



Mendha Cannon

Fort on the Southern side of Bharat Mata Temple. The excavation has revealed very interesting evidence of a multi-cultural medieval township inside the fort. On the basis of evidence the site has been divided into three phases i.e. **Yadava, Sultanate & Mughal**. House complexes of stone masonry, loose architectural members, sculptures of Brahmanical gods & goddesses, Jain Tirthankara & deities were unearthed during the excavation. The house complexes of later period clearly show they are of reused stone masonry having rammed mud floors and mud plaster. Most of the houses have rectangular halls, square rooms and produced evidence of chulhas with in situ pots, storage jars and domestic equipments in the kitchen. The silo and underground chamber with steps leading down to a cellar are noteworthy here. The important findings include coins of Gold, Silver, and Copper belonging to Sultanate, Vijayanagar and Mughal periods. Beads of semiprecious stones and glass, ceramic finds and various antiquities of Ivory, Iron, Copper, Terracota & stone also found. The above remains are datable to circa 11th - 18th Centuries A.D.

Daulatabad Fort Museum : The Aamkhas building which was once an entrance to the Hammam is now converted into a museum with a courtyard. While the sculptures are displayed all around the courtyard in the cloister with a translucent roof, the small antiquities are exhibited in the show cases in the Aamkhas building. The Sculptures are of **Yadava period** except for a few which are from Ellora. Figures of **Lord Ganesh, Shakti Ganesh, Kirtimukha, Urushringa, Jain Tirthankara**, and **Nagabandha** are important here. A marble sculpture of **Mahishasurmardini** with an inscription on the pedestal is a marvelous piece belonging to Yadav period. The important antiquities inside the showcases are objects of ivory and bone, terracota figurines of human and animal, figures of Gods and Tirthankaras, metal objects, beads of semiprecious stones, coins of gold, silver and copper, arms and armory datable from 12th - 18th Centuries A.D. covering the period from the Yadavas upto the Nizams of Hyderabad.

Daulatabad Fort represents an unique combination of military engineering, amazing town planning, unique water management system and Architectural marvels with strong political and religious hold.

