

KUMARI KANDAM AND THE PALMYRAH CULTURE

By

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About US

We are "CHLIRO INDIA", (Cultural Historical Linguistic Indigenous Research Organization of India), a Registered Body. We consist of Experts in Indian Culture, History and Indigenous Languages. We do Research in the Grass Root level to bring out true history of India. We believe in Unification rather than Divisions. We find about 300 branches of Nadars in India known in different linguistic names. We do not claim the research is complete, it still continues. However, we take responsibility to substantiate our facts and arguments from authentic sources. Those who follow the 'Conventional' foreign thought process of historical approach might find it difficult to accept some of these facts. This is based on a 'Critical History' of archaeological, Cultural, Historical and Genetic analysis of People and History, which are buried under the sands of time due to various reasons. If questioned, we can explain to the viewers. We welcome like-minded tribes and branches to transact suggestions for improvement. So far, Seven 'National Conferences' have been initiated with our sister tribes like Idigas, Bhunts, Kalar, Jaiswals, Gouds, Alvars, Ezhavas, Chouhans, Ahlvalia, Bhoumick, Bhandare, Villavas, Madhvas, etc., at Bopal, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Chennai, Nagarcoil, Bombay, and at Madurai. Still, more yet to be done. We have also conducted 'Critical' discussions among the experts about facts displayed here. We need constructive participation from you.



Kumari Kandam and the Palmyrah Culture

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In order to understand the truth about the above subject, perhaps, we may have to go to the creation or formation of the earth, as we see it today.

Formation of the Earth

Times have gone by. Years have rolled on. Centuries have passed. *Yugas* after *Yugas* have disappeared. Many stars have sprung open beyond the skies. Many stars have disappeared and gone buried in the space of time. A great sound is heard, the sound of a Big Bang. Splinters filled the deep. Some flew and wandered aimless, tired and dissolved. Some brightened and melted as molten liquid and, only to become a layer of thick gas! A big mass of molten gas whirled the deep, moved up and up to be burst open through the top. The magic of uncontrolled heat, the wonders of chilling cold, caused the mysterious formation of some structure in the space. Mystery, mystery, everywhere mystery covered the whole deep. The Universe is filled with untold mysteries of creation. Here, on this earth, today, we are left to explore what had happened? How has it happened, when had it happened? Who made it happen? Alas! Human Mind, the solution to solve all the mysteries!!

'Kumari Kandam' still remains a mystery in spite of all explorations made possible through the human Mind. Yet, man is not an yielding creature. It thrives and thrives to bring out the most buried secrets hidden in the space and time. Civilizations rough and tough have passed away, one after the other. Cultures Smooth and Mild have

passed one after the other. Yet, human mind does not give up. It was to know the root, the cause of creation, the source of Universe and what not? The secret of "Kumari Kandam" is believed to be buried in the middle of all these endowers to find the truth, the whole truth, if possible.

This 'Earth' in which we live on is a Planet. It is the opinion of the Scientists that our earth was formed some 3 to 4 billion years ago. It was not any easy job for it to become 'the earth' that we find it today. Here, the theory of the Big Bang is very prominent. That great "Bang" a spontaneous 'Command' a sound of unexplainable magnitude had caused enormous amount of 'Heat' which could melt the hardest of hard materials of the Universe! In the virulent heat, everything melted and became in a movable liquid form which slowly was converted into the most vicious gaseous form, travelling at high velocity, but, whirling spirally, with force. The energy was so imminent that it had to push through the top to be released in the space which activated the formation of a sudden chilling atmosphere by which the thick gaseous materials were solidified to form a Cap or a Cover resulting in a shapeless structure of molten mass. This is how the earth was caused to be in the beginning. The great book, the Bible, as well as the books of Knowledge, tells us that "the Earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep..." uneven and shapeless and 'not in order'.

Theory of the 'Drift'

Thus, the whole earth was without any form, hanging on the 'deep' –space. The top most part being solidified first had become a total mass of matter, a form of a 'Primary Continent'. Scientists are of the opinion that: actuated with the speed, enormous heat and the spiral movement of whirling speed, there had happened a 'drift' from the primary mass. It is said that there had been repeated drifts (break-ups) and the drift for making up the Lemurian Continent or "Kumari-Kandam" had occurred somewhere around 100 Million years ago.

Kumari- Kandam/ Lemuria

The area of Kumari-Kandam is said to be around 4220317736066 sq. K.m. By this a portion of the heavy Primary continent was drifted to a separate position amassing the regions inclusive of India, Asia, Australia, Africa, Madagascar, etc, all put together as one continent. This great mass of land so formed is called by the name: "Kumari-Kandam, meaning the 'Virgin land' or Lemurian Continent. The ancient Tamils had given the fittest name: 'The Virgin Land'= Kumari –Kandam.

Scientifically, it is a known fact that the Mediterranean region, on the equator, was the first area which had become the fittest for inhabitation for animals, human or for the plant kingdom. So, it was here that the first human beings or animal kingdom were formed on this earth.

Now, how to establish this theory. It could be done only through archaeological evidences, ecological evidences, Oceanography and surely through the available pictorial and written literatures left by the people who had lived here thousands of years back. Tamil and the Tamils play a predominant part to knit up many of the missing links between social groups of human races.

The great 'Deluges' in Tamil literature

From the great literature of the bygone Tamils we understand that there had been five enormous horrifying 'Deluges' on the earth followed by many minor ones. The recorded first deluge so occurred is said to be some 10, 00,000 years ago. The 2nd Deluge that had happened is recorded some 8, 00000 years ago. The third great devastation had happened some 200000 years ago, and the next one was around 9500 years ago and so on.

We have records of our great *Sangam* periods, the first, second and the third. The last *Sangam* was conducted by the Pandya Kings of Then-Madurai. Their cities of Kapadapuram, and small countries alike Ezhuthenganadu, Ezhupanai-nadu, etc., and it is said that around 52 such kingdoms were washed away in such a great deluge. The Pandya King, Nilam Thiru Tharuvir Pandyan had narrowly escaped the flood with some of the literary records written in Palmyrah Palm-leaves.

Our Stone-Age

Now how are we going to account for the vast gap of time and history? Our archaeological evidences declare that the period of our first Stone Age was from around 5, 00000 years to 2, 50,000 years. Mid-stone age is from 2, 50000 to 30,000 years. And the last stone age is from 30,000 to 10,000 years. Unfortunately, the assessment of our Sangam periods is made to differ than its actual period. This may be due to the problem of Aryanization and view of a biased look towards Dravidian civilization. These sorts of controversial views-points, in history, are available even in international history assessing the culture and civilization of the Incas, Red-Indians, the Mayans of Mexico, the Chinese, and even of the Egyptians. Unless an unbiased scientific judgement is given, we could be misled to make correct judgement. In this juncture, we are reminded of the huge quantity of records destroyed, burnt up and buried in India, Egypt, China, Sri-lanka, Cambodia, etc, in the course of history. Some of the records are said to be wantonly destroyed.

The Tamil Sangam Periods

According to veteran scholar, Veerabahu Pillai, our first *Sangam* period was from 9990 to BC.5550 years. The second *Sangam* period was from BC.5550 to 1850, and the last *Sangam* period from, 1850 to AD 10-90. But, with a great, one sided, influence of the

Aryan thought process, many of our historians argue for bringing down the antiquity of Tamil *Sangam* period, from the first to the last, like from BC 400 to 700 AD. This is a factor much incriminating history and of its original makers. Such controversial judgements could be noticed in many of the international historical viewpoints. The reason is the misconception and misinterpretation of Tamils and the history of Tamils. Lack of proper historical research, suppression of facts, etc., are the other reasons for this view point.

Antiquity of the Tamils

However, in order to assess the antiquity of different races, one scientific group from America had recently conducted the DNA tests of the Tamils from TamilNadu and other countries. Surprisingly, the antiquity of Tamils from Tanjore, and Kanyakumari (Kottavila Nadachi) has been shown as about 170000 years. This is pure scientific test. It cannot lie. And it has also been proved that some sections of the Tamils from Kumari land are possessed with some special types of alleles genetic characteristics which are not found in any other races of the world. It has been found that the African race too had such antiquity almost equal to the one, like that of the Tamils. This very nature surely indicates of a common origin for the people living in this Kumari-Kandam for thousands of years together.

Further, it has been archaeologically established that the characteristic elements found in the Tamils lived in Tamil country and the elements found from the people lived in Java and such south eastern regions were found to be the same and comparable. This irrevocably proves that there had been common stock of racial group and they were separated to the present geographical states due to such action of the theory of "Drift" acted on the mass of the earth, in the course of time and space. This could indirectly prove that the people in Asia Minor, Chaldea or Ur, had spoken Tamil, some 1, 00000 years ago (Veerabahu Pillai).

