

History Part – 23

23] Nayak Rule

Notes

The Nayak rule in TamilNadu was established by the Vijaya Nagar Emperors.

Krishna Devaraya popularised the Nayak System, the king Achyutharaya had 200 Nayaks under his control. Among them, the Nayaks of Madurai, Tanjore, Ginjee and Vellore were important. After the battle of Talikotta (1565 AD) and after the downfall of Vijaya Nagara empire the Nayaks emerged as an independent ruler.

Nayankara System :-

- Krishnadevaraya extended the system to Tamil country. According to this, king was considered as owner of all lands.
- Those who received land from the king were called as Nayak, in turn they had to pay a fixed amount and send an army whenever the king needed.
- The Nayaks carried on administration on the name of King. This system is known as Nayankara System.

The Nayak Rule in Madurai

On the request of Pandya King, the Krishnadevaraya sent his general 'Nagamma Nayak' to Madurai to help the Pandya king. Later Krishnadevaraya sent Nagamma Nayak's son Vishwanath Nayak and established Nayak rule in Madurai.

Viswanatha Nayak

- Krishnadevaraya appointed Viswanath Nayak as viceroy or Nayak of Madurai in 1529 AD
- Defeated many local chieftians and brought them under him.
- He introduced the Palayakar system. According to it he divided his principality into 72 palayams, which enabled him to collect revenue.
- Ariyanatha was the one who helped to introduce the Palayakar system.
- The people paid a tax called kaval pitchai to the palakiyar.
- Kaval work was considered the most important work of Palakiyar and they were in charge of the military and the management and revenue administration.

- Extended the territory of Madurai Nayaks which included Trichy, Salem, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli.
- He renovated Ranganatha Temple at Srirangam and Rock Temple at Trichy, the Temples of Tirunelveli.

Krishnappa Nayak

- Son of Viswanatha Nayak.
- He developed Krishnapuram temple which is a good model for Nayak architecture.

Veerappa Nayak

- He developed the fort at Trichy and built a new fort at Aruppukottai.
- He renovated chidambaram Temple, Improvement were made in Meenakshi temple at Madurai.

Thirumalai Nayak

- Greatest among the Nayak of Madurai.

- Transferred the capital from Trichy to Madurai.
- He freed himself from the control of Vijaya Nagar Soverignty and became an independent ruler.
- His kingdom included Madurai, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore and some parts of Thiruvananthapuram.
- He built many forts.
- By introducing many festivals, he made madurai as city of festivals.
- Mariamman Theppakulam, Thirumalai Nayakar mahal, Pudhu mandapam, Rajagopuram in Madurai were some of his Contributions.
- Neelakanda Dikshidar was praised by him.
- He is the author of Chidambara puranam.

The Battle of Noses:

Thirumalai Nayak defeated the Mysore ruler Kanthiravanarsa Nayak at Dindigal. Barbarious Punishment were given to the war prisoners. They cut off the noses and upper lips of the war prisoners. So these war was called 'War of Noses' .

Rani Mangammal

- She was a good administrator and courageous General.
- She had diplomatically dealt with mugal army and avoided a defeat.
- She defeated and brought king Ravivarma of Trivancore under her rule.
- Brought Trichy and Tanjore under her rule.
- She donated land to Brahmins and Muslims and also patronised christians.
- Completed many public works like built many irrigation tank, digging wells and canals, laying roads, building choultries, mandapams, planting trees on both sides of the road.
- The Uyyakondan canal was built by Rani Mangammal

**Meenakshi**

- Wife of Vijayaranga Chokkanathar,
- She was the last ruler of Madurai Nayak.
- Rule was brought to an end by the Nawab.
- During Meenakshi Period Tanjore, Dindigul, Trichy and Madurai were attacked by Arcot Nawab.

- Chanda sahib became the master of the nayak state of Madurai and thus the rule came to an end in A.D 1736.

The Nayaks of Tanjore

Sevvappa Nayak

- He was the first Nayak of Tanjore, appointed by Vijayanagara king Achyutharaya.
- He renovated and repaired Tanjore Lake, later the lake was called Sevappaneri.
- He built Sivaganga fort and many temples.
- He gave permission to Portuguese to settle in Nagapattinam

Achyuttappa Nayak

- He was the Son of Sevvappa Nayak
- He gave the Diamond Throne to Lord Ranganatha.
- He helped the Vijayanagar Empire in the battle of Talikotta.
- He completed the tower of Arunachaleshwar temple.

