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ANCIENT STUDY AND ROLE OF TENKASI PANDYAS UNDER THE NAYAKS IN TAMILNADU, INDIA

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Tenkasi, Vijayanagar.

INTRODUCTION

Madurai Sultanate arrived at an end with Vijayanagar intrusion against the Sultans in 1371 A.D under Kumara Kambana. The Pandya, who moved southwards amid Sultan's govern, reigned little domains in Tirunelveli-Tenkasi regions.¹The descendant of the Pandyas has influence under the Suzerainty under the Nayaks'. The Pandyas of this period came to be recorded in the history as later Pandyas or Tirunelveli and TenkasiPandyas.Though the Pandyas moved southwards, they attempted to determine their old grandness under positive political condition, however with little accomplishment, since Narasa, a Vijayanagar general had a triumph over the Tirunelveli and Tenkasi Pandyas..²

The establishment of Nayakdom

At last, the foundation of Nayakdom of Madurai practically synchronized to the establishment of the Vijayanagar Empire.³It is said

ABSTRACT

After the Vijayanakara invasion against the Madurai sultanate in 1371 A.D. the Pandyas moved southwards and reigned little regions in Tirunelveli – Tenkasi, under the suzerainty of Nayakadom.The Nayak emissaries ViswanathaNayak (1529-1564), Kumara Krishnappa(1564-1572), VirappaNayaka (1572-1595), KrishnappaNayaka II, (1595-1601), MuthukrishnappaNayaka(1601-1609), and Muthu VirappaNayaka I (1609-1623), ruled the Tenkasi Pandya district. Amid the time of ViswanathaNayak, Tenkasi was partitioned into Palayams, with palayakkars as the chieftains. The annals discuss 32 palayams, of which

18 were under the control of Marava boss and 14 were under Nayak boss. KrishnappaNayak, gave quiet organization and advance; and he assembled the town, Krishnapuram and a sanctuary at Krishnapuram which even now remains as a landmark of Nayaks' specialty and design. VirappaNayak's long run (1572-1595) appears to have been a time of peace and flourishing. The Nayaks never meddled in the local organization of TenkasiPandiys. Also, subsequently, the TenkasiPandiys felt free and gently making the most of their primitive lordship, under the Nayakdom for almost a century.

KEYWORDS: Nayakdom, Pandyas,

that the over ruler ship of Nayaks' in the Tirunelveli – Tenkasi area, existed from 1404 to 1558 A.D, and that the Nayaks' governors were administering the Tirunelveli-Tenkasi regions. During their lead, an inconceivable water system work was done in this locale. A large portion of the dams over the waterway in this area were built by the Nayaks.⁴ When the Vijayanagar Empire was in its primes, the entire south India framed some portion of it. The old rulers were discarded, yet, the Pandya and Chola relatives were controlling typically in the parts of their genealogical regions. The Chola chieftain and the Pandya chieftain had a forceful war.

Krishnadeva Raya couldn't endure this ill will between the two feudatories. He deputed NagamaNayaka, as the officer-in-control for the peace upkeep of peace in the south. NagamaNayaka couldn't set right the ill will between the two chieftains, and he wavered to evacuate the treachery done to the Pandyas by the Cholas furthermore to reestablish the Pandyas.

ViswanathaNayak (1529-1564 A.D)

Krishna Deva Raya was particularly maddened at Nagama's rebellion. He deputed ViswanathaNayaka who was none other than the child of NagamaNayaka. Along these lines, ViswanathaNayaka was designated as the emissary of the south with the title as the head of the Pandya (Tirunelveli-Tenkasi) locale and the Lord of the southern throne.⁵

The withdrawal of real Pandyas into the environs of Tenkasi maybe acquired into reality Madurai ill-conceived petitioners, commonly scrutinizing their authenticity. SathiyanaAiyar composes, "Perhaps the old Pandyas who has resigned to Tenkasi incited antagonism against Madurai ruler".⁶ It gives the idea that TenkasiPandyas got to be distinctly feudatory to Madurai and to concrete the cooperation, likely a Pandya princess is said to be Achutha Raya.

Organization of Palayams under Nayakdom

One of the essential regulatory measures brought by ViswanathaNayaka with the capable help of the co-chairman of Tirunelveli-Tenkasi locale, AriyanathaMudaliar was the association of the district into 'Palayams'. In the wake of reestablishing peace and request, Viswanatha and Ariyanatha composed the entire southern area for powerful organization. They needed to consider the old nearby chieftains who were the vassals of the Pandyas, the transients from the north. The political, monetary and military thought processes had most likely impacted Viswanatha and Ariyanatha to organization what is called 'Palayam framework'.

