

Std 10 unit 6
Early revolts against British Rule in Tamil Nadu

1 . What were the duties of the Palayakkarars? (Pg no 63)

- The Palayakkarars were free to collect revenue, administer the territory, settle disputes and maintain law and order.
- Their police duties were known as Padikaval or Arasu Kaval.
- On many occasions the Palayakarars helped the Nayak rulers to restore the kingdom to them.

2. Identify the Palyams based on the division of east and west. (pg no 64)

Eastern and Western Palayams

- Among the 72 Palayakkarars, created by the Nayak rulers, there were two blocs, namely the prominent eastern and the western Palayams.
- The eastern Palayams were Sattur, Nagalapuram, Ettayapuram, and Panchalamkurichi and the prominent.
- Western palayams were Uthumalai, Thalavankottai, Naduvakurichi, Singampatti, Seithur.

3, What was the significance of the Battle of Kalakadu?

- The Nawab sent an additional contingent of sepoy to Mahfuzkhan and the reinforced army proceeded to Tirunelveli.
- Before Mahfuzkhan could station his troops near kalakadu 2000 soldiers from Travancore joined the forces of Puli Thevar.
- In the battle at Kalakadu, Mahfuzkhan's troops were routed.

4 . What was the bone contention between the company and Kottabommam ?

- The Nawab, under the provisions of a treaty signed in 1781, had assigned the revenue of the Carnatic to the Company to be entirely under their management and control during the war with Mysore Sultan.
- One-sixth of the revenue was to be allowed to meet the expenses of Nawab and his family.
- The Company had thus gained the right to collect taxes from panchalamkurichi.

- The Company appointed its Collectors to collect taxes from all the palayams.
- The Collectors humiliated the palayakkarars and adopted force to collect the taxes.
- This was the bone of contention between the English and Kattabomman.

5. Highlight the essence of the Tiruchirappalli Proclamation of 1801.(pg no 68)
- In June 1801 Marudhu Pandiyars issued a proclamation of Independence which is called Tiruchirappalli Proclamation.
 - The Proclamation of 1801 was an early call to the Indians to unite against the British, cutting across region, caste, creed and religion.
 - The proclamation was pasted on the walls of the Nawab's palace in Tiruchirappalli fort and on the walls of the Srirangam temple.
 - Many palayakkars of Tamil country rallied together to fight against the English.

PARAGRAAPHS

1. Attempt an essay of the heroic fight Veerapandya Kattabomman conducted against the East India Company.

Introduction:

- Veerapandiya Kattabomman became the Palayakkarar of Panchalamkurichi at the age of thirty on the death of his father Jagavira Pandya Kattabomman
- **Bone of contention:**
 - The company gained the right to collect taxes from Panchalamkurichi.
 - The collectors appointed by the company adopted force to collect the taxes
 - This was the bone of contention between the English and Kattabomman.
- **Confrontation with Jackson:**
 - Kattabomman's land revenue arrear was 3310 pagodas.
 - Collector Jackson wanted to send an army to collect the revenue dues.
 - The Madras Government did not give him permission.
 - So he ordered Kattabomman to meet him in Ramanathapuram.
 - In Ramanathapuram Kattabomman had to stand for three hours before collector Jackson.
 - He was supposed to be arrested, so he along with his minister Sivasubramanianar tried to escape.
 - With the help of Oomaithurai, Kattabomman escaped.
 - But Siva subramanianar was taken as Prisoner.

Appearance before Madras Council:

- Kattabomman informed this incident to Madras council.
- The Madras council asked Kattabomman to appear before a committee with William Brown, William Oram and John Casamajor.
- The Committee found that Kattabomman was not guilty.
- Jackson was dismissed..
- S.R Lushington was appointed as a new collector..
- Kattabomman's revenue balance was only 1080 pagodas.

Kattabomman and the confederacy of Palayakkarars:

- Marudhu Pandiyar of Sivagangai formed the South Indian confederacy of rebels with Gopala Nayak of Dindigul and Yadul Nayak of Aanamalai against the British.
- Marudhu Brothers and Kattabomman jointly decided on a confrontation with the English.
- So the company decided an expedition on Kattabomman.
- In May 1799, Lord Wellesley from Madras ordered the forces of Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Madurai to march towards Tirunelveli.
- Major Bannerman commanded the troops.
- The Travancore troops also joined the British.
- On 1 September 1799, an ultimatum was sent to Kattabomman to surrender, but he refused.
- Bannerman attacked Panchalamkurichi.
- They cut off all the communications to the fort.
- Bannerman sent Ramalinganar to Kattabomman to convey a message of surrender.
- But Kattabomman refused.
- Ramalinganar gathered the secrets of the fort.
- On the basis of this Bannerman attacked the fort
- In Kallaripatti clash, Sivasubramaniam was taken as a prisoner.