Raghunatha Nayak

- Son of Achyuttapa Nayak.
- He was great among Tanjore Nayak.
- He sent his army to Jaffna.
- He encouraged British, Portuguese and Dutch to establish trade.
- He Patronised Telugu and Sanskrit languages.
- He is the author of Rukmani Parinayam, parijata, Pushpakaranam and Ramayanam in Telugu.

VijayaRagava Nayak

- Last Tanjore Nayak Ruler.
- Telugu Scholar, wrote book Raghunatha Bhyudyama
- In 1673 Chokkanatha Nayak of Madurai defeated and annexed Tanjore with Madurai and appointed his relative 'Alagiri' as viceroy of Tanjore.

The Nayaks Of Gingee or Senji

- The Region between Palar and Kollidam formed part of the Nayak Kingdom of Gingee.
- The nayaks of Gingee were relatives of Vijayanagara rulers.
- Krishnadevaraya appointed Vaiyappa Nayak as the ruler of Gingee.
- He was succeeded by krishnappa Nayak II who was the real founder of nayak rule in senji
- During the period of Krishnadevaraya Gingee was the Capital City.

Vaiyappa Nayak

- Loyal of Krishnadevaraya.
- Built temple in thirukoilur.

Krishnappa Nayak II

- He erected a town called krishnapattinam on the banks of the river vellar.
- He permitted jains to built a temple at sithamur and saivites to built a temple at tindivanam.

- He was tolerant to all religions and gave grants to jesuits for buiding churches.

Thubakki Krishnappar

- Son of Vaiyappa Nayak
- Built great walls around the three Hills of Gingee.
- Built great granary and a luxurious wedding Mahal.
- Constructed wall around Rajagiri Fort.
- After him small ruller ruled Gingee.
- Gingee was captured by the Sultan of Bijapur 1671 AD.
- In 1678 shivaji captured senji and appointe Nasir khan as its governor.Swarrop singh is the father of Raja deisingh.
- Saat ullah khan the ruler of arcot invaded , defeated and killed Raja Deisingh and annexed senji.
- Raja Desinghs wife commited sati.As a mark of her remembrance the town of Ranipet was created.
- They followed paligar system

- Varnasrama / caste system was found to be strong during the rule of the Nayaks.
- The empire was divided into provinces , mandalams , simai or makana and villages.
- Thus the nayaks rule of senji came to an end.

The Nayaks of Vellore

- The Vellore Rule was established by Chinna Nayak Pommer.
- After Chinna Nayak Pommar, Lingama Nayak ascended the throne.
- The Nayak ruled Vellore for short period.
- Chennappa Nayak was the ruler of Chennapatnam which later become chennai.

Social Conditions & Cultural Condition Under The Nayak Rule

- Caste system prevailed and were very rigid.
- Trade and Commerce flourished.
- Valangai and Idangai continued their activities.

- Common People suffered from contagious disease like cholera and small pox.
- Poverty, Slavery and Bonded labours were their.

Education:

- Brahmins enjoyed rights of education.
- Vedic education was given in Sanskrit language.
- Ordinary village people lived under poverty, were ignorance, illiterate

Religious Condition:

- The Nayak ruler patronised Hindu Religion.
- Temples were built during this period at Thiruvannamalai, Tindivanam, Gingee were famous.
- They patronise saivism and promoted linga worship.
- Mahamahan festival, Sivarathiri and Ekathesi festivals were celebrated.
- During the period of Thirumalai Nayak Chithira thiruvizha, Theppa thiruvizha and Ther thiruvizha were introduced.

