious, mythological and secular imagery, often referencing literary works. The fourth level is the deepest and at a depth of 23 meters a rectangular tank goes 9.5 meters by 9.4 meters. This well is located at the western end of the property and has a shaft 10 meters in diameter and 30 meters deep.

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