Alphabetical list of Place names generics.

1. Aram
2. Ala or ale, or alu
3. Cheruvu
4. Gadapa
5. Giri
6. Gallu or Gal
7. Gadda
8. Guda or Gudem
9. Gutta
10. Gundu
11. Kallu
12. Konda
13. Kurru
14. Manchi
15. Matta
16. Manidi
17. Marri
18. Olu
19. Nagar or Nagaram
20. Olu
21. Pamula
22. Palle
23. Patla
24. Paka
25. Puri or Pura or Puram
26. Pudi
27. Padu
28. Peta
29. Rai
30. Revulu
31. Tippa
32. Uru
33. Varam
34. Vudu
35. Durga
36. Vada
IV. Etymological Dictionary of place-name Generics:

This Chapter focuses about place name generics place-name generally consists of two parts, prefix and suffix. The prefix stands for the proper name of the place while the suffix may be taken in a very close way, to suggest the type of settlement which the place referred to happens to be different scholars have given different names to these parts. "In our study of place-names" we will have to distinguish between the two component parts which go to form a place names. One of these component elements, which is usually the suffix. Telugu place names, is some general term meaning Island, river, hill, dwelling, fort or city, as the case may be. This elements in names is called the "Grund-wort" by Forste-mann and the "Substantial element" by Issac Taylor.

The other component serves to distinguish the Island, river or village from other neighbouring Islands, rivers or villages. This portion of the name is called "Bestimmgs-wort" by Forste-mann and the 'Adjectival element' by Issac Taylor.

In the following pages the second part of the place-names is referred to as suffix. In this introduction to the detailed study of the suffixes, only the important and general characters of the suffixes as a whole are discussed since all the important features of each suffix are discussed while dealing with them individually.

1. *Ali*:

Indicant of flora,

Ali < Alam

Ali ~ Alam ~ Alamu ~ Ili ~ Ela

Alam = A kind of grass which grows anidst crops.

- TDD (ag) p. 133

eg.: Chiti + ala

Indna + ala

Inkri + ala

Kanga + ala

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2. **Am**:
   - A termination
   - a + mu + mu
   - Telugu nominative case ending.
   - Amu - An - Amu - Amu - Ernu - Amu

   There are a few place names ending with the suffix or generic - am or am not only in this area of entire Telengana districts but in all over Andhra Pradesh.

   - am or am occurs before almost all vowels either short or long.

   While deciding the origin of these generics - am and - am some scholars have concluded - gam [<(sk + Grama)] as their origin, but the density and the distribution of the generic - am in the areas of such Orissa borders and the various vowel combinations of - am and - am in other areas of these above mentioned districts reveals that - gam is not an origin for these generics.

3. **Ada**:
   - Indicant of Inhabitation.
   - a village,
   - a street,
   - a row of houses
   - Ada < vada
   - Ada ~ vada ~ eda

   In this area the frequency of the generics - ada and vada is almost equal.

(6) **CERLA**:
   - Indicant of water.
   - Cerla < Ceruvula
   - genitive plural form of Ceruvu
   - = A tank, a lake.
Cf.: Tamil: Ceri (keep within bounds: store up)
Ceri, cerivu, ceru = to control tank.
Malayalam: Ceriyuka, Cerukku, cira
Cerukkkuka = to damp up, enclose;
Kod: ker = Tank cer
Tq: Ker (F) kert (water) Ker, cer.
Ka: Kir Kere (Tank)
Tu: Kere, Kire, Kedu, Kidu, Kide
Tel: Cera, Ceruvu, Ceruou
Pa: Ceru
Kol: Ceru (get) Gon: Khetana (- DED. P.1648)
[<PS Dr. Ker. / Kir]
[P. Dr. Ket (TVK)]

In the literary dialect all over brill (r) is used, where as in the colloquial dialect alveolar flap (r) is used. But, both phonemes trill and flap are used in the inscriptions indiscriminately.

Here in this form - cerla - some phonological features are notable. Firstly there is syncopation of Medical vowel - u - (ceruvu > corvu) and medial - vu - before the plural genitive termination - la (ceruvula > cerla) secondly, initial - e - is voiced to - J - (cerla > jerla) and Medial - e - is changed to - a - (Jerla > Jarla).

Place-names with this generic are referred to in the inscriptions from 4th century A.D.\(^1\) where as in this tq., It is found mentioned as - ceru\(^2\) in the inscription belonging to the 13th century.

**In this Tq. this generic occurs in four village names:**

eg.: Gadi + cheruvu = Gadicheruvu
Medla + ceruvu = Medlaceruvu
Vaddagi + ceruvu = Vaddagiceruvu
Venaka + revulu = Venakarevulu

1. See: Cenceru (ETI),
2. See: Entry No.9

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12. - Cheruvu

Indicant of tank.

The most popular place name generic in Telugu is - Cheruvu / Cheruvu which occurs as early as the 5th century in such place names Gadicheruvu in taluks of Nalgonda district.

The following are the variants of this generic in other cognates languages.³

Ta. Cheru (Cheruvu - Cherr), tank, field, Garden plot, Chirai, to restrain, imprisonment, dam up:
  - guard, confinement dam, prison, captivity, dam, bank, tank, boundary.

Ma. Chira, enclosure, dam, limit, tank reservoir.

Ka. Kere, tank; sere, prison.

Tu. Kere, Kire, Kedu, an artificial tank; sere, prison.

There is only one place name in Nalgonda district with this generic.

eg.: Gadi + cheruvu = Gadicheruvu

(Indicant of Gredentation land)

16. - durgam

Indicant of a fort

The place name - durgam which is Skt. - means 'a fort' is found in the place name Rama - durga in Nalgonda district occurring in an inscription, datable to 350 century A.D.

- Kota, a telugu synonym of Skt. - durgam is also found as a place name generic.

Only one place name is found with this generic i.e.,

1. Indicant of personal name

eg.: Rama + durga = Ramadurga

3. Dravidian Etymological Dictionary, P.135, No. 1648
- gadda
Indicant of water.

The generic - gadda is found in place names of the 12th Centuries, and in the Nalgonda region.

In Telugu, gadda / gedda means 'a small stream' and in that sense, it does not seem to have any variants in other cognate languages.