Art and Architecture

- Tirunelveli Krishnapuram Temple, Nelliappar Kovil, Tenkasi Kasi Vishwanatha Temple, Rameshwaram Ramanathapuram Temple, Sri Villiputthur Big gopuram were built during this period.
- Thirumalai Nayak Mahal was built with the help of Italian architect.
- It is a classical fusion of Dravidian Islamic and European style.
- Arunachaleswarar temple in Thiruvannamalai, Vishnu temple in Tindivanam, Thirumalai nayak mahal in madurai were the examples of architectures of nayaks.
- Sevappa Nayak built the sivaganga fort in tanjore

Other Important points

- Aruppukotai fort was built by Veerappa Nayak
- Viswanath Nayak was considered as the real founder of the Nayak rule in Madurai, and he was appointed by Krishnadevaraya
- Nayankara System was introduced by Krishnadevaraya
- Last Nayak ruler of Madurai was Meenakshi
- The Nayak rule in Vellore was established by Chinna Nayak Pommar.

- The Founder of Nayak rule in Tanjore was Sevvappa Nayak.
- The rule of Nayak was established in the year 1526AD
- Poliga System was introduced by Viswanath Nayak
- The First Nayak ruler of Ginjee was Vayappa Nayak
- Vijaya ragava Nayak last nayak ruler of Tanjore
- Arunachala Kolambakkam written by Ellappanavlar
- Ariyanathan was the first Dalavoy (minister and military general) during the regime of Vishwanath Nayak
- Renovation of Meenakshi Temple done by Vishwanatha Nayak
- Rani Mangammal - Grand Mother of Vijaya Ranga Chokkanathar
- Seerapuranam written by umarupulavar and meynngana vilakkam by thiruvengkam , chidambara pattiyal by paranjothiar and irusamaya vilakkam by Haridasa.

Nayak Rule - Questions

1) Which empire forms the Nayak rule in Tamil Nadu?

(A) **Vijayanagar empire**

(B) Bahmini Empire

(C) Rajputs

(D) Viswanatha Nayak

2) Who was the first Nayak of Madurai Nayaks?

(A) Viswanatha Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani Mangammal

(D) Sevappa Nayak

3) Who introduced the palayakar system?

(A) Viswanatha Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani Mangammal

(D) Sevappa Nayak

4) Which of the following statement is wrong ?

(A) Ariyanatha was the one who helped to introduce the Palayakar system.

(B) Revenue work was considered crucial work of Palakiyar and they were in charge of the military and the management and revenue administration.

(C) The people paid a tax called kaval pitchai to the palakiyar.

(D) Thirumalai Nayak was the most important of the Nayak rulers.

5) Where did Thirumalai Nayak defeated the Mysore army

(A) Madurai

(B) Dindigul

(C) Vathalakuntu

(D) Hosur

6) The war of noses takes place between

(A) Thirumalai Nayak and Mysore

(B) Viswanatha Nayak and Mysore

(C) Thirumalai Nayak and Mangammal

(D) Sokkanatha Nayak and Mangammal

7) Who changed the capital from Trichy to Madurai?

(A) Viswanatha Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani Mangammal

(D) Sevappa Nayak

8) Where is Mariamman Theppakulam and pudhu Mandapam

(A) Madurai

(B) Dindigul

(C) Vathalakuntu

(D) Hosur

9) Who was praised by Thirumalai Nayak

(A) Neelakanda Dikshidar

(B) Ottakuthar

(C) KA Neelakanta Shastri

(D) Rajarajeshvarar

10) Who built the Uyyakondan canal and give importance to irrigation projects?

(A) Vishwanath Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani Mangammal

(D) Ottakuthar

11) Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1) Rani Mangammal banned the Christian missionaries.

2) Rani Mangammal made the safe roads and planted shady trees ,built choultries,

And made journey easy and comfortable.

(A) 1 only

(B) 2 only

(C) 1 and 2

(D) None of these

12. Who was the last king of the Madurai Nayaks?

(A) Vishwanath Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Meenakshi

(D) Vijayaranga Nayak

13) Which year was the rule of Madurai Nayak ended?

(A) 1763

(B) 1736

(C) 1740

(D) 1750

14) Who was the first Nayak of Tanjore Nayak?

(A) Achutappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Gingee Nayak

15) Who gave permission to Portuguese to settle in Nagapattinam?

(A) Achutappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vijayaraghava Nayak

16) Who repaired the Shivaganga lake?

(A) Achutappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vijayaraghava Nayak

17) Which of the following statements is wrong about Achutappa nayak ?

