

# Settlements, Spatial Markers and Administrative Units under the Kalacuris of South Kośala (10th – 12<sup>th</sup> CE): An Epigraphic Study

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## Abstract:

*The Kalacuris for the first time in the history of ancient India reigned with varying fortunes and in different parts of India for a period of more than 1200 years from about the middle of the sixth century CE. In the early medieval period they ruled from several centers viz., Sarayupāra, Ratanpur and Raipur, among others. In this Paper, we focus on the Kalacuris of South Kośala with special reference to their kingdom and polity. The Kalacuris have been for the first time referred to as Haihayas in the Bilahari stone inscription of Yuvarājadeva II.<sup>1</sup> The Kalacuri kings called themselves Haihayas, i.e. descendents of Kārtavīrya Arjuna, born in the family of moon. The Kalacuris, therefore, claimed to be of the famous lunar race. They had matrimonial relations with all the principal Kṣatriya families of the age, viz., the Cālukyas, the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, the Candelas and the Pālas.*

**Key Words:** *deśa, maṇḍala, viṣaya, pattalā, pura or pattana*

## The King and the Kingdom

The rise of the Kalacuris was an important chapter in the history of the regions over which they ruled, particularly Dāhala and Dakṣiṇa Kośala which were main centres of their activities. Towards the close of the ninth century CE. the Kalacuris of Tripurī tried to establish one of their branches in Dakṣiṇa Kośala the territory comprising modern Chhattisgarh and the adjoining territory in Odisha up to the boundary of Sonepur district. That Tummāṇa was the capital of this newly established branch is indirectly hinted in

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