

## Land Grand Made By Chola Queens

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**Abstract:** There is considerable number of evidences available for endowments made by the royal family members. Endowments were made for renovation which was carried out in the temple by many categories of people. In spite of the religious sentiments which characterized the age we have on record about the efforts made to preserve temple. These however were extraordinary events. Normally the temple was the recipient of considerable endowments from various quarters and for various purposes. An important occasion for endowments was the temple festivals were made not only for the older festivals but also for those to be established. Endowment was made liberally to temple by army generals in the form of providing Mandapas and Salai. In fact, however there are few records involving directly grants made by the Chola rulers, members of their families, or other close to them and these grants were made to a few inscriptions only, ones which has a special relationship of the ruling family. One was the Tanjore temple of Rajaraja I. Many grants of income from the land were made to temples, matha and similar institution; they were also first purchased by the donor, including the royal donors. An interesting record from Konerirajapuram near Tiruvidaimarudur in the Tanjore district states that while Uttama Chola was ruling his mother Sri Sembiyar built the temple of Tirunallam – Udaiyar in the name of her lord the glorious Gandaradittamdeva.

**Keywords:** Chola, Land grant, Women rulers, Inscriptions.

### Introduction

The grant means the contribution made for a particular activity. Hinduism is very ritualistic by performing various religious rites in the temples the Hindus believed that they would go nearer to god and gain both materials, which in turn depended on various types of donation made for specific purpose. The number and size of the temple built in the pre-Pallvas period were few and small respectively and the cost of maintenance was also easy but when the big size of temple came into existence there was a need for more funds. When the temple need for more became a reality, they turned themselves into cities of miniature in the medieval period. The items of grants include village grants, money grants, grand animals (cow, sheep) utensilsn, ornaments, articles necessary for worship and grants of various dues and taxes.<sup>2</sup>