Te: gadda, gedda

by the change of Medical - a - to - e - and the dropping of one consonant in the germination - add - this form is closer to another Telugu colloquial form 'gedda' meaning same as gadda.

Krishnapada Gaswami suggests that Telugu place name generic - gadda is found in Bengali place names also.

To quote his own words:

- Gadda, gaddi and gudi are found in Burugagadda, guda, gudi in inscriptions.

Te: gadda
Ka: gadde, lump, mars, clot, bank, edge....

Dravidian gadda are found as 'gura' or 'guri' in modern place names which occur generally in North Bengal.

Cf. also modern Bengali
Kunra, heap

"guri" may also be a variant of "kunra" in the light of the interpretation that the generic - gadda may be same as gedda, meaning a rivulet. Made above, the suggestion of Krishnapada Goswami may have to be revised accordingly.

The following are a few examples of Nalgonda place names with this generic.

1. Indicant of flora:

eg.: Buruga + gadda = Burugagadda.
Mamilla + guda = Mamillaguda
Miriyala + guda = Miriyalaguda

2. **Indicant of Caste:**

\[\text{Bhattu} + \text{vari} + \text{guda} = \text{Bhattuvariguda}\]

2. **\(-\text{giri}\)**

**Indicates of hill:**

This Sanskrit word occurs in a considerable number of place names as a generic and is a synonymous to Telugu-konda.\(^1\) It has not recorded any phonetic changes. It occurs as early as the 2nd century A.D. and is found in the district of Nalgonda district.

Skt. giri, saila,

Te. Konda, banda, Mountain, hill.\(^2\)

The following are a few examples of place names with this generic:

1. **Indicant of land:**

   eg.: Bhon + giri = Bhongiri

2. **Indicant of personal name:**

   eg.: Anantha + giri = Anamthagiri

3. \(-\text{Kal}\)

Indicates of hillock.

The earliest reference to the generic - kal is found in the place name Banun-gal (Modern Panu-gal, Nalgonda district) in an inscription, dated 682 A.D.

It is interesting to note that Hangal (Ancient Panumgal) in the dharwar dt. Karnataka is also a place of historical antiquity like that of Banungal.

The following are the Dravidian variants with their meanings for the word Kallu.

Ta : Kal, Stone, pebble, bouldu, precious stone, mile stone.

Ma : Kal, Kallu, stone, rock, precious stone.

Ka : Kal, kallu, kallu, stone.

\(^1\) SS Ramachandra Murty, *A study of Telugu place names* p.249.

\(^2\) SS Ramachandra Murty, *A study of Telugu place names* p.249.
Though Kal or Kallu is used as an independent word with the meaning of a stone in other languages: in Telugu, it is found only as a generic, with the same meaning.

In view of the usage of this word as a place name generic in all Dravidian languages and its early occurrence in Telugu, the place names with this generic may be considered as on very ancient origin. It is possible that the places with Kal generic in their names were the habitat of primitive men who might have chosen these places as their body because of the existence of stones in abundance with which they made their tools.

The following are examples for the place names with this generic.

1. **Indicant of personal names:**
   - eg.: Amani + kallu = Amanikallu

2. **Indicant of time:**
   - eg.: Kanne + kallu = Kannekallu.

3. **Indicant of flora:**
   - eg.: Nakeru + kallu = Nakerukallu

4. **-Kurru**

Indicant of Hydronomics

   Villages with the place name generic Kurru are located near water sources. They face inundation when the streams are in floods. But the ground level of the streams when compared to villages with the place name generic pudi and parru. The following place names with this generic are

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2. S.S. Ramachandra Murthy, ASTPN. p.249.
5. Ibid, p.264.
1. **Indicant of Auspiciousness**:
   
   \[ \text{eg.: } \text{Atma} + \text{kurru} = \text{Atmakuru} \]

2. **Indicant of old**:
   
   \[ \text{eg.: } \text{Mota} + \text{kurru} = \text{Motakurru} \]

3. **Indicant of incident**:
   
   \[ \text{eg.: } \text{Utu} + \text{kurru} = \text{Utukurru} \]

6. **Konra (-Konda)**

   Indicant of a hill lock.

   The generic - Korra (> - Konda, a hill) occurs in the place name Devarakonda which is referred to in an inscriptions belonging to the 4th century. The place names with this generic, i.e., - Konra / - Konda are found in the Nalgonda district.

   The occurrence of the form - Konra at such an early date probably marks the period when Telugu started developing its own characteristic dialectical traits on the way to becoming an independent language, the form - konram, being derivative of the ancient Dravidic form - Konram, retained as such in Tamil.

   \[\text{Te: Konda} \]

   \[\text{Ta: Konram} \]

   \[\text{Dr: Konram} \]

   The change of - Konra > - Konda was complete by the 9th and 10th century itself.

   The following are the variants of - Konra / - Konda in other cognate languages.\(^2\)

   \[\text{Tamil: Kunram, Kunru, hill, Mountain.} \]

   \[\text{Malayalam: Kunram, Mountain, Kunru, hill, mountain; conical heap, hill fost; kuru, hill.} \]

   \[\text{Kannada: Konda, hill, mountain (< Te.)} \]

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\(^2\) Dravidian Etymological Dictionary, P.127, No. 1548.
The place names with this generic are found in Nalgonda district.

eg.: Devara + konda = Devarakonda
Nalla + konda = Nalgonda
Racha + konda = Rachakonda
Siri + konda = Sirikonda
Uru + gonda = Urugonda

* Indicant of Goddesses:
Devara + konda = Devarakonda

2. Indicant of colour:
Nall + konda = Nalkonda

3. Indicant of feminine:
Siri + konda = Sirikonda

4. Indicant of Kings ephithat:
Racha + konda = Rachakonda

5. Indicant of location:
Uru + gonda = Urugonda

5. - Lanka

Indicant of an Island

The place name generic - lanka, which connotes, even today, and Island, occurs only in one place name tandipamu - lanka (it was identified, but might be located in Telengana) referred to in an inscriptions.¹ from Kolanupaka (Nalgonda district), dated in 1109 A.D. Another synonym - dvipa (<devi) also used as a place name generic.

Only one place name found with this generic lanka is.

* Indicant of forest or flora:
eg.: Tandi + pamu + lank = Tandipamulanka.

10. - Manci

Indicant of waterbody.

a lake,
a pool.

