



Jalanatheswarar Temple

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The **Jalanatheswarar temple** at **Thakkolam** in **Ranipet district, Tamil Nadu** is in a deteriorating state.

- The temple is neglected, with a collapsed wall and an overgrown tank. Its last **kumbabishekam (consecration)** was over 15 years ago.

Jalanatheswarar Temple:

- The temple was **originally built in 876 AD** by **Pallava King Aparajitha Varman**, while the **3-tiered Rajagopuram** was added in **1543 AD** by **Vijayanagara King Veera Prathaba Sadasiva Maharayar**.
- It is situated on the banks of **Kosasthalai river**. It holds the **inscriptions** and records from **Pallava king Aparajita** and **Chola King Aditya I**, detailing **grants of land, gold, and goats**.
- The temple showcases **Dravidian-style of architecture**, similar to the **Brihadeeswarar Temple in Thanjavur** and the **Meenakshi Temple in Madurai**.
- The 1.5-acre temple features a **3-tiered gopuram**, granite walls, and a **sand-based Prithvi Lingam (Theenda Thirumeni)** of Lord Shiva (as **Lord Jalantheeswarar**).
- The temple is one of the **275 Paadal Petra Sthalams**, glorified in the **Tevaram hymns** by **Tamil Saivite Nayanar Sambandar**.
 - **Sambandar** was a **7th-century Saiva poet-saint** from Tamil Nadu, who composed 16,000 hymns, with 383 (or 384) surviving in Tamil Shaiva tradition.

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