

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

THE present Bangalore district has over 300 inscriptions, seen from the days of the Gangas, helping us to outline its history. The earliest reference to Bangalore itself as 'Benguluru' is found in a Ganga inscription dated about 890 A.D. found at Begur. Some pre-historic sites too have been located in the area, though much work remains to be done with regard to pre-historic studies. Jalahalli, Byrasandra, Hulimavu, Begur and Chikkajala near Bangalore and Budihola and Chaudasandra in Anekal tq had some pre-historic remains. The area of the present Bangalore city had been an inhabited place atleast from 1000 B.C. and neolithic remains have been discovered here. Microliths were unearthed by Kincaid Lee in 1896 at the race-course site. D.H. Gordon located some microliths at a place to the north of the road leading to H.A.L. in 1945. These and those located at Jalahalli in 1938 were microliths of quartz, two centimetres in length, and were assigned to about 1000 B.C. by Dr.M. Sheshadri. Chikjala, now in Bangalore North tq, was a megalithic centre, the remains here being identified in 1881. There are many megalithic tombs, erected by using slabs, and two of these box like creations have opening at the east in the form of a hole. Some of the slabs atop are 15 feet in length. Pottery and iron implements found here have been preserved in Madras Museum. Bellandur in Vartur Hobli had certain cromlechs, and iron implements and pottery were located in them by Bush, an English officer. The pottery was black, red and black-and-red, highly polished, and some pots had legs. This site too apparently is of the megalithic period.

THE GANGAS

The district was under the Gangas for a long period, from the fourth to the tenth century, being a part of Gangavadi-96,000, and Talakadu was capital of the Gangas for quite some time, though their original capital was Kovalala, identified as Kolara. (Some identify this place as Kovalala near Manne in Nelamangala tq).

Their royal emblem was elephant. For some time, they also ruled from Mankunda near Channapatna and Manne (Manyapura) in Nelamangala taluk. Scores of records of the Gangas including many copper plates have been located in the area.

Though some records of the later Ganga period have described the Gangas as originally Jainas and Simhanandi Acharya, a Jain Muni is described as responsible in helping them in the establishment of their kingdom, contemporary records do not support such statements. Dadiga and Madhava, two brothers, assisted by Simhanandi Acharya, secured a boon from Goddess (Yakshi) Padmavati and thus started their rule, these later Ganga records say. But contemporary records speak of one Konganivarma as the earliest ruler and Madhava has been identified as his son and successor. The Tamil inscriptions speak of the Gangas as 'Kongani (Konguni) Arasar'. After Pallava rule over the region during the middle of the fourth century A.D., the Gangas founded their new kingdom with Kivalala as the capital and Nandigiri fort (Nandi Hills) as another stronghold. The details about the founder are found in the Mysore and Nittur copper plates of his son Madhava I. The Mysore plates speak of Konganivarma-dharmamaharaja, and born of Kanvayanasa Gotra and speak of his son Madhava as "Maharajadhiraja". The father is described as "disciplined by the study of several *sastras*" and the son (Madhava) as "a touchstone for testing gold, the learned and the poets" and as such one "who uprooted the obstacles by the prowess of his own arms". Later records speak of his having written a commentary to *Dattakasutravritti*, a Sanskrit work. Madhava was succeeded by Harivarma, who is also called Aryavarma and Krishnavarma. (Some scholars feel that these were the names of two other brothers of Harivarma, which is not correct). Harivarma was perhaps using Talakadu as his secondary capital.

Harivarma was succeeded by his son Madhava II (also called Simhavarama) and he is said to have (according to a Mankunda record) secured power with the help of Pallava Skandavarma. He had two younger brothers, Vishnugopa and Viravarma, and Vishnugopa was the next ruler after Harivarma. Vishnugopa appears to have ruled for nearly two decades, and then succeeded by Madhava III, also called Tadangala Madhava, who had married a Banavasi Kadamba princess, daughter of Kakusthavarma. Madhava's son Avinita was crowned even when he was a child, and enjoyed a very long rule of nearly 60 years. Avinita had married Jyeshthadevi, the princess of Punnata (Heggadadevanakote tq region), daughter of Skandavarma. Avinita tried to overlook the claims of his elder son Durvinita for succession, and Durvinita snatched the throne from his younger brother. Perhaps Avinita, in around 500 A.D. made Talakadu the permanent capital of the Gangas.

Durvinita

Durvinita is one of the greatest rulers of the Ganga family. He is described as having won victories at the battles of Andari, Alatturu, Parulare and Pennagara in many of his records including one from Mallohally in Dodballapur tq. He is also the author of a commentary on the 15th canto of *Kiratarjuneeya*, noted Sanskrit

work by Bharavi. Punnata territory was merged into Ganga kingdom by him, and also Pannada (the territory of the Banas?). Gunadhya's work in Prakrit, *Vaddakatha* was translated into Sanskrit by him. His Nallala plates describe him as an expert in music, dance, taming of elephants and Ayurveda, and that he was equal to Chanakya in his knowledge of *Neetishastra*. It is said that he also wrote a commentary on Sanskrit Grammar called *Shabdavatara*, but it is clear that the work of this name was the creation of his contemporary Jaina scholar Pujiyapada, and Durvinita appears to have written a Kannada work of the name, a translation. Durvinita, a Kannada author referred by *Kavirajamarga* has been identified with this scholarly prince. He appears to have accepted the supremacy of the Chalukyas of Badami. (Aggressive postures of the Pallavas must have forced him to that course).

According to the Sirgunda record, Durvinita had three sons and of these Mushkara and Polavira are known, and both of them ruled over the Ganga territory one after the other, and after Polavira, Mushkara's son Srivikrama came to the throne. Srivikrama is described as having mastered 14 *vidyas*. His son and successor Bhuvikrama, in close alliance with the Chalukya Vikramaditya I of Badami fought against the Pallavas and defeated Pallava Parameshwara Varma at Vilande near Arkonam in c 670 A.D. and snatched from the Pallava his valuable necklace called Ugrodaya. Bhuvikrama's younger brother Shivamara I succeeded him in 679, and his Halligeri record is the first clearly dated record of the Gangas, helping us to reach this date of accession. Both Bhuvikrama and Shivamara I had Mankunda near Channapatna as their capital.

Shivamara's successor was his grandson Sripurusha (726-88), and his initial year is testified by the Javali plates. Earlier he might have been administering Kerekunda in the Hoskote taluk region as testified by the Marenahalli record of c 720 (Ht 86). Though Sripurusha defeated Pallava Nandivarman and assumed the title Permanadi and helped Chalukya Vikramaditya II in the victorious campaign against Kanchi, later the Pallavas invaded Gangavadi and recovered the necklace Ugrodaya which Srivikrama had secured at Vilande in c 670. Pandya Termara kidnapped a Ganga princess, married her, and defeated Sripurusha at Venbai. Sripurusha shifted his capital to Manne (Nelamangal tq) and from there he fought many grim battles against the Rashtrakutas who had defeated the Badami Chalukyas in 753 and succeeded to their imperial fortunes.

Rashtrakuta Krishna I's efforts to capture Manne were foiled and Sripurusha appears to have chased the Rashtrakuta army till Kampili in Bellary dt. Sripurusha had his queens from the Chalukya and Nolamba families. Still, Nolamba Charuonera later joined hands with the Rashtrakutas. This scholarly prince Sripurusha wrote *Gajashastra* in Sanskrit. A record of Sripurusha found at Dasarahalli (Bn 26) mentions a war with the people of Palikkarinad and the death of one Kukkara. There is a herostone at Krishnarajapura speaking of the death of one Mareya, perhaps a local person in the days of Sripurusha (Bn 55). Attigundur was granted

as an *agrahara* to a scholar by Sripurusha (NI 33). One Ettaldhora was ruling Kukkalnadu under Sripurusha as per a record from Thotagere (NI 33).

Shivamara II

Of the three sons of Sripurusha, Duggamara, Shivamara and Vijayaditya (the last named being the son of Vijayamahadevi, perhaps the daughter of Chalukya Emperor Vijayaditya), Saigotta Shivamara II succeeded him in 788. But he had to struggle hard against the Rashtrakutas. The Manne plates of 797 (NI 60) speak of his having dispersed the Rashtrakuta army of Dhruva at Mudagundur, now in Tumkur dt. But Emperor Dhruva later defeated him and took him captive, and Dhruva appointed his son Kamba as Governor of Gangavadi who ruled from Manne. But after the death of Dhruva, the rivalry for succession between his sons resulted in Emperor Govinda III releasing Shivamara to counter Kamba. But Shivamara did not help Govinda, and the latter imprisoned Shivamara whose son Marasimha ruled over Gangavadi for some time (796-97). He appears to have died early. Later Govinda III released Shivamara. Shivamara II offered the throne to his younger brother Vijayaditya, who in turn offered it to his own son Rachamalla I. The Rashtrakutas had Manne under them in 802 (NI 61). Shivamara II continued his struggle against the Rashtrakutas (after a short period of friendship with them) and Rashtrakuta Amoghavarsh I killed him at Kagemogeyur in 816 A.D. Shivamara's younger son Prithvipathi allied himself with the Pallavas, and ruled from Parvi (near Hindupur) independently as against the main branch, and he in turn was succeeded by Nanniya Ganga and Prithvipathi II at Parvi, and with him the branch ended. A tenacious fighter, Shivamara II was also a poet who wrote *Gajashataka* in Kannada. A devoted Jaina, he built the Chandraprabha basti at Shravanabelagola. *Gajamata Kalpana* in Sanskrit and *Setubandha*, perhaps in Prakrit, are also described as his works.

Rachamalla I continued to resist Rashtrakuta power, and he allied with the Nolambas of Henjeru by marrying his daughter Jayabbe to Nolamba Polalchora. A Nolamba prince Shivamara, perhaps his newphew (sister's son ?) is seen ruling over Morasunadu under him according to a record dated c 820 from Vartur (Bn 40). Another record of his from Nagondanahalli speaks of the assembly of 92 of the place (Bn 42).

Rashtrakuta Commander Bankeya pursued Rachamalla I till the Cauvery in the south. But Bankeya had to return to Malkhed on a summons from his master and Rachamalla could not be subdued. He was succeeded in 843 by his son Ereganga Nitimarga and Amoghavarsha decided to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the Gangas and married his daughter Chandrabalabbe to Ereganga's younger son Butuga. Nagattara administering Bempur (Begur)-12 under him built the Nageshwara temple of the place and fixed sluices to two tanks and constructed a third tank at Agara near Bangalore in about c 870. Iruga, another officer under

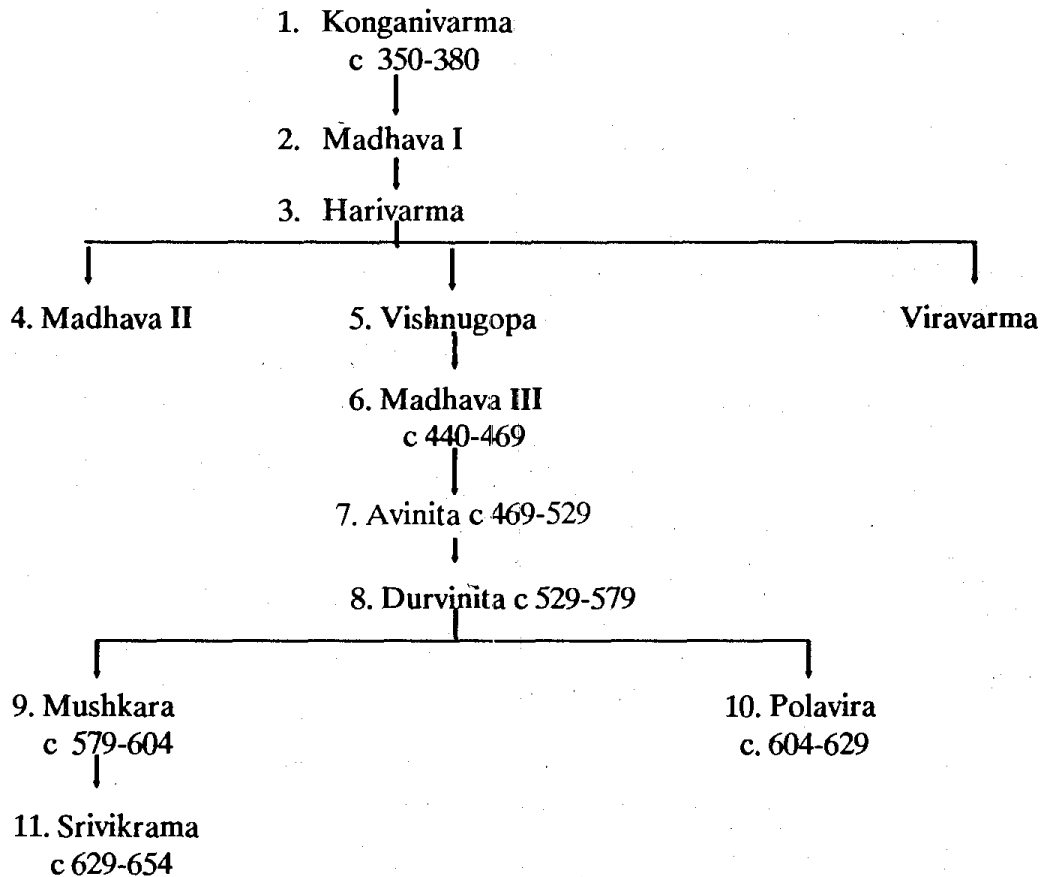
him was posted to Ibbalur near Agara. Ereganga's elder son Rachamalla II (870-919) who succeeded him had to face Nolamba Mahendra who turned hostile to him. But crown Prince Ereganga Nitimargha II (Butuga's son) killed Mahendra in 897, wrested all Ganga territories which the Nolambas had conquered, and even Henjeru their capital. The famous herostone of Begur, now preserved in Bangalore Museum mentions the death of Nagattara in a war with Nolamba Mahendra. Another herostone of Begur speaking of the battle of 'Benguluru' (mentioning the city's name for the first time) speaks of the death of a servant of Nagattara in the said battle and is of about 890 A.D. A grant at Agara near Bangalore (of c 870) is one of the records of Rachamalla II in this area. Ereganga Nitimarga II, who succeeded his uncle in 919 is compared to Bharata for his mastery over fine arts like music and dance and described as well versed in grammar.

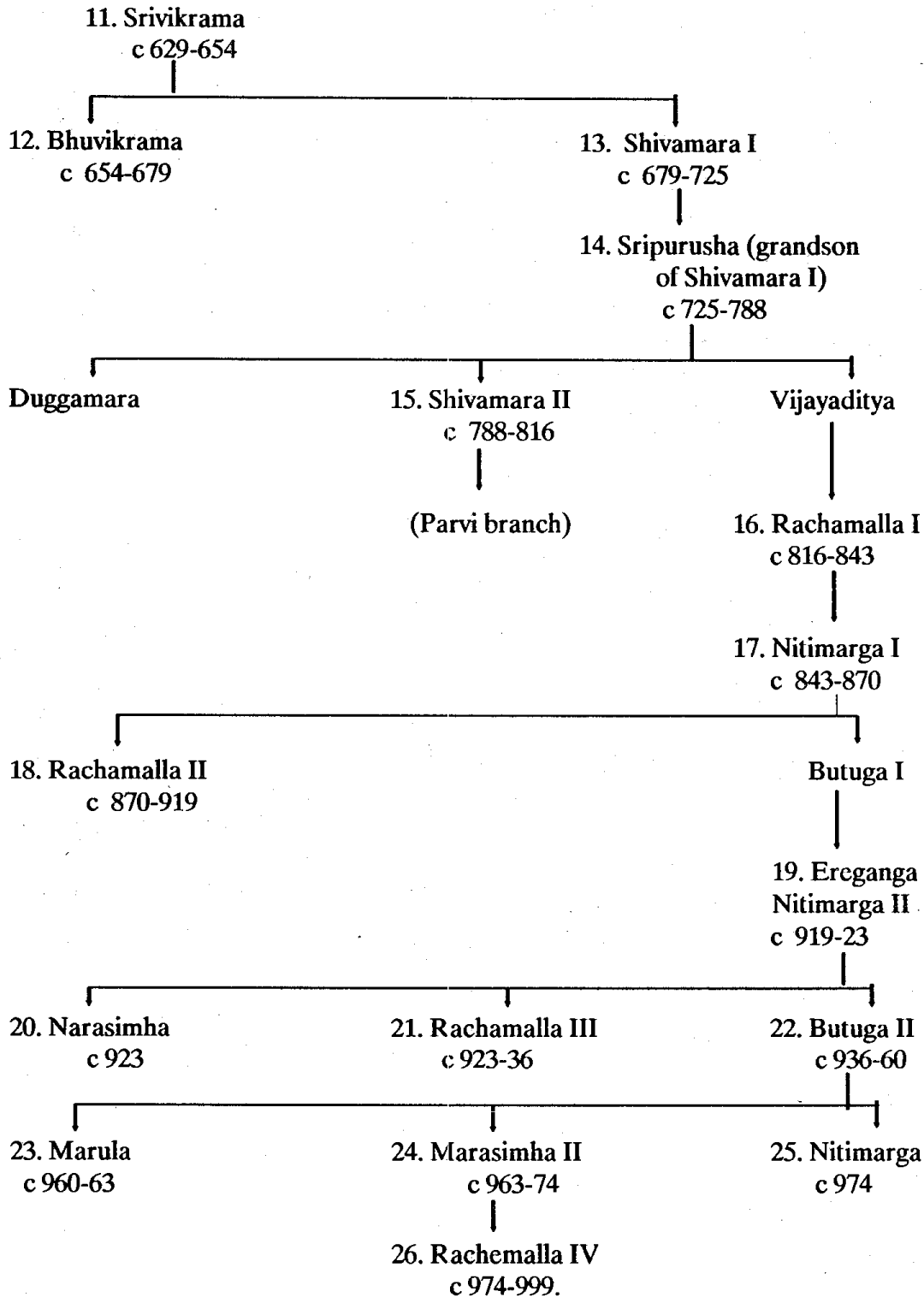
Ereganga's three sons succeeded to the Ganga throne one after the other viz., Narasimha (923), Kacceya Ganga or Rachamalla III (923-36) and Butuga II (936-60), the last named coming to the throne after overthrowing his elder brother in 936 with the help of Rashtrakuta Amoghavarsha III or Baddegadeva. Butuga had also helped Baddegadeva and his son Krishna III in their civil war of succession against Govinda IV in 936, and Baddegadeva not only helped Butuga II to secure the Ganga throne, but he married his daughter Revakanimmadi to Butuga II. From this date onwards (936), the Gangas became the subordinates and allies of the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II was granted many Rashtrakuta territories to govern such as Bagadage-70 (Bagalkot), Kisukadu-70 (Pattadakal), Belvola-300 (Annigeri) and Puligere-300 (Lakshmeshwar), and he helped the Rashtrakutas in their war against the Cholas by killing Chola Rajaditya at Takkolam in 949. He also helped Krishna III's campaigns in Tamilnadu when he captured Tanjore, the Chola capital. He secured Banavasi-12,000 also from the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II was a scholar and a devout Jaina.