Present day Tsunami

The theory of Drift is much supported by the practical vision of the Sethu Benthanam or Adam's Bridge on the way to Ceylon from India. There were many incidents that had also revealed during such times of big tsunami tidal waves, as had occurred on 26.12.2004, 11.30 A.M, and claimed almost 1,20,000 human beings in the Coastal regions of Asia. This confirms the natural calamities and possibilities of such dispersals of living beings.

Inscription in Canada

As back as 2007, in the city of Toronto of Canada, I had an opportunity to see a small pillar of inscription of the size of about 3.5 feet tall and 1.5 feet wide. In that inscription it was written that "here man has stayed for the last 40000 years". It was meant about the Native Indians or, the Red-Indians of America. The Red Indians claim that they were the migrants from India went during the inter-glacial period. The '*Veder* or the *Kuravas* of India are said to be the original ancestors of the Native Indians of America.

When and How the One-Race were dispersed

If 40000 years are the antiquity of them, what would be the antiquity of their ancestors, who lived in India? Stuart Piggott claims the origin of human existence in India is to be around 600000 years back. South India being the first place becoming worthy of human inhabitation, their antiquity would go much beyond that. Our archaeological finds from Adichanalloor etc., prove such conclusions.

Now, the question comes, how was the one-race people were dispersed of. In order to demonstrate this, assessing facts from Tamil literature and other sources, one Map has been formulated and published in a book, in the year, 2002. The title of the book is *The Dravidian Lineages-Nadars through the Ages- a Socio-Historical Study*. That Map is given below:

(fig.1-Map)

It explains how these one-race had travelled on land, sea and through such medium of travelling paths from the Lemurian Continent. From the equatorial centre of the continent, they seem to have moved to Japan, Thailand, Alexandria, Andhra Pradesh, Assyria, Australia, Babylonia, Bihar, Bengal, Burma, Chera country, Chola country, Cambodia, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Kashmir, Kamarupa, Maharashtra, Media Madhya Pradesh Malaysia, Orissa, Parthia, Punjab, Phoenicia, Rome (Italy) Sumatra, Syria Taiwan Ur...etc. They had used man-built boats also for their voyages. There are literary evidences for the same.

The Primary Occupations of Early Man

Having established of the facts of the formation of the earth, its inhabitants and their dispersal to different parts, we shall now consider about the life and primary occupation of such very ancient people of the world. It is quite natural that everywhere man had established his living, he might have thought only of the immediately available food materials for his existence. Rivers and Seas were all around him. Hence naturally, the first man would have engaged in fishing for his daily need of food.

Hunting was the second option for man to provide food for him and for his dependents. It is from this sort of hunting practices, which went progressing in the use of different forms of weapons, blunt, sharp, stone-made, wooden, metallic, etc., that we are enabled to assess the progress of culture and civilization of such ancient men. This leads us to a remote period of even 5,00000 years back. Thirdly, perhaps, even simultaneously, climbing of trees for collecting fruits, eatables, or picking up eggs from nests or catching birds, climbing tree was man's natural choice applied for his everyday life.

Expansion of the 'Palm-Culture'

As this habit of climbing of trees went by, the inquisitive mind of man has noticed the tall tree which gave a highly nutritive food for him. That was the Palm-tree. As life has progressed, these three primary occupations of man have taken many advantageous shapes and stages and it is surprisingly noticed that these three occupations are still continued in the world, especially, in India, perhaps with many improved manners. In climbing of trees, climbing of Palm-trees has become more adventurous and industrious with the application of brain and imagination which in the course of long years has led to a great culture for humanity, especially, for Indians. Later man has understood that this is a worth trying job and occupation for livelihood, physical fitness as well as for

industrial trade, warfare and also for establishing kingdoms, in consideration of the utilities of the multiple products made use from such a gift of nature, the 'Palm-tree'.

Nutritive Value of Surah or Palm-Juice

In the modern times, one Dr.Harichandran had analyzed the palm juice got from Palm-tree and recorded its content and it is given below:

Moisture	8.61%
Sucrose	76.86%
Reducing Sugar	1.48%
Fats	0.19%
Proteins	1.04%
Total Minerals	3.15%
Calcium as CaO	0.861%
Phosphorus as p ₂ O ₅	0.052%

And the nutritive value of Palm-gur is given below based on analysis of 1090 gm, according to Nutritional research Laboratories, Indian Council of Medical Research:

Thiamine (vit.B) 21 mgm
 Riboflavin (Vit. B) 432 mgm
 Nicotinic acid 5.24 mgm
 (anti-pellaga vitamin)
 (quoted from Dravidian Lineages, p,73-74)

Epithets for Palm-Juice

In Tamil literature, the Palm-juice has 120 names as epithets (refer to p, 74 of the book: *The Dravidian Lineages...*by Dr.M.Immanuel). For this reason in early Sanskrit literature Palm-juice is indirectly defined as "Amrit" (an Elixir for heavenly bodies) and Palm-tree is described as *Kalpa Tharu* or *Kalpa Vriksha*. The juice is also called by the name "Soma". According to the *Siddha* science of early Tamils, the botanical name of the Palm-tree is "Kalai"(as in *Kalangkaai*)= Plant or tall Grass. The fact behind it is that

the core of Palm is soft and located inside, and the hardest part is outside its body and hence in *Siddha* science it is pictured as a plant. Sanskrit literatures picture it as a plant as well as a “Creeper” to camouflage truth. They also name the eight instruments used for tapping the Palm-tree (those eight names are given in the said above book).

Palm-tree in Political Culture

Going deeper into the subject of Palm-tree and the culture, it is seen entwined and leads us to Kings, warfare, and the temples of India. Describing history of the Chola kings, the author of the book, *Cholar Varalaru*, narrates that the Chera King, in the times of the Nedumkilli Chola, had fought the war, wearing the garland made from the flowers got from the male Palm-trees.

The Chola kings had a tradition of ritual connected with Palm-tree products before commencing any war with their enemies. The author of *Cholar Varlaru* refers to a tradition of the regiments to eat the different yield products of the sacred Palm-tree, as in the *mantra* before the commencement of a war. According to this tradition:

“ The first regiment, *Thhoosi padai* shall eat the tender fruit of the palm-tree, called ‘*Nongu*’ and the second *Edai Ani Padai* shall drink the juice of the ripe fruit of the Palm-tree (*Panamkai pazham*) which is highly nutritive and the third, the *Eruthi Ani Padai*, shall eat the hard and medicinal root of the young germinating sapling (*Panam Kizhangu*), baked in red-hot fire as an invigorating ritual” (Ch.V.p, 62,68).

Palmyrah Culture in literature and Inscriptions

Many such interesting information are available in our ancient Tamil literature. There was a Chera King named: ‘Kalankai kanni Naar Mudi Cheral’. It is said that he

had made his crown from the smooth fibers got from Palm tree and, studded it with colorful pearls, he made his Crown out of it as a special valuable item.

The famous epigraphist of our times, Iravatham Mahadevan explains the mark given in the 'Edakal Inscription' is represented by a 'Palm-tree'. It belongs to the 3rd century AD.

Our Tamil literature also picture the Chera Kings garlanding themselves from the little yellow flowers of male palm-tree, knitted together. They use this even in the journey to war-fields against the enemies.

Even in ordinary times, it is pictured in history that the Travancore or Vendu kings stay in the palaces surrounded by Palm-trees described as "*Panamkavil Kottaram*" palaces encircled by Palm-trees with their protective goddess (Kaali) around.

Tolkaapiyar, the greatest of all great grammarians of the world, has used Palm-tree as a scale of measuring unit in the great grammar book, *Tolkappiyam*.

Our ancient Tamil texts give us the colour picture of our great Chera King, Cheran Chenkuttuvan. It says that the King made his Ear-Ornaments with the processed Palmyrah-leaf and decorated it with different pearls and used it to decorate his ears in Courts and public.

This King used the palm-leaf made ear ornaments for not only for himself, but also for his big Elephants while going for war or any ritualistic processions. It was studded with golden plates and different kinds of stones to glorify his status.

The earliest inscription procured in India is of a 'Toddy tapper' with writing on his 'Kalasam' (pitcher), as "*NackkanUrrah*". Iairavatham Mahadevan, the renowned epigraphists of India laud the educational level of the Tamils in such remote age of time whereas, the earliest inscription in the Sanskrit language is only of 2-4th century AD.

If any unbiased analysis is made on Indian history, it shall declare to us a convincingly high level of a Palmyrah Culture. Tamilnadu's National Tree is Palmyrah.

The Epic hero of India, the great *Kalari* Asan mentioned in the *puranas*, namely, "Bhishmar" had his glorious totem of pride, was the "Palm-Tree". Many families of Chera dynasties had their banner the glorious Palm-tree. There are many glorifying songs about their palaces encircled by Palm-grooves.

