

**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 sepoys 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 palayakkars 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 Pandys 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.

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### PARAGRAAPHS

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

**Introduction:**

- Veerapandiya Kattabomman became the Palayakkar 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 Palayakkars:**

- 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 May1799, 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 Kallarpatti clash, Sivasubramaniar was taken as a prisoner.

### **Execution of Kattabomman:**

Kattabomman escaped to Pudukottai.

- Betrayed by the Rajas of Ettayapuram and Pudukkottai, Kattabomman was captured.
- Sivasubramanianar 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 Palayakarar of Panchalamkurichi.
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## 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.
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### **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 sepoys 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 3. walajabad 5. Nandidurg and
  - 2. Hyderabad 4. Bengaluru 6. Sankari durg.

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