After a short rule of two years by his son Marula (960-3), succession to the Ganga throne fell on Marasimha II (963-74). He played a major role in the Rashtrakuta wars against the Paramaras and even reconquered Malakhed in 971 from them, which Paramara Siyaka had snatched. But, Rashtrakutas were overthrown by the Later (Kalyana) Chalukyas in 973, and Marasimha II tried to espouse the cause of Indira IV, his nephew and grandson of Krishna III, by crowning him at Bankapura. In his wars against Taila II, the Ganga army was led by general Panchaladeva and a hero called Adipada died according to a Malur hero-stone (MAR 1942) of 973. After Marasimha II's death in 975, his brother Govindara appears to have ruled for some time. He was overthrown by Rachamalla IV, son of Marasimha II with the help of the renowned general and ministers of Marasimha II, Chavundaraya, who became famous in history by installing the image of Gomata at Shravanabelagola. Some scholars feel that Rachamalla IV was succeeded by his younger brother called Rachamalla V Rakkasaganga, the latter part of his

nomenclature being mentioned by Nagavarma in his Kannada work *Chandombudhi*. But many scholars feel that Rachamalla continued to rule till the end when his territory was conquered by the Cholas in 999 A.D. and Rachamalla IV was the last ruler of the dynasty. Even earlier the Cholas had penetrated into the eastern parts of the district viz Kolar as testified by a record of Rajaraja Chola at Kammasandra in Hoskote taluk dated 997 A.D. The Gangas were the first dynasty to set up a systematic administrative machinery in the region, being the first rulers of the historic period. They carved out administrative divisions (like Kukkanara 'Nadu', Paru 'Vishya', Parati 'Bhoga', etc) and appointed officials and systematised the levy of taxes. Village and town assemblies were organised and shandys were founded. Many irrigation projects were also undertaken. Similarly, to spread culture, they founded many new *agraharas* and also temples and *basadis*. The *agrahara* and the Nageshwara temple at Begur also were their creation. Their long rule of over six centuries has left indelible impact on the region.

The genealogical tree of the Gangas can be drawn as follows, and before Shivamara I, there have been no dated records to fix the chronology of the Gangas accurately.





THE CHOLAS

The hegemony of the Imperial Cholas over the district continued for over a century beginning with the days of Rajaraja I to the days of Kulottunga I. Over 50

inscriptions of the Cholas have been found in the composite (old) Bangalore district. Quite a few *agraharas* were founded by them and temples erected in the region. They undertook irrigation works also. Almost the whole of the belongings of the Cholas in Bangalore district were in the Rajendrachola (Gangaikondachola) Valanad, a part of Vikrama Cholamandala. Certain areas were also in the Nigarili Cholamandala. Major parts of this district were in their Ilaipakka (Yelahanka) Nadu. The use of Tamil in a majority of their records had such an influence that even after their being thrown out from the region by the Hoysalas, a good number of Hoysala records of as late as the 14th century and even some Vijayanagara records are written in Tamil.

The earliest Chola record found in the region is of Rajaraja I (985-1016) dated 997 found at Kamasandra in Hoskote tq (Ht 111) and is in Kannada, wherein the ruler is described as the overlord of Nolamba Gannarasa who administered Daligawadi etc. Rajendra I (1016-44) appears to have consolidated the Chola position in the area. Many of his early records are seen in Channapatna tq. A record of his from Aigandapura dated 1033 speaks of a grant perhaps to the Siddheshwara temple. His commander Vamaniah, a local officer, is also mentioned in the record NI 38).

Rajadhiraja (1044-54), second son of Rajendra, is mentioned in donative grants and one of them is from Aigandapura dated 1050 making a grant to the Dharmeshwara temple (NI 38). His successor was his younger brother Rajendra II (1054-64). One record of his is seen at Kengeri, assigned to 1060, but its purport is not clear (Bn 108). Raja Mahendra (son of Rajendra II) who ruled jointly with his father's brothers Vira Rajendra (1064-69) and Adi Rajendra (1069-70), has left behind only one record in the rural district dated 1065 (Ht 36). Vira Rajendra's (1064-69) Huruli Chikkanahalli record dated 1065 (NI 24) speaks of his having frightened Kalyana ruler Ahavamalla and a citizen announces some grant in its last portion. A record from Allalassandra dated 1080 which is in Kannada speaks of a grant of land to the family of a soldier killed during a hunting expedition. Kadeya Nayaka was ruling over Sannenadu under Kulottunga.

Kulottunga I who was a prince from the Vengi Chalukya family succeeded to the Chola throne. His first record in the neighbourhood is dated 1075 from Marenahally (Hoskote tq; Ht 101) announcing a grant to a temple. In 1110, he donated the village Nakkur to the Mukteshwara temple at Binnamangala (NI 3). The Periya Mattakkur village was donated in 1113 to the Dharmeshwara temple of Aigandapura, the temple being called as the Ayvarkandishwara in the record (NI 38). His Malur record of 1086 proclaims his having forced Vikkalan (Chalukya Vikrama VI) to flee from Nangili to Manalur (Channapatna tq), his elephants dying all the way.

In addition to the building of temples at Malur, Honganur etc., the Cholas also built the Mukteshwara at Binnamangala, the Dharmeshwara at Aigandapura, the Begur Choleshwara and the temple at Domlur in the Bangalore City. The tank at

Pattandur near Kadugodi was built by a Chola officer in 1043 and 250 *kuli* of land was granted for its maintenance. Though the rule of the Cholas lasted for just a little more than a century in this region, its impact was felt long after as already noted.

RASHTRAKUTAS AND CHALUKYAS

The Rashtrakutas who overthrew the Chalukyas of Badami and inherited the imperial traditions of the latter could not easily cow down the Gangas who were related to the Badmai Chalukya. It was only in the days of Dhruva (c 780-93), the fourth emperor (the son of Krishna I c 756-74, the second emperor and younger brother of Govinda II, 774-80, the third emperor) that the Rashtrakutas penetrated into Gangavadi and a record of Dharavarsha or Dhruva is seen at Matakere (Hg 46) in Mysore dt which says that under Dharavarsha (Dhruva), Kambarasa (Sthambha, Dhruva's son) was ruling over Gangavadi-96,000. Kambarasa's headquarters was Manne. Dhruva had earlier defeated Ganga Shivamara II in 788 and taken him captive and had appointed his own elder son, Kambarasa as governor over Gangavadi. Kambarasa revolted against his own younger brother Govinda III (800-14) who succeeded to the empire superceding Kambarasa.

Govinda III defeated Kambarasa and took him prisoner. Later he pardoned his brother, released him and sent him back to Gangavadi. Two records from Aradeshahalli in Devanahalli tq dated c 900 refer to the rule of Akalavarsha and a war. A record of Govinda III called Prabhutavarsha dated 802 (Nl 61) speaks of Kamba Ranavaloka as his subordinate and an officer of the Rashtrakutas called Srivijaya makes a donation of the village Pervadiyur to the Jinalaya at Manne. A copper plate from Devanur (Nj 278) dated 808 A.D. speaks of Kambayya as at the military camp (Vijayaskandhavara) at Talakadu. This grant was made at the request of Shankaragana, son of Kambayya. Ganga Shivamara offered the throne to his younger brother Vijayaditya, who in turn crowned his own son Rachamalla I. Shivamara II continued his resistance against the Rashtrakutas and died in a fight against the Rashtrakutas at Kagemogeyur in Tumkur dt in 816 though earlier to that, he appears to have accepted the overlordship of Amoghavarsha I (814-78). This is evidenced from a record at Kalbhavi in Belgaum dt in a grant to the Kumudavada Jinalaya in 814. The Rashtrakutas faced further resistance from the Gangas and Amoghavarsha, after defeats at the hands of the Gangas, won them over by matrimonial relations, as already seen. A record from Aradeshahalli dated c 900 speaks of the rule of Akalavarsha and under him Govinda was administering Salne 300 and Kunungil 500 (Dv 42). Ganga Butuga II had to seek the support of the Rashtrakutas to secure the Ganga crown (938 A.D.). The rising power of the Cholas forced the Gangas to closely ally themselves with Rashtrakutas. Butuga II helping Rashtrakuta Krishna III (939-67) in winning the battle of Takkolam (near Arkonam) in c 959 is well known, where Butuga II killed Chola Rajaditya. Famous Atkur inscription (Md 42) in the neighbouring Mandya dt speaks of this event. Extensive Rashtrkuta territories were conferred on Butuga II by Krishna, and they

included far northern districts like Belvola -300 and Bagadage-70. One of the daughters of Krishna III, Bijjabbe, was married to Butuga's son Marulaganga (c 961-63) as pointed out by Panchamukhi. When the Chalukyas overthrew the Rashtrakutas in 973, the Gangas struggled hard to espouse the cause of the defeated family by even crowning Indra IV, a Rashtrakuta prince at Bankapura. Manne was the headquarters of the Rashtrakuta province (as seen already) for some time.

The Kalyana Chalukyas who overthrew the Rashtrakutas in 973 tried to subdue the Gangas. It is seen that Marasimha II had crowned Indra IV of the Rashtrakuta family at Bankapur. But Indra IV could not continue for long and he later died in 982. A Ganga officer, Panchaladeva revolted against the Gangas after the death of Marasimha and tried to be independent. But he was defeated by Chalukya Taila II who assumed the title 'Panchalamardana Panchanana' after this victory.

The first record of the Kalyana Chalukyas in Gangavadi is seen at Somasamudra in Chamarajanagar tq (Cn 404), Mysore dt dated 993. This speaks of Chalukya Permanadi, identified as Taila II (973-97). This shows that by this time the Chalukyas had succeeded in penetrating as far as the southern parts of Mysore dt. A herostone dated 997-98 from Kudakur (Piriyapatna tq; Pp 92) speaks of the rule of the same prince and also his daughter Pampadevi, perhaps put in charge of this region. But no records of the Chalukyas are seen in Bangalore area as soon the areas fell into the hands of the Cholas. The Hoysalas, who were perhaps the subordinates of the Gangas, and were ruling in Mudugere region (Chikmagalur dt) became prominent during the 11th century as feudatories of the Chalukyas. But they had no sway over Bangalore area, as they were a very small feudatory power then, and it was the Nolambas who served as a buffer between the Chola territory and the Bangalore region, ruling here as the subordinates of the Kalyana Chalukyas by then. One record of Kulottunga Chola dated 1075 claims to have pursued Vikkalan (Vikramaditya VI) from Nangili (Kolar dt) till Manalur (Malur).

THE HOYSALAS

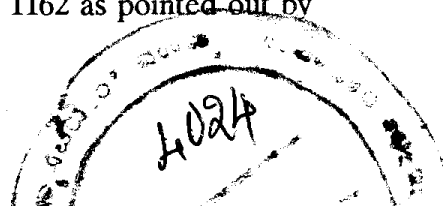
The Hoysalas belonged to the Malenadu region near the Western Ghats, Sosevur, modern Angadi in Mudigere tq, being the place of their origin. They called themselves as 'Maleparolganda' or "Champion among the Malai chiefs". Later they shifted their capital to Belur and further to Halebidu, both in Hassan dt. Though Sala, who is said to have hit a tiger at the biddings of a Jaina Muni, is described as the first prince of the dynasty, it is not certain whether he was a historical figure. But the episode of Sala hitting a tiger became the royal insignia of the Hoysalas from the 12th century. The earliest known princes of the dynasty were Kama (c 1000-45), succeeded by his son Vinayaditya (c 1045-98) and grandson Ereyanga (1098-1100). The next rulers were Ballala I (1100-08) and Vishnuvardhana (1108-52), who were sons of Erayanga. It was only in the days of the

last named that the Hoysalas extend their sway over Bangalore district region. But in the Mandya district nearby records of Vinayaditya (1095; Kr 39), Ereyanga (1052; Md 52) and Ballala I (1103; Kr 72) are seen. Vishnuvardhana himself was perhaps administering Belagola (Mandya dt) in the days of his grandfather around 1095, as the place was known as Vishnuvardhana Chaturvedimangalam at that time. The Hoysalas were not only feudatories of the Chalukyas but they played a prominent part in the wars of Chalukyas. Hoysaladevi, one of the queens of Chalukya Someshwara I (1043-68) was a Hoysala princess. Of the over 200 inscriptions of the dynasty in the old (composite) Bangalore district, almost half are in Tamil and the rest in Kannada.

Vishnuvardhana

Vishnuvardhana was the founder of Hoysala greatness. He not only further penetrated into Southern parts of Gangavadi, but even conquered Talakadu a subordinate capital of the Cholas in about 1116-17 and assumed the title Talakadugonda (Kn 118) and the record tells him as Viraganga Vishnuvardhana Bittiga I Hoysaladeva. This he could do by defeating the Chola governor Adiyama and the Chola commanders Damodara and Narasimhavarman, and in memory of his victory built the Kirtinarayana temple at Talakadu (Tn 151). Vishnuvardhana conquered Kolar and Nangali in the east and humiliated the Kongalvas and the Cholas of Nidugal. Nilagiri and the Kongu country (Salem-Coimbatore area) were taken from the Cholas. In the north, he had conquered Nolambavadi, crossed the Tungabhadra and took some territories in Bellary region. Next he made inroads into the Belvola (Annigeri) area. This was actually encroaching upon the territories of his own Chalukya overlord Vikramaditya VI (1076-1127). He came out victorious at the battle of Kannegala (1118) against the Chalukyas and he proceeded against the Hanagal Kadambas and conquered the place. Next, he made inroads into Banavasi 12,000 and Santalige (Shimoga region) in the west. Vikramaditya VI sent a strong army led by Sindha Achugi of Yerambarage (Yelburgi) who pursued the Hoysala army till their capital in 1122. Vishnuvardhana had to face trouble in Gangawadi as Chola Kulottunga made inroads into Gangavadi. Vishnuvardhan's younger brother Udayaditya opposed the invaders and expelled them, but was killed in the war. After the death of Vikramaditya VI, Vishnuvardhana crossed the Tungabhadra again and conquered Bankapur in 1136 and Hanagal in 1141. His earliest record in the region under study is from Begur dated c 1110 where he is called only as Poysala Deva. A Chikabanavar herostone ascribed to his time speaks of a war at Kadambur (Bn 25). Later records at Jala indicate that the Keshava temple at Jala and the *agrahara* at the place were his creations (Dv 39).

Vishnuvardhana was succeeded by his son Narasimha I in 1152. He had to face the revolt of the Chengalvas and the Kongalvas. He also lost Nolambavadi. Dr.B.R. Gopal feels that earlier he might have been a joint ruler with his father. Though the kingdom shrunk in the days of Narasimha I, he had one achievement to his credit-he killed his overlord Emperor Taila III in 1162 as pointed out by



Sitaram Jagirdar with the help of Belur record (Bl 93). Though he could have the control of the overlord over him loosened and assumed the title Tenkana Chakravarti, he could not gain any special advantage by his act, as the Kalachuris had already taken advantage of the situation and Bijjala had wrested power at Kalyana in 1162. There are almost a dozen records of Narasimha I in and around the district. The earliest of them is from Vobalanahalli (Hoskote tq) dated 1145 announcing certain grants by the Gamunda of Kaivarnadu, Brahamadirajan for some religious purpose and expansion of a tank. Narasimha's weak administration forced his son Ballala II to revolt against his father and take the reins of administration into his own hand, as the Hoysala territory was shrinking in size and the prestige of the dynasty was declining.

Ballala II

Ballala II is the greatest of the Hoysala monarchs and his period (1173-1220) saw the expansion of his territories on an unprecedented scale. He defeated the revolting Kongalvas and the Chengalvas in the south-west, took the famous impregnable hill fort of Uchchangi from the Pandyas, and later after the vanishing of the Kalachuri and Chalukya power, marched northwards till the Krishna in the Raichur dt. Soon he clashed with Seuna Bhillama V at Soratur in 1190 and defeated him. He made Lakkundi his headquarters soon after. The fertile district of Belvola -300 was under him. A turbulent feudatory Sinda Ishwara of Belagutti was cowed down by his queen Umadevi in 1199. But in 1212 Seuna Singhana II drove Ballala II out of Belvole. Ballala II developed friendly relations with the Cholas and his daughter Somala was married to Chola Kulottunga III, and Ballala himself and a Chola princess Cholamahadevi as his queen. When Kulottunga III was attacked by the Pandya, Hoysala prince Narasimha II went to help the Cholas and Ballala II assumed his title Cholarajya Pratishthapanacharya. He also gained some territory in Tamilnadu.