Cf. Ka.bence;
Te. venca (DED.p.4500).

There are also variants like
eg.: Kuchchi + manchi = Mucchimanchi.

The earliest occurrence of this generic in the inscriptions is Kuchchimanchi of the 7th Century A.D. Regarding this district IPN is found in 1718-1719.

There is only one place name found with this generic in this district, i.e., Kucchimunchi which is an indicant of earth.

11. - Mitta

Indicant of elevated ground.

an elevated ground,
a mound,
a hillock.

~ metta.

cf. Metta-polamu, - Neta & C
Ta. Mettu, medu, Muttu,
Ma. Metu, Matu, Mittal;
Ka. Medu, Mittu, Mitte;
Tu. Mitte
Klm. Metta
NK. Mett & co. (DED. 4151. cf. 4503s)

Even though it is found as generic generally, it is also found as specific.
eg.: Matte + palli = Mattepalli

This generic was appended to one village name viz., Talimatta or Tadi + matta which indicate flora name.
13. - **Nagaram** :

Indicant of inhabitation
a town, 
city,
Nakar ~ Nagari ~ Nagaru ~ Nagar (HI) 
= House, 
Temple, 
Place, 
Town, 
City.

Cf. Ta. Nakar, Nagar, (=House, Temple, Place, Town, City)
Ma: Nakar Nagar.
Tu: Nagaru
Tel: Nagaru, Nagari
Skt.: Nagara
Pr.: Nagara
Guj: Nar
Mar: Ner, nere, neri.


Sy.: Nakarapuvada, Nakaramu, Nakaranaveedu, Nakaramu varu = Trading community.

**In inscriptions:**

"Daddapasanilanjiya Madhya gadisani vasama pettina"
Akhanda varti Diviya okkantiki nakaramuna golla Kondapa Kamiya"
- (SII.V.P. 1083 (1030)

Nagaramu -
Trading community or relating to the trading community. This meaning is not recorded in Skt. A dictionaries. This word has a varient "Nakaramu" in later inscriptions.

[<Skt. Nacara]
(- ETI)

There is only one village name with this generic that is Devalanagaram.

eg.: Indicant of Divine:
Devala + nagaram = Devalanagaram
14) - \textit{NAGAR} :-

Indicant of inhabitation
A halamta rupa for nagaram.

Nagar $<$ Nagaram

There is only one village with this generic, Hazur + nagar = Husurnagar

7. - \textit{Nuthula}

Indicant of a well.

The place generic - nuyu is an early form of present - nuyi (Telug), Meaning a well. It is one of the early place name generics and its earliest occurrence dates back to the 7th C. when it is found mentioned in the place name Murupu - uthula in Nalgonda district.

Strangely it occurs subsequently only after an interval of about 6 centuries, in the same place name but indifferent forms as Murupu - nutha, Murupu - nuthu, and Murupu - nuthula. Regarding the form - nuyu (correct form being nuyi) "some (nominal) stems in order literature and inscriptions preserve u for the regular i vowel finally".\(^1\)

eg.: talu, (Modern tadi) \(649\) C.A.D.\(^2\)

neyu, (Modern neyi) : \(1100\) A.D.

In the forms;

- nuntu,
- nuntula,
- nutrala,

Only one place name was found in Nalgonda district with this generic.

\textbf{Indicant of number :}

\begin{equation*}
\text{eg.: Murupu + nuthula} \quad = \quad \text{Murupunuthula}
\end{equation*}

\(^{1}\) Hist Gramm. Tel., p.99.
\(^{2}\) SII. Vol.IV. No.584 and 585.
\(^{3}\) Ibid., Vol IV, No.1263.
5. **-Olu**

Indicant of habitation or Indicant of a tax collecting place.

Prolu : A city, a town. \(du<volu<molu<rolu<prolus\)

\(<\ Te.\ Prolu\).

Cf. Tamil. poril; Ma : Poril

Ka: Parral : town, city\(^1\)

Ta: Pozhil, country, division of a country poral, property leading elder porul, treasure, wealth\(^2\)

Traditional lexicographers derive this word from Skt. pulina. But, if we compare it with its cognates, it can be considered that this is of Dravidian origin.

Smt. Nayani Krishna Kumari\(^3\) suggested that it is derived from Tamil. Poral < pare meaning 'to spread' and hence - prolu means a place spread in four sides with houses.

S.S. Ramachandra Murthy\(^4\) considered that the village name with this generic connotes villages along riverside or those having some source of water in the proximity. To illustrate this statement he gave the river names of Kerala.

Dr. Y. Balagangadharara Rao, suggests that - prolu might be a tax collecting centre in olden days.

Cf. Ta. Pulai, entrance, gate, fostpath;

Polil, greatness, largeness,

Part, grove, forest, flower,

garden, pleasure garden,

country, district, division of a country.

Tamil. Polivu. increase as of Revenue profit, advantage.

Ta. Porppiccai. A tax collected in ancient times at the time of the harvest from the ryots for repairs to temples. (JL)

\[
\text{eg.: Koppa} + \text{olu} = \text{Koppolu}
\]

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1. DED, p.2721.
2. Ibid. 3721 & 3723.
4. A study of Telugu Place name, Agamkala pratakasan, Delhi, 1985, pp.315, 316.
This generic can be seen in the inscription from the earliest times onwards. [Koppolu in Nalgonda district].

The phonological changes may be proved as follows:

1. -L- becomes cluster with the initial stop P- (PULOLU > PLOLU).
2. -L- changes to -r- (PLOLU > Prolu).
3. in some cases initial P- changes to v- (Prolu > Vrolu).
4. Loss of -r- in initial cluster (Vrolu > Volu)
5. Initial consonant dropping (Volu > olu).

In this taluq., only one place-name is appended by this generic. i.e., Koppolu (Indicant of personal name).

* Indicant of Gradentiation of land:

eg.: Gadi + ceruvu = Gadiceruvu
Medla + ceruvu = Medlaceruvu

* Indicant of high land:

eg.: Vaddagi + ceruvu = Vaddagiceruvu

* Indicant of Direction:

eg.: Vanaka + revulu = Venakarevulu

(7) - Palli

Indicant of Inhabitation.

= A village,
= A small village, A habitation.

