



# James Burgess Contribution To Karnataka History- A Review Of Editorials Of The Indian Antiquary Volumes

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## **Abstract**

In this article, the review and a study has been carried out about The Indian Antiquary volumes edited by James Burgess, especially his editorial articles pertaining to Karnataka. These volumes provide new dimension to the study of Indian archaeology and history as well as Karnataka culture. These volumes are recognised nationally as the pioneer volumes dealt with the Indian Archaeology and History. In 1872 James Burgess started the Indian Antiquary volumes. He has published many articles as chief editor regarding Indian Historical issues. On Karnataka history and culture some articles were published by him. Research he has done in depth study and new research in field of Karnataka history and culture. To reconstruct the history of Karnataka articles of James Burgess are very useful and ritual important. The volumes of some are used as primary sources along with later publication as a secondary source. The method of study is mainly a historical method. The writings of James Burgess in the volumes of Indian Antiquary are discussed in detail in this paper.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Indian Antiquary volumes are the original Historical research papers relates to India, which enhance the collaborative knowledge of the scholars of India and Europe. These journals are helpful to young researches scholars and archaeologist. James Burgess was the pioneer, who was a editor of The Indian Antiquary volumes. A private scholar called C.I.D.L.L.D Bombay jointly with James Burgess started The Indian Antiquary Journal in 1872 and was the chief Editor.<sup>1</sup> Totally 64 Indian Antiquary volumes were published during the period of 1872-1933.

Earlier 13 volumes were published under the Editorial ship of James Burgess during 1872-1884. In these volumes much information is given about India's History, Art, Literature, Language, and philosophy, Religion, Folk and Study of Inscription. Indian Editorial Antiquary Journals are the treasure of accurate knowledge for the research scholars<sup>2</sup>. They provide a vast knowledge about India. 'to bring together in one publication, of a suitable size for illustrations, the work in all the various lines of Indian historical and archaeological research which was being done by scholars both in India and elsewhere to draw more workers in the field; to provide a medium of communication between writers who live and worked in far different localities; and to make accessible in English translations and abstracts work that was being turned out by some of European scholars in other languages.... Later this journal is succeeded by *The New Indian Antiquary* (1938-47) and *The Indian Antiquary* (1964-71).

The present article discusses about the important feature of James Burgess. Chief editor of Indian antiquary volumes, the main objective of this article to discuss in detail about Karnataka in the volumes of Indian Antiquary. Many articles are published about Indian Historical subjects. Especially the study has been carried out about the areas of Karnataka.

## II. LIFE OF JAMES BURGESS

James Burgess founded the Indian Antiquary Journal in 1872. James Burgess was the great archaeologist of 19<sup>th</sup> century. Great research has been done by him about Indian History and Archaeology. He was the chief director of department of Archaeological survey of India (ASI). He has rendered service more than a half century in the field of Indian History and Archaeology.

The founder of Indian Antiquary volumes, James Burgess (1832-1916)<sup>3</sup> was born in Scotland at Dumprishire. He finished his primary education Dumprishire. He completed his higher education from Glasgow and Durban Universities. He comes to India in 1855 as a Mathematics Professor in Devotee Collage of Calcutta. He was head at the Bombay school. James was included towards the architecture of India and involved himself in the field of research. He also served as Secretary to Bombay Geographical Society 1868-1873.

Earlier James Burgess studied the elephant and Kanheri caves. His initial articles were based on the information of the fossils acquired. In this way his works of historical research began. His first article was '*Temples of Satrunjaya*'. later In 1871<sup>4</sup>, wrote on '*Rock Cut Temples of Elephant*'<sup>5</sup>. These articles gave him initial popularity.<sup>1</sup> He become expert on art and literature. This made the archaeological scholar Cunningham to look at James Barges Cunningham has divided Indian Archeological survey into five parts based on the field study. Each part was dominated with a Assistant Director. James Burgess was nominated has Director for the Western India's Archaeology Department in 1873.

Later in 1881, James Burgess with his scientific work become world famous. He served has the Chief of South India Archaeology Department in 1881<sup>6</sup>. Also worked for the foundation of Antiquaries of India in 1872. This was his prominent work. Due to this James Burgess was given the additional in charge of South India Archaeological Survey. As he was interested in research, James gave importance to the systematic study of South India's history and culture. He visited most of the places of historic importance, and based on the primary information he wrote several articles and books which earned him name and fame.

### III. AN INTROSPECTIVE STUDY OF THE EDITORIAL (ARTICLE) OF JAMES BURGESS ON KARNATAKA.

James Burgess started India Antiquary volumes in 1872. Later in 1874 he was nominated as the head of Western Indian Archaeological Survey (ASI). His first research work carried out in Karnataka. He also visited many places of historical importance and also monuments of Karnataka and has collected the primary data and published them in articles. His form of Further he prepared reports by collecting the source materials through field visit whatever ancient monuments noticed was studied and published the descriptive articles in the Indian Antiquary volumes. In the initial stage his articles were illustrative details of photographs. So, the credit of publishing articles through photographs goes to him.