Ballala II was succeeded by his son Narasimha II in 1220. They were the days when both the Pandya and Chola powers in Tamilnadu were on decline and Hoysala support was being sought by both these potentates. "The Hoysalas were regarded practically as arbiters of South Indian politics". A daughter of Narasimha II appears to have been married to Chola Rajaraja III. Narasimha II gained several advantages in Tamilnadu but his pre-occupation in Tamilnadu helped the Seunas to encroach upon the northern boundaries.

In 1235 Narasimha was succeeded by his son Someshwara, who had been brought up in Tamilnadu by his aunt (father's sister) Somaladevi, who was a Chola queen, as Someshwara had lost his mother very early. He was highly attached to Tamilnadu and even shifted his capital to Kannanur Kuppam. When Chola Rajendra III was trying to free himself from Hoysala alliance, Someshwara allied himself with the Pandyas of Madurai. His pre-occupations with the politics of Tamilnadu resulted in Seuna Krishna crossing the Tungabhadra and reaching as

far as the Chitradurga region. Sometime around 1254, Someshwara divided his realm into two and appointed his elder son Narasimha III as ruler at Dwarasamudra and second son Ramanatha at Kannanur Kuppam, Someshwara himself also continuing to stay at the latter place. No records of Someshwara are found in the district except the one in the Bangalore tq. Someshwara died in a fight with the Pandyas in Tamilnadu, espousing the cause of his son Ramanatha. Narasimha III who had inherited the Western part of the Hoysala territory after its partition in 1254 was ruling from Halebidu.

Narasimha III (1254-92) during his long rule had to face the Seunas from the north, and his own step-brother who was thrown out from Kannanur and also from Tamilnadu. He stayed at Kundani in Kolar dt before 1280 and started encroaching upon the Hoysala territory under Narasimha in Karnataka. (Rice feels Kundani, the capital of Ramanatha is the one to the west of Devanahalli, now called Kundana. Some identify it with Kundani in Hosur tq, Dharmapuri dt). Narasimha had to face him in six various encounters and Ramanatha had once reached Bangalore and even Kunigal. A record from Dodaballapur speaks of Bachidevarasa, an important officer of Narasimha III having Yelahanka as his headquarters in 1267.

Two records of Ramanatha indicate that he had crossed Bangalore to pursue Narasimha's army. In the fight near Doddagangavadi (Channapatna tq) between the two armies, one Ketanna, son of Harigauda in Ramanatha's army died. The second record informs us about Ramanatha proceeding as far as Kunigal, and Allappa, son of Budagauda from Ballala III's army died in the encounter. Ramanatha had held under him Hesaraghatta and Yelahanka areas also according to some records of Ballala III of a later date. Of the records of Ramanatha, one dated 1290 announces a grant to the Chokkanatha temple of Domlur and another dated 1292 records a donation to the Aivarkandapura Dharmeswara temple, the God being called as Aivarakanda Nayanar (modern Aigandapura). There is also a grant to the Begur Nageshwara temple dated 1294, described as his 40th year. The records of Vishwanatha, Ramanatha's son (1295- 1300) are also seen in the neighbourhood of the district to indicate that his sway extended over parts of present Hoskote taluk also. Vishwanatha died in 1300.

Ballala III

Narasimha III was succeeded by his son Ballala III in 1291. Ballala had to face his uncle Ramanatha who was encroaching upon his territory and after the latter's death in 1295, his son Vishwanatha. But Vishwanatha too died in 1300, and the schism in Hoysala Kingdom ended in that year as already noted. Ballala III had to face the Seunas who had reached Holalkere in 1303, and he chased them till Lakkundi in 1304. The fort at Lakkundi was destroyed. The Kadambas of Hanagal and the Santaras of Hosagunda in Shimoga dt also had to be encountered. Ballala's absence in the capital when he had gone to Tamilnadu to interfere in a dispute for succession in the Pandya family kept his capital open for attack by Malik Kafur,

the commander of Alla-ud-din Khilji, who after defeating the Seunas and plundering their capital Devagiri, reached Dwarasamudra in 1311. He attacked and plundered it. Ballala III had to submit to the Delhi forces, join them in their campaign against Madurai and later send his own son Virupaksha Ballala to Delhi with Malik Kafur. Virupaksha Ballala returned to Dwarasamudra in 1313. Soon after, a former feudatory of the Seunas, Kampilaraya of Kummata had to be encountered. In 1327 Mohammed-bin-Tughluq sent an expedition, and Dwarasamudra was plundered again. The army reached Madurai and founded the Sultanate of Madurai (Mabar) after subduing the Pandyas fully (1330).

Ballala III made Tiruvannamalai in Arcot dt his capital, and he was the only potentate in the South, left to face the onslaughts of the Delhi army as the Seunas, the Kakatiyas and the Pandyas had been annihilated. He built Hampe Hosapattana on the banks of the Tungabhadra as that region came under him after the fall of Kampili kingdom. While trying to oust the Sultan of Madurai in 1343, Ballala III was killed. This was followed by a short rule of his son Virupaksha Ballala, who also died in 1346, ending Hoysala rule.

An important officer of Ballala III found repeatedly mentioned in the records in the district was his brother-in-law Dadi Somaya Dandanayaka and latter's sons Singeya and Vallappa. We know from other sources that Vallappa or Ballappa married the daughter of Harihara I, the later founder of Vijayanagara Empire. An important record of Ballala dated 1301 found at the Someshwara temple at Gunjuru (Bn 51) announces the restoration of certain earlier grants to all temples in the whole of the territory under Ramanatha and Viswanatha which Ballala secured back. In the days of the two latter princes, the grants must have lapsed. The record also announces generous donations to 'Kunjiyur Someshwara'. A grant to the Someshwara temple of Madivala repeats the announcement. Another record of his at Dodda Nekkundi dated 1304 speaks of this victory against the Areyas (Seunas) and destruction of Lakkundi. It records the donation of two villages Nerkundi and Eurukurkkadapatti to the Shivaganga temple. The Someshwara temple at Domlur received a donation of Kondeyanahalli by Ballala III's commander Kameya Dannayaka's son Hiriya Ballappa Dannayaka (Bn 165) in 1329. One Mukuti Setty was appointed Pattanaswamy of Chikkahundi in 1332 and was permitted to start a weekly shandy at the place by Ballala III (Bn 61). Hudi village had a *kattukoduge* grant made for maintaining a tank in 1332 by Ballala III. A record of Ballala III from Ganigarahalli dated 1342 speaks of Bayiredeva, the Nadaprabhu of Yelahanka. A record from Jakkur also speaks of Ballala III in the same year and mentions Nada Senabova Allala, who is also mentioned in many records in the area.

After the death of Vishwanatha, Ballala III succeeded in taking over the territories held by the rival branch, and many earlier land grants to temples appear to have been discontinued by Ramanatha (perhaps due to his financial difficulties). They were restored by Ballala III. This included the grants to the Gunjuru Someshwara temple (Bn 51), the Madivala Someshwara temple (Bn 65) or to the

Aigandapura Someshwara in 1301 (Nl 30). No records of Virupaksha Ballala, son of Ballala III mentioning him by name are seen in the district except one dated 1346 which reads " in the days of Ballalaraya" (Bn 120).

The Kukkalanadu Mahaprabhus were a minor dynasty under Hoysalas. Their records are found in villages of Bangalore taluks bordering on Magadi and in parts of Nelamangala tq such as Banasvadi and Manthalu. Their span of rule does not exceed one century. They are mentioned for the first time in 1330, and the first ruler mentioned in the Kittanalli record (Kn 12) is Mayilaya Dandanayaka as administering Kukkalanadu. He was the son of Koteya Nayaka. A record of Mayileya is seen at Kengeri. The Manthalu record of 1333 speaks of Channaya, brother of Mayileya. They were subordinates of Hoysala Ballala III. Channaya is also mentioned in a record from Byadarahalli (Bn 110) dated 1336. In 1340, Mayileya and Channaya constructed a tank at Ramasamudra and made grants for its maintenance. Some records identified as of this family are found under Vijayanagara, one of Banasvadi dated 1340 (Harihara I), second of Aijuru dated 1351 under Bukka I, and third of Ketamaranahalli (dated 1386) under Harihara III, to quote a few. Mayileya is mentioned in the Banasvadi record, he had his younger brother Channaya in the Aijuru record and Mayileya had his son Koteyanayaka in Kethamaranahalli. A record of 1430 is also considered as of this family (Bn 26), the ruler being Bukka Nayaka in the days of Devaraya II.

VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE

The Vijayanagara empire filled the political vacuum created by the destruction of the Hoysala rule. In fact, the sons of Sangama, Harihara, Bukka, Kampana, Marappa and Muddappa were related to the Hoysalas. Harihara's daughter was married to Vallappa (Ballappa) dandanayaka, son of Somayya Dandanayaka. Hoysala Ballala III had his sister married to Dadiya Somayya, and Vallappa, Harihara's son-in-law was Ballala III's nephew, as already noted. The attachment shown by Harihara and his Sangama dynasty to the temples of Keshava (Vijayanarayana) at Belur and Virupaksha of Hampi and their titles " a lion to the scent elephant of Andhra king " etc., and their Kannada titles like "Bhasegetappuva Rayaraganda" and " Moorurayaraganda" seen even in their Sanskrit records testify to their Kannada origin as against the Telugu origin theory of describing them as coming from Warangal. In fact Ballala III had one of his capitals in the north called Virupaksha Hosapattana which was no other than Hampi, where he must have stationed Harihara.

These records of Harihara I are seen in this district and of these one of 1340 from Banasavadi speaks of Mayileya Nayaka, the Nadaprabhu of Kullakanadu, described as a subordinate of Mahamandaleshwara Vira Hariyappa Odeya. This Mayileya was a subordinate of the Hoysalas (1330) and by 1340 the overlordship of Harihara I is acknowledged by him. A record from Doddakannelli (Bn 47) in

Tamil dated 1346 also speaks of Mahamandaleshwara Hariyappa Odeya and his subordinate Vallappa, who is known from other sources as his son-in-law and a former Hoysala officer. Another record from Sadaramangala (Bn 59), also in Tamil mentions Hariyappa and Bukka as joint rulers, and is also dated 1346. An inscription from Holiyanakere (Bn 97) dated 1347 also speaks of Harihara as the ruler.

Harihara I (1336-56) succeeded in having control over the northern parts of Karnataka and Andhra from coast to coast. The Banasavadi record calls him Chatussamudradhipathi (Master of four oceans; 1340). In 1346, a grant was made to the Swamy of Sringeri by him and his four brothers. His younger brother Kampana was appointed Governor over Nellore and Marappa was posted at Chandragutti (Shimoga dt) and Muddappa at Mulbagal. Bukka became joint ruler with Harihara I (from 1345) as already noted. As records of both the Hoysalas and the Vijayanagara rulers are seen in this region from 1340 and Somaya Nayaka, a relation of Ballala III and Somaya's sons Singeya and Ballappa were seen here, the transfer of authority from the Hoysalas to the Vijayanagara appears to have been smooth in this region. Harihara soon came into conflict with the Bahamani rulers who started ruling from Gulbarga in 1347. It is to be noted that a record from Bangalore tq (Bn 101) dated 1361 speaks of Harihara as the overlord (who actually died in 1356), and this was issued by his son-in-law Vallappa.

As Harihara I was childless, Bukka succeeded him in 1356-57. He conquered Penukonda and defeated Shambuvaraya of the Arcot- Chingalpet region. Bukka's son Kampana, administering this region was also looking after Bangalore area. Some records of Kampana are found in the area. A record from Agara dated 1363 says that he was administering his territory from Mulbagal (Bn 81) and his son Kamayanayaka made a grant. Another dated 1365 from Madivala also speaks of Kampana (Bn 67). Some records from Tindlu in Anekal taluk speak of Naganna Odeya as the officer in charge of Erumarai Nadu under Bukka I (An 28, 29, 32 etc). The Adinarayana Perumal temple at Murasur near Anekal was built for the merit of Bukka in 1380.

Harihara II (1377-1404), Kampanna's younger brother who succeeded his father Bukka extended his dominion in Konkana beyond Goa. In Andhra, Udayagiri fort and territories to the north of the Krishna including Pangal were wrested from the Velamas. The Bahamanis, who were in alliance with the Velamas were also defeated by him. Virupaksha (1404-05), son of Harihara II succeeded Harihara II, and he was followed by his brother, Bukka II. Devaraya I (1406-22), the third son of Harihara II extended the empire in the north-east, and the rivalry between the Gajapatis of Orissa and Vijayanagara was the legacy of his times. Firuz Bahamani's efforts to conquer the fort of Pangal in Andhra were foiled by him. It was in his time that Italian traveller Nicolo Conti visited the imperial capital which he describes as 60 miles in circumference. A Solur record dated 1410 (Dv 12) informs us of Hiranna Dannayaka administering Yelahanka Nadu. A shandy was started at Somagondanahalli in 1412 by Mudiya Nayaka enjoying the Nayakatana

of Hirasunadu under Devaraya I. A shandy was also started at Sarjapura (?) by Muddeya Nayaka to whom the 'Nayakatana' of Himmarenadu belonged in the days of Devaraya I in 1418 (An 4). Mallappa Odeya, an officer, described as Devaraya's elder brother Bukka II's son, makes a grant to the Bannerghatta (Bannoorghatta) Champakadhamaswamy temple in 1421 (An 86). Devaraya's successor (1422) was Ramachandra or Tammaraya who ruled for only some months. Vijayaraya (1422-24) or Bukka III, Devaraya's second son (who succeeded Ramachandra) has left only one inscription in the region. It is from Anekal tq dated 1422.

Devaraya II

Vijayaraya was succeeded by his own son Devaraya II (1424-44), the ablest among the Sangama princes. Even when he was the crown prince, Devaraya II had participated in a war against the Bahamanis (1423) in which the latter were defeated. This resulted in their shifting the capital to Bidar from Gulbarga soon after the war. He fought three wars against the Gajapatis of Orissa, in 1427 (when Gajapati Bhanudeva's effort to capture Kondavidu was foiled), in 1436 (when effort to attack on Rajamundry was repulsed) and again in 1441. In his war against the Bahamanis, according to Ferishta, he is stated to have lost the Mudgal fort in 1436. But Mudgal has his inscription of that year. But in another war with the Bahamanis in 1443, certain territories in the Doab were lost by the empire (1443). His scholarly commander Lakkanna Dandesha (hailing from Kolar dt) invaded Srilanka and collected tribute from the Srilankan ruler. Southern parts of Kerala, Quilon etc., were also included in his territory. Abdur Razzak, the Persian ambassador who came to his court pays rich tributes to him as ruler and a man, and also informs us that rulers of Pegu and Tenasserim in Burma paid tribute to him. Vachana literature saw a renaissance during his time by the efforts of Lakkanna Dandesha, Jakkanna and other scholars.

Starting of a shandy at Mastenahalli in Anekal tq by Morasunada Prabhu Chokkadeva by appointing somebody (name lost) as Pattanaswamy is indicated in a record of 1427 under Devaraya II (An 64). Bommasandra was granted as an *agrahara* in 1430 by Kukkalanadu chief Bukka Nayaka (Bn 26). A record from Kodihalli in Yeshwantpur Hobli dated 1431 speaks of Prataparaya son of Mangappa Nayaka as officer at Shivasamudra (Hesaraghatta) and his making some grants (Bn 12). A record in the Domlur Chokkanatha temple dated 1440 mentions Devaraya II and speaks of donation of some levies from Sondokoppa to this temple.

Weak rulers followed Devaraya II on the throne. For some time, his younger brother Vijaya Devaraya ruled in 1446-47. The Devaraya II's son Mallikarjuna (1447-65) also known as Devaraya III assumed power. One Junjanayaka was enjoying the Nayakatana of Nelamangala under Mallikarjuna in 1464. Mallikarjuna surrendered Rajamundry to the Gajapatis, and later Udayagiri and even Chandragiri in 1463, and the Gajapati claims to have marched upto the Cauvery in

the south. The Bahamanis too came till the imperial capital in 1450. Humiliation the empire had to face forced his own son to kill Mallikarjuna and Mallikarjuna was succeeded by his cousin (uncle Pratapa Devaraya's son) Virupaksha II in 1465. Virupaksha II (1465-85) who dethroned Mallikarjuna did not prove to be any way better than his cousin. He was weak and vicious and taking advantage of his incapacity, the Bahamanis under the aegis of their able minister Mahmud Gawan conquered Konkan and Goa in 1469-70, and also Belgaum (1472-74). In the east, Kondapalli and Rajamundry belonging to the Gajapatis, were also taken by the Bahamanis, and in the South, the Pandyas in Tamilnadu also revolted. Saluva Narasimha, the governor of Chandragiri disgusted by the inability and inaction of the Emperor, on his own captured Udayagiri (1469) from the Gajapati and reconquered the lost territories in Tamilnadu. He reached till Rameshwaram victorious, defeating all revolting feudatories of the empire. In the West, his commander Tuluva Ishwara conquered territories around Bangalore.

Insubordination of feudatories and officials was common. Infuriated by this, Virupaksha's own son killed Virupaksha in 1485 and his another son, Praudharaya came to the throne. But his rule was also short lived and Saluva Narasimha usurped power in 1485.

Saluvas and Tuluvas

Saluva Narasimha saved the empire when it was about to crumble down due to the incapable last Sangama rulers. This hereditary commander of the Empire administering Chandragiri had by his own efforts conquered Udayagiri (1469) and Kondavidu (1480) and his general Tuluva Ishwara took Bangalore, Nagamangala and Shrirangapattana under his control. Soon after the death of Virupaksha in 1485, Saluva Narasimha took the reins of administration in his own hands and saved the empire. But much of his time of six-year rule was spent in facing various rebellions and disturbances. There was revolt led by the Ummattur chieftain, and on the West Coast of the Santaras of Kalasa-Karakala and the rulers of Haduvalli near Bhatkal. Udayagiri was taken back by the Gajapatis. When Narasimha was trying to take it back, sudden death came to him in 1491. When Saluva Narasimha died, his minor son was appointed successor and Narasimha had made Tuluva Narasa Nayaka, son of his trusted general Tuluva Ishwara, the regent. The first son Timma who was proclaimed Emperor soon came to be murdered, and Narasimha's second son Saluva Narasimha II, was proclaimed the Emperor. Narasa Nayaka continued as the regent.