Cf. Telugu: Palle, Palliya,
Tamil: Palli,
Malayalam: Palli
Kannada: Palli, Halli,
Telugu: Palli, Halli.
PK. Palli / Skt. Palli, Pallika (DED. p. 3309).
[<P Dr. Palli]
The word palli which is found also as a place-name generic is considered to be of Dravidian origin. According to Caldwell "this is without doubt identical with the Dravidian word palli, which is added to various names of places in the South - eg. Trichinopoly properly Tirissirapalli.

"The city of the tree headed Asma? The Dravidian origin of this word is indicated, if not proved, by the circumstance that is chiefly, if not exclusively, used to denote places which are within the limits of the Dravidian tongues. From this word I derive the word palla, the name of the principal tribe of Agriculture labourers or serfs in the Tamil Country\(^1\). It is further suggested elsewhere that "the Buddhists and Jains employed the term palli to denote their holy places. The monasteries of Jaina monks and the hermitages of the Jaina ascetics were known as matavarapalli and Aravorapalli. As Buddhism and Jainism were missionary religions, the learned monks and ascetics were actively engaged in expounding the principles of their faith to their disciples in the monasteries.

Thus palli was not merely a place for practising religious austerities but was also a theological seminary .... palli as the name of a place of worship or prayer still lingers in the term pallivasal which denotes the Mohammedan mosque in Tamil Country"\(^2\).

Considering palli as a Dravidian word T. Burrow and M.B. Emeneau have given its variants in other cognate languages as follows\(^3\).

**Indicant of Inhabitation.**

= A small village, a habitation.

palli~palliya~Balli~Billi~Valli~Villi~pilli.

**Ta:** Palli, hamlet, herdsman's village, hermitage, temple cesp. of Buddhists and Jains),

Palace, worship sleeping place, school, room.

**Ma:** Palli, hut, small settlement of jungle tribes, public building, place of worship for Buddhists or foreigners; mosque, royal church.

**Toda:** Poly, sacred dairy, Matrilineal sib, Badaga house.

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3. DED, p.269. No.3309.
Ka. Palli, halli, settlement, abode, hamlet, village, kodagu, palli, hut of a poleye or me, de, (both low castes)

Tu. Palli, Mosque;
    halli, hamlet, small village,

Te. Palli, village, hut;
    palliya, palli, small village,

Parji. Palli, village (only in place names).

cf. skt. Palli, pallika, small village, esp. a settlement of - wild tribes, but, house.

The lexicographers appear to confine themselves to the early Jaina literary usage, where as in practice the thing had undergone a change. This but illustrates the adage that "law always lags behind usage".

Though H.D. Sankalia derives the word palli from the sanskrit. roof pal, 'to go' 'to move' etc. It is tempting to accept the suggestion of T. Burrow and M.B. Emeneou and others that palli is Dravidian word and is connected with the place of Budhist or Jain worship.

For, there are atleast two facts in support of this suggestion. Firstly, the name of the Administrative - Division, palli - rashtra (modern palnad Talq. Guntur Dist.), is derived from the word palli. Meaning a place of Jain or Budhist worship; for that division is well known for its Budhistic sites.

Secondly the Dravidian of palli is proved by the fact that the Dravidian tribal language parji has got the word palli only in the place-names. Again palli has got a competitively wider distribution in Dravidian languages as a place-name generic than in other languages. This fact also lands support to the theory that skt. palli may be a loan word from Dravidian.

Now it can be treated only a common generic to denote mere habitation and we need not think that all the place names with this generics are Buddhist settlements.

From 3rd Century; onwards, we can find this as generic in the inscription.

In this district twenty three villages are found with this generic. They are

1. **Indicant of personal names**:  
   eg.: Ambali + palli = Ambalipalli

2. **Indicant of flora**:  
   eg.: Buruga + palli = Burugapalli  
   Chinta + pali = Chintapalli  
   Malle + palli = Mallepalli

3. **Indicant of Goddesses**  
   Devara + palli = Devarapalli

4. **Indicant of Caste**:  
   eg.: Dommar + palli = Dommarapalli  
   Mangala + palli = Mangalapalli

5. **Indicant of fauna**:  
   Yadla + palli = Yadlapalli  
   eg.: Eddam + palli = Eddampalli  
   Vada + palli = Vadapalli

6. **Indicant of shape of the village**:  
   eg.: Gundram + palli = Gundrampalli  
   Musam + palli = Musampalli

7. **Indicant of Religion (Church)**:  
   eg.: Gundla + palli = Gundlapalli  
   here 'Gundla' form used as plural.  
   Mare + palli = Marepalli
8. *Indicant of Soil*:

Duva+palli = Duvvapalli

9. *Indicant of time*:

eg.: Kotta + palli = Kottapalli

10. *Indicant of location*:

Konda + palli = Kondapalli
Matte + palli = Mattepalli

11. *Indicant of number*:

eg.: Muppana+palli = Muppanapalli

12. *Indicant of Direction*:

eg.: Padamati+palli = Padamatipalli

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8. *Padu*:

Indicant of inhabitation.

= A village, A hamlet, A settlement.

a hamlet (generic to village names)\(^1\)

Cf. Ta. Pati, Patam, Patakam;
Ma. pati, patakam;
Ka. padi / Skt. pataka
HI. Para;
Mar. Pada

[<PS Dr. Pat.] for detailes see : DED.3347;
BSOAS.12-383;
CDIAL. 8031;

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1. IG. P. 187.
In Nalgonda district, Padu is used for Harijan (Dalits) villages.¹

In the literary sense 'padu' means ruined and then the place name occurs with this generic denotes a village. Which is ruined or a village which is formed on a ruined village site.

It was also suggested² that padu means 'wet-land' (Magani). But Dr. S.S. Rama Chandra Murthy³ disputed this derivation because there are villages with this generic in Rayalaseema and Telengana which comprise dry land. But, if we consider the Agricultural words like Dosapadu, Dondapadu, Gurrampadu, Ghoshithipadu, Nagulapadu, Pamulapadu, Patarlapadu, Tungapadu, we can say that it indicates a fertile land. It is also evident that, comparatively a good number of place names having this generic are named after flora in A.P.

This generic can be seen in the inscriptions from 7th century, onwards (gundabadu, modern gundlapadu).

Regarding this Nalgonda district inscriptive place names are found from 13th C. onwards.