Thanchai Peru-udayar Koil Inscriptions say "Panayan" for King. Yadava kula "Krishna" is termed as "Panayan in Tamil and Vrishni in Sanskrit".

Palm-Tree in History and State Economy

One unbiased historian of Kerala, of the modern times has pictured 'Palm-tree' as a symbol of pride equivalent to the Kings and princess and he describes that the act of Toddy tapping as one of the noblest jobs of "*Santanmai*" of Ezhavas and Nadalwars.

There is a modern book, written by a Tamil Brahmin, 'Ulloor Perameswara Iyyer' but published in 1998 by Department of Cultural Publications, government of Kerala, Trivandrum-14. It was edited under the chairmanship of Dr.M.S.Menon. The Title of the book is '*Progress of Travancore Under H.H.Sreemoolam Tirunal*'. According to this book, almost 1/3 of the State Revenue of Travancore as late as 1887, was from the yields of Palm-products. It went to several crores of rupees. But, around 1887, more specifically, in 1898 (M.E.1073), this traditional glorified profession and custom was defamed and denigrated through a social conspiracy by the combination of the British and certain other social groups, guided by K.K.Kuruvila, member of Legislative Council, by introducing a new 'Abkari Bill of M.E.1073' as an act of "Social Contempt". Thus a great Historical Social status of a country and people had been cut short through the throat of the State Constitutional laws in order to divert dignity to certain section of the society at the cost of its true ownership. It was against the ancient tradition of the

country and the statements issued by historians like Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai and world historian like, Herodotus.

An Empire Representing Palm-Tree

The Cholas are related to the Cheras and the Pandyas. There is a Hill at Chandragiri in Andhra Pradesh, where lay the remains of a great Empire of the Vijayanagara Kings. They were inter-continental traders. They had 360 trade-points all over the world till 1807 AD. Vijayanagara kings are the branch Mu-Vendar rulers. They are represented by "*Eecha Maram*" (the Date-Palm). On the basis of this they are termed as "*Edigas*". They are one among the 9 branches of Trippapur Kings of Kerala. Their trade symbol was Date-Palm with Tiger. Till 1807 they maintained this insignia for them. In the year 1807, the British had taken away the entire trade control from them and also taken away their trade symbol of 'Palm and the Tiger'. After independence to India, Indian government has borrowed the Economic Trade Symbol' of Vijayanagara and accepted the 'Palm & Tiger' as the Economic Symbol of the 'Reserve Bank of India'. Thus the "Palm" is the Wealth-Control Symbol of Democratic India today.

A great Book on Palm-tree

One scholar, namely, Era Panchavarnam has, recently, in 2016, written a book. The title is "*Panai Maram*". It goes around 750 pages and declares to the world 800-1000 uses of this ancient tree, glorified by many poets and scholars as a 'Tree of Heaven' or as "*Kalpa Vriksham*". He calls Palm-tree as "The Wealth of India". He says that there were 76167000 Palm trees in India out of which 33,650,000 are in TamilNadu. Studying on the subject and being inspired by the Palm and its wonderful value for humanity, one Godson Samuel started distributing Palm-seeds and started panting the

eco-friendly Palm-trees and by the last few months, he has planted more than ten to fifteen thousand palm seedlings.

A Record of Palmyrah Culture dated 408 BC

In the suburbs of New York city, there is a huge library called Queens library. There I saw a big book of about 1.5 feet height and 1 foot wide. It contained above 1500 pages. That book was the Manuscript of the veteran world historian, Herodotus. He travelled all over the world around BC. 408 and recorded whatever he has seen and observed. In that book, he has written that 'the Toddy Tappers from the south most part of Kerala had travelled all over the world and spread a Palmyrah culture throughout. They had supplied special alcohol for preservation of the mammals of Egypt. In the year, 1982, S.V.S.Ragavan of TamilNadu has translated this book into Tamil language and published the important points of that book of Herodotus.

S.V.S. Ragavan says:

" Herodotus has noted that the Lycians originally came from the island of Crete, and that in Crete, the pre-Hellenic Asianic people were known by the name which the Greeks wrote as *Termilai*...the Dravidian speakers of India...brought with them of their national or tribal appellations *Termilai –Trmmili- Drumizha*, which became transformed into the modern *Tamil* by the middle of the first millennium "(quoted in DL).

Toddy-Tappers, the Phoenicians - Pioneers of World civilization beyond 2250 BC

Ragavan continues to write:

"I am translating here , from the original writings of Herodotus, selecting only a few portions without losing the interest of the historicity and the taste of the original book, for our benefit. The Tamils who sailed by Sea, from the southern part of Kerala, had introduced and cultivated Palmyrah Palms, wherever they settled. They were known as *Panai Yeiyer* (Palmyrah-Climbers) or *Palmesyar*. They were also merchants dealing with 'Purple'. The word '*Phoeniciar*' is a derivate of *Panesyer*. The word Phoenicia is derived from *Phenos* (blood-red), the denoting first the famous 'Purple of Phoenician Commerce, then the 'Purple Men'(i.e., trade in purple), lastly, the Tree (i.e., Palm-tree) which they introduced in their new settlements in Italy, they established a city called ' Palmyrah'".

"They were called *Palmesyaer* who in course of time had come to be known as *Phoenicians*. These notes of Herodotus puts a new mile-stone to the history of Tamils. The Assyrian stone inscription also reveal the affinity of Tamils with the Phoenicians, linked up with many Tamil words. It is a great pity that the history of Tamils of 4000 years ago has not been well preserved. But the notes reveal that it was the Tamils, especially the Palmyrah Climbers who spread Culture to the World..."(HD,7-9).

Thus, we find that the Toddy tappers of India were, the early Tamils, had been inter-continental traders and men of letters spreading civilization to the entire world. It is also said these Tamils had introduced the art of writing and the system of burial custom to the Greeks and Ionia. It is this great civilization which was curtailed by Kuruvila in M.E.1073, by the new Abkari packet and denigration against such a great people.

It is marked that these Toddy tappers were also good champions of Martial Art and were masters of the Sea for international voyages. In Malayalam they are known as "*Su-bhadargal, abhigjanikal, Gambhira Chittar, gunikal, kavigal, Nadavargal*"...etc.

Fr.Heras, an universal historian records that these Phoenicians were responsible for establishing the great Hittite Empire, and they also had established the IXth Marikara Dynasty of Pharaohs of Egypt as back as 2250 BC.

Great 'Chandor-puri' destroyed by the Portuguese

History of Goa indicates that one branch of these Phoenicians (Toddy tappers or Palm-Asians) from Egypt, around 2220 BC, had returned to their brethren in Goa and established the great 'Chandrorpuri-Chandropore'. There is a Museum erected by the Portuguese invaders. In that museum, there is a huge plan of this city of Chandors, marked as item NO.20. There, however, the date is marked as 220 BC. This item went missing from the museum in around 2011 and came back after an year, with a modified dating given in the side-notes, bringing its antiquity down to 4th century AD. Such misleading about the Palm-culture of the Tamils are seen on many occasions in Indian history. This is more elaborately explained in the book: *The Forgotten Dynasty Behind the Biggest Hoards of India*. However, the author of the book: *Goa through the Mists of History* gives an antiquity of 10,000 BC, to the Chandorpuri and Goa. In that book there are many references about Abkari trade and use of different varieties of Palm-juice and details of fine imposed for those who make adulteration to the pure juice, etc.

The 'Plan' of the Chandorpuri is given here for verification.

(fig.2) Plan of city Chandorpuri

Adjacent to the city of Goa there is another State-museum. In that museum is installed the statue of a Toddy tapper. It is installed with all the instruments used for the profession. It is installed with all respects by the State authorities, connecting with the history given by Herodotus , making reference to the Phoenicians.

Fig NO.3: Statue of Toddy tapper in Goa

Valamkaimalai A Palm-leaf Text preserved in Temples

Palm-tree is very much connected with a war-goddess: Kotravai or Maha Kaali. It is believed that this goddess makes her abode in these Palm-trees and make blessings of war-victory to her worshippers. There is a Palm-leaf Text called *Valamkai Maali*, describing many of the wars won over by the worshippers of this goddess, all over India and also outside India. It is believed that this Palm-leaf text was preserved in many of the temples of India and it is also understood that one version of it made in big copper plates was very safely preserved in Madurai Meenakshi temple of Tamilnadu, and had gone missing following a temple theft some years ago. Some wantonly made thefts cannot be ruled out, to destroy history by some miscreants of our country. Adikesava

Perumal temple in Kanyakumari district, also underwent such a huge theft. All these indicate that there was a very strong Palmyrah-Culture working in India originated from Kumari Kandam and lately, there had originated an anti-Palmyrah culture developed almost after the 16th century AD. They work as destructive agents of aboriginal history of India.