Execution of Kattabomman:

Kattabomman escaped to Pudukottai.

- Betrayed by the Rajas of Ettayapuram and Pudukkottai, Kattabomman was captured.
- Sivasubramaniam was executed at Nagalapuram on 13th September.
- Kattabomman was hanged from a tamarind tree in the old fort of Kayathar, close to Tirunelveli

Conclusion:

- Thus the execution of Kattabomman ended the life of the Palayakkarar of Panchalamkurichi.

2. Highlight the tragic fall of Sivagangai and its outcome.

Fall of Sivagangai

Introduction:

- Periya Marudhu or Vella Marudhu and his younger brother Chinna Marudhu were able generals of Muthu Vadugar of Sivagangai.
- After Muthu Vadugar's death in the Kalaiyar Kovil battle, Maruthu brothers assisted Velunachiar to restore the throne.
- After the death of Kattabomman they worked along with his brother Oomathurai.

Rebellion of Marudhu brothers 1800-1801:

- In 1800 Marudhu brothers started a rebellion.
- It is referred as the Second Palayakkarar war in the British record.
- In June 1800, the revolt broke out in Coimbatore and spread to Ramanathapuram and Madurai.
- The Palayakkarars of Coimbatore, Sathyamangalam and Tarapuram were caught and hanged.
- Two brothers of Kattabomman- Oomathurai and Sevathiah escaped from Palayamkottai prison and took shelter in Sivagangai under Marudhu brothers.
- Marudhu brothers refused to hand over them to the British.
- So the English troops marched to Sivagangai.

Proclamation of 1801:

- In June 1801 Maruthu Pandiyar issued Tiruchirappalli Proclamation of independence.-
- This proclamation was an early call to the Indians to unite against the British.
- This proclamation was pasted on the walls of the Nawab's palace in Tiruchirappalli fort and on the walls of the Srirangam temple.
- Due to this, Chinna Marudhu was able to collect nearly 20,000 men to fight against the British.

- **Fall of Sivagangai:**

- In May 1801, the English attacked the rebels in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli.
- The rebels went to Piranmalai and Kalayar Koil.
- There also the rebels were defeated.
- The rebellion failed and Sivagangai was annexed in 1801.
- The Marudhu brothers were executed in the fort of Tirupathur near
- **Ramanathapuram on 24th October 1801.**

- **conclusion**

- Oomathurai and Sevathaiah were beheaded at Panchalankurichi.
- 73 rebels were exiled to Penang in Malaya.
- Thus the rebellion of Marudhu brothers [South Indian Rebellion] is a landmark event in the history of Tamil Nadu.

. **Account for the outbreak of Vellore Revolt in 1806.**

Vellore Revolt 1806

Introduction:

- The little kings and feudal chieftains rebelled against the company Government.
- The Vellore revolt of 1806 was its outcome.

Reason:

- Indian sepoys were upset with discrimination in salary and promotion.
- They were humiliated by their English officers.
- Famines occurred in 1805.
- Many of the sepoys' families suffered a lot.
- New military regulation was introduced by Sir John Cradock.
- This regulation prohibited Indian soldiers from wearing religious marks or ear ring.
- The soldiers were not allowed to have beards.
- The British replaced their turban with a round hat with leather cockade.

Outbreak of the revolt ·

- On 10th July 1806, the Indian sepoy of the 1st and 23rd regiments shot dead Colonel Fancourt and Colonel Mekerras.
- Major Armstrong came to enquire about the firing.
- He was also shot dead.
- About a dozen other officers including Lt.Elly and Lt.Popham were killed.

Gillespie's brutality:

- Major cootes informed colonel Gillespie, the cavalry commandant in Arcot.
- Colonel Gillespie reached the fort with captain young.
- Meanwhile, the rebels made Tipu's eldest son Fateh Hyder as their new ruler.
- They hoisted the tiger flag of Mysore Sultans.
- Colonel Gillespie crushed the revolt ruthlessly.

Consequences of revolt:

- Tipu's sons were sent to Calcutta.
- Colonel Gillespie and other officers, who suppressed the revolt were rewarded.

Conclusion:

- The Vellore revolt failed because there was no immediate help from outside.
- The 1806 revolt was not confined to Vellore fort.
- It had its echoes in
 1. Bellary
 2. Hyderabad
 3. walajabad
 4. Bengaluru
 5. Nandidurg and
 6. Sankari durg.
