

# Perini dance

March 4, 2022

**In news-** A group of artists performed Perini dance in a cultural event, held at Gudi Cheruvu area in Vemulawada town in Telangana recently.

## About Perini dance-

- **Perini Shivatandavam or Perini Tandavam is one of the ancient dance forms of Telangana.**
- This dance form originated and **flourished during the Kakatiya Dynasty** who ruled over the region or Warangal for about two centuries.
- It is the '**dance of the warriors**' performed by the males **in front of the idol of Lord Shiva**, dedicated to the Supreme dancer before going to the battlefield.
- It is enacted on the loud roaring beats of the drums, matching the postures with its rhythm.
- **It was believed that Perini Shivatandavam raises 'prerana' or inspiration among the soldiers.**
- **Evidence of this dance form can be viewed on the walls and pillars of the Ramappa Temple in Warangal** where sculptures of various postures of Perini Shiva Thandavam dance are still intact.
- The dance finds mention in the early **medieval work Bharataarnavam by Nandikeshwara.**
- Based on this work, Padma Shri awardee Late Dr. Nataraja Ramakrishna first made mention of Perini in his award-winning book *Daakshinaatyula Natyakala Charithra* (1968).

## About Kakatiya dynasty-

- It is a **South Indian dynasty that ruled most of eastern Deccan region comprising present day Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, and parts of eastern Karnataka and southern Odisha** between 12th and 14th centuries.

- Their **capital was Orugallu, now known as Warangal.**
- Early Kakatiya rulers served as **feudatories to Rashtrakutas and Western Chalukyas** for more than two centuries.
- They assumed **sovereignty under Prataparudra I in 1163 CE** by suppressing other Chalukya subordinates in the Telangana region.
- **Ganapati Deva (1199–1262) significantly expanded Kakatiya lands** during the 1230s and brought under Kakatiya control the Telugu-speaking lowland delta areas around the Godavari and Krishna rivers.

**Further**

**reading:**

**<https://journalsofindia.com/kakatiya-ramappa-temple-declared-a-world-heritage-site/>**