Narasa Nayaka succeeded in keeping Bijapur at bay and pushing the Gajapatis, trying to encroach upon Vijayanagara, back. On his death, his son Tuluva Narasimha succeeded him in 1503, and Saluva Narasimha II who had been confined to Penukonda fort came to be murdered in 1505. Thus Tuluva Vira Narasimha also called Bhujabalaraya (1503-1509) became the sole ruler. Bijapur's efforts to capture Adoni were foiled by him. He courted the friendship of the Portuguese

who arrived on the West Coast in 1498. But much of his time was spent only in facing rebellions.

Krishnadevaraya

The greatest among the Emperors of Vijayanagar, Krishnadevaraya (1509-29) was the step-brother of Vira Narasimha. He had been a joint ruler with his brother even earlier to 1509. He was an able conqueror and a great scholar. He defeated Gajapati in 1509 and also the combined army of the Bijapur and the Bahamani rulers at Doni and pursued them till Kovilkonda where they were again defeated. His coronation took place soon after, in January 1510, and then another encounter followed with Yusuf Adilshah, and Yusuf was not only defeated, but according to one authority Yusuf was even killed. He suppressed the revolt on the West Coast by sending an army to Mangalore and also conquered Ummattur in Mysore district in around 1512-13. Krishnadevaraya had married Tirumaladevi from Shrirangapatana, the daughter of Vira Odeya, the feudatory of the place.

Krishnadevaraya reconquered Raichur from Bijapur in 1512, and in the east he secured Udayagiri from the Gajapati in 1513, followed by the wresting of impregnable forts like Kandukuru, Addanki, Vinukonda, Bellamakonda, Nagarjunakonda, Ketavaram and Kodavidu by 1515. Then he also took Vijayawada and Kondapalli and subdued Telangana. He further made inroads into the Gajapati's kingdom after taking Rajamundri and Simhachalam and erecting a pillar of victory at Potnur. He invested Gajapati's capital Cuttack and the Gajapati came to terms and married his daughter to the Emperor. On way back from Kalinga, he defeated the Sultan of Golkonda and foiled the efforts of Bijapur to retake Raichur. Still Bijapur ruler took Raichur again in 1522. The Emperor repulsed the Bijapur garrison from Raichur Fort and pursued the Bijapur army till the capital city. He entered and camped in the city for four days in March 1522. He also entered Gulbarga and crowned the young Bahamani prince (who had been imprisoned by his own commander). Assuming the title "Yavanarajya Pratishtapanacharya" he returned to the capital in 1523. Till his death, he ruled the empire peacefully though during his last days Raichur was lost by him. He was a great patron of letters, and Telugu poet Allasni Peddana and Kannada poet Timmanna were in his court, among many others. A record from Marenahalli, Tavarekere Hobli dated 1524 announces a grant by Konappa Nayaka (the carrier of the Ganga water to Krishnadevaraya) of the village to the Varadaraja temple at Kanchi for the merit of prince Tirumala and (Saluva) Timmanna Dannayaka (Mg 82). Another record of Krishnadevaraya's times is dated 1515 from Agara near Bangalore announcing a donation for the upkeep of the Agara tank (Bn 80).

Achutaraya (1530-42) the step-brother of Krishnadevaraya who succeeded him reconquered Raichur in 1535 from Bijapur. This had been lost to the empire during the last days of Krishnadevaraya. He also suppressed the revolts of

Challappa, an Officer at Kanchi and also the ruler of Tiruvadi in Kerala. The invasion of the Gajapati and the Qutbshah of Golconda was repulsed and they were pursued till Vijayawada. But Achutaraya was not such a capable ruler like his elder brothers and administration fell into the hands of his two brothers-in-law called Salakam brothers. Portuguese traveller Nuniz visited his court. A record from Harohalli dated 1530 mentions Krishnappa Nayaka being granted 'Nayakatana' of Solur Nadu and his donating Harohalli village to the temple of Tiruvengalanatha of Singapura (Bn 28). Similarly Kempadevarasa (Kempagauda I) was granted the Nayakatana of Yelahanka Nadu by Achutaraya in 1532 (Bn 57). Hesaraghatta was converted into an *agrahara* with the name Shivasamudra and the Chandramouliswara temple was built by installing a Linga brought from Varanasi by a gentleman (name lost) in 1533 in the days of Achutaraya. The record also refers to the formation of tank by impounding the waters of the Arkavathi (Bn 31).

Ramaraya and Decline

On the death of Achutaraya in 1542 his child son Venkata was crowned in 1542, and Achuta's brother-in-law Sakala Tirumala assumed power and killed the prince. The feud for succession strengthened the hands of the opponents of Sakala Tirumala after he killed prince Venkata. Supporters of Sadashiva (nephew of Achuta, son of the latter's brother Ranga) led by Aliya Ramaraya of the Aravidu family (and son-in-law of Krishnadevaraya) succeeded in crowing Sadashiva in 1543 and Sakala Tirumala committed suicide. But Sadashiva was an emperor only in name, and Ramaraya wielded all power with the support of his younger brothers Aliya Tirumala and Venkatadri. An able administrator and diplomat., Ramaraya was over-confident about his capacity and he dismissed many officers who had served the empire hereditarily and appointed his own favourites. This weakened the empire. He successfully interfered in the affairs of the Deccan Shahi rulers and expanded the borders of the empire till the Krishna in the North and even beyond. The Bijapur rulers who had been humiliated by Krishnadevaraya and had been harbouring deep hatred towards the empire took the lead in organising a confederacy against the empire. Ramaraya collected tribute from the rulers of Kandy in Srilanka. He also took to task the Portuguese at San Thome on the East Coast for their mischievous activities.

But at the battle of Rakkasatangadi in 1565, Ramaraya was killed and Vijayanagara was deserted by his brother Tirumala and emperor Sadashiva who fled to Penukonda. The Vijayanagara city came to be pillaged and damaged by the victorious army of the Deccan Sultans.

From Penukonda, Tirumala started administering the empire. Sadashiva, the nominal ruler died in 1570 and Aliya Tirumala in 1572. Six more rulers of the Aravidu family ruled over the truncated empire from Penukonda, later

Chandragiri, and finally from Vellore till 1646. They were Sriranga I (1572-86), who was Aliya Tirumala's elder son, followed by his younger son Venkata II (1586-1614). The next rulers were Tirumala's grandson (son Rama's son) Sriranga II (1614), the latter's son Ramadeva (1617-32), Aliya Ramaraya's grandson Venkata III (1632-42) and the latter's nephew (brother's son) Sriranga II (1642-46). The lone record of Sadashiva from the district is dated 1544 from Allalasanra in Bangalore dt area where one Maratheya Vithaleshwara Odeya is stated as the Mahamandaleshwara and his agent Rachur Narasimhaya announces a grant of Jakkur village for the Allalanatha temple of the place (Bn 30).

After the death of Tirumala in 1570, the imperial authority was weakening. Though Venkata II (1586-1614) was an able ruler, soon after his death, the wars for succession further weakened the empire. The rulers of Bangalore (of Kempegouda's family) mention Sriranga, described as ruling from Penukonda, even after his ouster from his capital Vellore (1646) when he became an "emperor without an empire" and even after his death. He is described as emperor from 1630 to 1713 in the records found in the area, especially of the Bangalore-Magadi rulers to suit their own convenience.

THE YELAHANKA NADAPRABHUS

The most prominent among the feudatories of Vijayanagar from this district were the Bangalore-Magadi rulers, popularly known as the Kempegaudas. They were originally the Yelahanka Nadaprabhus, later having Bangalore as their headquarters and after the Adilshahi campaigns in 1637-38, shifting their headquarters to Magadi and Savandurga from where they ruled till their overthrow by the Mysore dynasty in 1728. *Virabhadra Vijayam* in Sanskrit and *Kempegowda Jayaprashasti* in Kannada are notable literary sources for their history. It is this family which laid the foundations of the modern city of Bangalore. Tradition described them as hailing from Tamilnadu, Yenmanji Puttur near Kanchi and also as descendants of the founder of the Avati Nadaprabhus. But the whole story that seven members of a family could establish seven separate dynasties cannot be accepted as historically true. They belonged to Morasu Okkalu Community, Morasunadu being mostly a part of present Bangalore district, having parts of Bangalore South, Hoskote and Anekal taluk areas and areas on the western fringe of Kolar district touching these taluks and parts of Hosur and Denkanikote taluks of Dharmapuri district in Tamilnadu. Uttur in Yenamanji Nadu in the present Mulbagal tq could be the place of their origin. It is likely that the family also spoke Telugu as it was a popular literary medium in Vijayanagara times. But all the Morasu Vakkalus are Kannada speaking. Morasu Okkalus are highly attached to the Bhairava at Seethebetta, Kolar tq, not far away from Uttur.

The first known figure of the family was Bayiregauda, the Yelahanka Nadaprabhu, as mentioned in literary traditions. An inscription from Kitaganur in

Hoskote tq of the days of Emperor Bukka I dated 1367 (Ht 117) speaks of one Yelahanka Nadaprabhu whose name is partially effaced but ends with ".....rideva". This can be read as Bayirideva, referring to Bayiregauda. No other details regarding this prince are known. Some accounts hold Jayagauda described as the next ruler of Yelahanka as the son of Ranabayiregouda of Avati. But inscriptions of the Nadaprabhus of Avati are seen only from the end of the 16th century. Kempananjegowda is the first prince after Bayiregauda mentioned in records, and Jayagauda is spoken of only in literary sources, and is described as either the father or the ancestor of Kempananjegauda (or Kempanachegauda). A clear and regular account of the family based on inscriptions begins from Kempanachegauda. The earliest mention of Kempanachegauda in an inscription is in 1578 A.D. from a bell in the Gangadhara temple of Shivaganga, said to have been donated by him but the record appears to be posthumous to him as in 1578 it was his grandson that was ruling and not he. He is spoken of as the grandfather of Immadi Kempegauda in the Bangalore copper plate dated 1597, a grant to a priest. Achutaraya having granted the Nayakatana of Yelahankanadu to Kempadevarasa is mentioned in a record from Dasarahalli dated 1532 (Bn 57).

His son Kempegauda I (c 1510-70) is responsible for building the modern city of Bangalore (c 1537), erecting a mud fort here to the north of the now existing fort which covered the area of Avenue Road and its surroundings. This he is said to have done at the instructions of Emperor Achutaraya and it is he who raised the Basavanagudi (temple) and expanded the Gavigangadhara and Someshvara temples. He is also credited with the construction of the Sampangi tank, the Kempambudhi and the Dharmambudhi tanks in Bangalore and also a tank inside the fort. He granted Chokkanahalli to a temple for the merit of Achutaraya in 1532. One Telugu Yakshagana called *Ganga-Gouri Sallapam* is ascribed to him. A statue of his is found at the Gangadhara temple at Shivaganga, though the inscription on it is dated 1609, perhaps a posthumous writing. The record mentions "Kempayagauda son of Kempanachayagauda". It is said that the prince minted his own coins, and as a result incurred the displeasure of the Vijayanagara Emperor who held him captive for sometime at his capital Penukonda, and later, being assured of his loyalty, was released. For some time his elder son Giddegauda (c 1570-85) administered the territory, according to literary sources but inscriptions do not mention this prince. Kempegauda II's earliest record is the Bangalore copper plate quoted above, dated 1597 which says that it is he who erected the four towers (*shikharas*) at the four cardinal points at Bangalore. Aravidu Venkata ruling from Penukonda is described as his overlord. A record of his mother (step-mother) Venkatakrishnajamma dated 1599 (Kg 12) is found at Krishnasagara, Kunigal, announcing the founding of an *agrahara*. He also founded the Kempapura Agrahara in Bangalore City in 1597 favouring 48 scholars. Of his other numerous records, one copper plate from Magadi dated 1630 announces grant of two villages, Kanchugarahalli and Shinganahalli to the Rameshwara temple. (Ma 1). He appears to have occupied Magadi area at the beginning of the 17th century as per imperial

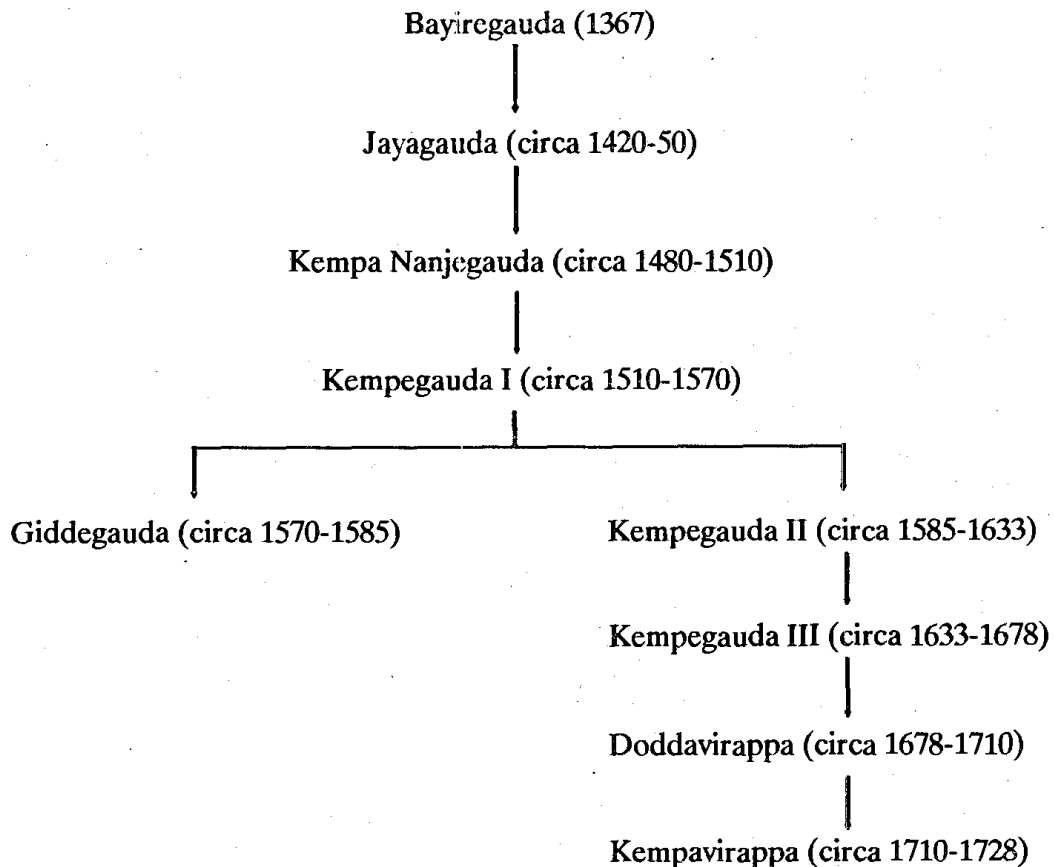
instructions. In 1621, he also made a grant to the Kaleshwara temple at Kalleha (Kalya; Ma 25), and perhaps he also caused to be erected the northern gate (*bagalu*) of the same temple in c 1625 (cyclic year Krodhana; Ma 24). Two records from Bangalore City (Bn 1 and 2) also speak of him, and of these, one dated 1628 is regarding a grant made by the merchant community to the Ranganathaswamy temple. His period of rule can be considered as between 1585 to 1633 A.D. He is believed to have further expanded the Ulsoor Someshwara temple and built the Karanji tank of the Basavanagudi area, now extinct. An extinct tank near the present Binny Mills is also ascribed to him. He and his father were responsible for the development of modern Bangalore as a town. They invited traders and artisans, especially weavers from outside to come and settle down in Bangalore. The Ranganathaswamy temple grant quoted above indicates that Bangalore was already humming with commercial activity. It is said to be in the Muttyalabeedi or pearl dealers' street.

Kempegauda III (1633-78), son of Kempegauda II is said to have helped his overlord, Venkata III (1630-42) to put down some unruly feudatories and this act earned him the title "Swamidrohara Ganda" (subduer of the treacherous to the master) from the Emperor. One of the important developments of his time was the attack by the Bijapur army led by Ranadulla Khan who conquered Bangalore in Dec. 1638. He forced Kempegauda to vacate Bangalore and make Magadi his headquarters. Kempegauda III had to pay tribute to Bijapur. But he and his successors continued to call themselves as the feudatories of Vijayanagara, that too of Sriranga III, long after this emperor had died and even the Empire had ceased to exist.

The records of Kempegauda III are seen confined to only Magadi tq region after his shifting the headquarters to Magadi. The hill-fort of Savanadurga became his headquarters. His Aralakuppe record dated 1667 speaks of his having built a *matha* at Kashi (Varanasi) and granting the Aralakuppe village for its maintenance (Ma 35). His Halashettihalli record dated 1674 speaks of creation of a tank Kempasagara and granting land for the upkeep of the tank and maintenance of he-buffaloes (to be harnessed to cart) for desilting purpose to one *bovi* (mason; Mg 30). The Kempasagara record of the same year speaks of creation of an *agrahara* in that village and granting it to 12 scholars. The copper plate dated 1669 from Magadi records grant of four villages to the Veerabhadra temple, but the name of the prince is given as Kempegauda II (Ma 2). His last known record is a stone inscription from Magadi dated 1676 which repeats the donation made in the Halashettihalli record of 1674.

