

# TRC Journal of Telangana Studies

Vol. I, No.1

April - June 2019

■ "It was not surprising that the Telangana region stood out as a harbinger of composite culture from the sixteenth century. The feeling of secularism and composite culture, in due course, made Hyderabad a haven to live in. This was the reason that the famous poet Faiz described Hyderabad as the Garden of Eden."



*Inscription on stray Mantapa Pillar, Ashoknagar*

- Hyderabad - A Beacon of Composite Culture
- The Interpretation of Megalithic Cup-Marks
- Christianity and Dalit Bahujan Empowerment in Telangana
- ఓరుగల్లు మంత్రి ఎనుములపల్లి పెద్దన



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Hyderabad-500029, Telangana, India.

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*Vedakumar Manikonda on behalf of*

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## ***Foreword : A Note from the Publisher***

Welcome to the inaugural issue of TRC Journal of Telangana Studies, a bilingual, peer-reviewed academic journal. With its broad scope, it aims to bridge the gap between the public, academia, practicing professionals, and research in history, archaeology, arts and literature of the region and now state of Telangana.

Let me introduce myself to those of you whom I have not had the chance to know. I received a Bachelor of Technology degree in civil engineering from Mysore University. At the postgraduate level, I studied urban and regional planning at Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University. I began my career in the Roads and Buildings Department in the erstwhile Government of Andhra Pradesh, but I have been a heritage activist for over 2 decades now. I also care deeply about the environment, having started Forum for a Better Hyderabad and Telangana Resource Centre (TRC) to advance research and advocacy in these areas.

Over the years, TRC has felt that there was a dearth of quality academic research, especially in the English language, on Telangana. This opinion was seconded by Professor Adapa Satyanarayana and other eminent scholars in the state. We jointly decided to start the TRC Journal of Telangana Studies for the purpose of disseminating information, sharing rigorous academic research and uncovering the unexplored sections of Telangana's history, culture and society. As TRC has always endeavoured to promote original academic research, we came forward to undertake the publication of the journal.

In addition to advancing scholarly knowledge on the aforementioned topics, this journal is designed to shed light on the historical context of the culture of Telangana and the influence of progressive social movements on the fabric of the state. There are other journals that cover these issues, but only as a subset of a wider range of topics across a larger region. This journal will be unique in that it will make available in one place all contemporary research on various aspects of life in Telangana.

The inaugural issue includes several academic papers. They determine the narrative of the journal and set the tone for all subsequent issues, which will include original research in the form of articles, book reviews, and contextual work. The journal will also include obituaries of eminent personalities, either recently deceased or as a tribute on an anniversary.

As publisher, I have the deepest gratitude for all the authors for their excellent works and remarkable contributions. We look forward to receiving more outstanding scholastic work. I hope this journal finds you at a good time, inspires your interest in the affairs of Telangana, informs your understanding and encourages necessary discourse. With this, I wish you a pleasant reading.

*-Vedakumar Manikonda*

Hyderabad,  
29.03.2019

Publisher,  
TRC Journal of Telangana Studies

## EDITORIAL

The TRC Journal of Telangana Studies will be brought out quarterly. It is bilingual, i.e., English and Telugu. The journal covers subjects relating to history, culture, explorations, excavations, epigraphs, art, letters and folklore. The Editorial Board encourages well-researched articles of new facts, findings, interpretations and analysis, supported by authentic sources and with scientific and innovative approach/perspective on subjects including Archaeology, History, Sociology, Arts and Letters and Folklore. Academicians, research scholars, students and public intellectuals are requested to contribute for the enrichment of rich tangible and intangible heritage of Telangana. In view of the objectives of the journal, articles with interdisciplinary approach are invited.

In the current issue of the journal, K. P. Rao has correlated megalithic cup marks found in Mudumal (South Telangana) with space stars suggesting the prehistoric knowledge of the region. A newly explored inscription of Ashoknagar (Pakala) of Kakatiya Ganapatideva's reign (1231 A.D) is rendered and placed in the historical context by Dyavanapalli Satyanarayana. Salma Ahmed Farooqui's article highlights the importance of composite culture that has manifested in many socio-cultural paradigms, especially during the times of the Asaf Jahis of Hyderabad. A Telugu article on Enumula Peddanna by Sanganabatla Narsaiah is related to classical Telugu literature and to the ministerial history of post-Kakatiya kingdom of Orugul. Two articles - one on Christianity and Dalit Bahujan Empowerment by Adapa Satyanarayana and another on Dalits' Struggle for Identity by Sangishetty Srinivas, are complementary to each other and together they explore new avenues of research. There are two short write-ups contextualizing the celebrations of a Dalit leader of Travancore and a cultural tradition of Telangana.

This journal is titled 'TRC Journal of Telangana Studies' and it seeks to include not only the present day geographical boundaries of the region, but goes beyond mere dynastic history of the Satavahanas, Vishnukundis, Chalukyas, Bahamanis, QutbShahis, AsafJahis, who ruled over considerable territories of the other adjoining states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for many centuries. Therefore, the editors encourage multi-disciplinary studies from scholars on the macro Telangana region from the earliest times to the present.

- *Adapa Satyanarayana*

Editor,

TRC Journal of Telangana Studies

Hyderabad,  
25.03.2019

## GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

1. Articles for publication should be neatly typed, double-spaced with wide margins, on one side of an A4 side paper. Font: Times New Roman; Size: 12 pt.; Line Spacing: 1.5; Italics are used for emphasis. Sub-headings are not to be numerated.
2. For referencing, Chicago Manual of Style is preferred in the following order:  
Authors Name. Year of Publication. Title of the book in italics. Place of Publication: Name of the Publisher/Press.  
Book titles and Journal titles are given in italics; article titles in “quotation marks”. Foot-notes/End-notes should end with full stops.
3. Long quotations are to be indented and marked by a new paragraph. Omissions and additions are marked by “square brackets [...]”.
4. Please submit a printed copy of the article and a soft copy by email. A hard copy is essential.
5. The length of the article should be preferably between 2500 and 6000 words, without references.
6. Please submit a synopsis of the article in about 150 words and bio-data of the contributor (with email address) in not more than 100 words.
7. Contributors are requested to provide both their postal and email addresses to facilitate communication.
8. Please keep illustrations and photos to a minimum. They should be reducible to fit in the print area (10 x 18 cm) of the page, along with the caption. Please number the illustrations and photos, and correlate them with the text.
9. All contributions will be peer-reviewed and copy-edited. No significant changes will be made by the editorial team without referring to the contributor.
10. Two copies of the issue in which the article has been published will be mailed to the contributor.



