

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTION OF VENAD KINGS IN NANJIL NADU THROUGH INSCRIPTION

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INTRODUCTION

Nanjil Nadu was one of the most significant parts in ancient south Travancore. It's had various historical significance. It's ruled by various kings in various durations. During the time of 12th century AD to 18th, century AD the Nanjil Nadu was under the control of Venadkings. They donated a lot to the development of temple. The aim of this article is bring out the religious contribution of Venad kings in Nanjil Nadu.

KOTHAIKERALAVARMA(1145-1150)

The later chola inscriptions mention the Venadkings as koopahathavasu. Kopakarkon was occupied Nanjil Nadu from Pandiya. The Pandiya king was RajaSimman and the koopakarken was kothaikavala varma¹. He was donate nantha lamp and food to the temple and also he donate a lot to Vangadacholapathi temple and Suchindram temple².

VEERARAVIVARMA (1150-1161)

He was the successor of Kothikavalavarrama .A minister of Vera Ravi Varma Singan was donated land to the Nanjil nadu nearby puvavaseri. This inscription was explored in the south side wall of the Perumal temple in puruvaseri³.

VEERA UDAYA MARTHANDAVARMA (1171-1191)

He was the brother of Verakeralavarma II. His inscription were excavated from Thiruvattar temple and Killioor temple. Thiruvattar temple inscription was inscribed in 1172. Adisanudayan and his brothers were gave land donation to the Adikesavan temple⁴. Killioor Prateswarar temple inscription was inscribed in 1178. By this inscription we can get information that is Marthandavarma was donated lands from Samudai Mampallam. And Vayakaloor Sagarankumaran was gave seeds to make cultivate to the lands⁵.

SHREE VERA RAMAVARMA (1195-1205)

An inscription was exported from Puravaseri Perumal temple. It was inscribed in 1196. Here Rig and Yajuar vedas were taught. So a land was donate to the teachers.⁶

VEERA RAVI KERALAVARMA(1215-1240)

Vera Ravi Keralavarma was the next king of Veeravarma ruled Nanjil Nadu. His inscription was exported from Manalikai. During his period Nambhothiries were the authority of temple. He was build the Suchindram Thanumalaiyan temple's Subramanyan wisdom place. Tamil bramins had second authority of the temples.Manalikai inscription was exported trawler temple pillar in Manalikai.It contain detail about that kothinaloor people pay tax their lands⁷.

SREE VERA UDAYA MARTHANDAVARMA (1314-1344)

In the beginning of 14th century his inscription was explored in Kanyakumari. It was explored from the Keralapuram Mahadevar temple. By the inscription deals about that was donate nanda lamb to VeraKeralasvara Mahadevar temple from the collection of tax in 1315. Another his inscription was exported from Kurandi. This inscription contain detail about Sursiyapattan was build Ganapathi temple⁸.

SREE MARTHANDAVARMA III (1364-1372)

His inscription were exported from puthugramam, Raja Narayana Satharvathi Mangalam. Udaya Marthanda vinavaramperuman temple. Another inscription was exported from krishnankovil, Krishnankovil east side wall. It was inscribed in 1372. It contain detail about that donation of land⁹.

SREE UDAYA MARTHANDAVARMA (1383-1444)

He was constructed the Saba Mandapam in Suchindram temple. Kanyakapuram inscription was exported from Kanyakapuramkanyakalwar temple east side wall.It contains the information that he was built Mahamandapam to this temple. Agastheeswarar temple inscription was inscribed in 1438. It contain details about that the king was donate medical facility to the Brahmins of Udaya Marthanda Sathurvathi Mangalam for his birthday.¹⁰

SREE VERA RAMAVARMARAMATIRUPOORMUTHATIRUVADI(1470-1478)

His inscription was inscribed at Suchindram Thanumalaiyan temple. It was inscribed in 1470. He donated two nanda lamb for the temple and donated money, land to kesavan from Suchindram. During the time of festivals he gave food to the bramins and donated nanda lamb¹¹.

VERA SREE RAVI VARMA (1484-1512)

His inscription also inscribed at Suchindram temple in the North side wall. It said that gold was donated for the Nandalamb¹². Another inscription inscribed at the south side individual stone of this temple. This inscription deal with the king donates two thousand rupees for the food of Nanjil Nadu Bramadayam bramins. Thovalai inscription was exported at the Vinayager temple at Thovalai. It deals with the donation which was given by the king to this temple¹³.

POOTHALA VERA SREE UDAYA MARTHANDA VARMA (1516-1535)

His inscriptions were explored at Suchindram, Kottaru, Krishnan kovil, Thalakudi, Sinna Muttom. Nagaraja temple inscription was situated the entrance of Mugamandapa third stone. It was inscribed on 1516. It said that the king was donated money for the expenses of Poojas in this temples. Suchindram temple inscription situated in the bottom area of Annai Parai of the east side of the temple. It said that the Udaya Marthanda Varma was gave ten lands to donate for the given food to the devotees who came to this temple¹⁴.

Thalakudi inscription was explored in the west side wall of Thalakudi Iyantheswarar temple. Its deals with the information that he was stay in kalakadu he was appointed Bramadthayaroyan as the accountant of Sathissuramudeiyar temple¹⁵.

