



# Golkonda



"Golkonda" redirects here. For other uses, see [Golconda \(disambiguation\)](#).

**Golkonda**



Golkonda Fort



Location within India Andhra Pradesh

General information	
Country	<a href="#">India</a>
Coordinates	<a href="#">17.38°N 78.40°E</a>
Completed	1600s

**Golkonda**, also known as **Golconda** or **Golla konda** ("shepherd's hill"), a ruined city of Southern India and capital of ancient [Golconda Sultanate](#) (c.1518–1687), is situated 11 km west of [Hyderabad](#). It is also a [mandal](#) of [Hyderabad District](#). The region is universally famous for the mines that have produced the world's most famous and coveted gems, including The [Hope Diamond](#), Idol's Eye, The [Koh-i-Noor](#) and [Darya-i-Noor](#).

The most important builder of Golkonda was [Ibrahim Quli Qutub Shah Wali](#), the fourth [Qutub](#) king of the [Qutub Shahi](#) Dynasty. Ibrahim was following in the spirit of his ancestors, the Qutub Shahi kings, a great family of builders who had ruled the kingdom of Golkonda from 1512. Their first capital, the fortress citadel of Golkonda, was rebuilt for defense from invading [Mughals](#) from the north. They laid out Golkonda's splendid monuments, now in ruins, and designed an [acoustical](#) system by which a hand clap sounded at the fort's main gates, the grand portico, was heard at the top of the citadel, situated on a 300-foot (91 m) high granite hill. This is one of the fascinating features of the fort.

They ruled over most of present day Andhra Pradesh before the [British Raj](#). After transferring Northern Circars to the British, they ruled the [Telangana](#) region and some parts of present day [Karnataka](#) and [Maharashtra](#).<sup>[1]</sup>

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