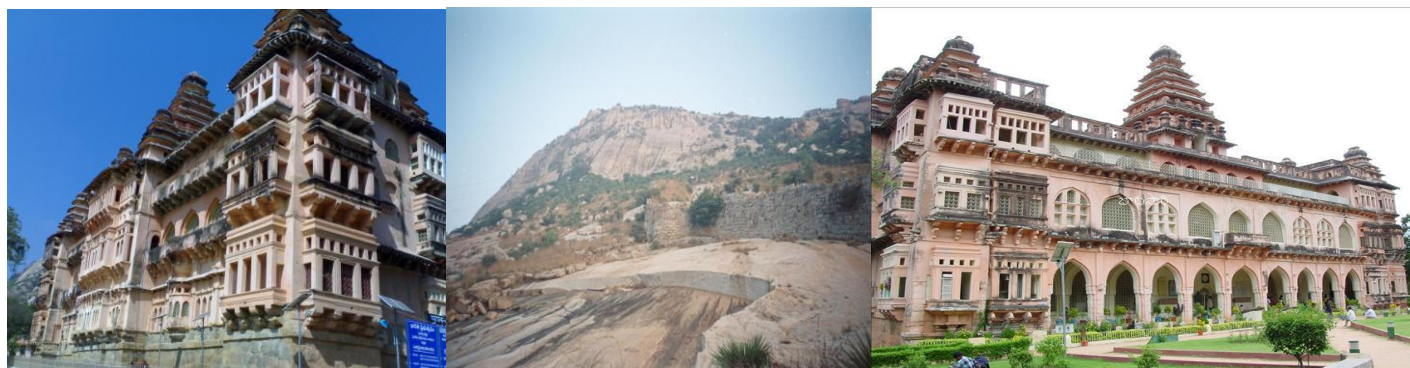




## CHANDRAGIRI

**Chandragiri is a** suburb of Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, India. It is also the southern entrance to the Temple city for vehicles going from Bangalore, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The greatest of Hindu Emperors, Krishnadeva Raya of Vijayanagara Empire was brought up at Chandragiri Fort, before his coronation at Penukonda in Anantapur District.



Chandragiri is famous for the historical fort, built in the 11th century, and the Raja Mahal within it. Chandragiri was under the rule of Yadava Naidus for about three centuries and came into control of Vijayanagar rulers in 1367. It came into prominence during Saluva Narasimha Rayalu, he got the title of Mahamandaleswara and his illustrious Prime minister Chitti Gangarayalu was known for his vision, wisdom and rectitude and was revered as a Bhishma Pitamaha in his times, he was the person who identified intellectualism of Timmarasu and taken him into the service of Chandragiri and later promoted to the Prime minister of Vijayanagar Empire. Gangaraya discendents served the Vijayanagara empire as trusted Generals for several generations, Chandragiri was the 4th capital of Vijayanagar Empire, Rayas shifted their capital to here when Golconda sultans attacked Penukonda. In 1646 the fort was annexed to the Golkonda and subsequently came under Mysore rule. It went into oblivion from 1792 onward. The fort encircles eight ruined temples of saivite and vaishnavite pantheons, Raja Mahal, Rani Mahal and other ruined structures.



| The Lighting shows are scheduled and displayed as follows<br>Daily Shows | Language | Timings         |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| 1st Show   | English  | 7.00 to 7.45 pm |
| 2nd Show   | Telugu   | 8.00 to 8.45 pm |

The Raja Mahal Palace is now an archeological museum. The palace is three storeyed, is an example of Indo-Saracen architecture of Vijayanagar period. The crowning towers represents the Hindu architectural elements. The palace was constructed using stone, brick, lime mortar and devoid of timber. Koneti Naidu, who was made the king of Penukonda by the Vijayanagar Raya was the great-grandson of Vasarasi Kanaka Naidu of Chandragiri Royal Family they belonged to the Balija caste of Andhra Pradesh.

In the fort now, a small museum of sculpture, weapons and memorabilia is housed in the main building, the Indo-Saracenic Raja Mahal. Another building, the Rani Mahal, stands close by, while behind that is a hill with two freestanding boulders that was used as a place of public execution during Vijayanagar times. A little temple from the Krishna Deva Raya period and a freshwater tank stand at the top of the hill behind the Raja Mahal. ***A P T T D C has brought the saga of great Vijayanagara Empire to life with a spectacular Sound and Light show at Chandragiri Fort. The story with breath taking Audio Visual effect unfold the power, Glory and Tragedy of Chandragiri Fort***

**CONNECTIVITY:** It is well connected to Tirupati bus-stand for every 10 min with a local bus service and many buses heading towards chittoor, bangalore and some of the regions of tamil nadu will be passing through the city.