MARTHANDAVARMA (1540-1544)

His inscription was in the Suchindram temple. It deals with the information that the Suchindram temple servant was send a complaint, there were no water supply for cultivate Davathna land. So the king was ordered to send water to the land for the cultivation¹⁶.

POTHALA VERA SREEVERAKERALAVARMA (1544-1545)

His inscription also inscribed at the wall of Suchindram temple. It said that the king was dismissed the old accountant and to appointed a new accountant, who was Perumal. In Kanyakumari, Manal Thittai rock inscription was there. It said that the davadana land was donated to SreePadmanaba PerumalAdikesavaPerumal, TheroorAlagiyaThambi, Suchindram Udaya Nayanr, and Pothapandeswaram Nayanar¹⁷.

SREEVEERAADITHYAVARMA (1558-1564)

Tharisanacopu inscription was inscribed and Ragavaswara swami temple. It was inscribed on 1559. The king was donated money to the temple for poojas¹⁸.

Keralapuram Mahadevar temple inscription was inscribed on 1607. He was constructed the Nadambalam, Tirumadaipalli, risabamandapa were built by the king. Poothapondi inscription was inscribed on 1607. It was inscribed in the south side wall to Sivagami Amman worship area. This inscription contain the information that king was donates 300 rupees for the poojas of this temple with the authority of Nanjil Nadu Marukooran.

RAMAVARMA KULASEGARA PERUMAL (1607-1609)

His name was inscribed in the Suchindram temple inscription. He was build KulesagaraVinayagar temple inside of the Suchindram temple. It was built in 1609¹⁹.

RAVI VARMA I (1610-1619)

His inscription was inscribed at Poothapondi poothalingeswarer temple. It said that in the festival celebration the king was donating money to the brahmin's. Another one inscription was exported in the Poothapandi temple. It deals with details of SithiraiPoorna festival celebration and the donations which was given by the king and people. Tarisanacopu inscription was inscribed on 1618. It was situated in the Ragavesvarer Swami temple. This inscription contains the details of the celebration of poratathi star day. Suchindram temple inscription was inscribed on 1619 and situated in the entrances of south side. It deals with the Karthigai celebration of the temple²⁰.

SREEVEERA RAVI VARMA II (1620-1659)

Poothapandi inscription was inscribed on 1659. It deals with the cultivate land of Devathanam and the Brahmins. The formers not gave money to the Brahmins. So they compliant to the king. He was calculating the issue.

SREE VERA UDAYA MARTHANDAVARMA (1564-1587)

During the time of the king kariyamanikathalwer temple was reconstructed. By the representation of the king Vera Ramavarma was donate land for the poojas of ParakaiMadusudana Perumal Temple. Thalakudi inscription was situated in the North side wall of Jayanthaswarar temple in Thalakudi. It said that the Sithamparam donate land for Nandavanam to the temple. Kanyakumari amman temple inscription was inscribed in the entrance of Mugamandapa. It said that Andiyachi, Nachiyar from Sarntha mangalam who donate hundred rupees for burn the flag lamb to the temple.

Suchindram temple was inscribed in 1569. It said that Thambiaadrsan was accountant appointed by the king. He got salary as away place and food. Poothapandi inscription was inscribed at Poothapondi poothalinga Swami temple. it said that Nainar was donated 25 lambs and donated land for brought oil for burn the lamb. Rupees for buying pooja think to Sandaswararabramana for each month²¹.

SREE VEERA RAVI RAVIVARAMA(1595-1607)

His inscriptions were exported from Tiruvattaru, Keralapuram. PeriyaVeetu Muthaliyar palm leaf document gave some information about him. He was reconstruct the Madapalli, Monolithic stone Mandapa of Adikesava perumal temple in Thiruvattaru. It is in the inscription of this temple. It was inscribed in 1604. Thalakudi Jayadeswarar inscription said that he donate oil to burn lamb in the temple. Suchindram temple inscription was inscribed on 1620. It was inscribed on the entrance wall²².

ADITHAVARMA (1660-1678)

He was the successor of SreeVeeraRavivarma II. During his period a council was introduce from Padmanaba Swami temple as "EattariYogakam", EatuVeetuPillamar and Yogakar were dominates in the administration. A stone mandapa was build inside of the Thlakudi Mandaga Patti Pilliyar temple. King was donated land for the poojas. It was inscribed in the temple wall²³. Another inscription was exported in the Veravanallorpillyarmadam. It said that Andichi and Ramanachi were gave land to mandapa.

VERA KERALAN(1689-1697)

In 1689 Suchindram inscription was inscribed. It said that a place VerakeralaSasthrvathimangalam was established by his name. Individual stone inscription was inscribed in 1691. It said that for the pothapaiswamtemple, king was donates food to the devotes²⁴.

UNNIKERALAVARMA (1718-1724)

In the kadukaraiVengada Perumal temple had an inscription. It was inscribed on 1726. It said that Saravana Perumal and Thambirankutti were donate land to the temple.

CONCLUSION

This article deals about the religions contribution of Venad Kings in nanjil Nadu. The Venadkings donated a lot to the temple such as Money, Lands and Nanda Lamb to various Temples. Particularly Suchindram Thanumalaiyan temple, Thiruvattar Adikesava PERumal Thirukovil PoothapandiPoothaLingeswara temple and Thalakudi. They are advantage to the Bramins. Above all informations are brings out through the inscription.

END NOTES:

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