His successor Doddaveerappa (c 1678-1710) mentions Srirangaraya at Penukonda as his overlord. A copper plate from Magadi (Ma 8) dated 1681 announces the donation of lands in two villages Kallikere and Donkanapura to 15 brahmins by him and he is addressed as Mummadi Doddaveerappa. In 1685 he donated the village Shigekuppe to the Shringeri Matha (Ma 85). This record dated

1685 describes Sriranga at Penukonda as the overlord, though by then Sriranga had died. Doddaveerappa's successor was ("Mummadi") Kempaveerappa (c 1710-28) who appears to have been helping his father in administration even earlier, as indicated by a record of 1697 (Ma 85). (This record also mentions Sriranga as the overlord). Magadi copper plate dated 1713 (Ma 3) announces the grant of Ud-duralahalli village to Gavi Gangadhara probably at Shivaganga. A similar copper plate from Magadi announces donation of Jettanahalli and Shirupatihalli villages to the Magadi Someshwara temple in 1712. It is he who built this huge temple at Magadi in that year. In 1728, Mysore ruler Dodda Krishnaraja's Dalavayi Devaraja attacked Magadi and took Kempavirappa prisoner. This last prince died at Srirangapattana and with him the dynasty ended. By the establishment of Bangalore as a new town and beautifying Magadi, the family has left an indelible mark on the history of the region. Initially they had control over major parts of Bangalore, Nelamangala, Ramanagaram and Magadi taluks of Bangalore district and parts of Kunigal tq of Tumkur dt and later, after the conquests of Bijapur, they were confined to Magadi tq and parts of Kunigal tq regions only. They were patrons of scholarship and literature. Many tanks in Bangalore and Magadi taluk were created by the family to help irrigation as noted above.



THE SUGATUR CHIEFS

The Sugatur chiefs had Hoskote in Bangalore district as their headquarters and had control over major parts of Hoskote and Anekal taluks of Bangalore district and considerable parts of Kolar district like parts of Kolar, Shidlaghatta, Mulbagal, Chintamani and Bangarpet taluks. They call themselves as chieftains of Sugatur, hailing from Sugatur in Kolar tq and they appear to have had control over seven *nadus* in Vijayanagara times which included Hoskote, Kolalu (Kolar), Sugatur, etc. Literary sources like *Shankarasamhita* by a prince of the family and many inscriptions from Kolar and Bangalore help to outline the history of the dynasty. The first notable prince of the dynasty is Tammappa Gauda described as the son of Devayya. Tammappagauda is mentioned in a record from Malur tq dated 1422 (No. 188) and he appears to have enjoyed a long reign of more than 70 years, and a record dated 1494 (Ht186) states that it is he who built the town Hoskote which was also his headquarters. This record is a grant to a Veerashaiva Matha.

His successor was Chikka Tammendra (c 1495-1542) also called Chigaraya who is mentioned in a record from Mulbagal tq (no76) dated c 1500. Literary sources ascribe him of his defeating Turukas who assaulted Penukonda, a Vijayanagara town, but who these Turukas might be is not clear. His son Immadi Tammendra or Tammegauda II succeeded him in c 1542 and many inscriptions speak of him. A record from Nandagudi dated 1557 describes Emperor Sadashiva as his overlord and Tammegauda II is described as the *karyakarta* of Tirumala (Ramaraya's brother). He donated the village Simasandra to the Nandagudi Malleshwara temple (Amrita Mallikarjuna of 'Nanjiguli'; Ht 1). For the merit of one Erasomarajayya, he donated Anupuhalli to the Shivaganga temple in 1560 (Ht 73). In 1566 he makes a grant (perhaps to the Nelavagalalli Ishwara) for the merit of the Emperor Sadashiva (Ht 3). In 1581 he is found making a grant to a Veerashaiva saint Ettina Vadera Devaru (Ht 4). His younger brother called Timmappagauda is believed to have built the fort at Anekal in about 1603, according to literary sources.

Mummadi Tammagauda (c 1600-1669) or Tammagauda III was the son of Tammagauda II. He was himself a scholar and author in Kannada, Telugu and Sanskrit and a patron of scholars. *Shankarasamhite* is a Kannada poem by him, extant now. Many other works including Yakshaganas are ascribed to him. Telugu author Baddeveetidattaya wrote *Ganitadeepika* in his court. The prince is mentioned in a herostone from Sulibele dated 1602 (Ht 54). His record dated 1614 describes him as a subordinate of Emperor Ramadevaraya (An 47). A grant of his in 1629 is recorded at Sarjapura (An 10). His Doddanallur record is a grant for the merit of his father, dated 1661 (Ht 79). The 1661 record describes Srirangaraya of Penukonda as his superior. Tammagauda was defeated by the army of Bijapur in 1638 and he was forced to vacate Hoskote and stay at Anekal. Hoskote came under the administration of Shahji, Bijapur's Jahgirdar at Bangalore.

His successor was Chikkaraya Tammegauda, his son (1669-93). A record from Mulbagal tq (No 241) dated 1688 announces a land grant by him to a Muslim Commander Yisafaji. Soon after he must have become a tributary of the Mughuls. His successor was Mummadi Chikkaraya Tammegauda (1693-1716). His Anekal copper plate dated 1693 calls Emperor Srirangaraya at Ghanagiri as his overlord. Two records of his successor called Shivanagauda dated 1706 are found in Bisanahalli and Kattigenahalli, both in Hoskote tq (MAR, 1919). The family later appears to have shifted to Punganur in Chittur dt of A.P.

BIJAPUR AND THE MARATHAS

In the year 1638, a large Bijapur army led by Ranadulla Khan (with the title Rustum-i-Zaman), commander of Mohammed Adilshah (1626-56) accompanied by Shahji Bhonsle invaded southern Karnataka, and after subduing Sira, Hiriyur etc., they subdued the Bangalore ruler Kempegauda II and made him tributary. He yielded without much resistance. He was forced to vacate Bangalore and move over to Magadi-Savanadurga area. The Bijapur army also conquered Dodballapur, Hoskote, Chikballapur and Kolar. An encounter with Mysore also followed. Shahji was granted Bangalore as *jahgir* and the *jahgir* included Bangalore, Hoskote, Chikkaballapur, Dodballapur, Kolar and Chintamani area. Kanakagiri (Raichur dt) in the north was also a part of Shahji's *jahgir*. In addition Shahji also had a *jahgir* near Pune, where his senior wife Jijabai and son Shivaji lived. Shahji lived in a palace called 'Gaurimahal' in the present Chikpet area. *Radhamadhava Vilasa Champu*, a Sanskrit poem by Jayarama Pindya, patronised by Shahji gives a description of Shahji's court at Bangalore, which had many artists and scholars in Sanskrit, Marathi, Persian and Kannada. In his early years, Shahji's son Sambhaji assisted Shahji in administration, and at a later date Ekoji or Venkoji, another son. Jayaram Pindya also informs us that Koyaji, an illegitimate son of Shahji, also helped his brother Ekoji in administrative matters. Shahji collected tribute from the neighbouring Palegars, and together with his own, remitted annual dues to Bijapur regularly. But revolt of his son Shivaji against Bijapur in 1646 resulted in Shahji's arrest in 1648 and his confinement in Bijapur. But in 1649 he was released and allowed to return to Bangalore. In his absence, his son Sambhaji took care of the administration of Bangalore *jahgir*. The Marathi work *Shivabharath*, while speaking of Bangalore of Shahji's times states that city had huge fortifications and deep moats and it was a beautiful city. There were many tanks around the fort. Some houses in the city had their walls decorated with attractive paintings. There were streets full of shops selling highly valuable merchandise. The city had plenty of pigeons and peacocks. The city also had huge and beautiful temples.

This *jahgir* was a part of the new Adilshahi province called Bijapur- Karnatak. Sira, a part of this province had a separate administrator, Malik Rihan. A record from Shivaganga dated 1652 announces the construction of a well at the Shivaganga hill by Shahji, the work being executed by his Parupatyagar called Tukaram Rao. In 1657, Shahji granted some land to some Muslim divine called Bavanur Ahmed

at Lakkur, Nelamangala tq (Nl 69). Sambhaji, Shahji's elder son, was in charge of Dodballapur area. A record from Hancharahalli in Dodballapur dated 1647 announces a grant to a Veerashaiva Matha of the place by Sambhaji. Sambhaji had married Jayantibai, the daughter of the Killedar of Shivneri near Pune (where Shivaji was born) and this lady, addressed as Jaitabai is also found administering some territories after the death of her husband Sambhaji in 1654. One of the sons of Sambhaji named Kannarayaji seems to have been in charge of Kolar region in 1653. Jaitabai is also seen enjoying some administrative powers around Kolar as testified by two records, one of 1666 and another of 1670 (Kl 222 and 224). Another son of Sambhaji called Malukoji or Manukoji is found mentioned in a record from Hoskote tq. At Hadakanahalli he donated *kattukodige* (land for taking care of a tank) to one Bayiregouda in 1667 (Ht 46). An earlier record of 1661 from Bevir Timmappa temple (Channapatna tq) speaks of a Maratha officer, erecting *uyyalemantapa* at the temple.

Shahji died in 1664, soon after his return from an expedition in the company of Bahlol Khan against the Keladi Nayakas by the close of 1663. Death came to him while engaged in a hunting expedition and he was cremated at Hodigere in Channagiri taluk where his *samadhi* is found even to-day. Earlier to this Shivaji had once visited Bangalore with his mother in around 1640-1642 and stayed at the town for some time. His second marriage with Sayibai Nimbalkar was consecrated in Bangalore. It is the atmosphere at Bangalore, where the remains of the glorious times of Vijayanagar Empire could still be seen which made Shivaji to dream of an independent Hindu kingdom, say some scholars.

Ekoji who succeeded Shahji took care of the Bangalore *jahgir*. But he often clashed with the Mysore ruler, especially Chikkadevaraya who had started encroaching upon his territory. Ekoji also conquered Tanjore in 1675. He had his adviser Raghunath Narayan Hanmante whom he had inherited from his father. But later Hanmante fell out from him and went to Raigad and persuaded Shivaji to come to the South and demand his share from his father's possessions in the south. Shivaji reached Tamilnadu, conquered Jinji and met his brother at Tanjore. But Ekoji was not willing to share his inheritance with Shivaji. In 1677 Shivaji conquered the whole of Bangalore *jahgir*, but later returned Bangalore and Hoskote to his sister-in-law (Ekoji's wife) Dipabai for pocket money, but retained Chikballapur, Dodballapur and Kolar under his control. His son Sambhaji also retained these regions under him as testified by some records in Kolar dt including the one on the Nandi Hill. A record from Hoskote tq from Agrahara village dated 1684 announces the rule of Sambhaji (Sambhajiraya). Another Mughul record from Dodaballapur speaks of the conquest of certain areas of Sambhaji by Aurangzeb.

But Ekoji who had started staying at Tanjore could not retain his Bangalore *Jahgir* for long. Mughul army which conquered Bijapur in 1686, soon descended on Bangalore too and acquired the Maratha *jahgir*. Of Ekoji's records, one at Malleswaram temple in Bangalore dated 1669 is famous. He donated

Medaraninganahalli to this temple. One of the records dated 1680 is found at Oderahalli in Kolar dt. Shahji's *jahgir* survived for nearly five decades in Bangalore dt and it included parts of Nelamangala and Channapatna taluks and the whole of Hoskote and Dodaballapur taluks. Two Kannada records at Sarjapura assigned to 1650 and 1652 A.D. by Rice speak of Muhammad Khan Saheb, perhaps a Bijapur Officer.

The Marathas at Bangalore continued the administrative units and institutions which they inherited in the region. Some offices came to be renamed in tune with the Bijapur set up. We come across words like 'Sugaturu hobali' or 'Chikkaballapura rajya' in their records which are all in Kannada. Shahji had also issued coins, based on the model of Bijapur.

The Mughul army that came to the South after conquering Bijapur, took Bangalore on 10th July 1687. Sambhaji, the Chatrapati from Raigad, sent Santaji Ghorpade with Trimbak Pingle to the South, and they attacked Bangalore. But as Kasim Khan, the Mughul Commander secured the help of the Mysore army, Sambaji could not prevent its capture by the Mughuls. Kasim Khan, the Mughul Commander, later handed over Bangalore and surrounding territories to Chikkadevaraya of Mysore on lease (*ijara*) requiring the Mysore prince to pay regular tribute and keep a contingent of cavalry and infantry ready for use by the Mughuls. Kasim Khan himself had Sira as his headquarters. A Persian record dated 11th Oct. 1703 speaks of Chikkadevaraya paying 4,000 ashrafis (gold coins) and 5,000 rupees as *peshkash* (tribute) to Aurangzeb. The Mughuls had a regular Fauzdar posted at Bangalore despite the fact that the place was leased out to Mysore. According to a Persian record of May 1703, the name of the earlier Fauzdar of Bangalore was Siddi Abdullah with a *mansab* of 250 Zat and 50 Sawars. A record of July 1703 informs us that Nurullah was the Fauzdar of Bangalore and he was succeeded in that post by Muhammad Tahir Khan in the same month and he held a *mansab* of 500 Zat and 80 Sawars. Thus it is clear that though Bangalore was handed over to Mysore, some kind of control was continued to be exercised by the Mughuls over the City by posting their own officers perhaps till the days of Aurangzeb's campaigns. (These records were brought to light by Dr. Sethumadavarao Pagadi). When Bangalore was directly under the Mughuls, Rajaram, who was escaping from Raigad to Jinji, passed through Bangalore. The Mughuls constructed the mosque at Taramandalpeth in the city. An inscription at Dodballapur in Persian (Db 31) states that Ballapur was conquered in the 32nd year of Alamgir's (Aurangzeb) reign (in 1689) by Kasim Khan, the Fouzdar of Karnatak from Sambhaji. The Fort was put in the charge of one Sheik Abdulla from Delhi in 1691.

MYSORE DYNASTY

The Mysore royal family's inroads into the areas towards Bangalore Rural district began in the days of Chamaraja V in about 1629-30 when he conquered

Channapatna. Later Chikkadevaraya secured Bangalore and the surrounding hoblis in 1689. The Mysore rulers were among the many minor feudatories of Vijayanagara that originated during the beginning of the 15th century, but emerged as successors to the fortunes of the Vijayanagara empire during the 17th century in South Karnataka. Mysore came to further digest many big and small Palegars during the 18th century by the efforts of Haider Ali who came to rule over almost the whole of Karnataka and parts of Kerala, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh. The State was reduced to the status of a subsidiary of the British in 1799. In 1799, it secured more territory than what it had prior to the advent of Haider in Karnataka (though it lost the possessions of Tamilnadu) and this Kannada dynasty developed the State to serve as a nucleus to foster Kannada language and Karnataka's culture. When Karnataka was unified in 1956, it was around the nucleus of this territory ruled by the Mysore princes. Earlier they ruled from Mysore, and from 1610, Shrirangapattana was their headquarters. The capital was shifted to Mysore again in 1799. From 1831, administrative headquarters was shifted to Bangalore, though the royal capital continued at Mysore. The district owes a lot including its modernisation to the Mysore royal family.

The rulers of Mysore claim to belong to the family of the Yadavas of Dwaraka, and they claim that their rule started from 1399. But their presence as rulers would be felt only during the 16th century in the days of (Bettada) Chamaraja Wodeya III, a contemporary and feudatory of Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagar. Yadu and Krishna, two brothers from Dwaraka came and settled down in Mysore according to the traditional accounts of Mysore, but there is no contemporary documentary evidence to their earlier rule for considerable time. Yaduraya or Vijaya is described as having ruled between 1399-1423. It is stated that Mysore had already a minor Palegar called Chamaraja who died by the close of the 14th century, and Yadu and Vijaya who were on a pilgrimage to visit the Chamundi temple were forced to interfere in the affairs of the Mysore principality as Chamaraja had died and his queen was being harassed by a general called Mara Nayaka of Karuganahally. With the help of a Jangama (Wodeyar), Yadu killed Mara Nayaka and married the daughter of Chamaraja and succeeded to the Mysore principality. The family assumed the name Wodeyar (Odeyar) in gratitude to the Jangama who had helped them. These are all traditional accounts. The successors of the family mentioned in records are Chamaraja I (1423-59), Timmaraja I (1459-78), Chamaraja II (1478-1513) and (Bettada) Chamaraja III (1513-53). The fact that there is no reference to the early members of the house in the records upto 1550, is, perhaps due to their having been purely local rulers within the jurisdiction of the Terakanambi region of the Shrirangapattana province of the Vijayanagara empire. "The dynasty, it would seem emerged from small beginnings into an important local power about the early years of the sixteenth century", says C. Hayavadana Rao. Chamaraja III is said to have built the fort in Mysore and named the place as Mysore Nagara (town). His son, Timmaraja II (1553- 72) defeated many local princelings

and assumed the title " Master of Holder of Titles" ('Birudantembara Ganda'). Timmaraja defeated the chief of Ummattur.

Timmaraja's successor was his youngest brother (Bola) Chamaraja IV. Chamaraja III had three sons, and the next ruler Bettada Devaraja (1576-78) was his grandson, son of Krishnaraja, his second son. Rule of Chamaraja IV was very short (1572-76) and he was nicknamed as 'Bola' as a lightning is said to have struck him during his visit to the Chamundi and he turned completely bald (*bolu*) as a result. He was a contemporary of Emperor Sriranga I (1572-86). Chamaraja IV encroached upon the territories of other neighbouring feudatories like those of Karugahalli, Kannambadi, Amachawadi and Talakadu, and the Imperial army sent under Remati Venkatayya was repulsed. The Vijayanagara governor at Shrirangapattana, Rama, son of Emperor Tirumala concluded a treaty with him. Thus his overlordship over a total of 33 villages appears to have been conceded with a revenue of 3,000 pagodas and he appears to have had an army of 300. His successor was his nephew (brother's son, as noted above), Bettada Devaraja Odeya (1576-78) who was found incapable, and was deposed.