There is an Idol of this Mahakaali, found partially destroyed, yet preserved in a portion of the famous 'Chidamparam temple'. It is depicted with eighteen arms. It is the belief of people that Kaali, living in the Palm-tree was the originator of "*Kalar*" (methods of warfare) and she has eighteen weapons, each different kinds to destroy the enemy. Here, in this Idol at Chithambaram, almost all the hands of the deity is bruised or cut down. It is believed that during the Islamic invasion of Tamilnadu, this has happened, yet, the authorities have preserved item very safely for the sake of history to be re-told of a bygone culture to the world. The figure of the Idol is given below:

*Fig. NO.4 Hand-cut Idol of Mahakaali

Six capitals -Two universities in Kanyakumari

There are evidences to assume that there were more than six capitals functioning in the Kanyakumari district, at a radius of about 30-45 k.m, during the past 5000 to 10000 years. But, it is a matter of great regret that almost all their history been broken down, except a few clues left behind. Recently, I have come across a Tamil book entitled: *Cherar Varalaru*. This book gives the list of Kings of *Cheranadu*, for almost 30,000 years!!

There are inferences and many proofs to establish that there had been thriving more than three famous Universities in the Kanyakumari district and its suburbs. One was at Parthibasekarapuram, another at Chitharal, a famous Jain centre, known even to the Chinese. Next one is at Vizhinjam. Some details are given in the book: *Kanyakumari Aspects and Architects*. The Aye King, Karunthakadakkan of 9th century had done lots of preservation to this Palmyrah culture through Jainism. The language found in the Parthibasekarapuram is much similar to that of the local language of Villavancode Tamil of *Santors*. Many people misinterpret it to be like Malayalam which has been created only in the 16th century AD, in order to destroy the true history of the Tamils.

Travancore or Venadu, which was thriving for a long time in one or the other of the six capitals in Kanyakumari district (present), was partially shifted to Thiru Anandapuram at the last days of King Marthanda Varma and also later by his descendants, finally in 1956, during reorganisation of the States.

As the capital of Travancore was shifted to Trivandrum (Thiru Anandapuram), and, slowly, all the Treasures accumulated here in Kanyakumari district, as a property of the Villavas, the originators of *Venadu*, were shifted to Trivandrum capital.

The Palm-Culture in Sripadmanabaswamy Temple

There is a big temple at Trivandrum and almost all the State records were preserved there. The antiquity of the records go much beyond 8th century AD, especially, going back to the history beyond 1300 AD. It is learnt that more than 300000 Palm-leaf *Churunas* (bundles) were preserved in the temple. During the time of King Moolam Tirunal (c.1880), some of the records were taken out one by one with special motives. In the year, 1937, Sooranaattu Kunjan Pillai was entrusted to chalk out some of those records. In the year, 1941, one book was published in Malayalam, with the title: *Mathilagam Recordugal*.

In this record we find that the Palmyrah culture and its tradition was continued even as back as 1459 AD (M.E.634) without any corruption. According to this record we find that the then King: Sri Viira Rama Martanda Varma Thiruppapur, has entrusted his direct and indirect blood relations namely, Iyyappan Kothai Santan and Raman Kothai Santan, to be in-charge of the whole Treasures of the temple, and he also entrusted them to take the important Ornaments required for decorating the deity, Sripadmanabha. They are also entrusted to bring water for giving bath to the deity to the inner shrine (*Karu-ulam [Mathilagam recordugal, p,10-11]*

Unfortunately, it is found in history that as we reach around the 19th century AD, it is observed that these relatives of the King are thrown out of temple, making a breach of the traditional Palmyrah culture , perhaps, making way for another invading group, with the help of the British, who (the group) had much interest on the very "Huge Treasures" preserved in the temple. It was the greed for wealth and social status that has slowly denigrated the original Palmyra Culture originated from the Kumari-kandam civilization.

A Rare Sastra in the World! -only for the 'Tamils'

Varma Sastra is another important science that belonged to the authors of the great Palmyrah Culture. Several hundreds of thousands of *Sastras* were preserved written in processed Palm-leaves. All these *Sastras* belong to the ancient Tamils and for Tamils alone. It is surprising to see that this Varma Sastra is not at all found in any other languages of the world. *Varma Sastra* is not found in the Sanskrit language which claims to be the mother language of the world!!

There have been thousands of efforts to copy this science into Sanskrit language. But the authors of this rare science would never allow it to be mis used by transcribing it into such a language which is known for so many applications of misdirection in history. As a matter of fact, in the Palm-leaf records, this Varma Sastra is called by the apt name "**Santor Marrai**" because, it was the religion of *Santors*, the rulers, who had to establish peace to the country and society.

This *Sastra* includes Yoga practice to control the mind for maintenance of world Peace, as was enforced by the great Buddhists and Jains who had formed a larger section of Indian philosophical societies of our country. The secrets of the human vital force are very thoroughly explained here.

This science is so imminently important that once, as back as 1960-s, Sooranattu Kunjan Pillai, a veteran scholar had said that "the owners of this Rare Varma Sastra would never part with it even at the point of sword to their neck". The Sastra very wisely specify the direction that to whom it should be given. It is said, in order to teach this science to a student, the master has to observe him for twelve long years, under him, and if he finds him satisfactory and worthy, he can give it to him. But it is specifically said that this important Sastra can be given only to a "*Siva Yogi*" who could maintain Peace to the world. This is the essence of the ancient Palmyrah Culture. This science deals with human physiology, Yogic therapy, Universal science of Ethos and above it is a science for the rulers of the land because it contains the secrets of warfare

to take life and even to give life. In order to demonstrate its importance in *Kalari*, the following verse is given for the readers to understand.

This super Science is connected with a special type of 'Kalari' (Marma-Martial Art) handled by such rulers or Masters called 'Asans'. It is an imperial science of Defense as well as Offence. In olden days, before the formation of such modern weapons of offense, this Varma Science was used to arrest the pride of out-laws or the enemies and was used even in group fighting, war, or in single combats. In order to demonstrate the very nature of its dangerous characteristics, one of the varma points is explained here. The Varma Point is "*Vikata Varmam*". The location of this dangerous varma point is to be learnt direct from the 'Guru'. If wounded in this dangerous varma point, the following symptoms shall appear before the death of the victim:

**Pozhuthu uthikkum thanoram athil
Ezhumpum lingom
Poovayarai kanda udan paayum Vinthu
Azhum, Chirikkum
Koothadumappa !!
Athalathil Murivu utral apatham thane**

[When the rays of morning dawns in the sky
The Organ shall Erect strong, and shoot up
At the first sight of any damsels, he sees
Semen Ejaculates, quick, and falls back
The victim shall Cry, Laugh and shout
Also Dance round and round on ground
If cut in that point, my son,
It leads to Death, sure and Certain]

The victim feels the erection of the male organ and on the first sight of any female would eject semen and die!! That is the reason that it is specifically restricted to be given to a Siva Yogi who has control of his senses and emotions.

In the last 30-40 years, there were many efforts going on in the Kanyakumari district to translate this science into Sanskrit. More than 100 Conferences, open and secrets, have been conducted here. Yet, so far it is not available in any other language except Tamil. Recently, one huge book going about 1000 pages was translated into English language by me, from the original *Sastra* and explanations given by the famous Varma Asan, Dr.Rajendran of Moolachel. Following this, there are great efforts from one Sanskrit centre in Chennai to manipulate it in many ways, as a centre for propagation.

Recently, one book of 'Varma Sastra' written in Palm-leaf text, in Tamil language was detected in a Buddhist monastery of Japan. It was a portion of Varma Sastra known as "*Varma Choothiram*". As the language in it was Tamil, the Palm-leaf text was brought to India to the *Institute of Asian Studies*, Chennai. Dr. John Samuel, its Chairman has arranged the transcription into English has arranged and published the book: *Varma Choothiram*, in 1994. This clarifies us that the Palmyrah Culture had been travelling all over the world and spread its civilization once up-on a time, through the Tamils of India.

In the 1960-s Sri Kochukrishnan Nadar of Neyyattinkara, in the present Kerala State has contributed almost 26 Varma Sastra records, written in Tamil language, but, scribbled in Malayalam letters, had donated to the Trivandrum Ayurveda College, Kerala. Apart from these, he has donated many other literary texts also to the govt. of Kerala. In the year, In 2009, one revised edition of it, compiled in one single volume, comprising of 936 pages, entitled: *Marma Sastrab Samaharam* was released as a mark of honour to the Sri Nadar. This is one of the modern contributions towards the Palmyrah culture originated in the Kumari continent. This book was edited by Dr. N.Sam with total dedication and honour. Although its script was in Malayalam, its language was the original Tamil.

