



Thirsty For History

Did you know Bengaluru
is commonly known as
city of a thousand lakes?



Swipe to know all about
Cascading Keres of Bengaluru.



In the 16th century CE, **Kempegowda** wanted to expand and make a flourishing city in Bengaluru.

But people in a big city would need one important thing - **WATER**. 

Bengaluru sits on a hill, with no major rivers nearby.

Due to the slope, the rainwater naturally flows away, leaving the city dry for most of the year.

So how could he ensure **ample water for a growing city?**



Kempegowda had an idea.

He built more lakes, called *Kere*, and tanks, called *Kalyani*, around the town, and connected them with ‘Royal Canals’ called *Rajakaluve*.

Together, they formed a ‘network’ of cascading water bodies.



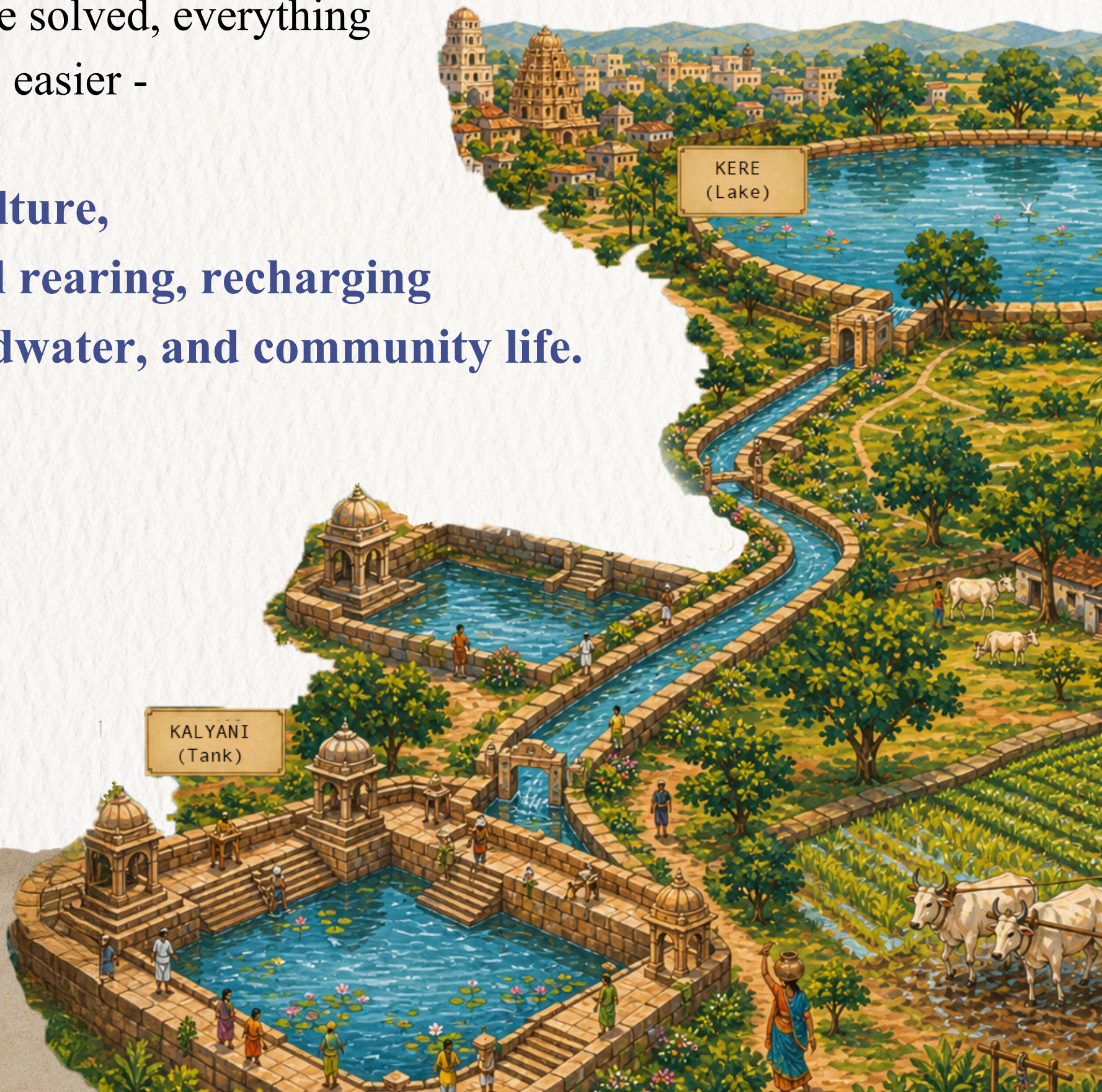
Whenever it rained, the excess water would flow down the slope into the lake or tank below.



These lakes were not scattered randomly; rather, **lakes were strategically placed** along natural valleys to capture monsoon rainfall.

With the problem of water shortage solved, everything became easier -

**agriculture,
animal rearing, recharging
groundwater, and community life.**



Sustainability was built into the city's design.

This system helped shape
Bengaluru into a flourishing city,
where geography, ecology, and
people worked together.

Many of those lakes have
disappeared in recent years
due to rapid urbanisation, but
history reminds
us that cities can grow while
conserving the environment!



History isn't just about the past.
It's a guide for the future.



Look around you.

How many lakes and tanks do you see in your
neighbourhood?

Can you find an *old
kere, kalyani, or
rajakaluve* in your
locality?