Raja Odeya

His successor Raja Odeya (1578-1617) was the eldest among the four sons of Chamaraja IV. He conquered Akki Hebbal from the Hole Narasipur chieftain in 1584, Rangasamudra and adjoining 12 villages in 1586, Mullur in 1591 and Harohalli in 1595. He destroyed the Karugahalli fort, and by this and other actions incurred the displeasure of the Imperial governor Tirumala at Shrirangapattana. Emperor Venkata II (1586-1614) ruling from Chandragiri was an able prince and this governor, Tirumala, Emperor's brother's son, was not loyal to him, and the misunderstandings between the two were taken full advantage of by Raja Odeya, and in 1610, he succeeded in capturing Shrirangapattana. He made it his capital. By then, he had also taken Arakere (1600), Sosale (1606), Bannur (1607) Kannambadi and Bukanakere (1608), Belur, Gama, and even Holenarasipur in 1609. The last named place was taken at the instructions of Tirumala himself as Lakshmappa Nayaka of the place had defied imperial authority. This was followed by capture of Shrirangapattana. The Imperial throne at the place is believed to have been acquired by Raja Odeya. Emperor Venkata II did not oppose this act of occupation of Shrirangapattana by Raja Odeya. Rather he welcomed the expulsion of his disloyal nephew Tirumala who soon after died. Villages Siriyur and Saragur and the territories of Terakanambi and Ummattur were also taken by him and soon after and Hura (1614) and Haradanahalli (1615) were also conquered. Major parts of Mysore and parts of Mandya district came under his control by his conquests. His realm touched the territories of Channapatna and Madurai. He started the Dasara Celebrations at Shrirangapattana from 1610. Raja Odeya enlarged Mysore to be a reckonable principality, from a small feudal fief of 33 villages inherited by him. He was succeeded by his grandson (Narasaraja's son) Chamaraj V (1617-37).

The period after the death of Emperor Venkata II was one of civil wars of succession at Chandragiri and Ramadeva (1617-32) who succeeded to the throne was faced with many problems. This weak authority helped Mysore to conquer Hoskote from Kannambadi, Maddur (1619) and Keregodu (1620). Later, Dalavayi Linganna took Talakadu (1621), Malavalli, Arikothara (Chamarajanagar), Bukanakere and Sindhughatta (1623), and Sathegala (1625). Heggadadevanakote was also taken in 1626. The next Dalavayi Basavalinganna captured Honganur, Amachawadi, Hadya and Katte Malalavadi and forced Bommarasayya of Periyapatna to pay tribute. Tagadur and Kottagala were also acquired in 1626. Ghatta Mudaliyar below the ghats was forced to pay an annual tribute of 3,000 varahas. The next Dalavayi was Vikramaraya who took Channapatna, Kanakanahalli (Kanakapura) and Bellur. Thus Mysore kingdom now extended till parts of Bangalore Rural dt. In 1634, Mysore acquired Kolatur (Channarayapatna) in the north-west. His successor was Raja Odeyar II, his youngest uncle, the last of the four sons of Raja Odeya I, actually a posthumous son, and he had a very short rule of (1637-38). He came to be killed by Dalavayi Vikramaraya.

Kanthirava Narasaraja

Kanthirava Narasaraja I (1638-59) is one of the great rulers of Mysore. He was the cousin of Raja Odeya II being the grandson of (Bola) Chamaraja IV. His court poet, Govinda Vaidya's work *Kanthirava Narasaraja Vijayam* contains many important details of his rule, and it even likens him to God Narasimha. During his time, the Vijayanagara's nominal control vanished with Vellore being taken by the Bijapur-Golcond army in 1646. But even before that, Bijapur entered the region. The huge army of Bijapur led by Ranadulla Khan which took Bangalore, next laid siege to Shrirangapattana. Though Kanthirava claims to have repulsed them, it was not before paying some indemnity or tribute. Kanthirava conquered Danayakanakote and Satyamangala in the south from the Madurai ruler. He also wrested Turuvekere, Periyapatna, Bettadapura, Rudrapatna, Kadaba and Yelahanka near Bangalore. Bijapur General Mustafa Khan opposed him in 1640 but failed to subdue Mysore. In another war with Bijapur two years after, Kanthirava secured Channarayapatna fort in lieu of some tribute to Bijapur. He secured many more territories in Tamilnadu in 1642. The area acquired included Singanalur, Kaveripuram and Changappadi. Hampapura was taken from Holenarasipur after forcing the chief of the place to pay dues in 1644. Nanjundaraja of Periyapatna was taken captive in 1645 and the territory acquired fully, as already noted. Kanthirava built the Narasimha temple at Shrirangapattana and the Shrirangapatna fort was expanded. He minted his own coins known as Kanthirayi pagodas on the Vijayanagara pattern.

Kanthirava Narasaraja was childless and he was succeeded by Doddadevaraja, the eldest son of Muppina Devaraja (1659), the third son of (Bola) Chamaraja IV (1572-76). This Muppina Devaraja was the youngest brother of Kanthirava Narasaraja's father. But, as Doddadevaraja could not manage the affairs of the

State, his younger brother Kempa Devaraja known in history as Dodda Devaraja or Devaraja succeeded him (1659-1673). He was the third son of Muppina Devaraja. Soon after coming to the throne, he had to face an invasion of Keladi and Shivappa Nayaka reached Shrirangapattana itself, but an epidemic forced him to withdraw. The Madurai Nayaka who invaded his territory had to lose Erode and Dharmapuri to Mysore. The king also marched northwards and conquered Huliurdurga, Kunigal and Chikkanayakanahalli.

Chikka Devaraja Odeyar

Devaraja's successor was Chikka Devaraya (1673-1704), his nephew, son of Dodda Devaraja who had ruled for some time. During his time Mysore territory saw unprecedented expansion. Chikkadevaraja conquered territories in the north like Hassan, Banavar, Vastare and Chikmagalur. Shivaji who visited Bangalore in 1677 plundered Mysore territory. Chikkadevaraja appears to have bought him off as suggested by Jesuit records. Still, he claims to have defeated Shivaji and assumed the title 'Apratima Vira'. The Keladi rulers in alliance with Sambhaji (Shivaji's son) and Golconda opposed him at Banavar, but they were routed in 1682. Kengeri, Chikkanahalli and Thyamagondlu (all around Bangalore) were also acquired by him.

The Mughuls conquered Sira and descended on Bangalore in 1687. Chikkadevaraya secured Bangalore and Hoskote on lease (*ijara*) from the Mughuls and agreed to pay them annual tribute in return and also keep a subsidiary force ready for them. He built the Venkataramana temple in Bangalore Fort. The Marathas (Harji Raje Mahadik, Sambhaji's brother-in-law) sent an army from Jinji. The Maratha Commanders in this army called Dadaji Kakade, Jattaji Katkar and Nimbaji Ghatge were killed by him when they attacked Dharmapuri. Later another Maratha Commander, Yeshwantrao (from Tanjore) laid siege to Hosur. Chikkadevaraya had him disfigured by cutting his nose and routed him. Bangalore was acquired together with its surrounding areas which had in all 12 *hoblis*, and the area was looked after by a Mysore Parupatyagar. Bangalore had 12,000 weavers under him and was a flourishing commercial centre.

Chikkadevaraya's *kául* with Aurangzeb which secured him Bangalore made him a sort of feudatory of the Mughuls. Though the Mysore records claims that Mughuls were in alliance with him and treated him as a friend, it was not a factual situation. (A Persian record dated 24th May 1703 clearly speaks of Chikkadevaraya having paid *peshkash* or tribute to Aurangzeb). Mysore taking territories on lease from the Mughuls made them pay heavily in the long run. The Nizam, the Nawab of Arcot and the Marathas (Peshwas) started attacking Mysore repeatedly to collect the dues Mysore owed to the Mughuls during subsequent decades. (This reason is not properly stressed by historians of Mysore). The Mughuls would have attacked and devoured Mysore easily but for the strong Maratha challenge they

had to face at the hands of Tarabai and her commanders who harassed the Mughul army continuously even after the death of Sambhaji (1689) and Rajaram (1700).

Chikkadevaraja was not only a conqueror but an able administrator. He organised the secretariat called Athara Cutchery with which nomenclature it came down even till the 20th century. The State was divided into 84 *gadis* (or taluks). The machinery to collect taxes was so streamlined that huge reserves accumulated. He was called 'Navakoti Narayana' because of the wealth the State came to acquire. He appointed Dalavayi Doddayya to look after the Bangalore area (with 12 hoblis). A new fort of mud to the South of the existing one earlier built by Kempegouda was raised in Bangalore and the Kote Venkataramana temple was also constructed in it.

Being a Srivaishnava and a devotee of Cheluvanarayanawamy of Melukote, Chikkadevaraja composed *Chikkadevaraya Binnapam* in Kannada in praise of the deity. Kannada poets Tirumalarya (who was his minister), Tirumalarya's younger brother Singararya, Chikupadhyaya, Sanchiya Honnamma and Singaramma were patronised by him. In fact Mysore was the only important court which fostered Kannada scholarship in the long run on the foundations laid by the rulers like Chikkadevaraya. On the death of the Chikkadevaraya in 1704, Aurangzeb had ordered the seizure of his treasure. The Mughul records call him only as the "Zamindar" of Shrirangapattana and on his death, Aurangzeb's order for the seizure of his treasury says that "the bear has entered the jaws of death" as pointed out by Sethumadhavarao Pagadi. At the time of his death, his kingdom extended till Salem in the east, till Hassan and Kadur in the West, to Coimbatore in the South and Tumkur in the North. He is credited with the establishment of some kind of postal system (Anche). Bangalore had three Shanbhogs to look after revenue matters in his time according to one source. When he died, none of his queens committed *sati* and his was the first such example. His son, Kanthirava Narasaraja II (1704-1714) was dumb, and this resulted in many developments leading to weakening the royal authority.

The general despatched by Aurangzeb to Mysore to "seize the treasury", Daud Khan was intercepted by the Maratha movements. Kanthirava II agreed to pay 15 million rupees and other presents to the Mughuls, but did not actually pay. The death of Aurangzeb in 1707 emboldened Mysore and they conquered Chikballapur and levied tribute on the ruler of Midigeshi near Madhugiri and the Mysore army marched till Sira, the Mughul headquarters in 1710. This resulted in the Mughul officer attacking Mysore in 1711 and levying tribute. Kanthirava's record dated 1705 speaks of his having donated the village Kottanur to the Kote Venkataramana temple of Bangalore (An 118).

On the death of Kanthirava II in 1714, his 12 year old son (Dodda) Krishnaraja succeeded him. Kanthirava II being dumb and his son a boy while ascending the throne, paved the way of relegation of the actual ruler to the background in Mysore history. The members of the Kalale family who were also the in-laws of the family

became Dalavayis, and in the long run they assumed power as Sarvadhikaris. Kalale Cheluvayya from 1714 to 1726 and Kalale Devarajayya from 1724 held the post. The Nawab of Sira Amin Khan invited Mysore army to help him in internal feud between the various Mughul officers. But Tahir Khan replaced Amin Khan at Sira, and Mysore's effort to help the deposed Nawab only incurred the displeasure of the other Mughul officers, the Nizam and the Arcot Nawab, Sadatullah. Thus a huge army of Mughuls led by Sadatullah of Arcot assisted by Sira, Kurnool and Kadapa Nawabs and contingents of Ikkeri and Gutti attacked Shrirangapattana in 1724 and Mysore had to pay Rs. one crore which included arrears of tribute to the Mughuls. By then, Chatrapati Shahu had secured the right of collecting Chaut and Sardeshmukhi from the Mughul Emperor in the six southern Subhas in 1714. His representative, Peshwa Bajirao descended on Shrirangapattan in 1727 and collected Rs. 21 lakhs. Soon after this, in 1728 Dalavayi Devarajayya conquered Magadi and put an end to the rule of the Kempegaudas. The Dalavayi then proceeded on some adventures in Tamilnadu by marching against Salem. But the financial position of Mysore weakened due to Mughul and Maratha levies was further weakened by these misadventures in Tamilnadu. Certain parts of the district like Sarjapur were perhaps under the Marathas during this time. One Subba Rao Venkaji's (a Jahgirdar) grants from Sarjapur dated 1733 speak of administrative units like *sammata* Sarjapur, *taraf* Mugalur and *mavuje* Neriga (An 12 and 13).

Weak Rulers

On the death of Krishnaraja I in 1732, his adopted son, Chamaraja VII succeeded to the throne. But the Kalale family aggrandized all power to itself. His efforts to assert his authority were thwarted by Dalavayi Kalale Devarajayya and resulted in his deposition in 1734, and his confinement to Kabbal fort where he died soon after. Later, Queen Devajamma, widow of Krishnaraja I, adopted another prince (Chikka) Krishnaraja II (1734-66). Dalavayi Devarajayya had to face the army of Arcot Nawab in 1737. The army came *via* Chikaballapur, Hoskote and Bangalore and looted these places. But the Dalavayi faced the army and he won a major victory at Kylanchara near Channapatna. But the politics of Tamilnadu and Malabar kept the Dalavayi active during subsequent years. The resources of Mysore were drained without any actual financial gain.

In 1746, Nasir Jung, the Nawab of Arcot collected dues from Mysore. From 1746 Nanjarajayya of Kalale became the Dalavayi, he having married his daughter to Krishnaraja II in 1746. The political situation in the South was changing fast with the advent of the English and the French. The Arcot Succession War began in 1751, and Muhammed Ali enlisted the support of Mysore, Tanjore and Ghorapade of Gutti. Tiruchirapally was offered as a price to Mysore for its assistance to Muhammed Ali. But the prolonged engagements at Tiruchirapalli cost Mysore three crores of rupees. In 1753, the Marathas came and collected Rs. 30 lakhs as *chauth*. Again in 1755, the Maratha army sent by Peshwa Balaji Rao and Nizam's army led by Salbat Jung himself attacked Mysore demanding arrears. Nanjarajayya

was away at Srirangam. The Marathas were paid Rs. 56 lakhs. Nanjarajayya returned to the capital and made the prince trying to assert himself, a virtual prisoner. Then, the prince sought the help of the Peshwas against Dalavayi. Pashwa's commander Sadashivbhau reached Shrirangapattana with a strong army in March 1757. Nanjarajayya agreed to pay Rs 32 lakhs, and paid Rs six lakhs immediately, and pledged 13 taluks for arrears. In addition to the 13 taluks, the Maratha commander Mehandale also conquered Bangalore, Hoskote, Dodballapur and Kolar soon after. This was followed by the conquest of Sira by them.

The misunderstandings between the prince and the Dalavayi continued. The army of Mysore, which was in arrears of pay, demanded payment and undertook *dharana* in front of the palace and Nanjarajayya's house. The treasury was empty and no funds could be procured. It was then that both the prince and Nanjarajayya invited Haider Ali, one of their distinguished commanders to intervene. Haider was then at Dindigul. With the help of Khande Rao, another officer, Haider succeeded in controlling the situation. When Marathas led by Anandrao Raste and Gopalrao Patwardhan came back asking for arrears in 1758, Haider defeated them and captured Bangalore from them. Bangalore was conferred as a *jahgir* on Haider Ali. Haider ousted Nanjarajayya from office. The prince honoured Haider with the title Nawab Haider Ali Khan. What was to follow was the complete relegation of the prince to the background, and Krishnaraja II continued as prince only in name till 1766 and he was succeeded by his son Nanjaraja (1766- 70) as a ruler only in name. A grant to a Muslim Divine Atayal Shah of Bingipura in Anekal tq in 1759 is recorded in an inscription of Krishnaraja Wodeyar II (An 90).

Haider Ali

Haider Ali and his son Tipu Sultan are two notable figures in the history of Mysore who also came to have global fame as a result of their major role in the history of South India and also by their clash with the British. To Haider goes the credit of making Mysore a great power and expanding its size on an unprecedented scale. Haider was an ordinary captain in the army of Dalavayi Nanjarajayya. He rose into eminence during the storming of Devanahalli in 1747, when he demonstrated his daring and talent. Later in 1751, during the war fought near Jinji in connection with the Arcot succession, Haider was sent in the contingent from Mysore led by Barakki Venkata Rao which had gone to support Nizam Nasir Jung. When Nasir Jung was killed, Haider managed to secure two camels, laden with gold coins from the Nizam's mobile treasury. This gave him necessary capital for his future career as a militarist. Later, he was appointed the Foujdar at Dindigul in 1755. He had to administer a territory under Mysore ruled by 25 petty feudatories or Palegars. During these years, he could realise the value of the European techniques of warfare including regular drilling of soldiers, and used French experts to train his contingents. He had vast resources at his disposal also. It was

during these critical days when the Mysore army was on *dharana* demanding arrears of pay that Haidar was invited by Nanjarajayya to Shrirangapattana.

The Marathas in April 1758 captured Begur. Though they were ousted from Hoskote, Mehandale acquired Devanahalli. They further reached Channapatna and Maddur in August 1758, and proceeded towards Shrirangapattana. They insisted on the prince paying them Rs 50 lakhs. They assembled at Bangalore. Haidar was deputed to Bangalore. He took Bangalore and humiliated the Marathas. It has been already seen how Haidar managed to diffuse the crisis, got Bangalore as *jahgir* in 1758 and ousted Nanjarajayya. Haidar appointed Kabir Beg the Amaldar (Killedar) of Bangalore. The king who had got rid of Nanjarajayya and had appointed Haidar in his place, soon found himself to be in the clutches of the 'devil' after escaping from 'the deep sea'. Krishnaraja II won over Khande Rao to his side and with his help, tried to secure the assistance of the Marathas, led by Visaji Krishna Biniwale who was campaigning in the south, especially in Bangalore dt. Haider Ali was forced to leave Shrirangapattana in August 1760 as a result of an attack by Khande Rao and the royal party. He took shelter at Anekal. Anekal then had one of his in-laws, Ismail Ali as the Killedar. Through him he contacted Kabir Beg, the Killedar of Bangalore and entered the city. Haider borrowed Rs four lakhs from the bankers in Bangalore. Haidar's effort to enter Shrirangapattana were foiled. The troops of the royal party and those of the Marathas appeared to encircle him. Haidar was helpless. His two wives and children were taken captive by Khanderao. The Marathas were paid two years tribute by Mysore, and also Channapatna and Anekal were handed over to them. But then the news of the Maratha debacle at Panipat (1761) reached Visaji. He opened negotiations with Haider. Haider, though surprised by this sudden change of attitude, agreed to Visaji's terms, but soon refused to implement them as he had learnt of the plight of the Maratha power. Visaji left Karnataka in April 1761. The Mysore ruler was forced to placate Haider. The king was made to enjoy a *jahgir* worth Rs three lakhs and Haider was to administer the realm.