History Unites Palm-tree and the Bodhi Tree

In the world history, there is an Icon recovered from Cambodia. Its historicity may go from 2nd century AD, to 4th century AD. But the history behind the scene goes beyond to the Buddhist period of 500 BC. It demonstrates a pure Palmyrah Culture along with the history of Tamil *Santors*. It depicts the virtuous "Palm Tree" in its young form, as a 'Kalpa Tharu' yielding "Amrit" to the hungry devotees. The very special feature noted in this Icon got from Cambodia is that this Palm-tree is affiliated and intertwined with the civilization of the world famous "Bodhi Tree" of Shri Buddha. The Icon represents the historical, as well as 'mythical' 'Sapta Matrikas (Ezhu Knigaihal, mentioned in many inscriptions, *Valamkaimaalai* and also in *Ahilathirattu Ammanai* of 'Ayaa Vaikunda swamy', the pioneer of religious revolutionist of Travancore, in the 19th century AD.)

The Icon also demonstrates the earliest culture of Peace to the humanity, demonstrated by Shri Buddha, spreading to the whole world before the adventure of Hinduism in India. As a matter of fact, history tells us the tussle between these Peacemaking, nonviolent, Buddhists, their brethren, the Jains, resulting in the killing of 8000 unarmed Jains in a single day to destroy the Tamils. This Buddhism is an off-shoot of the Yogic Tamil system originated with the Palmyrah civilization, many thousands of years ago. Zimmer, the author calls it as *Art of Indian Asia*, something like the *Palm-Asiyer*. This original culture, although removed or slaughtered from the face of India, its rudiments are available in the other countries scattered from Lemurian continent or the *Kumari Kandom*. Incidentally, it is worth pointing out here that the statue of Mahavira, the Jain Saint can be seen installed in the Ngaramman temple of Kanyakumari, at Nagercoil, along with a statue of a toddy tapper, "Nagamani Martandan Nadar" in the same temple, as products of Palm-culture demonstrated by Herodotus, in 408 BC. Here the Icon from Java is given as copied from the book: *The Dravidian Lineages*, P, 74-75.

Fig.NO.5..Cambodia Icon:*Palm-leaf Crown for Coronation of Kings**

In the history of Travancore or Venadu, the reverence given to Palm-tree is so great that their Kings, during the occasions of Coronation ceremony had preferred to use Crowns made of Palm-leaf. Such a Cap, representing the crown is very respectably preserved in the *Kuthiramaliga* of the Trivandrum Sri Padmanabaswamy Temple Museum. A copy of the same is reproduced here as taken from the book: Eranial Palace (Eranial Thai Kottaram)

Fig.6. Palm-leaf Crown:

King Lord Rama and the Palm-Culture

In Andhra Pradesh, there is a remote temple built by stone, destroyed by the French invaders. In the walls of that temple, there is a depiction chiseled on Stone. It is the depiction of Lord Rama, aiming at seven Palm-trees. The palm culture has certainly attracted King Rama of epic period. This connects us to the earliest history of our India affirming the great royal magnanimity emphasized to it by modern scholars like Elamkulam Kunjan Pilla, Fr. Heras, and ancient historical stalwarts like Herodotus and Ptolemy. Here it is worthy to give the portrait of the first historians of the world, Herodotus who projected for the first time about this glorious "Palm-Culture"

Fig.NO. 7. Bust of Herodotus.

History of Kumari

Kanyakumari District the existing Rudiment of Kumari Kandam:

Kanyakumari is located in between 77.5- and 77.36-degrees eastern longitude and on 8.3- and 8.35-degrees northern latitude. It is quite within the equatorial belt. "This is one of the most popular districts in our State. According to the 1991 census the population was 1600349 and the total area of the district is just 1685 sq. km., with a population density of 949.76. The literacy percentage is more than 95" (Dr.Sobhanan). But the fact remains that the population in this District is fast increasing many folds by migration, especially through the steady inflow of people from the neighbouring States of Kerala and the borders of Tirunelveli district. Although this would be suffocating for the local people, it would be worth shifting in consideration of the wonderful panoramic view of the district.

Periplius (50-80AD) calls Kanyakumari by the name 'Kumari' but Plini; the historian calls it 'Piramentorium Kumari'. This city is situated at the south most part of India.

Venkadam Thiimpunal Pelavmentru

***Ennankellai Thamizhathu vazhakke* (old song)**

This old song says that there was a mountain called *Kumari Code* and from this hill had originated the *Kumari river* (*Kumari Thiimpunal*) and surrounding this mount and the river, a city was formed, and this land became a very fertile country. From *Silappadikaaram- Kaadu kaan kaathai*, 19, 20, we understand that this mount and the river had been submerged into the sea. In the great deluge caused by the oceans, the great trading centre, port Muzir on the western side, and the Eastern centre named Patalae, and a large part of the Kumari land had been submerged into the Seas. This great deluge had occurred on the 23rd and 24th of August, 79 AD (S.V.S.Ragavan).

The famous traveller, Mar-co-polo (1254-1324 AD) also reports that a major portion of 'Comori' had been submerged into the sea and the remnants of the land now remains has taken the shape of a triangular cape.

Peripleus mentions of a port around this Kumari. It is named as 'Colchae'. This port-city is determined as at 8.34×78 degrees. Historians refer to it for 'Korkai' which is farther away from this Kumari. But very close to Kumari, on the western coast is an ancient sea-port. It is called Colachel. This too is a business centre founded at the meeting place of the river, Tamraparni, to the sea. The river at Colachel is only a branch of the Tamraparni. This port had been subjected for many wars long ago and even during the Dutch and the British periods. There are remains of the war, few memorials, noted presently in the site, for historians and the travellers to make further studies.

Another port subjected for such historical confusion is 'Mendella' at 8.11×77.29 degrees. This site is taken for Mangalam by historians, whereas this could be the port at 'Midalam' few miles away from the Cape Comorin. This too is a natural port.

Ptolemy refers to the famous Villavan-Code, the originators of the Villava dynasty of the Chera land. It is at 8.11×77.21 degrees. This Villavas had ruled the Chera-country (Kerala/ Venadu or Travancore as was called in the later days), and this Travancore is termed by the historians of early Greeks as Tittowa. This place is locally called at present 'Thiruvithamcode'. The book, '*Ptolemy*' refers to this place as 'Thiruvithamcode' and says that it has originated from the earliest 'Thiru-Aten Code' which is referred to as Aten-Code (Athencode) in the great Tamil book, *Tolkaapiyam*. This ancient place Aten-Code was flourishing much beyond the Christian era as a great literary centre promoting Tamil language and its culture.

A great King of this region described in *Aganaanooru*, is Kalankai Kanni Naar Mudi Cheral. He had made his crown from the fibres peeled off from the Palm-leaf stalk.

Palm-tree and the war-goddess *Maha Kaali* were very much inter-woven with the rulers of these regions.

There are different beliefs about the origin of the name, 'Kanniyakumari' for this place. These regions are famous for the growth of multi varieties of medicinal plants in the area. A special variety of plant, *Komari* is such a valuable medicinal plant found abundantly growing in these areas and hence the place is called 'Komari' or Kanniyakumari. This is one opinion put forward by some section of people for the origin of the name of this place. As far back as 78 AD, the renowned traveller, Peripleus mentions that there was a temple at the meeting place of the three seas, on the triangular tip of India. Perhaps the particular temple referred to by Peripleus may not be there now, as it was in those days. But today there is a temple standing on the shores of the *Sangamam*, the meeting place of the three oceans, the great Indian Ocean, Arabian sea and the Bay of Bengal. This is a *Devi* temple popularly known as *Bhagavathy* temple. This is a Jain concept. *Devi* is a common word for 'goddess'. There are the great symbols of the Pandyas, the Fishes, marked in the inner shrine of the present temple-roof.

There are many reasons to believe from various Tamil literature of ancient times that thousands of centuries ago the landscape in this region was much different from what we see today and that the whole of African, Australian continents were linked up together with many of the eastern islands to form a greater continent known to us by the name, Lamuria and the present land of Srilamkha was divided from the main land only by a river which watered a very fertile region called Ezhuthenganadu. This river was called the Pahruliyaru, the river Pahruli. It is believed that in this fertile place was born the great Saint, Philosopher and Master of many Arts, Sage Agastya.

