



Renaissance in kerala

SUBMITTED BY STEFFY VARGHESE T

CHANNAR REVOLT

- ▶ The Channar Revolt was one of the early battles against caste oppression in Kerala.
- ▶ It was triggered by the cruel and arbitrary rules that were imposed on members of the lower caste by the upper castes. Nadar men and women, for instance, were not allowed to cover their upper bodies before the dominant castes as it was considered a sign of disrespect. They were also prohibited from using umbrellas, donning footwear or wearing gold ornaments.
- ▶ Unable to bear this oppression, several members of the Hindu Nadar community started converting to Christianity in the early 19th century. Starting from 1820, Nadar women also started wearing tailored blouses. Over the next decade, this led to several incidents in which members of the upper-caste Nair community, agitated at this display of defiance, attacked Nadar women who had covered their breasts, and stripped them of their blouses.

MALABAR REBELLION (1921)

- ▶ The progress of the Khilafat movement alarmed the district administration in Malabar. The police tried to arrest the Secretary of the local Khilafat Committee. This led to widespread riots, which engulfed the taluks of Ernad and Valluvanad. The Mappilas attacked police stations, looted government property and destroyed buildings. The rebellion was at last suppressed by the government with an iron hand.
- ▶ Modern historians look upon the rebellion of 1921 as a part of the national upheaval against the British authority and not as a mere uprising of the Mappilas.
- ▶ The Wagon Tragedy took place in connection with the Malabar rebellion.

VAIKOM SATYAGRAHA (1924-25)

- The avarnas or untouchables were forbidden to walk along the approach roads to the Vaikom temple.
- KP Kesava Menon, TK Madhavan, AK Pillai, Mannath Padmanabhan and K Kelappan, along with several other leaders started an agitation to win the right for the avarnas to use the approach roads.
- This was the first major struggle in Travancore for the eradication of accountability.
- The Satyagraha was withdrawn on the advice of Gandhiji.
- By 1928 approach roads to all temples were thrown open to all Hindus, irrespective of caste.

GURUVAYOOR SATYAGRAHA (1931-32)

- The aim of the Satyagraha was to get the Guruvayoor Temple opened to all Hindus.
- K Kelappan was the leader of the Satyagraha and AK Gopalan was the Volunteer Captain.
- After ten months, Kelappan began an indefinite fast, which was later given up on the advice of Gandhiji.
- The Guruvayoor Satyagraha failed to achieve its immediate objective, but it produced a climate in favour of the eradication of untouchability.

NIVARTHANA AGITATION (1932)

- ▶ The Nivarthana agitation was staged against the constitutional reforms of 1932 in Travancore. It demanded the representation of Ezhavas, Muslims and a section of Christians on the basis of population.
- ▶ The prominent leaders of the agitation were C Kesavan, TM Varghese, NV Joseph and PK Kunju.
- ▶ They formed an organization called Samyukta Rashtriya Samiti (Joint Political Congress).
- ▶ After a bitter struggle, the government agreed to appoint a Public Service Commission to ensure proper representation to backward classes in the government services

PUNNAPRA VAYALAR REVOLT (1946)

- Diwan CP Ramaswamy Ayyar announced American Model constitution for Travancore.
- Both the State Congress and Communist Party rejected the Scheme.
- The Communist Party organised the people at certain strongholds for a revolt, especially at Punnapra in Ambalapuzha and at Vayalar in Cherthala.
- The slogan “American Model Arabi Kadailil” rent the air everywhere in the state.
- After a violent encounter with the rebels, the army crushed the Punnapra-Vayalar revolt.
- The Dewan left the state after an attempt on his life in 1947 and the Raja decided to merge Travancore into the Indian Union.

MAPPILA RIOTS

- Mappila outbreaks had their origin in agrarian depression and poverty.
- In 1881 Mr. Logan was appointed as a Special Commissioner in Malabar.
According to him, the real lord of the soil was Hindu Janmi and the Mappilas had no rights on the land. This was the real cause of Mappila unrest.
- ▶ The group of Mappilas murdered Hindu Janmis and desecrated Hindu temples

ATTINGAL REVOLT (1721)

- Attingal Revolt was the first organised opposition in Kerala against the British.
- In 1684 the English East India Company obtained some land at Anjengoto build a factory. Later the England merchants built a fort at Anjengo.
- In course of time, the local population turned hostile to the English men because of their corrupt practices and overbearing conduct. In 1721, the local inhabitants attacked a party of 141 Englishmen and put them to death.
- The resulting hostilities which lasted for six months ended only after the arrival of a British military unit from Tellicherry.

PAZHASSI REVOLTS

- This revolt was staged in two phases, the first phase, 1793-1797 and the final phase 1800-1805.
- The revolt against the British in Malabar organised by Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja of the Kottayam Royal family shook the foundation of the British power in Kerala.
- The first phase of the revolt was caused by the wrong revenue policy of the British.
- The final phase of Pazhassi Revolt opened when the British tried to take possession of Waynad, which had been ceded to them by Tipu. Pazhassi Raja claimed that Waynad belonged to him and opposed the British move to seize it. This resulted in a prolonged struggle between him and the company.
- On 30th November 1805, the brave lion of Kerala was killed in an encounter with the Company's troops, on the banks of the Mavila Thodu.
- British officer, Thomas Harvey Baber was responsible for crushing the Pazhassi revolt.

Thank
you