Thus by 1761, he was the most powerful figure in the Mysore Court with all political powers in his hands. The political crisis that developed in Mysore inevitably led to the state of affairs. Haider helped rebel Nizam Basalat Jung in his campaigns against the Marathas in Karnataka. He got himself nominated as the Nawab of Sira and later captured Chikballapur, Dodballapur, Penukonda and Madakashira in 1762. Haider strengthened the Bangalore fort built by Chik-kadevaraya by using granite blocks by removing the old mud walls. His policies helped Bangalore to grow as a highly flourishing industrial and commercial centre, as testified by Buchanan. Growth of capital Shrirangapattana with a population of 1.50 lakhs helped Bangalore to develop its textile industry to perfection, catering to the needs of the luxurious court. A grant to a mosque of Sondekoppa by Krishnaraja II is recorded in the year 1763 (NI 8).

The internal troubles in the Keladi kingdom helped Haider to capture it in 1763. The capture of Bidanur, capital of Keladi kingdom laid a vast booty at Haidar's disposal and this helped him in all his future ventures. This was followed by the capture (1764) of Sonda by Haidar. He proceeded against Gutti near Ananthapur, humiliated its Maratha chief Ghorpade, defeated the Savanur Nawab and extended his boundaries beyond the Thungabhadra till Dharwad. But soon the Marathas under Peshwa Madhava Rao defeated him in 1765. Gutti was returned to Ghorpade, and Haider agreed to pay tribute (*Khandani*) to the Marathas.

But Haider came into conflict with the British due to their alignment with the Arcot Nawab who wanted to collect his dues from Mysore as the Mughul representative. The First Anglo-Mysore War broke out in 1767. The British army led by Smith and Wood came as far as Anekal and Hoskote. Murari Rao Ghorpade joined them at Hoskote and they proceeded towards Bangalore. Haidar reached Bangalore from the West Coast on 9th August 1768 and turned the tide of war. The war resulted in the defeat of the British in Madras in 1769. A treaty was concluded. Haider could force the British to sue for peace and his prestige reached new heights. Haider had a large cavalry with quick mobility. His soldiers were trained by the Europeans. These were the source of his strength. Later, when the Marathas invaded Mysore, Madhavarao Peshwa came till Nijagal in 1770. The Marathas defeated Haider in 1771, the British did not come to his help as agreed upon by the Treaty in 1769. By a treaty he signed with the Marathas who had defeated him at Moti Talab very near Shrirangapattana, Marathas were permitted to retain Hoskote, Dodaballapur, Sira and Kolar (1772). But the death of Peshwa Madhava Rao in 1772 relieved Haider of the Maratha pressure. Raghunatharao (Raghoba) returned Madhugiri and Hoskote to Haider. In the meanwhile, Haider subdued Kodagu in 1773. He also retook Sira, Hoskote and Dodballapur from the Marathas. This was followed by capture of Bellary (1775) and Gutti (1776). (A Kannada source, *Maharajara Vamshavali* says that a large number of prostitutes from Bellary migrated to Shrirangapattana and Bangalore after this event). Later, he captured Chitradurga, another rich principality and an ally of the Marathas in 1779. Rivalry between Raghunath Rao and Nana Phadnavis kept the Maratha power busy. Major parts of Karnataka till Dharwad and Bellary, parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala came under Haider's control. He befriended himself with the French. Haider began the work of construction of a palace in Bangalore fort in 1781. He also started the famous park, Lal Bag of Bangalore.

When Krishnaraja Wodeyar II died in 1766, and his son Nanjaraja Wodeyar became his successor, Haidar confiscated the royal *jahgir* given for the Raja's maintenance and all the cash and valuables in the palace. The prince became a virtual prisoner till his death in 1770. He was followed by his elder brother Chamaraja VII (1770-76).

In 1780, Haider joined the confederacy formed against the English. The confederacy consisted of Mysore, the Marathas and the Nizam. Bangalore became

the main base of military operations. Haider dashed into Tamil Nadu like an 'impetuous torrent' and had an upper hand in the war. But his other allies soon deserted him. He was isolated. Haider died of sickness in December 1782, when the Second Anglo-Mysore war was going on. His son Tipu continued the war. Haider's period saw the unprecedented expansion of Mysore territory, which more than doubled in size. It was 80,000 square miles in extent. To him goes the credit of having rid Karnataka of many warring minor principalities and welding it into one strong kingdom. It is he who put an end to many small principalities like Dodballapur, Chikballapur, Chitradurga, Harapanahalli, Bellary, Rayadurga and others. Its revenue rose to 110 lakhs varahas from 43 lakhs. "Haider was entirely illiterate, though his natural ability and shrewdness enabled him to transact all his business with ease and scrutiny" says M. Shama Rao. As a warrior, organiser, administrator and statesman, he has a pride of place in Karnataka history. Though a devoted Muslim he never allowed his religion to interfere with political matters.

Tipu Sultan

Tipu had led armies and had won many victories for his father during the Second Anglo-Mysore War and even earlier. He continued the war with the British even after his father's death. He defeated the British at Wandiwash in 1783. But in the west, he lost Bidanur and Mangalore. He concluded a treaty (of Mangalore) with the British (1784). The French, with whom he was allied, deserted him after the signing of the Versailles Treaty in Europe in 1783, when the American War of Independence ended. This was followed by a war waged by Tipu against the Marathas who occupied Badami in 1786 as a reply to Tipu's action against Nargund. By the peace of 1787, Kittur, Nargund and Badami were returned to the Marathas. Two years later, Tipu attacked Travancore, a British ally and this caused the Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92). After some initial successes, Tipu had to face only reverses, and he came to be besieged in Shrirangapattana. Bangalore came to be captured by Lord Cornwallis after a 15-day struggle in March 1791. About 50 soldiers including Lt. Col. Moorhouse and Capt. Delany died in the siege operations and on Tipu's side, Bahadur Khan, the Killedar of Bangalore and 600 men died. A cenotaph was created in memory of the deceased British soldiers of Bangalore by the British later on. Home in his *Select Views of Mysore* (1791) speaks of Bangalore 'pettah' as 6,000 feet long and 750 feet broad. He says that 'Hyder and Tipu had established a mint, a foundry for brass cannon, a machine for boring them, an arsenal and magazines'. He calls the palace here completed in 1791 'the most splendid fabrics' and also 'grand and spacious'.

Via Kanakapura Cornwallis next marched towards Tipu's capital. Marathas joined him at Chinkurli. After being in the vicinity of Shrirangapattana, his army had to return to Bangalore on 11th July, 1791. Later, he captured the Nandidurg fort and also Savanadurga. From there he marched again towards Shrirangapattana. Tipu had to sue for peace in February 1792, ending hostilities. By the treaty signed in March 1792, his territory was reduced to half and he was forced to pay

an indemnity. Tipu felt hurt and humiliated. Bangalore area however, was returned to him by the British.

But the Sultan was indomitable. He would have no rest till the British were ousted from the country. He negotiated with the French, the Amir of Afghanistan and Sultan of Turkey. He refused to join the Subsidiary Alliance mooted by Lord Wellesley. This caused the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War. The British were joined by the Marathas and the Nizam. Shrirangapattana was besieged. Tipu fought heroically and fell (1799). Mysore was reduced to subjection. Tipu's belongings beyond the Western and the Eastern Ghats were retained by the British. The rest of the territory was returned to the successor of the Hindu royal family, Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, a child. Queen-mother, Lakshammanni, wife of Krishnaraja II had been secretly negotiating with the British with the help of an agent stationed at Tanjore and had promised them all help for Tipu's ouster. When Chamaraja VIII, son of Krishnaraja II died in 1776, he was followed by Chamaraja IX a child adopted from Arikothara (Chamarajanagar) by queen Lakshammanni. Haider had crowned this child in 1776. When the prince died in 1796, Tipu did not appoint a successor and kept the throne vacant. It was the child of this deceased prince, Krishnaraja III whom the British recognised as the king in 1799.

Buchanan says that Bangalore had risen to be a prosperous commercial city under Hyder, but Tipu had ruined its trade by prohibiting transactions with Arcot and Hyderabad States. Cornwallis plundered the city after its reduction in 1791. After securing the city back Tipu harassed the merchants on the pretence of their being friendly to the British. Many were shut within a hedge. On its capture by Gen. Harris in 1799 the merchants fled and even after the fall of Tipu, "for some months the place continued deserted" he adds.

Tipu was well read, and he had a good understanding of world affairs. He was well informed about developments in sciences. He toiled hard for the prosperity of the State. To him goes the credit of introducing sericulture into Mysore on a large scale. The know-how for the purpose was secured from Bengal and mulberry cultivation was started in 21 centres. He prohibited the export of cotton to encourage textile industry and weavers from Tamil Nadu (Baramahals) came and settled down in his territory. Growing of sugarcane was especially encouraged and quality sugar and sugar candy were produced at Devanahalli and Hoskote, and Chinese experts were secured for this purpose. Manufacture of glass and fine wire (required for musical instruments) was initiated at Channapatna. Special steps were taken to encourage live stock, especially draught bullocks called 'Amritmahal'. Introduction of prohibition on production and sale of liquors and intoxicant drugs was another step of his. He had found a huge ordinance factory at Devanahally. At Bangalore, rockets were manufactured at Taramandalpeth. He had a curious mind, and had a love for reading. His library contained 2,000 books in various languages. "He had profited to a considerable extent in all sciences" says

Kirmanī, his official historian and adds: "He was fond of introducing novelty and invention in all matters".

When Tipu assumed administration, the provinces (*asofis*) he had inherited from his father were five in number. But they were not uniform in size. Dr. M.H. Gopal has pointed out that out of the 171 *paraganas* or taluks in these five provinces, the province of Sira had only five taluks in it with a total revenue of two lakh varahas (pagodas) and Shrirangapattana had 102 taluks with a revenue of 17 lakh varahas. In 1796, his kingdom, which was slightly more than 62,000 square miles in area, was divided into 37 *asofis* (provinces) with a total of 124 taluks in them. Every *asofi* (province) had one *asof* and one deputy *asof* each. This province was divided into *amil* or taluk, which had an *amildar*. *Simpt* consisting of a group of villages was the next unit and below that was the village, looked after by the *patel*. For governmental correspondence, he reorganised Chikkadevaraya's postal system having Shrirangapattana and Bangalore among its seven main centres. He took great care to foster irrigation. Agriculture was extended by giving fallow lands free of revenue for the first year to willing cultivators. Takkavi loans were given to secure ploughs, etc.

But during his last years, Tipu appears to have grown more and more high handed. He came to replace Kannada and Marathi by Persian in administration. In 1792, he ordered accounts to be kept only in Persian. This resulted in only Muslims being appointed as officials. Not one among his *asofs* (governors) was a Hindu in 1798. Not many educated Muslims could be had, and at times half literates, who were ignorant of administration, came to be appointed as officials. Their ignorance led to fall in revenue collection, says Kirmanī. He extended liberal patronage to many Hindu temples and even made munificent grants to the Sringeri Matha. Though tolerant to other religions, he was a devout Muslim. To a new convert in his own kingdom, house tax was exempted, and 50% remission was given in land revenue.

Bangalore where trade had been ruined and its merchants who had deserted it soon after 1791 and in 1799 "are now flocking to it from all quarters", says Buchanan in May 1800.

Buchanan's Account

Dr. Francis Buchanan, commissioned by Arthur Wellesley to survey the newly acquired Tipu's territory came to Bangalore on 4th May and went westwards visiting Kengeri on 12th. After visiting Mandya and Mysore dt regions he returned to Bangalore on 22nd June and stayed here till July 2nd. He not only gives a general description of Bangalore as it then existed but also of its trade and industries, especially on its flourishing textile production and also of the social set-up by introducing the castes and communities in detail. Bangalore, during, the 'judicious government' of Hyder "became a place of importance", he says and adds, "Its trade was then great and its manufactures numerous". The Bangalore Fort "constructed

by Hyder after the best fashion of Mussulman Military architecture" was destroyed by his son "after he found how little it was fitted to resist British valour". Although the palace was earthen structure "it is not without some degree of magnificence" he says. The fort at Kengeri was found in good condition and Tipu had destroyed many houses at the place to prevent Cornwallis from using them.

Regarding the trade at Bangalore, which was very much dislocated by the policies of Tipu and the capture of the place by the British in 1791 and 1799, Buchanan says that "the imports and exports are estimated already to amount one-fourth of what they were in its most flourishing state" (in the days of Haider Ali). "The manufacturers and petty traders are still very distrustful and timid; but the merchants, many of whom have been at Madras" (to which place they had fled earlier) "and are acquainted with British policy, seem to have the utmost confidence in the protection of our Government", he adds. He also presents a very detailed account of the areas with which Bangalore had export and import transactions such as Carnatic (Arcot area), Nizam's dominion, Malnad area, Bombay province and the eastern and western coast. The principle article of trade was betelnut sent mostly to Madras. Black pepper sandalwood, country blankets, yarn, drugs and salt, in that order were the other major items of trade at Bangalore. He gives a long list of items brought to Bangalore and sent out from the city (See Chapter VI).

Similarly he speaks of the various types of textiles produced here by weaver communities like the Pattegars, Kshatris (these two specialising in silk), Salis (the Bilimaggas), Togatas and the Holeyas. He informs that all women of all communities except the brahmin women spun yarn, and that the yarn of Bangalore was of a finer variety than that had from Bellary and the Krishna Valley. He pays rich tributes to weavers of Bangalore for their skill and calls them "a very ingenious class of men". Due to loss of patronage of the Court at Shrirangapattana, the silk manufacturers of Bangalore 'now labour under great disadvantage'. He also mentions the manufacture of *goni* (gunny) in Bangalore and its neighbourhood, and to other industrial ventures like tanning, oil pressing etc. He calls Sarjapura as a centre where fine cotton cloth was woven earlier (for details see Chapter V). Buchanan also gives a very interesting picture of the social composition of the time by discussing the various castes and communities at length.

Abbe Dubois, the French Catholic missionary came to Bangalore around this time, and was working at Balckpally in the present Shivajinagar area. There were about 1,000 Christians in Bangalore in 1803, most of them Europeans. He stayed at the St. Mary's Church of the area, and worked in Bangalore till 1811.

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III

The British recognised the claims of Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, the son of Chamaraja Wodeyar (1776-96), a child of five. Dewan Purnaiah, Tipu's Minister, whom the British had recognised as a talented administrator and friend, had even suggested the crowning of son of Tipu. But British did not wish to hand over the territory to a friend of the French. They had secret understanding with Rani

Lakshammanni in 1792 to recognise the royal family's claim. The Raja was crowned on 30th June (1799) at Mysore and Purnaiah was appointed Dewan and Barry Close the Resident.

Dewanship of Purnaiah: Purnaiah administered the Mysore kingdom for the first 12 years of rule of the boy king (1800-11). A "phenomenal prodigy under Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan", Purnaiah proceeded to suppress many a *palegar* who remained restive even after their expropriation. The State was divided by him into three *faujdaris* and a *faujdar* looked after this province. The present Bangalore district (including both rural and urban) and Kolar district were under a single *faujdar*. Later it was called Bangalore division till the creation of Nandidurg division in 1863. The Faujdaris were divided into districts and the later into *amilis* (taluks). The *amildar* wielded judicial, police and revenue functions. Taluk was divided into smaller units called *hoblis* and it had an official called *parupatti*. The village officials consisted of the patel, shanbhog, toti and talavara.

Purnaiah also reorganised the old Kandachar militia and took steps to make them a regular infantry. So prosperous was the State under him that famine-stricken subjects from the Nizam's dominions migrated to Mysore in 1804. The British troops earlier cantoned at Shrirangapattana were shifted to Bangalore Cantonment. It was from 1806 that troops were moved to Bangalore from Shrirangapattana and the first camp located at the site of the present Air Force Hospital in 1808. This was the creation of a new twin city of Bangalore which during the 19th century grew bigger and better planned than old Bangalore. It was during Purniah's time that Colin Mackenzie conducted a survey of Mysore in 1799-1800, and he drew a scientific map of Mysore State in 1808. Cantonment grew with the laying of roads like South Parade, Cavalry Road, Brigade Road, Artillery Road, etc. The Wesleyan Mission started its activities from 1821 in Bangalore. More churches and buildings of European style came up here and there and the new settlement grew faster than old 'Peta'. "The presence of a large British force speedily attracted to Bangalore the novel surroundings of traders, and a further impetus was given to its growing prosperity by the transfer to it of the civil administration of the province" in 1831 says Bowring. St. Marks Cathedral was started in 1808 in the Cantonment area, the first Anglican Church in the city.

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III was 16 years old when he assumed administration personally in 1811. The Raja had to encounter difficulties when he assumed power. The Madras Government supervised the affairs of Mysore and the Government had instructed the Resident at Mysore that he should not interfere with the internal affairs of the State. The Raja divided the realm into six *tukadis* or *faujdaris* (districts). The *tukadis* were divided into taluks. The administration went on smoothly for the first few years. State income, which was Rs.60 lakhs in 1811, rose to 71 lakhs in 1816.

