

DATE: 13 OCTOBER 2026

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Kaveri River (Source: The Hindu)

- **Origin:** Talakaveri on the Brahmagiri range, Kodagu (Coorg) district of Karnataka.
- **Other Name:** The Cauvery River (Kaveri) is designated as the 'Dakshin Bharat ki Ganga' or 'the Ganga of the South'.
- **Basin States:** Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry
- **Passing States:** Tamil Nadu, Karnataka.
- **Borders:** The Western Ghats border it to the west; the Eastern Ghats border it to the east and south; and ridges separating it from the Krishna and Pennar basins border it to the north.
- **Major Dams:** Krishnarajasagar in Karnataka, Mettur Dam in Tamil Nadu.
- **Waterfall:** Hogenakkal Falls.
- **Important Tributaries**
 - **Left:** Harangi, Hemavati, Shimsha, and Arkavati rivers.
 - **Right:** Lakshmana Tirtha, Kabbani, Suvarnavati, Bhavani, Noyil, and Amaravati rivers.

Kaveri River System



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2 Eritrea (Source: The Hindu)

- **Location:** Horn of Africa
- **Capital:** Asmara
- **Bordering Countries:** Sudan, Ethiopia, and Djibouti
- **Maritime Neighbours:** Saudi Arabia and Yemen
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Red Sea
- **Geographical Features:** Dahlak Archipelago, Danakil Depression
- **Climate:** Arid and semi - arid.
- **International Grouping:** African Union, Non-Aligned Movement, and Arab League.



3 Jantar Mandir (Source: The Hindu)

JANTAR MANTAR

The Astronomical Marvels of India

A collection of 19 architectural astronomical instruments built by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II.

HISTORY

- Built between 1724 and 1734 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the Rajput king of Amber (Jaipur).
- Jai Singh II was a great scholar of astronomy and mathematics.
- The observatories were constructed to compile accurate astronomical data and to prepare the "Zij-e-Muhammadi", an astronomical table.
- Five Jantar Mantars were built in India.

FIVE JANTAR MANTARS IN INDIA

- Jaipur (Rajasthan)
- Delhi (Delhi)
- Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh)
- Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- Mathura (Uttar Pradesh)

The Jaipur Jantar Mantar is the largest and best preserved.

PURPOSE & SIGNIFICANCE



To observe celestial positions with the naked eye.



To measure time, predict eclipses, track planetary movements and determine astrological calculations.



Demonstrates the scientific temper and advanced knowledge of medieval India.



A unique blend of science, architecture and traditional Indian knowledge systems.

MAJOR INSTRUMENTS



SAMRAT YANTRA
The world's largest stone sundial. It can measure time with an accuracy of about 2 seconds.



JAI PRAKASH YANTRA
Consists of two hemispherical structures used to measure the positions of celestial bodies.



RAM YANTRA
Measures the altitude and azimuth of celestial bodies.



MISRA YANTRA
A combination of five different instruments for various astronomical calculations.



NADIVALAYA YANTRA
Used to determine the time by the position of the sun.

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES



- Built using large stone and masonry without any mechanical devices.
- Instruments are fixed with great precision aligned with celestial coordinates.
- Combines geometric accuracy with aesthetic design.

QUICK FACTS

Built by	Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II
Period	1724 – 1734
Total Instruments	19
Material	Stone, limestone, marble, brass
UNESCO Status	Jaipur Jantar Mantar is a UNESCO World Heritage Site (2010).

DID YOU KNOW?

Jantar Mantar is an outstanding example of India's rich scientific heritage and the vision of Maharaja Jai Singh II, who saw astronomy as a means to understand the universe and serve humanity.



"These instruments are a testimony to India's ancient scientific brilliance and its timeless quest to measure the cosmos."