8. Villages appear with this generic in this district. They are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicant of flora:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eg.: Dosa + padu = Dosapadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donda + padu = Dondapadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunga + padu = Tungapadu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicant of fauna:

| eg.: Gurram + padu = Gurrampadu |
| Nagula + padu = Nagulapadu       |
| Pamula + padu = Pamulapadu       |
| Goshithi + padu = Goshithipadu    |

* Indicant of Ground level:

| eg.: patarla + padu = Patarlapadu |

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1. See: generic - padu
9. - Puram :

Indicant of inhabitation.

= A village,
a town,
a fort,
a city,
a fortified city.

Cf. HI. pura;
Mar. pura.

[< Skt. Purah]
for more details see : CDIAL. p.8278.

Though it was used for a fortified city in the sanskrit literature, it connotes mere habitation in the Telugu place names.

It is also a fashion now-a-days.

Among the traditional scholars to sanskritise the existing place names and generic puram / puri.

It was known to occur as a generic from the inscriptions belonging to 5th century A.D.¹

15) - PAKA :-

Indicant of inhabitation

= A sea side village,
a herdsmen's vilage.

Paka = a hut constructed without any logs in inscriptions:
"Dashinatah Dadapaka sema meva pekanati - seema - "

A hut, a suffix to village names.

(E - 1. XXVII, PART - I)

Cf. Ta: Pakkam (sea side village, town)
Ma: Pakka,
Ka: Paka
Tel: Paka (hut)
Skt.: Pakkana
ori: Pakana
(- DED(s) p.3332, CDIAL. p.7620)

Syn:
Ma: Pakkanar
A famous low caste sage.
Ka: Pakanatijogi
A king of sudra beggar

'Paka ~ Baka as a generic can be seen since 10th Century. A.D.
Kolanu + Paka = Kolanupaka
Podaru + Paka = Podarupaka
There only two village names with this generic.

1. *Indicant of water* :
   eg.: Kolanu + paka = Kolanupaka

2. *Indicant of forest land* :
   eg.: Podaru + paka = Podarupaka.

16) *PETA* :
   Indicant of inhabitation.
   = Nagaram, vada,
   A market place,
   A suburb or a division of a large city.
   (- C.P. Brown)

Cf.:
Ta: Pettai, Petu,
Ma: Petta,
Ka: Peta
Tu: Peta, Pent / Mara : Peth, Penth.
     (- DBIA. p. 276)
In inscriptions:
"Kakundi penta sunka Veeraswaruni deeparadhanaku Samarpana" -
     (- SII. IV. pp. 702, 1440)
     (- I.G.A.)

**Penta Sunkamu:**

Fees levied on sales of articles or Merchendise in mark place. 3 place names are
here in this district, with this generic:

\[ \text{Masa} + \text{peta} = \text{Masapeta (incant of size)} \]

2. **Indicant of personal names:**

\[ \text{Ramanna} + \text{peta} = \text{Ramannapeta} \]

* **Indicant of king's epithet:**

\[ \text{Raju} + \text{peta} = \text{Rajupeta} \]

* **Indicant of Gods names:**

\[ \text{Surya} + \text{peta} = \text{Suryapeta} \]

Peta is not a that much widely distributed generic in this district.

8. - Rai

**Indicant of Rock**

The generic - rayi, which means the same as another Dravidian word - Kallu, is
found comparatively in a less number of place names. Its distribution is confined to the
Nalgonda district and is found used during the 10th, 12th and 13th centuries. - rala and -
ralla are the genitive (plural) forms of the nominative - rai. Dravidian cognates of - rai are
as follows.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ta</th>
<th>arai, rock, ledge, grinding stone.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Konda</td>
<td>as, flat rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tod</td>
<td>ar, fla + rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ka</td>
<td>are, stone, rock, slab.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1. DED, p.24, No.217.
It may be noted here that, as a place name generic the word - rayi is found with flap though it is current otherwise with both the phonemes, viz., trillr and flap.

The following are the examples of the place names with the generic.

eg.: Toga + rai = Togarai (indicant of fauna).

9. - revulu

Indicant of ceruvu road

The earliest occurrence of this generic is found in the place name venaka - revulu identified in Nalgonda district. The cognates of which are as follows.2

Ta. Irangu, to descend, a light, fall (as rain)

Te. landing place, port, harbour, ford

Ma. to descend, godown, be swallowed.

Ka. eragu, to bow, be bent, crouch, connedown, fall upon.

Tu. eraguni, to bow, fall upon, seize, alight.

Thus it is clear that the place names with the generic - revu / - revu denote villages mostly situated as ferry points on the banks of river and rivulets.

- Revulu and - revula, - revula,
rela, and rala1 are the nominative plural and genetire (plural) forms of the generic - revu respectively. This place name generic has been in vogue continuously right from the 6th century. Onwards to date and its distribution is confined to the taluks of Nalgonda district. The following place name having the this generic is 'revulu'.

eg.: Venaka + revulu = Venakaravulu

(Indicant of direction of the place - name)

2. DED. p.40, No.439.
10. - *tippa*

Indicant of Mound

Only one place name viz., Chendra - tippa is found with this generic in an inscription from the Nalgonda district. In Telugu it stands for a mound, raised or elevated place, or hill and its cognates in other Dravidian languages are as follows:¹

Ται. tippa, Mound, elevated ground:
that which is bulky.

Και. tippe, heap, hillock, dunghill;
dibba, dibbu, eminence, hillock.

Τε. tippe, heap, pile, hill :

Only one place name is found with this generic i.e.,

Chendra + tippa = Chendrutippa

(Indicant of Gods name)

4. *Uru*

Indicant of an Inhabitation

Uru : A village, a habitation
cf. Tamil. ur;
Malayalam. ur;
Kannada. ur;
Telugu. uru;
NK. ur / Pkt. ura _ (DED. p.643)
[<PDr. ur]

Some derive this word from Skt. pura. It was given as an Indeginous word in desinamamala of Hemachandra suri.²

In the opinion of Korada Rama Krishnaiah.²

---

1. DED, p.209, No. 2641.
2. Grame sanghe uro (uro gramah sangasea) - I varga, 143 Verse.
The word ʻuru appears in all Dravidian cognates with the same meaning and it can be easily established that this is an Indigenous word. It can be derived from the Dravidian root ʻur, to dwell.

cf. Ta. ʻuru, ʻurai, ʻuraivu, ʻuranku;
Ma. ʻuruka, ʻurayuka;
Ka, ʻuru, ʻuppu, ʻuru;
Te. ʻuru. - (DED.p.608).