(A) He was the son of Sevappa Nayak, who fought against the Vijayanagar Empire.

(B) He gave the Diamond Throne to Lord Ranganatha.

(C) He completed the tower of Arunachaleswar temple.

(D) He helped the Vijayanagar Empire in the battle of Talikotta.

18) Who wrote Rukmani Parinayam, parijata, Pushpakaranam and Ramayanam in Telugu?

(A) Achutappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vijayaraghava Nayak

19) Who is the last king of the Tanjore Nayakkar dynasty?

(A) Achutappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vijayaragava Nayak

20) Which year did Tanjore Nayak rule came to end?

(A) 1671

(B) 1673

(C) 1674

(D) 1670

21) Who formed the Nayak regime in Senji?

(A) Vijayaragava Nayak

(B) Krishnappa Nayak

(C) **Krishnappa Nayak II**

(D) Shivaji

22) Which of the following statement is wrong about Krishnappa Nayak II?

(A) He erected a town called Krishnapattinam on the banks of the river Vellar.

(B) He was tolerant to all religions and gave grants to Jesuits for building churches.

(C) He permitted Jains to build a temple at Sithamur and Saivites to build a temple at Tindivanam.

(D) **His successors were most talented persons.**

23) When did Shivaji capture Senji?

(A) 1778

(B) **1678**

(C) 1688

(D) 1687

24) Who is the father of Raja Desingh?

(A) Shivaji

(B) Swaroop singh

(C) Sadat ullah khan

(D) Nasir khan

25) Which of the following statement is/are correct?

1) Raja deisingh's wife committed sati. As a mark of her remembrance the town of Ranipet was created.

2) They followed paligar system.

3) Varnasrama / caste system was found to be strong during the rule of the Nayaks.

4) The empire was divided into provinces, mandalams, simai or makana and villages.

(A) 1 only

(B) 1 and 2 only

(C) 1, 2 and 3

(D) All of these

26) Tirunelveli Krishnapuram Temple, Nellaiappar Kovil, Tenkasi Kasi

Vishwanatha Temple, Rameshwaram Ramanathapuram Temple, Sri Villiputthur

Big gopuram were

(A) Islamic architectures

(B) European architectures

(C) Nayaks architectures

(D) Rajput architectures

27) Which of the following statement is /are correct ?

1) Thirumalai Nayak Mahal was built with the help of Italian architect.

2) It is a classical fusion of Dravidian Islamic and European style.

(A) 1 only

(B) 2 only

(C) 1 and 2

(D) None of these

28) Who built the Sivaganga fort in Tanjore?

(A) Sevappa Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vishwanath Nayak

29) Match the following

1) Arunachaleswarar Temple - Thiruvannamalai

2) Vishnu Temple - Paranjothiar

3) Chidambara Puranam - Tindivanam

4) Meyngnana vilakkam - Thirumalai Nayak

5) Chidambara pattial - Haridasa

6) Irusamaya vilakkam - Thiruvenkatam

(A) 1 3 4 6 2 5

(B) 1 3 5 6 2 4

(C) 5 6 1 2 3 4

(D) 6 4 3 1 2 5

30) Who completed the tower of Arunachaleswarar temple ?

(A) Thirumalai Nayak

(B) Achutappa

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

d. Vishwanatha Nayak

31) Umarupulavar's Seerapuranam belongs to whose period ?

(A) Cholas

(B) Nayak

(C) Pallavas

(D) Cheras

32) Where is Tirumalai Nayak Mahal located ?

(A) Madurai

(B) Dindigul

(C) Vathalakuntu

(D) Hosur

33) Who was the greatest king of Madurai Nayaks?

(A) Vishwanatha Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani Mangammal

(D) Sevappa Nayak

34) Who defeated the King Ravivarma and captured Travancore?

(A) Vishwanath Nayak

(B) Thirumalai Nayak

(C) Rani mangammal

(D) Sevappa Nayak

35) Who is the author of the book 'Raghunatha Bhyudyama'?

(A) Achuttappa Nayak

(B) Sevappa Nayak

(C) Raghunatha Nayak

(D) Vijayaraghava Nayak