James Burgess travelled in Southern India and identified the places of historically important art centers and monument. In the foregoing photographs there is a list of places visited by James Burgess and the articles published by him. The important articles are as follows.

#### 1. James Burgess; *Rock-Cut Temple at Badami in the Dekhan-* (1877).

Badami was the town of the then district collectorate Kaladagi. At present Badami is taluka place in Bagalakot district. Badami was the capital city of chalukyias of Badami. It was the center of art and architecture of Chalukyan period. Badami is situated on the banks of Malaprabha, which is about three miles from the town. In the southern part of Badami there is a Banashankari temple. And the Mahakuta temple is situated in the east. Pattadakallu anther art crnter is about 8 miles away from the western side of Badami. One more historically important place of Chalukyan period is Aiholi, it is 8 miles away from Badami towards east. All these places were belonging to Chalukyan period. The earlier name of Badami was "Vatapi" and Pulikeshi I made it as his capital. Four cave temples are carved in Badami which are famous for cave art and

architecture. These places are known not only for historical temples and monuments but for Epigraphical records like Ihole prashasti of Ravikirti and rock cut cave temples<sup>7</sup>.

James Burgess had illustrated narrations with help of photographs. These caves are on the hill top at south west direction of Badami. First cave temple is of Shaivaites which consists of Nataraj sculpture engraved in the wall of cave temple. The photography of this sculpture is posturized (protracted) in his article. The second cave is of Vaishnava cult, here we can find large sculptural image of Trivikraman, this sculpture architecture is described in article. Third cave is the big in size, which is also belongs to Vishnu. And the fourth cave is dedicated to the Jains<sup>8</sup>. These are the finest illustrative exemplaries of architecture. One can find number sculptural carvings relates to many mythological stories, which are captured by James Burgess and are described in this article.

## **2. James Burgess; *The Dolment at Konur and Aihole*-(1874).**

In this articles James Burgess has described about the dolments found at Konur and Aiholi and it is published in is third volume of the Indian Antiquary volume. Dolment is a Persian word. Dolment means a temple, which is covered with huge rocks. Such a Dolments can be found in Konur and Aiholi in Karnataka. He noticed such a specific Dolments, captured them in photography and has narrated about their antiquity. Konur, a village in the Belagavi district on the banks of river Ghataprabha, where the Dolment is the situated. Aiholi situated in 8 miles away from Badami, in the east. Here also many Dolments are discovered. Aiholi has many hub and cardle temples, which makes it the center of art and architecture. These Dolments have roof top made up of rock. But at present most of the Dolments are ruined except Konur. So, in this way James Burgess has describes the Dolments.<sup>9</sup>

## **3. James Burgess; *The Report on the Antiquities of the Belgaum and Kaladagi districts*-(1874)**

James Burgess after being appointed as the head of Western India Archaeology Survey (ASI), and had prepared a report on of Kaladagi district. He published a report on the history and archaeology of Belagavi district as well. In his study he identified three Jain temples in Belagavi district. He published an article in which the details about the inscription and ancient temples of Belagavi are photographed and illustrated.

He also presented the photographs and had provided detailed information about the Mahalingeshwar temple and surroundings of Konur village. Further studied the Yallamma temple at Savadatti, and mentioned that this temple is built in Jain at style.<sup>10</sup>

Then he also visited the Panchalinga temple at Hooli village and has given detailed description with the help of photographs. Moreover, regarding the Karadalli village of Belagavi district and also about the inscription found there. Sampagav, Bailahongal, and Sindehonnalli are the centers of ancient temples and monuments regarding these also he has narrated. Thus, descriptive information with photographs are provided regarding the cave temples of Badami and inscriptions and temples of Aihole.

#### 4. James Burgess; *Report on the Antiquities of Bidara and Aurangabad-(1876)*

Report on the antiquities of Bidara in Karnataka and Aurangabad districts in Maharashtra was published in the Indian Antiquary Journal. Bidar and Aurangabad were part of the Hyderabad Nizams state. He had carried field study regarding the ancient temples of these areas. Detailed information is provided with photographs about the inscriptions and temples like Tulaja temple of Tulajapur. Jain and Vaishanava temple of Dwarasinwa, and Hemapadanti temple of Nilanga. These areas were earlier ruled by the Kalyana Chalukyas and their chronology is mentioned<sup>11</sup>. The relationship of Kalyani Chalukyas with the Badami Chalukyas the Kalachuries of Kalyan Basavalingayata and Bahuman shahis.

#### IV. CONCLUSION: -

Overall, this is the revive of the editorial writings of James Burgess published in The Indian Antiquary volumes. He has carried out a detailed research work regarding the historical centers and art centers of many districts of Karnataka. He had surveyed the temples, monuments and inscriptions and was published in the volumes. Belagavi, Kaladagi, Bidara and Aurangabada are the places of his field study. Thus, his editorial writing are mainly concerned with ancient history and culture Karnataka. He visited many places of historical importance and has prepared the detailed report of these antiquities, monuments and the chronology of the regarding dynasties of these areas also provided by him places. The view of temples, monuments and inscriptions are captured in photographs and their details are narrated by him. These articles of James Burgess provide historically important information, which is more helpful in studying the ancient history of Karnataka.

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