The accounts talk about the division of the nation into seventy two "Palayams" and of each Palayakkarar being in charge of the guard of the "Palayam" apportioned to him. At any rate, the Palayams that existed in Tirunelveli district by 1750 A.D, were 32, of which 18 were under the control of Marava boss and the rest of the 14 were under "Veduga" or 'Nayak boss', thus they were called MaravaPalayams and NayakPalayams. ChokkampattiPalayam was one of the MaravaPalayams and it was none other than the present Tenkasi region.⁷

Tenkasi Pandyas under Viswanatha Nayaka

The Pandyas of Tenkasi were Viswanatha's steadfast establishments and their energy step by step expanded under his encouraging consideration. The engravings amid the rule of Viswanatha were various. Viswantha's coins bear Pandya's token 'fish'. The coins have on front-side the legend Pandya's and on the turn around 'Viswanathan'.⁸

KrishnappaNayaka I (1564-1572 A.D)

Kumara Krishnappa, the child of ViswanathaNayak was delegated as the Nayak in 1564 A.D. One year from now, the Vijayanaagar Empire, the Suzerain power met with a shocking thrashing at Talaikottai. In any case, Nayakdom proceeded in Tenkasi region. Though the early years of the rule of KrishnappaNayak appear to have been an extremely on edge period, he gave serene organization and advance. Krishnappa is said to have constructed Krishnapuram, a town on the east of Payamkottai. Krishnapuram sanctuary even now remains as a landmark of the Nayak's craft and architecture.⁹

KrishnappaNayak gave the district under his rule, a solid and helpful control, which was gravely required

around then. He was a fit and shrewd ruler bearing the welfare of subjects continually in mind. He enthusiastically checked the abhorrent ways and endeavors of a portion of the Palayakkars, and by his immovability and control showed them to regard the constituted power. Krishnappa kicked the bucket in 1572 A.D.

VirappaNayaka (1572-1595 A.D)

At the point when VirappaNayak was delegated as the ruler, Ariyanatha proceeded as the Dalavoy and Pradhani in name. However, there is no genuine confirmation of his overwhelming impact. VirappaNayak appears to have had idealize control over his feudatories, i.e. the Pandyas of Tenkasi; inscriptional confirmations say that he was the genuine ace of his country. As were his ancestors, so was VirappaNayak faithful to the Vijayanagar Empire. What's more, his long administer appears to have been a time of peace and prosperity.¹⁰

After VirappaNayak, KrishnappaNayak II (1595-1601 A.D) and MuthukrishnappaNayaka (1601-1609 A.D) ruled the Tenkasi Pandya area.

Muthu VirappaNayak I (1609-1623 A.D) is said to have shunned his dedication to the Vijayanagar Emperor and got to be distinctly free.

Pandya's Relation with Nayaks

Pandyas helped Muthu Virappa in his war against Thanjavur. Religious administrator Caldwell opines that Adhiveera Rama Pandyan was the remainder of the Pandyas and he should have kicked the bucket at the most recent by 1610 A.D. Dr. Burnwell alludes to a SundaraPandyan as Adhiveera Rama's successor on the premise of record of his thirteenth regnal year i.e. 1622 A.D. Truth be told there is no dependable inscriptional record of the Pandyas accessible from the season of Muthu VirappaNayaka. Goopinatha Rao gives a rundown of the Pandyas which goes upto 1753 A.D.¹¹

CONCLUSION

To entirety up under the encouraging happened to ViswanathNayak, Tenkasi was isolated into Palayams, with palayakkars as the chieftains. The force of TenkasiPandiya steadily expanded, KrishnappaNayak, gave tranquil organization and advance; and he constructed the town, Krishnapuram and a sanctuary at Krishnapuram which even now remains as a landmark of Nayaks' specialty and architecture.¹²

The TenkasiPandiya had been faithful to the Nayaks of Madurai; and they paid the periodical tributes consistently to the Nayaks. The Nayaks never meddled in the local organization of TenkasiPandiya; rather they liberally permitted the TenkasiPandiya to run Tenkasi district gently. Furthermore, consequently the TenkasiPandiya felt free and making the most of their fendal lordship. There are test proofs to demonstrate that the TenkasiPandiya survived the foundation of the Nayaks of Madurai for about a Century.

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