A.S. Thyagaraju ¹ said that it can be seen all over Asia. In this connection he mentioned the "ʻur of Chaldees" of the Holy Bible. But the ʻuru in the Bible means light². Moreover over the name of the one village bearing the name or mentioned in the Bible as the native place of Abraham doesn't mean a village or town. It is only the name of village. There is also insessional evidence to show that a whole province was called ʻuri³. It may also be noted that ʻuri was also a personal name in that Country, meaning bright⁴.


This generic is found in the Telugu place-names as early as the 2nd Century, A.D.

The earliest insessional evidence for this generic belongs to the 13th C.A.D.

In this district, it appears as generic in 10 village names.

They are:

Indicant of flora: 1 Gumuduturu = Gumuduru

Indicant of fauna:

eg.: Ale + ʻuru = Aleru
Chilka + ʻuru = Chilkuru
Kode + ʻuru = Koduru
Koldu + ʻuru = Kolduru

1. JAHRS. Vol. XVI. P.64. 2. Vepur. 145-146 A.D. (ETI)
3. "Ur of Chaldees or ʻurkasdim the Chaldeens lived in south Babilonia. The modern Mugheir, near the Euphrates 125 miles North-West of the Persian Gulf marks the right of ancient city called ʻuru. Which is by many identified with the art of this passage. But Accadian inscriptions. The whole province of Accad or North Babilonia was called ʻuri. - Rev. J.R. Durmelow. A commentary on the Holy - Bible.
4. The Bible I-King 4:19 Ezra 10:24 Therefore, the arrangement of Prof. Thyagaraju doesn't carry much weight in a survey of place-names conducted by Sribenkateswara University in Rayalaseema under the guidance of Dr.G.N. Reddy and Dr.K. Viswanath Reddy, it was found that there are 1074 villages in the four districts of Rayalaseema, having the generic ʻuru. This also proves that this word is only of Dravidian origin.

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*Indicant of Religion:*

eg.: Gudu + uru = Guduru

*Indicant of ground level:*

eg.: Kanduka + uru = Kandukuru

*Indicant of Direction;*

eg.: Matu + uru

*Indicant of colours:*

eg.: Vellata + uru = Vellalturu

*Indicant of old (Ancient);*

eg.: Peru + uru = Peruvuru

They are:

Gogillapuram, Jalapuram, Kishtapuram

3 villages in this district, viz.:

1. *Indicants of personal name:*

eg.: Kishta + puram = Kishtapuram

2. *Indicant of water:*

eg.: Jalala + puram = Jalalapuram

3. *Indicant of flora:*

eg.: Gogilla + puram = Gogillapuram.

12. - *Varam.*

Indicatant of inhabitation.

Some scholars think that the villages having this generic is gifted villages.

Skt. Varam : To grand a boon or blessing,

to receive a boon or reward,

a benefit,

advantage,

previllage,

charity (M.W.).

Dr. Y. Balagangadhara Rao, suggests that this generic indicates some extent of land.
Cf. 1) Skt. Vara (<Skt. Vri):
    environing,
    enclosing,
    circumference,
    space, room & co (MW)

2. Skt. Saravara -
    a lake or
    large pond,
    any peace of water deep enough for the lotus (Ibid).
    According to inscriptions, it is found corrupted from - puram.
    The intermediary form is - vuram.
    (Varam < vuram < puram)¹
    for etymological details, see:
    generic - 'puram'

    From the phonological point of view, initial bilabial stop P - is softened to V - and
    afterwards initial Vu - is changed to Va -

    It is evident from the Chronological point of view. The generic orphems - Vurambu,
    - Vuram and - varam occur only from the inscriptions of 9th & 10th century. A.D.
    respectively.²

    to say for an instance regarding
    Anna+varam = Annavaram of Nalgonda district. It is mentioned
    Chronologically like, this:
    Anna+varam = Annavaram
    Ganapa+varam = Ganapavaram
    Muppa+varam = Muppavaram
    Soma+varam = Somavaram
    Yeleswa+varam = Yeleswaram

¹ V.S.V. 3.3.13. (A)
This generic is found in five village names of this district viz.,

1. *Indicant of Intoxicant drink (like toddy).*
   
   eg.: Soma + varam = Somavaram

2. *Indicant of Gods:*
   
   eg.: Anna + varam = Annavaram
   
   Yeleswa + raram = Yeleswaram

3. *Indicant of number:*
   
   eg.: Muppa + varam = Muppavaram

4. *Indicant of King:*
   
   Ganapa + varam = Ganapavaram

17) - *Vada:*

*Indicant of inhabitation:*

- A village,
  
a street,
  
a row of houses.
  
  (- S.R.)

- A town:
  
a garden,
  
site,
  
a place name suffix,
  
  (- I.G.A.)

[<Skt. vatah]

[S.N. & I.G.]

Cf.: Ta: vattam, vatikai, vati, vadai, vattai

Ka: Bate, vadi, vata,

Kui: Vara

Tel: Vati, vatika, Beta

Pl: Vada, vadaka, vataka, vadi

Skt.: Vati, vatika, vatika, vada, Bata.

= of the street.
Vada = a street,
a village,
a row or a line of houses.
[< Skt. vati] Farm Fencing.
Vatika = garden, street etc.
see also Kolani vocab p.1007.
(- E.T.I)

It can be seen as a place name generic (-vada, -vadi) in northern Indian place names: especially in gujarat place names.

S.S. Ramachandra Murthy says that it denotes probably a well planned small town. While discussing the phonological changes of d/d S.S. Ramachandra Murthy mentions vaddadi as odda + vadi. But this division of Morphemes is not suitable here; because we can find here in this area only one place name with this generic.

Indicant of Church (Religion):
eg.: Gudi + vada = Gudivada
Adi = A starting point, therefore, vaddadi means odd + adi.

It occurs as a generic in the inscriptions assignable o as early as 2nd century A.D.

Some times this generic changed its position as specific i.e.,
Vada + palli = Vadapalli.