"PahruliAattu Thalaippachal Ezhuthenga Naattu Muthoor Agatyan (Lanka Tolviyal Ayivugal)

The cities of El-Thenganadu (Ezhuthenga nadu) Muthoor, ElMadurai Naadu (the Pandya capital) - *Thhen* Madurai, etc., were situated in the banks of Pahruli river. So It becomes clear that they were closer. *Thhen* Paalimugam was in the south of Pahruli river. The capital of south Madurai was also this. This was the place where the 1st *Sangam* took place. When part of Lamuria was submerged into the sea, the Himalaya has shoot up as the great mountain. This is the opinion of many. A place in Ezhuthenganaadu near Pahruli *Aaaru* was Muthoor. Sage Agastya was born here at the Muhadwaram (mouth) of the river where had existed a great Tamil culture.

Thhen Madurai (South Madurai) was the capital of Pandyas situated at Pahruliyaru. After the 1st *Uoozhi* (deluge) in the times of 1st *Sangam*, Kappada puram has become the next capital of Madurai. Kavadapuram was on the north of Kumari river, and closer to the Kumari and Kollam cities. *Thhen* Madurai was at the south-east of present Kumari, on Pahruli river banks, and Kavadapuram was on the south-west of present Kumari river, on its banks.

Kavadapuram was lost in the 2nd *kadalko/* (deluge). After that the Pandyas had built Manavoor as their capital. This was lost by the 3rd *kadalko/* (deluge). After the above said three *kadalkols*, the old Korkai and the Kavripoompattinam, etc., were lost for the Tamils.

Before the 1st *Kadalkol*, Lamkha and India had the same, continuous landscape. *Valmiki Ramayan* says that Kapadapuram was the capital of the Pandyas. So we can assume that the Ramayana period might be around the 2nd *Sangam* period, *Bharatha* story tells us that Manavoor was the capital of the Pandyas. So *Mahabharata* was created after the middle *Sangam*. Hence the 1st *Sangam* was much beyond *Ramayana* or the *Mahabharata* periods.

The Pandyas had shifted their capital from Manavoor to Korkai and lastly, Madurai had become the capital of the later Pandyas. When Madurai had become the capital of

Pandyas, Korkai remained the sub-capital for them. Later, their relatives ruled the suburbs with Korkai as their capital (P.K.Appathurai).

The first, middle, and last *Sangam* (Tamil Mega-Conferences) were held at South Madurai, Kavadapuram and Madurai respectively. The end of 1st *Sangam* is marked as 1st *Uuzhi*, and the second, and third *Uuzhi* marked for the end of second and third *Sangam* periods. The people who taught Tamil language were the Pandyas of Lamuria. Pandya = *Pandaya* means the oldest.

Ezhu Kurumpanai Naadu was a country which was destroyed in the oceanic-deluge. The remnants of the deluge, namely *Ezh-Panai Naadu* is called today the Lamkha. Ezhu Thenganaadu, Ezhu Madurai Naadu, Ezhu Kurumpanai Naadu, Then Paalimugam naadu were lost in the deluge. Whatever the remaining lands that have escaped destruction are a worthy subject for further research. In all probability the present 'Kumari' is the remnant of the lost Lamurian continent of ancient Tamils.

It is known that one independent country was existent in continuation to the south of Komari, under the name, *Thhen paalimugam*. Apart from it, (seven)-Ezhu Thhenganadu, Ezhu Madurai naadu, Ezhu Munpaalai naadu, Ezhu Pinpaalai naadu, Ezhukuntra naadu, Ezhu Kunakkrai naadu, Ezhu Kurumpanai naddu, - each having seven divisions, totalling 49 *nadus* were there in the north of Komari river, excluding the northern Panmalai, Kumari, Kollam nadus, totalling 52 Nadus were destroyed with their *Kaadu* (forests), *Nadis* (rivers), *Malai* (mountains), etc., by deluge. This is ascertained from the global deluge history. This Lamurian continent was extending to the lands between Africa, Australia and beyond.

The book (*nool*) *Chenkon Tharai Chelavu* gives information about the king Chenkon, and the huge mountain range which existed south of Pahruli river and that it was called the Kumari Mount. The Kumari River had originated from this hill. The distance between this river and the mount is described as 700 *katham*. (1 *kaatham* = 7.5 miles) = 5250 miles.

It is known from *Sangam* literature that the king, 1st Nilam Tharu Thiruvir pandyan who ruled the South Madurai on the banks of Pahruli river, as its capital and ruled Oli Naddu, Peruvila naadu, Kumari naadu, etc., and that he has established the 1st *Sangam* at *Thhen* Madurai

The Tamil literature describes the destruction of Lands.

1. *Chilappadikaram*:

Pahruliyattudan Panmalayadukkathu

Kumarikoodum Kodunm kadal kola

Vada Thisai Gangayum, Yimayum kondu

Then Thisai aanda Thennavan Vazzhi.

2. *Purananooru* (9)?

Engo Vaazhiya Kudumi Thango

Chennir Pasumpon Vairiyarkiitha

Munniir Vilavinadiyon nannir pahruli

Manalilum palave

3. *Manimehalai*

Bhoomi Nadukkurum polthathu innagar

Nahanalanaattu Naanooru yosanai

Viyan padalathu Viizhnthukedu Eyithum

The Tamraparni (Thampravarni) river which had watered up to Ceylon from Tamilagom in the olden days, is now meeting at Mannar mouth after the sea deluge (*kadalkol*). Like that, Pahruli River falls at Manavoor near kanniyakumari in the Arabian Sea. Manavoor is the place destroyed in the third deluge. Pahruli River was, in course of time, called Pazhayar. Manavoor is reduced to be called Manakkudi of present time. *Aganaanooru* says about Manakkudi:

Karuthini thiyantriyone Pari Ther

Valavar Kaakkum Valanaattullum

Nadena sirantha piidu kezhu sirappir

Kedalarunchirappin Edayalanattu

Thiithil kolgai muthoorulum

Uurena sirantha Siirkezhu Manakkudi

Chemmai santra devan

Thonmai santra nanmaiyyone...

There are evidences of human inhabitancy of ancient times around the Chukkupparai *Theri* near Manakkudi. Towards its west, on the south of today's Mandaikkadu, there is a small mount called 'Aadumechan Paarai' (the shepherd's rock) now surrounded by the sea. It shows very much of early inhabitants there and were destroyed in such deluges. Its remains are still there. People used to rest there while grazing their sheep. Further, local news is that one Sage, Edaikattu Chitthar lived near Mandaikadu, at Edaikode near this mount. He is one of the 18 *Siddhars* and he was called Edaikkattu Chithar (Sage).

There are proofs to think that there was Naga worship prevailing in the Lamurian country. Eg. *Manimegalai* says of *Naga Nala Naadu*. This is indicative that before the *Kadalkol*, (deluge) people like Dravidar, Yikkar, Nagar, etc. lived here in total unity. Naga worshippers were called Nagar. Lamkha which was a part of Lamuria, formed from the Ezhu kurumpanai naadu, after the deluge, also had the Naga worship system even after its interdependent existence. In the same way, we see the symptoms of Naga worships in the western parts of Kanniyakumari regions also (eg. Nagercoil, Devakulam, Chitharal). These were great Jain centres. There are evidences in Tamilnadu and Srilamkha to show this Naga culture from the temples of these regions. Further, there are still temples and place names in these regions describing Naga culture-based names. There were also Nagar, Pallava-Chola kings as mixed race in later periods.

There are incidences that the mountains which were existent in Ceylon before the great deluge have become seaports after the deluge. (eg. *Kuthiraimalai* was a mount now a port, and *Trigona malai*, now a port).

The Nilamtharu Thiruvir Pandyan who escaped the great deluge was being described by the northern linguists as Sathyavrithan, Arasu Muni, Manu, etc. His ship (Vessel) is said to have landed at Pothigaimalai, the high hill. This mount is described as Malayamalai. This was on north of Pandya country and was also called Vadimalai, later considered as Meru. Pothiyamalai can be considered as the place where the sage Agastya had stored up the treasures of Tamil Sciences. It is a mystery how Agastya had escaped the deluge. It may be his power of *thapas*, or he floated on some log or ship. Considering the distance that he had to float from the Ezhuthenganadu Muthoor to Pothigai, many mysterious stories were created in the north that he drank up the oceans, etc. It is said that he stayed in the place near Kanniyakumari, at Agasteeswaram for a long time. There is a temple called *Agastyam Udaya Nainar Koil*, still existing few miles away from Kanniyakumari. There is the *Sivalingam* that Agastya had worshipped. His name is Agastyam Udaya Nainar. This shows that the Dravidian Siva-worship process was

prominent even before the times of Agastyar. Because Agastyar worshipped Siva who is termed as Eswarar, the place was called Agasteeswaram. There is the medicinal Agathiya *maram* (tree) still there. (This name is similar to Rameswaram, where Ram worshiped Siva).

