

# House Design & Construction in the Sangam Age

Explore Sangam Age architecture (300 BCE - 300 CE). Learn about building styles influenced by the geography of ancient Tamilakam. Discover the layouts, features, and social stratification shown in Sangam-era houses.

Sangam literature (\*Purananuru\*, \*Akananuru\*) provides references. Locally sourced materials like mud, thatch, bamboo, and timber were mainly used. Examples show construction techniques and limitations of these materials.





# Hero Stones (Natukal) of the Sangam Age

## Significance of Hero Stones

Hero Stones, or Natukal, served as memorials to warriors who died heroically in battle or while protecting their community. They were erected to honor their courage and sacrifice.

## Materials and Craftsmanship

These stones were typically crafted from locally available granite or other durable stone. Skilled artisans carved intricate details and inscriptions onto the surface.

## Inscriptions and Iconography

Inscriptions on the stones often detailed the hero's name, his heroic deeds, and the context of his death, providing valuable historical and social information. The iconography includes images of warriors with weapons, scenes of battle, and symbols of honor.

## Role in Society

Hero stones were not only memorials but also objects of worship. Communities venerated these stones, believing that the hero's spirit resided within, offering protection and blessings to the village. They played a vital role in social cohesion, reinforcing values of courage, sacrifice, and community spirit.