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11. - Vidu

Indicant of camp

The generic - vidu occurs in the place name of the 10th - 13th centuries and in the taluqs of Nalgonda district.

In Telugu - vidu means town, city, camp and its Dravidian cognates are as follows.¹

Ta. Vitu, settlement, house, habitation abode,
Ma. Vitu, free hold property, house, especially of nayar or Janmi; Vitakam, dwelling.
Ka. bidike, halting or resting place camp, house, bidu, halting, stopping, halting place, camp, house.
Tu. budara, temporary abode, bidu, budu, manor house, Mansion, residence of a headman.

The only phonological change noticeable in this generic is the presence of the form - bidu which is due to Kannada influence.

It has been suggested elsewhere² that the Bengali place name generic - bhitti/ - hitti / - viti is the same as the Dravidian place name generic - vidu. It occurs in a few village names in Bangali inscriptions as in Champahitti

Hastini - bhitta
Pindara - viti.

Place names ending in bhi or bhita are found in almost every district of Bengal.³ Perhaps the existence of this Dravidian word in Bengali place names would point to very ancient Dravidian settlements in Bengal.

Only two place names found in Nalgonda district with this generic.

eg.: Palaka + vidu = Palakavidu.
(Indicant of rulers name)
Pedda + vidu = Peddavidu (Indicant of size)

1. DED, pp. 369-70, No.4419.
3. Ibid.
13. - *Gutta*
Indicant of small bank.

The earliest occurrence of the generic - Katta is found in the place name ceruvu-gutta referred to in an inscription dated 998 A.D. another form of this generic - gutta and - gattu ( nominative plural : gattu : lu) are found in the inscriptions of the 12th C.A.D.
The generic means 'a dam or an embankment'.

The following are the variant of these forms in other cognate languages.¹

**Ta.** Kattai, dam

**Ma.** Kettu, dam.
Kattu, tie, build

**Ka.** Katte, gattu, embankment, dem

**Tu.** Katta. a dam

In the Nalgonda district only one place name found with this generic. i.e.,
egg.: Ceruvu + gutta = Ceruvugutta

(Indicant of water source)

14. - *Gudi*
Indicant of Religion.

Place names with the generic - gudi or its other forms are found mentioned in the inscriptions of 12th - 13th centuries from the taluks of Nalgonda district.

The following are the variants of gudi in other cognate languages.²

**Ta.** Kuti, house, abode, home, family, lineage, town: kutikai, hutmade of leaves, temple.

**Ma.** Kuti, hut, house family, wife, tribe.

**Ka.** gudi, house, temple.
gudil, gudalu, gudisalu, gudasalu, gudasala, hut with a thatched roof.

**Tu.** gudi, small, pagoda or shrine, guidisalu, gudisilu, gudisilu, gudichilu, hutshed.

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1. DED, p.83, No.961.
2. DED, p.114, No.1379.
Te. Kotika, hamlet; gudi, temple: gudise, nut, cottage, hovel.
Cf. Skt. Kuti.

The following examples are found with this generic i.e.,

Indicant of personal names
eg.: Bhattu + guda = Bhattuguda
     Rama + lingala + gudem = Ramalingalagudem
     Bhattu + vari + gudem = Bhattuvarigudem
     Narayana + gudem = Narayanagudem

Indicant of flora:
eg.: Mamella + guda = Mamellaguda
     Tummala + gudem = Tummalagudem

Indicant of location:
eg.: Nadi + gudem = Nadigudem

15 - gundla

Indicant of rock:
Only one place name viz., Pittla - gundu is found with - gundla (gundu - la), the genitive plural form of the nominative singular - gundu which means a rock round in shape in this context. The following are the variants of Telugu - gundu in other cognate languages.¹

Ta. Kuntu,² ball, anything globular and heavy, bullet.
Ka. gunda, roundness:
gundu, any thing globular, round stone for grinding, boulder of a round, globular form gundage
Tu. gundu, any thing round, ball, bullet, round globular gunde round.

By the above variants and their meanings it is clear that the generic - gundla denotes a village probably full of rocks. There is only one place name which has with this generic i.e.,

1. Indicant of fauna:
eg.: Pittla + gundu = Pittalagundu.

¹ DED, p.117, No.1414.
² Cf. Kunru, see under - Konda.
-eru

The earliest occurrence of this suffix is met with in the middle of the 7th cen. in the pns Gand-eru and Kanth-eru (both identical with modern Kant-eru, Guntur dt).

1. Same as Tol'-abi, listed below.
2. Same as Pott-appi and Pott-epi, listed below, referred to in the inss. belonging to the reign of Eastern Chalukya Jayasiriiha I (641-73 A.D.).

As has been stated above, while discussing the suffix -cheruvu, the confusion between trill r and flap r had set in very in Telugu words and use of both the forms -eru and -eru as pn suffix vouches for this. It is, however, clear from the variants of this word in other cognate languages that the correct spelling is eru. The following are the variants of eru in other cognate languages1:

Ta. yaru, dru, river, brook. Ma. dru, river.

In Telugu also, as in other cognate languages, em means *a river*. This suffix has got a wide distribution in the coastal dt.s of Andhra.

However, this suffix is not found in the pns of the Rayalasima and Telangana regions except in the dt.s of Chittoor and Mahbubnagar and Khamraam, respectively.

It has been suggested elsewhere1- that (a) the Dravidian -dru (sic) is found in a few names of places and rivers in the neighbourhood of Afghanistan and Baluchistan: eg.—

(1) Am, a place about 90 km, south-west of the town Kirman in the neighbourhood of a river-source.

(2) Talar, the name of two small hills north-east and north-west of the town Passani, whence two streams originate.

(3) Parwar, a stream running through an arid tract in the district Jalawan.

(b) Dravidian ar (sic) appears in the names of places and of rivers in the plains of the Euphrates and the Tigris: eg.—

(1) Sinar, mentioned in the Bible, denoting the land between the two rivers, Euphrates and Tigris=Semitic shene (two)-f-ar.

(2) Kebdr, 8 stream mentioned in the Bible.

