

Jalanatheswarar Temple

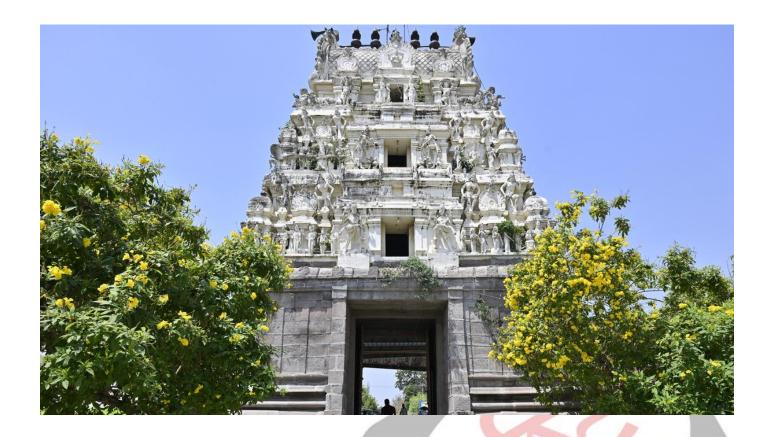
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The **Jalanatheswarar temple** at **Thakkolam** in **Ranipet district, Tamil Nadu** is in a deteriorating state.

 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 <u>Dravidian-style of architecture</u>, similar to the <u>Brihadeeswarar</u> <u>Temple in Thanjavur</u> and the <u>Meenakshi Temple in Madurai</u>.
- 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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