

Pandavula Gutta

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Key Facts

Pandavula Gutta

Pandavula Gutta, a geological marvel older than the Himalayan hills was recently recognized as the sole **Geo-heritage site in Telangana**.



[Ref- The Hindu]

About Pandavula Gutta:

- **Pandavula Konda** is a site of Paleolithic cave paintings in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district in Telangana.
- It was first discovered in 1990 and is also called **Pandavula Gutta or Regonda Mandal**.
- A series of hillocks running north to south known as **Pandava Guhalu (Caves) or Pandava Guttalu (Hills)**.
- These cave paintings offer a rare glimpse into the **prehistoric man's rock art** identified on walls and ceilings of caves, rock shelters, and isolated boulders.
- A few natural paintings on these rocks depict the **lifestyle and their hunting methods**.
- It includes **wildlife like** Bison, Antelope, Tiger, Leopard, peacocks, lizards, frogs, fishes, deer, etc., and geometrical designs and impressions in green, red, yellow, and white pigments.
- **Symbols** like swastika, circles and squares, weapons such as bows, arrows, swords and lancer are present in these paintings.
- Some of the **images were superimposed**, depicting highly developed anatomical features and curves.
- **Inscriptions from Rastrakutan** times and **fresco paintings** of the **late medieval period** have also been reported from these hillocks.
- Pandavula Gutta is rich in terms of number of paintings, rock shelters and its habitation, right from the **Mesolithic to medieval times**.
- Its name is derived from the portrayal of **Pandavas of Mahabharatha** on one of the boulders as they spent some time in these caves.
- The shelters are **locally known as** Mekkabanda, Mugessabanda, Pandi Parvatha, Shakthi Parvatham, Jyothi Parvatham, Yanadula Guha, Eduru Pandavulu, Kuntidevi, Pancha Pandavlu.

About Geo-Heritage Sites:

- The [Geological Survey of India \(GSI\)](#), under the **Ministry of Mines**, declares geo-heritage sites/ **national geological monuments** for protection and maintenance.
- The **GSI or the respective state governments** take necessary measures to protect these sites.
- [Geo-heritage sites](#) contain geo-relics and phenomena, stratigraphic type sections, geological structures, and geomorphic landforms of **national and international interest**.
- It includes such portion of land adjoining the site, that may be required for their **conservation or access** to such sites.

Some of the **important Geo-heritage sites** in India include:

- Volcanogenic bedded Barytes in Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh
- Erra Matti Dibbalu in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Varkala Cliff Section in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Sedimentary Structures- Eddy Markings, Kadan Dam, Gujarat
- Barr Conglomerate in Pali District, Rajasthan
- Lonar Lake in Buldana District, Maharashtra
- Siwalik Fossil Park in Sirmur, Himachal Pradesh
- Nagahill Ophiolite, Nagaland
- Stromatolite bearing Dolomite / Limestone of Buxa, Sikkim