The famous Athencottu Asan, Panamparanaar, etc., were among the 12 important disciples of Agastyar. The other disciples were: Thuralingar, Chemputchai, Vaiyyapikal, Vaipiyar, Kalarambal, Avinayar, Kakkaippaddini, Thathathanar, Vamanar. They might have had their training at Muthoor, or Ezhuthenganadu or Agasteeswaram Gurukulam. Atencottu Asan was staying near Munchirai (Muthoor). Panam paranar wrote *payiram* (introductory praise) to *Tolkappiyam*, the great Grammar book of Tamil, from Aten-Code in Kumari District.

Nilam Tharu Thiruvir pandyan Avayathu

Aramkarai naavin naan marai muttiya

Athencottu Asan..(Panamparanar)

These facts reveal that this king, Tolkappiyar, Atencottu Asan, and Panamparanar, etc., were of the same period of the Sage, Agastyar.

Agastyar is known to have made *thapas* at Maruthuvamalai, a sacred Mount in Kumari district and later went to north-west with his disciple from where he went to Ambasamudaram. From there he is known to have moved to Pothiyamalai in Papanasam. Then to kuttalam- Anamalai about 65 miles away from Trivandrum, the present capital of Kerala from where he travelled towards, Kavericode, Himalaya, etc. Places like Agastyakoodam, Agastya Aruvi, etc, are still remembered on his memory. The places where Agastya was staying at Muthoor were later known as Codes in Kaniyakumari (Athencde, Maruthencode, Chithiramcode, Nettancode, Edaicode, Tiruvithanmcode, Kanchiramcode, kurunthan Code, Kollamcode, Pacode, Mancode, Kuttaicode,etc., in kanyakumari dist., and Thiruchencode in Tamilagam; and like

Cauvericode, Kozhicode in Kerala., and Kaveri code in Karnataka, etc., thus spreading an uniform linguistic culture northwards.

Kudagumalai:

Uyithagai intral thozhi paipayak

Kongungkonkuzhai yuttena kuyilum

Thempaai ma attongu chinaivilikkum

Nadar Kaviri code thoimalir nirai

Kazhaiyazhi niitham sa aya vazhinaal

Mazhai kazhinthanna maakkal mayankaral

(M)Pathavu meyal arunthu thulankiml nallerrum

Mathavu nadai naakodasaivida paruhi

Kurunkar kanchi Kothai mellinar

Pettagai nundathu uraippathokkudan

Kuppai varmanal Yekkar thunchum

YanarVenil mannithu

Maanalam nugarnthunaiyudayorke¹

Agastyar, a sage of Kanniyakumari had lived for a long period because of medicinal use and yoga practices. This is evident from the place names and his history, but the later mystical historians have created very mystified stories about him that when the Himalayas went up, Agastya was sent to the south to balance the weight of the land, etc².

As the history of the Valluvars who had been associated with the Chera kingdom centuries of years ago, working as chieftains, warriors and soothsayers, had been altered, the history of Agastya also has been changed by writers of vested interests. Some of the later historians have even portrayed the poet Thiru Valluvar with 'Sacred Thread' which is, by all probability, a very later concept created by religious enthusiasts planning against the Dravidians.

Megasthanese calls Lanka by the name, Taprabane and says that India was separated from Ceylon by a river (*Lemuraia* or *Kumarikandam*). Mediterranean region was the first to give rise to living beings and the growth of plant-kingdoms. Some are of the opinion that Man's creation, from *Lemur-* living in large quantities in the area has contributed to the name 'Lamuria' and this has opened the way for a 'River bed culture' in the land. The vast space of a specified region was called the 'Land or *Nadu*'. The people who controlled, in due course, the administrative set up of the land were called 'Nadan' –owner or controller of the land. Thus came the names: *Kaanaka Nadan*, *Venkada Nadan*, *Kuntra Nadan*, *Onku Malai Nadan*, *Sur Malai Nadan*, *Nanmalai Nadan*, *Vilanku Malai Nadan*, *Malaikezhu Nadan*, etc. Later this became community name like Nadan, Nader, Nadar, Nattar...(eg. *Aganaanooru*, 215, *Eranku Kudi Kuntra Nadan*, one northern king was Kodum Karu Nadar.

Puranaanooru says many other classes like *Kuravar*, *Idayan*, *Thudiyan*, *Paanan*, *Parayan*, *Kadamban*, *Maravan*, etc. They still exist. But Nadan is the head of the State. In the

Chera land, Porayan, Malayan, Malayaman, Malai Nadan, etc. had become equivalent to Kuttuvan, Kuda ko, or Kuda-Nadan, giving rise to the multiple tribes who had controlled the authority of the land.

Vyakia paathar (Vykhra paani) who had lived in the Munchirai region of Kanniakumari district was an expert in Education, Sports, Medicine and there were many like him and they were called the Asans (Masters) of this region.

Ptolemy refers to the greatness of the business centres, of this region like Kottar which still thrives like an important business centre of today. Plinni calls it 'Kottara'. Even the Greeks knew this great centre of trade. This two thousand year old business centre had link with Ceylon, Madurai, Thanchai, and Eastern coastal regions. The Pandya Kings had the title *Kumari Cherpan*. Inscription of 1029 AD, says of the warriors like Vallan (Valiant) Kumaran of Thiru Nandikkarai who had worked in the Chola army.

Many of the earlier records are burnt or lost or stolen. The earlier place names are changed by the linguist enthusiasts like:

Old names	New names
Navalampozhil	Jampudweep
Marraikkadu	Vedarannyam
Mailadu Thurai	Mayavaram, Mayuram
Puliyancade	Thindivanam
Palamalai, Muthukuntram	Viruthachalam
Peruvudayar	Prahadeeswarar
Piravimanunthiraivar	Pavaouzhadhiswarar
Iyyattar	Panchanadiswarar
Puttidamkondar	Vanmiganathar
Kuuduthuraiyar	Chankameswarar

Thadamkanni	Visalashi
Mathorupagan	Ardhanaariswarar. (<i>Thamizh Varalaru</i> -Thevaneya Pavanar)

The worship of goddess is a common phenomenon in this area from the times immemorial. The early Dravidians worshipped the goddess of 'Power' *Kottravai*. As a matter of fact this famous goddess is found reflected in the history of all the ancient Rajputs or the ruling classes of India from Kanniyakumari to Kashmir. The early Nadans ruling this land had worshipped the war-goddess *Maha-Kaali* a religious concept of the *Kshatriyas* from Kanniyakumari to Kashmir regions. This concept is clearly depicted predominantly at the famous temple of Meenakshi, at Madurai. This is also marked reflected in most of the temples of India. This immortal, ever virgin goddess is described in more than 120 names in the book of history of the Nadans, the *Valamkaimalai*. Ambal or popularly known as *Bhagavathy* is one among the names. It is this *Bhagavathy* Temple with a great antiquity of history that is found erected in the shores of the sacred *Sangamam* at Kanniyakumari. This virgin goddess having eternal virginity and piety has been the cause of origin for the name Kanniyakumari - an Eternal Virgin, connected with which is often spoken the 'Chastity' of the women of the *Santors*, in the Tamil literature.

The Dravidians believe that Siva takes *tapas* (eternal meditation) for the well being of the people at *Kailash* in the great mountain of the Himalayas and his feet rests at the other end of the sacred land where it is being washed by the three oceans constantly. For these reasons people from many parts of the world come here to bathe in this sacred *sangamam* to free their sins in this sacred place.

Standing at the meeting place of the three oceans, facing to the expanse of the Seas, you turn your eyes still to the left, there you see the most ancient temple of the area, the temple of 'Kumari' the ever virgin woman of the land who is known in more than 120 names in the Tamil literature, especially, in *Valamkaimalai*, the book of history of the Nadans, described as a deity who has no age as the eternal goddess of Power, the

war-goddess of *Santors*, found depicted almost in every temple of the whole of India, as the war-goddess of Shivaji, the great Rajput and the people from Kanniyakumari to Kshmir. The model is very well seen sculptured in the great temple of Madurai Meenakshi also.

Passing through this *Bhagavati temple*, as it is called today, which is reported even by *Peripleus* in 78 AD (with a difference), you see beyond, the fishing boats of the local fishermen, hundreds of them, floating on the sea-waters, making a very beautiful feast for your eyes. In between you see on the still left side a huge Church built recently, but with a tradition of oral history attached to it, going several centuries ago. This is Chinna Muttom, the place where, it is said, that the first disciple of Jesus Christ came and lived for some time, before he had set forth towards northern Tamil land where he was martyred. Starting from Cranganoor, travelling through the sea coast, it is believed, St. Thomas had come to Chinna Muttom and had preached the Gospel of Christ, about two thousand years ago, is the oral traditions here. There is a small *Kurusadi* to remember this tradition, still revered by the local people. It is held that from here St. Thomas had travelled to *Parangimalai* near Chennai, where he was killed by the *Kaali Bhaktas*, most likely the cruel, religious-enthusiasts, the *Santors* and thus he had become the first martyr of Christianity.

