

Channapatna : Channapatna lies at a distance of about 60 km from Bangalore and is Taluk headquarters of the same name. Earlier known as CHANDAPURA, it was the capital of Jagadevaraya and his successors, a feudatory line under Vijayanagara. The fort of Channapatna appears to have been built in about 1580 by Jagadevaraya. In 1630 Mysore king Chamaraja Wodeyar occupied it. The Marathas led by Gopala Hari took possession of the fort in 1759. But soon Haidar Ali recaptured it. In 1790 Tipu dismantled the fort owing to its vulnerability. Some important temples in the town are as follows: The temple of Varadaraja, an old and large structure, may be of Vijayanagara mid-period construction, consists of garbhagriha, shukanasi, navaranga and patalankana, The Lakshminarayana temple is an old temple and its patalankana and mukhamantapa appear to be of the 18th century, Another old temple Nilakantheshwara is huge and contains garbhagriha, shukanasi and navaranga. The Anjaneya Temple at the fort gate is highly revered; it has a bas-relief of Hanuman, believed to have been installed by Vyasateertha. Other Temples are Bhadrakali, Rama Sugrivanjaneya and that of Maleya Mahadeshvara. There is a Vyasaraya Matha and Veershiva virakta Matha. The later has two samadhis of Thimmappanaik, the last ruler of Channapatna and his wife. An old three-storeyed mansion here is supposed to have been built by Thimmappanaik. It is a typical Hindu structure of 19th century. The beams and ceilings are made out of wood, beautifully painted and gilded. Doorway is also nicely carved. An important dargah here is that of Akkal Sha Khadri. The tomb of Syed Ibrahim, who was a commandant of Bangalore, is situated by the side of Bangalore road. This small structure has a dome over it. From a long period the town has earned reputation as a leading centre in manufacturing variety of lacquered wares and toys. Over 100 units are engaged in the manufacture of the above items. It is also a big centre in silk trade. Malur is in the outskirts of Channapatna on the Mysore road. It is an ancient place and had names like Chaturvedi Mangalapuram and Rajendra Simhanagari Periya Malur Agrahara. Tradition associates Jurist Vijnyaneshwara with this place. Two famous temples here are Kailaseshvara and Aprameya. The temple of Aprameya is a Chola structure, with the idol of Janardana installed in it. Behind the sanctum is the small shrine of Krishna. This idol is engraved as standing on all fours with butter in hand. Childless couple takes on oath to present a cradle to this deity on begetting child Innumerable votive cradles are found here. The idols of Nachyar, Nammalvar, Madurakavi Alvar, etc., are housed in small cells. Votive figures of Ramadasa and his consort Manchilakshmi, stands in the premises. The front tower in Vijayanagara style is very impressive and has small cells containing images of dashavatara. A small stone structure in front of the temple is pointed out as the place, where saint purandaradasa composed songs of the presiding deity. To the right side is a big stone structure with artistically carved figures and the sanctum is vacant. The temple of Kailaseshvara was constructed by a Chola officer in about 1000 A.D., 1140 A.D., and 1320 A.D., found here state about the improvements and grants to the temple. It has a brick tower of 17th century. Nearby is a temple of Rama. Following are other notable places in the taluk: Kengal: This is a scared place situated to the north-east of Channapatna, on the Bangalore-Mysore road. There is a temple dedicated to Anjaneya here. Since the image of Anjaneya is sculptured on a red rock of Kengal, the place came to be called as Kengal. The image is supposed to have been consecrated by sage Vyasateertha. The idols of

Rama, Sita and Lakshmana are enshrined in it. A beautiful garden is raised in the fore-front of the temple. Another interesting object is the water tank built in the form of club, Hanuman's weapon. There are several choultries for the convenience of the pilgrims' and for holding marriages. A famous cattle fair of the temple is held every year. There is a horticulture farm here.