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Chronicles of India

(*Rhionee David)
B. Tech, Agricultural Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore- 641003
*Corresponding Author's email: rhioneedavid@gmail.com

The earliest urban civilization in India to manage water resources is evident in its planning. The Great Bath is one such example. The tank's design and the water-proofing methods show a high level of hydraulic engineering A well is an excavation or structure created in the ground by digging, driving, or drilling to access liquid resources, usually water. The well water is drawn up by a pump, or using containers, such as buckets or large water bags that are raised mechanically or by hand. Wells have traditionally been sunk by hand digging.

A Walk Through Chronicle

I recently had the opportunity to visit Tipu Sultan Fort, and I was struck by its beauty and grandeur. The fort is built on a large laterite platform, and it is surrounded by a moat. One would find it intriguing to know that , Hyder Ali rebuilt this medieval fort in 1766. He is supposed to have built the fort to serve as a common point and to facilitate communication between Coimbatore and Palakkad.

Exploring Moat and Open Well

While crossing the bridge , I was blown away by a colossal moat that surrounds the fort .The exterior rampart was formed by excavating the earth to form an inner moat. Moats are filled with water and is now filled using rain water harvest method.

I spent some time exploring the stepped well situated at the southern corner of the fort which serves as a source of water for the garrisons and the surrounding population. The well turns out to be one of the deepest wells in Kerala. The well also had a pulley system that is used to draw water from the well. The open well is a reminder of the importance of water in the region and is one of the significant feature of the fort , depicting the remarkable water engineering skills. Despite many battle around the fort, the well serves as a symbol of resilience.

Tipu Sultan Fort is a fascinating historical landmark that is full of interesting features. The moat of the fort and the open well turns out to be one of the most notable features of the fort.

Far in the past, I have visited the Golconda Fort in Hyderabad, India, and I was absolutely blown away by the incredible acoustics.720 steps and I walked through all to admire the fish eyed view of Golconda .I was really impressed to know about water engineering skills .

Exploring Step Wells and Water Conveyance

Water is believed to have conveyed through a spiderweb of aqueducts, clay pipes and stormwater drains. Hammam on the right side of the entrance was not open to the visitors. The hammam is not open to visitors. Scented cold and hot water is mixed by pipes at different levels which conveyed water to the hammam. This spotlights the ancient water supply system in Golconda.

I kept asking myself . How did they carry water to the first floor of the fort? I was later taught that bullocks were made to rote the garland wheel through toothed wheel which lifted the water from the well. The stepwells of Golconda won a UNESCO award of distinction. The stepwells were restored with traditional materials and massive stone masonry. Walled enclosures around the royal tombs were irrigated by the stepwells.

The findings in keeladi have proved the finest engineering skills.In all the nine phases of excavations in Keeladi so far, we have found ring wells which further bolsters our view that the site was an industrialised, urban civilisation," Sivananthan said, this proves the ancient tradition of Tamils indicating that they used these wells in river shores and ponds for water.