

**THE MYSTERIOUS SENTIMENTS BEHIND THE IRON PILLAR****Dr. G. Aghalya**

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**Abstract:**

The 4<sup>th</sup> century AD witnessed the Iron Pillar that stands at the centre of the Quw-watul mosque. It was one of the most curious structure stands in New Delhi. There were a several controversial issues about the erect of the Iron pillar. Some said that, it was erected with the memory of Chandragupta II. Some said that it was erected for the honour of Lord Vishnu, Hindu God. The mystery of the Iron Pillar so far not known to any historian or any Archaeologist or any scientist who have been studying this for several centuries. According to the ancient records and the present status, the iron pillar has not been rusted till date. It is seen that even a safety pin or a nail can be rusted if it is dipped in the water. But it was not at all rusted at any circumstance. If its stands in the hottest sun or mildest winter and coolest rainy seasons. It shows the talents of our architect of the ancient periods. This pillar shows the achievements of the ancient India's metallurgy work done by the architects. The pillar comprised the 98 percent age of the wrought iron the pillar without the rusting. It's being stood for 1600 years. The metallurgist of IIT at Kanpur has discovered that a compound of iron, oxygen and hydrogen of thin layer of miswrite has produced the cast of iron pillar from the rust. The inscription found in the pillar was written in Brahmi scripts show the powerful monarch who made the pillar but the name remains unknown. The sentiments behind the iron pillar was that if any person who hug the pillar in backward and think about anything that should be happened in the future. This was the belief among the people who lived among the people who lived in and around the New Delhi. During that time the rulers also had such sentiments as to get victory against any revolt and revolution for any war in the ruler used to huge the pillars.

**Key Words:** Iron Pillar**Introduction:**

A historical source is important to know something about the past which tells us about the History behind the screen. The historical sources may be divided into two types, one is Archaeological sources and another is literary sources. These sources create a record, a document, a monument, a coin, an epigraphy, a picture, a book, or a material remains. Among the sources epigraphy is the study of the inscriptions, the most reliable evidence to know the past which are engraved on caves, pillars, metal plates, walls, etc. These inscriptions give details of knowledge about the boundaries of kingdoms, empires political and religious condition of those periods. The Iron pillar of Mehrauli in New Delhi is one of the most important monumental sources which shows the efficiency and ability of the architect at time. It produces lot of information the palaeography, content and language of inscription, period of time, corrosion technology and the metallurgy work.

**Strength of Iron Pillar:**

The iron pillar is 7.3 meter tall with one meter is below the ground. The diameter is 48 centimetre at the foot and tapering to 29 centimetre at the top. The pillar has a weighs approximately 6.5 tones and it was manufactured by "forged welding". The pillar carries a number of inscriptions which dates back to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD and it was erected at the centre of the Quwwatul Mosque at Mehruili in New Delhi. It has the inscription of brahmi scripts which indicates the honour of the Hindu God, Lord Vishnu. It was erected in the memory of Gupta king Chandragupta II. But there was a controversial issue among the construction of the pillar. Some of the Scholars said that it was belonged to Gupta dynasty. It has mysterious past, many historians, Archaeologists and scientists who have been studying this pillar and not known clearly about this pillar. According to the ancient records it was erected by Kumaragupta of Gupta dynasty. But it was still remains mysterious that how it was presented in Madhya Pradesh before it was moved to Delhi. There was several questions arise regarding this pillar why was it constructed? Who did make this pillar? For what purpose it was erected? What was the exact process was followed to protect from rusting? Like this it raises several questions but no answer remains. The brahmi script inscription were studied by many scholars translated the inscription in several times. It has a three line and three stanza inscriptions which speaks about the powerful monarchs who made the pillar and his name was unknown

to all. The poetic style of the inscription indicates about the 4th century of Gupta periods and describe about the king as a devotee of God Vishnu. The archer type gold coins of Chandragupta II were inscribed in the short name as Chandra. The writings of the inscriptions were preserved due to the resistant of the iron and it was written in the style of Gupta scripts of eastern variety. The resemblance of the pillar was closely to the Allahabad pillar inscriptions of Samudragupta. The pillar speaks about the skilled techniques and ancient art of metallurgy. The rustless wonder of the iron pillar attracted the attention of the archaeologists and the scientist as well as the tourists after the half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The first report of the pillar was produced by the British. Later it was studied by many scholars considered the pillar belong to be early Gupta periods. But there found a differences of opinion about the inscriptions whether it was belonged to Chantrgupta II.

#### **The Amazing Wonder of the Pillar:**



The six tones and 22 foot high iron pillar was made up of ninety eight percent of pure wrought iron and it has avoided the corrosion from the rains, winds and temperature. The marvellous wonder of iron pillar proves that over the 1600 years without rusting or decomposing shows the skills of efficiency and achievements of the ancient Indian ironsmiths. The magical and mysterious metallurgy techniques of the iron pillar creators proved their competence and achievements of the ancient Indian metallurgy works. There was a several theories stated that how it was resisted from the corrosions. It will challenge the current and upcoming generation to erect this kind of metallurgy mechanism. The pillar has engrossed concentration of archaeologist and the materialistic scientist because of its high confrontation to decomposition even in the effects of Delhi climate. Several historians, archaeologists, metallurgists and scientists were tried to put their knowledge together to reveal the mysteries behind the pillar and judged the values of the pillar and also about the way of the experts to build such a wonderful and miraculous pillar, which never had seen in the world. The skilled and technology crazed iron pillar stands proof to the advanced science of ancient India. The not rusted 1600 years pillar shows the craft works of the man kind and engraved inscription shows the technology of the people. The scientist, metallurgist and the technologist produced the originality of the iron pillar in high quality and corrosion resistant which installed in museum, exhibition and other workshops. The wonder of 32 ft high and rust free iron pillar turn back the world towards the pillar. The magnificent pillar not only attracted the Indians but also the nations of the world. Now a days foreign visitors attractions turn over to the outstanding structure of the spectacular pillar. The methodical researches were done by several scholars regarding the pillar and so many papers were presented including this about the mysterious past and its noteworthy composition.

#### **The Mysterious Sentiments behind the Iron Pillar:**

The excellent iron pillar of Mehrauli states the rustless wonder of the technologist about their ethics and honourable values of their efforts. Many tourist and several visitors were attracted by the mysterious sentiments behind the iron pillar. During that period of time there was a fashionable practice that one should hug the pillar considered to be good fortune of their life. The people stand on their back and wrap their arms around the pillar and touch the fingers of the both hands will gives vibration and full energy as well as strength to the body and the minds. Some other people stands back just before the pillar and encircling their hands and feel anything in their minds about their desires and wishes will be fulfilled in the forthcoming days. As per the superstitious belief in the early periods this sentiments also followed by the rulers of that period in and around New Delhi while did any chronological dealings. These sentimental behaviours caused damages to the pillars by the visitors. In the year 1997 a fence was erected around the pillar to safeguard it from damages twisted by human race. So for the historians and the experts viewed that this rustless pillar has the peculiar blended secret that in ancient Siddhas, did their kind of wonder in making gold out of clay why must not this in iron?! The archaeological survey of India created awareness to the people about the incredible of India.

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