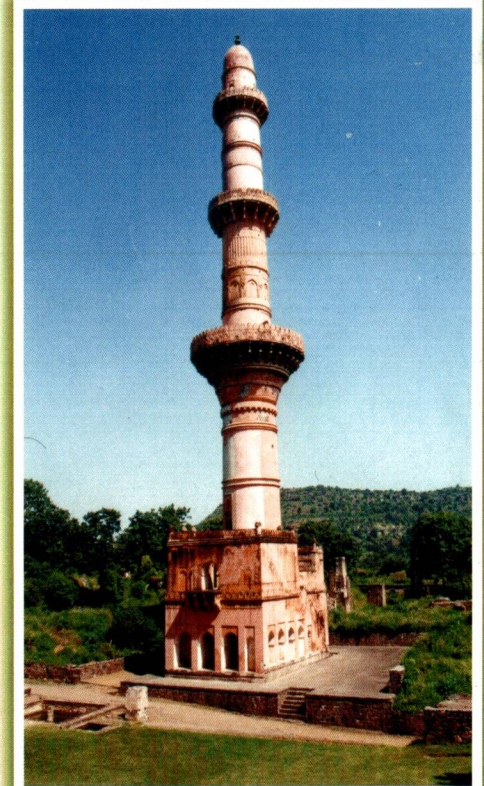
Opening Hours
Sunrise to Sunset

Entrance Fee :
Indian Citizens : Rs. 5/-
Foreigners : \$2 or Rs. 100/-

Children of 15 years of age and below :
Entry Free

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Daulatabad Fort



प्रलकीर्तिमपावृणु

Archaeological Survey of India
Aurangabad Circle
Aurangabad



Entrance

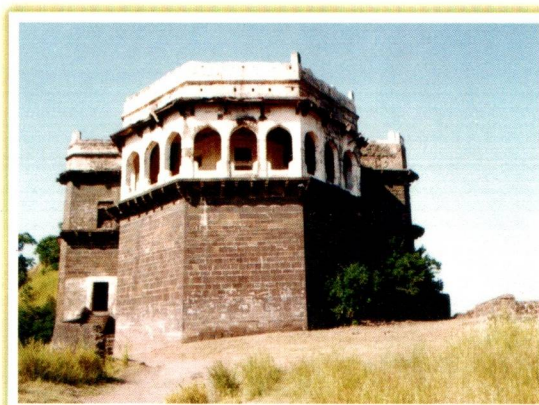
Daulatabad Fort (19°57' N; 75°15' E) also known as **Deogiri** (The hill of Gods), was the capital of Yadavas (11th - 13th Century A.D.) After several invasions Khilji's made a successful campaign and annexed the fort for Delhi Sultanate. In 1328 A.D., **Muhammad-Bin-Tughlaq** renamed Deogiri as Daulatabad (Abode of Wealth) and shifted the capital from Delhi to Daulatabad. But for various reasons he re-transferred his capital back to Delhi. In 1347 A.D. Daulatabad came under the control of Bahamanis and remained until the 16th Century A.D. In 1633 A.D., it was captured by the Mughals after a prolonged siege against the **Deccan Sultanate** (Nizamshahi of Ahmednagar). It was thereafter under Mughal supremacy until the death of Aurangzeb (1707 A.D.) For a short period Daulatabad was under control of the Marathas. Finally Nizams of Hyderabad took control on it in 1724 A.D. The Nizam Government maintained a token military presence here till 1949 A.D. when it became part of the Indian Union.

Daulatabad Fort was enlarged with fortification walls and structures as the fort passed

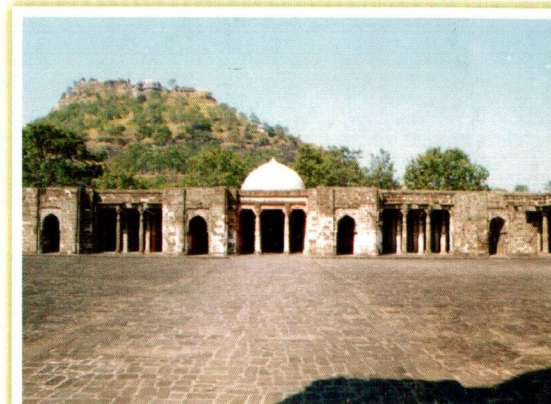
from one hand to the other and from one dynasty to another. The fort was divided into various segments called as Parkot, Kalakot, Mahakot & Ambarkot. The entire fort complex together with all fortification walls consists of water tanks and stepped wells, Bharat mata temple, Kacheri (court), Aamkhas building (hall of public audience), Chandminar, Hammam, Chinimahal, Rangmahal, Moat (Kandak), Andheri (The dark passage) & Baradari besides 10 unfinished rock cut caves belonging to the Yadava period. The famous medieval Saint Janardhan Swami the guru of Eknath attained Samadhi on the top of the hill.

Bharat Mata temple : It was originally a Jain temple of Yadav period and was converted into Jama mosque during **Qutubuddin Mubaraq Khilji** (1318 A.D.) and later in 1949 A.D. renamed as Bharat Mata Temple. Architectural members of earlier temples were used for the construction.

Hathi Hauz : It is the biggest water reservoir in Daulatabad fort built of dressed stone blocks with a narrow steps along the side walls leading to the water level. Due to its big size it is called as Hathi Hauz.



Baradari



Bharat Mata Temple

Chandminar : This is a victory tower built by Sultan Ahmed Shah- II (1436 - 58) of Bahmani. after defeating Gujarat; built of dressed stone and decorated with colored tiles. It is 6.5 mts. in circumference at its base and 70 mts. high. Because of the crescent on the top of minar it is called as Chand minar.

Aamkhas : Originally served as an entrance to the Hammam, but later on converted into a palace for a two fold reason, Viz., for royal residence and also for the council hall. It is now used for Museum for displaying the antiquities & sculptures collected from Daulatabad fort and around.

Andheri : A serpentine dark passage used as a defense mechanism to divert the gullible sepoys into traps.

Baradari : Built in 1636 A.D. perhaps for Shah Jahan's visit. It consisting of 13 halls all around central corridor with a pond and fountain open to sky. It was a favourite summer residence of Emperor Shah Jahan and Alamgir Aurangzeb.

Excavated area : Archaeological Survery of India has taken up **scientific excavation** and simultaneous conservation inside the Daulatabad