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If the Dravidian origin of the above words dru and ar can be considered as correct, it may show the possible existence of Dravidian settlements and colonies in the remote past in these parts of Asia. The suffix -eru a has not undergone major phonological changes through the centuries, its occurrence as edu (see list below) in two instances of the 12th-13th centuries being an exception. However, this suffix is used in its genitive forms -iri, eti and -end. In another case -eru is found as -era, probably the result of an attempt to Sanskritize the suffix.

Pns with the suffix -gudi or its other forms are found mentioned in the inss. of 12th-l3th centuries from the dts. of Krishna, Guntur and Kurnool. The following are the variants of gudi in other cognate languages1.

Ta. kuti, house, abode, home, family, lineage, town; kutikai, hut
made of leaves, temple.

Ma. kufi, hut, house family, wife, tribe.

Ka. gudi, house, temple;
    gudil, gudalu, gudisalu, gadasalu, gudasala, etc., hut with a
    thatched roof.

Tu. gudi, small, pagoda or shrine, gudisalu, gudisilu, gudsilu, gudichilu, hut
    shed.

Te. kotika, hamlet; gudi, temple; gudise, hut,
    cottage, hovel.

cf. Skt. kuti.

While Ta. kuti has got many meanings such as a house, abode, home, family, lineage or
town Te. gudi restricted to the meaning of ‘temple’. However, as a pn suffix, Te. gudi also
might have had all the meanings as that of Ta. kuti, referred to above. If this suggestion is
accepted, this pn suffix may be considered as a very important one since it throws light on how
primitive nomadic man settled down in a particular place in groups. The different meanings of
-kufi viz. a house, abode, home, family, lineage and town cannot all of them be considered as
of a simultaneous origin. Primarily it should have meant only a house, since it was imperative
to the prehistoric man to fix up an abode for a permanent dwelling.

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It is very interesting, in this context, that Ta. *kutikai* or Te. *gudise* which must be derived *(rota-kufi)*, should mean a house necessarily made of leaves, thus indicating the most ancient way of building a house, perhaps next only to that of staying in the hollow of a tree. Gradually as the people began coming together and started staying collectively, the meaning of the word *-kuti* or *-gudi* became extended to specify 'a village'. Further, the fact that very few pns have got this suffix indicates that it has not become a common term to denote a village or town as is the case with *-uru* which has come to denote a village or town or city without any consideration to its population or extent.

Regarding the phonological changes in the forms of *-gudi* it may be pointed out that the initial *g-* is devoiced to *k-* in the forms *-kudi, -kude* (the final vowel *i* > *e* is due to Kannada influence), *-kuda* (cf. the form *-guda* which probably might have lead to the form *-gudem* which is found as a pn suffix in the post-13th cen. pns) and *-kudla* (genitive plural of *-kudi*).

*-*gundla*

Only one pn viz. Pilli-*gundla* (unidentified; 1262 A.D.) is found with the suffix *gundla* (*gundu-l-a*), the genitive plural form of the nominative singular *-gundu* which means 'a rock round in shape' in this context. The following are the variants of Te. *-gundu* in other cognate languages:

- Ta. *kuntu*, ball, anything globular and heavy, bullet.
- Ka. *gunda*, roundness;
  - *gundu*, anything globular, round stone for grinding, boulder;
  - *gundage*, of a round, globular form.
  - *gunduge*

- Tu. *gundu*, anything round, ball, bullet, round globular; *gunde*, round.

By the above variants and their meanings it is clear that the suffix *-gundla* denotes a village probably full of rocks.
The pn suffix \textit{-parra} is one of the early suffixes found in the inss. Its earliest known occurrence, in its different forms is in an ins. assignable to the 5th cen. A.D. which mentions the pn Kom-para (modern Komariu, Krishna dt.). In Telugu\textit{porta} means a pit, a marsh, bog, fen, swamp; a salt pan or a place where is salt collected\textsuperscript{1} and a mixture of good (i.e. cultivable land) and bad soil comprising sand and stones, uncultivable land\textsuperscript{2}. The pn suffix \textit{-parra} is found in the coastal dts. of Srikakulam, W. Godavari, Guntur and Krishna. Before discussing the phonological features of this pn suffix, it may be noted that the form \textit{parra} as it is does not occur in the inss. as a pn suffix but it occurs in phonologically changed forms, which are as follows:

(1) In the pn Kom-para, the gemination \textit{rr} is simplified, and in the same form trill \textit{r} is replaced by flap \textit{r}.

(2) In the pns Tonta-para, Pedda Vi-para and Olu-para also the gemination \textit{rr} is simplified but the trill \textit{r} is not changed to flap \textit{r}.

(3) In the pn Palu-varra, voiceless labial stop \textit{p} is softened to \textit{v}.

The following are a few examples of the pns with this suffix:

\begin{verbatim}
-para
Kom-para Krishna c. 445-70
(K6-marru)
\end{verbatim}
-parru, -pattu

The pn suffix -parru is one of the early suffixes found widely used. Its earliest known occurrence is in an ins. assignable to the 4th cen. A.D. which mentions the pn Viri-para (modern Vipparla, Guntur dt.). The word pa\textsuperscript{1}-ru is etymologically related to Dravidian parru,\textsuperscript{4} which is to be pronounced as patru, and which resulted in two forms in Telugu viz. paffii and pattu (the latter is in Tamil also). The Tamil Lexicon\textsuperscript{1} gives the following meanings to parru and pattu:

\begin{quote}
parru: (Ka. pattu; Ma. parru).
\end{quote}

Resting place; portion of a country consisting of many villages;

\begin{quote}
\begin{itemize}
  \item paddy field; village, parish;
  \item pattu: hamlet, small town or village.
\end{itemize}
\end{quote}

Thus it is apparent that the pns with -parru and -pattu appellations denote small villages. In Tamil Nadu there are many villages with the appellation pattu in their names and in these instances also pattu is obviously a later form of -parru. The following are a few examples:

Mam-battu (modern Mambalap-pattu, S. Arcot dt. Tamil Nadu) (1272 A.D.); The Ramagiri (Chingleput dt., Tamil Nadu) ins\textsuperscript{1}. of Madhurantaka Pottapichola, dated in his 2nd regnal year, refers to different classes of land-holdings viz. agara-parru, vanniya-pparru, jlvita-parru, padai parru, etc. Here the appellation -parru is note-worthy. In Telugu also it may be observed that the pns with pattu ending are chronologically later (10th, 12th and 13th centuries) than those with -parru ending.