Any one standing at Kanniyakumari, the *Sangamam* (meeting place) of the great three Oceans , Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and the Bay of Bengal, facing towards the vast expanse of the waters of the sea in the front, today will see the *Gandhi Mandap*, the monumental memorial erected for the Father of the Nation of India, and just nearby built squarely is the *Kamaraj Bhavan*, a memorial to honour the great Nadan of the land, the ex-Chief Minister of Tamilnadu who had steered the country to a great socialistic, cultural and economic progress, for younger generations to learn with pride and live with self-respect in his own country, making them free from the Aryan pollution of casteism. Looking ahead, your eyes passes through a variety of shop-keepers selling many of the sea-products, Shank, beads, a hundreds of such items and also a variety

of rare agricultural products like pepper, cardamom, *crampu*, clove, nutmeg, cinnamon, cocoa, etc. You stretch your eyes a little farther and you see the tallest statue of the world. It is the wonder statue of the great poet of all times, Thiru Valluvar, who, it is claimed, to have born in this Kanniakumari district some two thousand years ago. This monument is the gift of the Tamil loving people of Dravidians of the land as an immortal honour to the great 'Saintly Poet', an early Jain of the land.

You allow your eyes to lift up a little and look towards the left side, to the Indian Ocean. There you see a big Rock upon which is built a huge memorial for one of the greatest Saints of modern times, Swamy Vivekananda, a man born in Bengal and got the enlightenment at this sacred place of 'Komari' only a few decades ago. This was the man who had 'rocked' the Americans with his great performance of holding a high voltage power line at Chicago to consume all its power into himself and still standing smilingly 'alive' with the powers of gods within him !! This great memorial is built with the dedicated involvement of almost all the States of India standing together for the great cause.

After seeing the Church, you look still left, there you see a number of modern hotels, with lot of tourist attractions, and then to a boat jetty from where you catch your boat to travel to the Vivekananda *Mandir* and to the Thiruvalluvar memorials. Still, farther left, a little away, you see the great temple of a Revolutionary Saint of the Kanniakumarians. He had made the first revolution in the country for establishing Equality among all the races of the land. He was Mudisoodum Perumal alias *Vaikunda Swamigal*. The temple is called

There are many varieties of sights for the visitors in this district. There are places for the historians to find out the most ancient temples of India, the most ancient Church of the world (at Thiruvithamcode), the most ancient mountains of the land, the most ancient treatise of the world (*Marma Sastra*) and what not? There is always a place for any inquisitive mind to observe, learn and assimilate many things from this ancient wonderful place of India, the rudiment of the oldest Lamurian Continent!.

In the west, as in the south and also in the south-east, this district is protected by the Oceanic gods, and there are the strong mountain gods to protect it right through the south-eastern borders by the wonderful and mysterious mountain ranges of the western-ghats. On its northern and north-eastern regions, it is blessed with the vast expanse of the plains of Kerala borders and the beautiful valleys of river Tambravarni, telling its stories from the great *Sangam Ages* about the great Nadans (warriors) who ruled this blessed land.

The vast expanses of the land and the green forests of this district have many things to offer to any visitor arriving at these wonderful sites in Kanniyakumari district. You climb up to any of these hills like *Marunthuval malai*- an abundance of secret herbs, *Veli hills* - the abode of special gods, *Chitahral hills*- the living monument for Asoka's culture of *Ahimsa* preached through the great Jains, the *Munchirai hills* - the abode of great *Sidhas* from the times of the *puranic* Sita Devi's prison, before taken to Lanka by Ravana on the oldest aeroplane, *Pushpa Vimanam*. You look around from any of these mountain-tops and you never feel to move away from that place. Your mind becomes engrossed with the nature and the heavenly bliss of god's wonderful creation of the world- an immortal example of beauty. There are still the *Mahendragiri*, the *Thadagaimalai*, to add excellence to its scenes in addition to the sights of *Agastyakoodam* and the *Pothiyamalai* at the borders of its foot-hills to explore the beauties and their hidden secrets.

The man who chooses to walk along the wet-sands of the wonderful sea-shore, is blessed with the greenery sights on his right and the vast expense of the bluish Oceans on his left, for a long 68 km., touching the horizon of the sky on his left while moving towards Vizhinjam, the early capital of the Aye-Nadans of the land, before reaching Trivandrum, still some 15 to 20 k.m. away. While he walks, he is able to enjoy freely all the sites of the 30 to 40 fishing centres in the western coast, like Manakkudi, Azhikkal, Pillaithoppu, Muttom, Kadiyapattinam, Valiyathurai, etc.. The ancient ports like Chinna Muttom, Colachel, Muttom, Kadiyapattinam, Midalam, Thengapattinam and many more receive him with their ruins and modern revivals at some places. The heaps of multi-

coloured sand excavated from the shallow sea-shores meets his eyes at Manavalakurchi and Mandaicaude. This invaluable product of rare-earth leads to the formation of 'thorium' and many other multi products from it when it reaches foreign countries. Our government is yet to think about a factory for the purpose in the local area.

As a tourist I have visited many places in India and also some places of the globe. But I do not remember to have seen anywhere in the world, a place like Kanniakumari district (inclusive of Kerala) where such a rich variety of natural edible products, especially, the colourful fruits are displayed for sale. In Libya while my family had the experience of waiting for two years to get one bunch of Banana, here we have dozens of varieties of Bananas like: *Chingan, Kathali, Palayamthodan, Pachappazhalm, Chenthuluvan, ellathuluvan, Peyan, Resakathali, Poonkolli, Arithuluvan, Karpooravalli, Matti, Monthan, Kallu monthan, Aethen*, and so many, each having its own 'medicinal values' described by the *Siddhas*, or the *Asans* of the local physicians. For example, *Kathali Rasayanam* keeps your brain cool and sharp. There are other varieties of different fruits like Pineapple, guava, Oranges, Lemons, Grapes, Cashew and a number of such fruits and vegetables cultivated here, in addition to the common food of the local people, rice from a variety of more than 120 types of paddy. All these are cultivated in about 19000 hectares of land by hard-working people of the land, 75% to 80% of who form the communities of Nadans and Fishermen, the earliest people of the land. It was not any wonder that even in about 800 BC, King Solomon of the Jewish tradition imported Pearls, Elephant-Tusks, Deer-horns and also silky textiles along with agricultural products of pepper and cardamom from these parts of the country, to his land supported by the early *Chera* rulers.

Kanniakumari district, as we find today, being formulated on 1.11.1956, after a full decade's 'Revolutionary Struggle' to free it from the Aryan pollution in order to retain its past glorious Lamurian cultural tradition, was an integral part of the ancient *Chera* rulers with their immemorial past from the *Itihasic* times, having their capitals shifted to many sites like Aten Code, Kalingapuram, Parthipasekharapuram, Eraniyel, Villavan

Code, Vizhinjam, Kottarathu Vilai, Thiru Aten Code, Thiruvithamcode, Thiruvattar, Puliyurkuchi, Azhagiyamandapam, Thachanvilai, Vellalodu, Kalkkulam, Padmanabhapuram, Thiruvanathapuram, etc., ruled by its kings and chieftains, in different periods of times.

This place is supposed to be the early abode of the originators of the *Chera* rulers. But, for several years this place had the mixed culture of the *Cheras*, the *Pandyas*, the *Cholas*, the three of whom were traditionally accepted as brothers. But there are examples to prove that these brothers, like the *Pandavas* and the *Kauravas* of the *Ithihasic* period, had quarrelled one another and established smaller kingdoms numbering to fifty six through out the land of Bharat. There are clear evidences to show that smaller kingdoms of eight had multiplied to eighteen were ruled by the early rulers of this region even up to the 16th century AD. Where ever they ruled, they have constructed temples and shrines also.

In Kanniyakumari district there are scopes for historical research, there are scopes for philosophical research, there are scopes for Yogic research, there are ample scope for Martial Arts research, and it is not any exaggeration if it is said that there are many scopes for deep study in philosophy, history, astrology and medicine and Yoga originated from the very, very ancient remains of a great Palmyrah Culture existed in the great Kumari Kandam known to historians as Lemuria, in this smaller, but most ancient and most mysterious districts of our country. It is the opinion of me, and of many other unbiased Tamil researchers that if the secret 'Chmbers of present Pdmanabaswamy temple' are opened, many mysteries shall come to light overthrowing many of the Mysterious Myths and suppressive trend of historical burials of the Tamils. We need to expose to the world the real history of the Tamils who spread true civilization to the entire world, even from the pe-historic times. (Taken from : *Kanyakumari Aspects and Architects*).

By Dr.M.Immanuel