

## **Role of geography in the location of Buddhist sites from Andhra Pradesh: A GIS Perspective**

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### ***Abstract***

Andhra Pradesh, located in South India, has many Buddhist sites. The present paper analyses the location of these sites in different geographical and chronological frames, utilizing the GIS techniques. The analysis proves 3rd century BC. and 3rd century AD. as the prime period in the Buddhist history of Andhra Pradesh. Terrain analysis shows that a majority of the sites are in the fertile terrain. Trade also played an important role as suggested by the proximity to the trade routes. The influence of the sea trade is suggested by the location of some sites near the coast. Web2.0 techniques were used for terrain and spatial analysis.

***Keywords:*** *Andhra Pradesh, Buddhist, Stupa, Cahitya, Vihara, chronology, agricultural terrain, trade route, coast, Web2.0 techniques*