Title: Conversations
Subtitle: Tsunami reveals ancient temple sites
Second Subtitle: Tsunami reveals ancient temple sites
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Quote:

Tsunami reveals ancient temple sites
By Paddy Maguire
BBC News, Madras

An engraved pillar which belongs to the Pallava period
Shift from brickwork to granite slabs indicates different periods
Archaeologists say they have discovered the site of an ancient temple in
Tamil Nadu.

It is the latest in a series of archaeological discoveries in the area struc
which desilted large areas of the coastline.

The brick temple dates back more than 2,000 years to the late Tamil San
discovered on the beachfront near Saluvankuppam, just north of a famous
Mahabalipuram.

The discovery lends more weight to growing evidence that a huge tsunam
during this period, obliterating large habitations along the coastline.

Two periods

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) made the discovery while lookin
temple.

We are looking at the remains of a brick temple that was destroyed by a
2,200 years ago
Badrinarayanan S, rtd director,
Geological Survey of India
"The tsunami exposed inscriptions on a huge rock that had previously be
importance," said T Satyamurthy of the ASI.

"These inscriptions dated back to 935 AD and said that Krishna the Third
Dynasty in Karnataka, had given gold to a temple to pay for keeping an e

"This led us to dig further. Near the surface we found coins, pottery, stu
lamps and so we knew there must be something more. Soon we discovere
century Pallava temple."

As they continued to excavate they came across the earlier Sangam temp
from courses of brickwork to large granite slabs indicates the different p

"The Pallavas just built on the brick foundations left behind after the Sa
The two periods are there, clear to see," said Dr Satyamurthy.

Tsunami deposits

But it is the question of how these two temples were destroyed rather tha
interest of the teams involved.

Layers of sea shells because of tsunami activity
Layers of sea shells and debris point to previous tsunami strikes
Layers of sea shells and debris in the sand show that tsunami activity ha
complex.

"The Pallava structure was destroyed by waves some time in the 13th Ce
suggests that beneath it, we are looking at the remains of a brick temple
tsunami approximately 2,200 years ago," said Badrinarayanan S, a retire
Survey of India.

Another archaeologist from the ASI, G Thirumoorthy, said: "We can see t
Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. We've found that devastation ha
1,200km (750 miles) of India's eastern coastline.

"The discovery of this Sangam temple will lead us to other geological sit
us more about the pre-Pallavan period."

Since the tsunami on 26 December, marine archaeologists have also disc
structures on the seabed up to 1km out to sea.

They think the structures may be part of a former, legendary city of Maha

Myths state the city was destroyed by a flood sent by gods envious of its

Well clearly carbon dating doesn't work as it needs doubling try 20,000 y
as this is why we sailed to africa and the story you hear of Zedek or Noa
funny reading our history...as we make such a mess of not listening to sp