But soon corruption, nepotism and excessive expenditure of the royal household created an economic crisis. Rama Rao, the Dewan filled the key posts

by his relatives and friends. The Raja's personal expenses, his presents, pensions, grants, etc., increased substantially. In 1814, the Raja dismissed Dewan Rama Rao and ran the administration personally till 1818. There was none to regulate the Raja's personal expenses which went on mounting. Siddaraja (1818-20), Babu Rao (1820) and Aliya Lingaraja (1821) came to be appointed as Dewans during succeeding years, but none could improve the financial position. Lingaraja was removed from Dewanship in 1822 and the Raja found it difficult to run the administration personally. He appointed Venkataraja as Dewan in 1827. The new Dewan instituted an enquiry into all the cases where revenue was in arrears and he even introduced *varadabandi* and *tingalabandi*, weekly and monthly remittance of revenue accounts, respectively. He ordered all the *Amildars* (majority of whom were staying at Mysore) to stay at their headquarters so that they can personally look into the grievances of the cultivators and check the rapacity of their subordinates. But the Raja had already incurred heavy debts due to his personal expenses. When the Company tried to advise the Raja in the matter, the Raja considered it as a private affair and not a matter for deliberation to the Company. But soon there was a widespread out-break of insurrection against the administration, especially in the Nagar region in 1830. The Raja sent his Dewan with an army to suppress the insurgents and in early 1831 he personally visited many places to hear the grievances of the people and punish the guilty officials. Except in a few taluks of Nagar region, peace was restored. After a respite of few weeks, insurrection again broke out in 1831 and the expropriated *palegar* of Balam (also known as Aigur or Manjarabad) and Tarikere and a pretender prince of Nagar called Budi Basappa joined the insurgents. Even the subsidiary troops had to be employed in March in Nagar region. Order could be restored only in July. Governor Lushington of Madras who visited Mysore, wrote to the Governor-General (4-7-1831) that there has been for a long time "great disorder in the financial department of the administration and that the people had been driven to revolt by misrule and oppression". Governor-General Bentinck by his letter dated 7th September informed the Raja of the Company's intention to assume the administration of Mysore, and a proclamation to that effect was issued on October 21. There followed a period of direct rule of the British from 1831 to 1881 in Mysore. The Raja, while continuing his efforts to secure his throne back, lived till 1868. Deprived of his responsibilities of administration, he spent most of his time in religious, cultural and literary pursuits.

RULE OF COMMISSIONERS

The administration of Mysore was entrusted to a Board of Commissioners which included a Senior Commissioner and a Junior Commissioner. This Board was to be assisted by the Dewan in financial matters and the Resident was to look after only the political relations of the Raja. From June 1832 the Commissioners were made responsible to the Government of India instead of to the Madras Government. Lushington assumed charge as Junior Commissioner in Oct 1831. He

took steps to shift the Secretariat from Mysore to Bangalore. Later Drury was appointed Junior Commissioner in the place of Lushington in February 1832. Col. John Briggs came as Senior Commissioner in Dec. 1831. Briggs resigned in Nov. 1832. One of the major acts of Briggs was the establishment of Huzur Adalat as the highest court in the State in 1832. He introduced stamp duty for the first time.

A curious development of the period was an effort for a revolt against the British in Bangalore in March 1832. "The Mysore Infantry on duty in the Fort of Bangalore for the most part Mohammadans, were prepared in pursuance of a plot in which a great number of Raja's army as well as Company's troops were engaged, to seize on the fort during the night, and to murder all European officers". Prompt action by Briggs averted anything untoward. But two days later (March 5), a pig's head was found thrown at the principal mosque of Bangalore causing lot of commotion in the army. That was a Muslim festival day and the infuriated mob pulled down a Christian Chapel in the bazar. But the Company's army soon dispersed them and 130 were arrested, several court-martialled and four were later blown from gun for causing pollution at the mosque and two more were shot. All this was mainly due to the dismissal of hundreds of soldiers in the service of the Raja by Lushington in the name of economy and not settling their pension claims etc. There were also disturbances in the Cantonment area, said to have been also instigated by the Raja of Kodagu. The St. Mary's Church was highly damaged by these disturbances.

Resignation of Briggs resulted in the abolition of the Board of Commissioners and administration was entrusted to one single or sole Commissioner and William Morrison, Brigg's successor was the first to hold this post. Morrison reduced the six *faujdaris* into four divisions, and each division had an European Superintendent. The Superintendents were to preserve the native administrative set up and carry on the administration. Morrison was succeeded by Mark Cubbon in 1834. In 1834 Governor-General Lord William Bentick visited Bangalore. Thomas Macaulay also paid a visit to Bangalore on his way to Udhakamandalam in June 1834.

Sir Mark Cubbon

In the days of Sir Mark Cubbon "Administration of the State was conducted on lines which won universal admiration", says, C. Hayavadana Rao. The State had four divisions including the new Bangalore Division. There were 120 taluks in the State, each looked after by one *Amildar*. Below the *Amildar* were *Hoblidars* or *Shekdars*, looking after a group of villages in one *hobli*. The central office of the Commissioner's secretariat had nine departments, *viz.*, the revenue, post, police, *swar*, *maramat*, medical, *amritmahal*, justice and the education. The Revenue Department had a *Sheristedar* as its head, performing the duties of the former *Dewan*. Records were kept only in Kannada at the lower level. Separate departments like audit and accounts and forest were founded by him in due course. All headquarter towns came to be connected by roads with Bangalore to which place

the State capital had been shifted in 1831. The Central Secretariat was first housed at the Tipu's palace and later shifted to a new building, Athara Kacheri (1867). The London Mission of the Protestants came to Bangalore in 1839. It was by their efforts that a printing press was started at Bangalore in 1840, introducing printing in the city. Yelahanka which was a taluk till 1871 was abolished the year. Similarly Sarjapur and Kengeri taluks were abolished in 1873. Cubbon persuaded many former *palegars* in Mysore state to come and settle down in Bangalore city. An inscription dated 1858, marking the tomb of the Rayadurga chieftains is seen in the city (Bn 5).

Cubbon was responsible for the laying of 1597 miles of new roads with 309 bridges in the State. Telegraph lines beginning with 1853 from Bangalore were also laid. Bangalore was connected by railway with Jalarpet in 1864. Laying of railway had begun in 1859. "On the opening of railway in 1864, the town became the nucleus of trade of the whole country and the population has increased so largely that it now ranks next to Madras among the cities of Southern India" says Bowring in 1872 and adds: "According to a Census taken two years ago, the population accounted to 1,32,000 of which cantonment contained 79,000 and the old town 53,000 inhabitants". Cubbon abolished the old currency, the pagodas, and introduced the silver rupees in 1854. Abolition of Samayachara (public auction of women charged with adultery) in 1834 was one of his reforms. Cubbon resigned in 1861 and was succeeded by Lewin Bowring in office in 1862. In the *interim* period C.B. Saunders was the acting Commissioner.

Lewin Bowring

Under Bowring, the State came to be divided into eight districts, looked after by a Deputy Superintendent. Kolar district came to be separated from Bangalore in 1863, and this composite Bangalore district continued till 1986. Begur, which was taluk till then was perhaps abolished. Bowring reorganised the revenue survey and settlement departments and regularity in measurement of land and assessment of revenue were introduced from 1862. This policy of separation of powers initiated by him was later continued by his successors. He also introduced the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure into Mysore and the regular police Department was started in 1866. He introduced the municipality at Bangalore (and Mysore) in 1862. British currency (notes) was introduced in the State in 1864. He also started the Muzrai Department to look after temples and other religious establishments. A famine was evidenced in 1866 and a Famine Relief Fund was created by collecting contributions from the public, the Commissioner himself contributing Rs. 1,000. Constructing a reservoir near the present Miller Tank to provide drinking water to Bangalore, erecting the Athara Cutchery building (1867) and the New Public Offices building (1865-66) were some achievements of Bowring's time. The Bowring Hospital was started in 1866. A Census was conducted for the first time in 1871 and State's population was found to be 50.50 lakhs. Bowring resigned in 1870 and he was followed by Sir Richard Meade (till 1875),

Saunders (till 1877) and Gordon (from 1878). The Brahma Samaj started functioning in Bangalore and by 1870 Bangalore City had five units-Pettah, Ulsoor, Cantonment, City and Anchepeth-of the Samaj.

The Famine 1876-78

A severe famine occurred in 1876-78 for two consecutive years, causing almost one million deaths in the State. The Bangalore- Mysore Railway work was initiated as relief work. The seriousness of famine effected Bangalore city too and there was influx of people in thousands to Bangalore city from the rural areas in search of food and work. Lord Lytton the Governor General also visited the City during this period (September 1877) and took deep interest in famine relief work. Charles Elliot was appointed Famine Commissioner to be in charge of famine relief work. Influx of people from Kolar and Tumkur districts resulted in opening of relief kitchens at Krishnarajapuram (where 3,000 were fed) at Binnamangala, Yelahanka, Cantonment and Subedarchatram. The Christian Missions and the Brahma Samaj also opened relief kitchens in the City. There were over 30,000 persons being fed at these centres and hundreds died in the City despite this relief work. Deaths in Bangalore were 884 in July 1876, 1,185 in Aug and 225 in September. Weavers sold their looms to buy grains and other craftsmen their tools. Many craftsmen including embroidery makers went to work at the public works, resulting in the decline of their hereditary crafts for ever.

Grain distribution to the old, the infirm and the destitutes was also resorted to by issuing tickets to them. The relief works included sinking tanks including the one on Tumkur Road, and the water was supplied to Peta area of Bangalore. The administration of Mysore came to be modernised during the Commissioners' period. By introducing and expanding modern amenities like roads, railways and telegraphs, and expanding education and introducing printing, the State was fast modernised, though the administrative machinery had also been Europeanised causing heavy demands on the State Treasury.

Owing to its superior climate, and to its being within easy reach from Madras, Bangalore has acquired importance which would never have been anticipated. The non-official European population was large and was yearly increasing, while property was beginning to acquire a great value, writes Bowring in 1872.

The description of Bangalore Cantonment given by Bowring in 1872 also makes very interesting reading: "Like all great military stations in India, the cantonment of Bangalore is a heterogeneous assemblage of people of various nationalities and speaking several languages. In its bazars and streets are to be seen the enterprising TAMILIAN merchant, employee or servant; Telugu speaking Brahmans, gardeners and sepoy, Kanarese agriculturists, shepherds and bullock-drivers, the proud and dignified Musalman, despising his Hindu compatriot, and disliking though fearing the foreigner, stray Arabs, Afghans and Parsis, slender and dark Eurasians and sturdy and fair Englishmen". Equally interesting is his picture

of Bangalore proper: "Passing from the cantonment to the town hard by, there is no mistaking the fact that one is in the centre of a population which is almost exclusively Kanarese in origin and in language.....Hindu life is seen here in its native simplicity, everything conveying the impression of that unchanging oriental type which has characterised for thousands of years of Indian existence.....The tinkling of small bells, morning and evening in the heavy and quaintly-curved temples.....when the sun first shows himself above the horizon, high-caste Brahmans are to be seen resorting to the city tank, where they pour water over their heads and shoulders.....As the day advances, the petty shopkeepers....display their wares whether for food or for dress in the most tempting manner, those of the same trade having their shop in close proximity to an another in a rivalry which would seem to be injurious. Baskets full of various grains of the country, or of betel leaves tied up in bundles or of one hundred leaves, garlands of white and yellow flowers tastefully tied together with threads. Small pieces of betelnut chopped into four pieces, heaps of cotton and silk goods, piled one on the top of the other, and trays of sweet- meats of every kind melting in the sun and swarming with flies, meet the eye, everything being exposed in open shops". He says that Bangalore was not remarkable for any manufacture "except carpets of rare quality, rugs and articles of mixed silk and cotton". While speaking of the traders Bowring says that "Their greed is complained of" but he adds to say "It is doubtful, however whether Indian traders are more rapacious than those of other countries and, although they rarely bestow money, they readily give grain to the needy, while more wealthy have founded resting places called *chhatrams*, where travellers put up, and where food is distributed gratis to the higher castes". He pays rich tribute to the local bankers by stating "The character of the native bankers stands as high as that of any bankers in the world". Regarding the peasants, "There is good deal of sturdiness in Mysore ryot.....If the crops are good and the Governement officials keep aloof, he is perfectly happy".

THE RENDITION AND THE DEWANS

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III sent many representations to various men in power and even sent Dr. Campbell, his family surgeon to England in 1864 to represent his case for restoration of power. The Raja succeeded in creating a lobby in his favour even in London. The British Government took a decision to restore the adopted son to the throne. The Raja died in 1868 and his adopted son Chamarajendra Wodeyar X was crowned in March 1881. After the Rendition many administrative changes were introduced. Bangalore cantonment was made an Assigned Tract to the British in 1881. The post of the Commissioner was abolished and a British Resident was appointed at the Mysore Court. The post of the Dewan was created and he was to be the head of the administrative machinery. He was to have a Council of two advisors.

Dewan Rangacharlu

Rangacharlu who had been the Chief Secretary of Revenue in Mysore was appointed the first Dewan. He was responsible for establishing some sort of a Representative Assembly which was convoked in 1881 at the time of the *dasara* when the leading merchants planters, and agriculturists had assembled for the *dasara darbar*. It consisted of 144 members who were leading citizens. Gordon had advised that such a body be instituted. Though it was not a statutory body, the policies of the Government and the statement of expenses were brought to its notice.

The financial position was in a very bad shape when Rangacharlu took over the administration due to the severe famine of 1876-78 and the revenue had fallen in arrears. Agriculture also suffered, Reserve funds in the state treasury had been spent and public debts were mounting. The Diwan introduced great economy in administration, floated public loans and undertook public works to provide jobs to the unemployed peasant. Two districts (Chitradurga and Hassan) and nine taluks were abolished, and among the taluks abolished were Channapatna and Devanahalli from Bangalore dt. Bangalore-Mysore Railway line was completed in 1882 with a total cost of Rs. 43 lakhs. A new colony, White Field was opened for Anglo-Indians near Bangalore. The Bangalore Palace building constructed by an officer, was purchased by royalty in 1882.

Sheshadri Iyer

Rangacharlu died in 1883 and was succeeded by Sir K. Seshadri Iyer in August, 1883. He was a wise and talented administrator and was responsible for implementing many schemes aimed at the economic progress of the State. He persuaded the British Government to waive the payment of the enhanced subsidy till 1896. It was during his time that gold mining was started in Kolar (1886). The Bangalore Woolen, Cotton and Silk Mills Ltd (Binny) in 1888 and the Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing Co. in 1884 were started in Bangalore by using steam power harbinger modern industries. Seshadri Iyer undertook extensive plantation programme, especially of coffee. The Good Shepherd nuns started the St. Martha's Hospital in 1886 in Bangalore. Work on Bangalore- Gubbi railway line was begun in 1883 and Bangalore was connected with Harihar by railway in 1889. In the east, line was laid till Hindupur and another line till K.G.F. Similarly, Mysore was linked with Nanjangud and the Birur-Shimoga line was also opened (1899). Devanahalli and Channapatna taluks were re-established in 1886. Col. Olcott of the Theosophical Society came to Bangalore in 1886 and addressed a public meeting presided by the Dewan. Lodges were started in the City and Cantonment in the same year.

The Representative Assembly further developed during his period and names of its members came to be gazetted from 1887. From 1891, members came to be chosen by election, with high property qualification for voters being fixed. Graduates also secured the right of voting. From 1894, a tenure of three years was

fixed for members. The Mysore Civil Service examination was started from 1891. Sheshadri Iyer also founded taluk boards in 1884. The old Anche system was amalgamated with the British Postal system in 1889. Agricultural Bank was founded in 1894. The Sivasamudra hydro-electric project was implemented by him in 1899-1900. The General Electric Co of New York undertook installation works. Electricity was supplied to the K.G.F. in 1902 and to Bangalore in 1905. The Prince Albert Victor Hall (Glass House) was erected at the Lal Bag in 1889 in memory of the visit of Prince Albert. The Victoria hospital was inaugurated in Lord Curzon in 1900.

The Plague 1898-99

The Plague that appeared in Bangalore in 1898, like the famine of 1876-78 was a major holocaust that changed the face of Bangalore. It took a toll of 2,665 deaths in the Bangalore City alone and 4,472 in the old district (excluding the city) and respective figures of attack were 3,346 and 4,992. The Government report also confesses that there were not less than 3,393 deaths in the City due to Plague, that had escaped detection. In Channapatna town alone 710 died.

In Anekal taluk 30 villages including the taluk headquarters had cases of epidemic and 1,134 people died. Dommasandra in Anekal tq and Yelahanka, Yeshwantpur, Ramohalli in Bangalore tq were other places, highly affected. This tragic development proved to be a blessing in disguise in the long run, as it helped the provision of many new amenities like improving the sanitation and health facilities in the old Bangalore City and helped its modernisation. This was like the Great London Fire (1656) which helped the City to grow on modern lines after the tragic event when a major part of the city was destroyed and a new, planned beautiful city grew. New extensions like Malleshwaram and Basavanagudi were created, hotels came to be opened, sanitation and health service improved, telephone service was commissioned, all helping the modernisation of Bangalore.

Plague in Bangalore was in a way the legacy of the railways. A buttlar of a railway officer brought the infection from Hubli and died on Aug 15 (1898) and this was followed by few more deaths in the neighbourhood of the Goods Shed area. From there the epidemic spread to Aralepeth and Akkipeth. It was seen mainly in the seven divisions of the City which included the Palace area, Balepeth, Manevarthepeth, Ulsoorpeth, Lalbag and Fort. The death toll was maximum in November and the situation eased only in Dec 1898. The malady reappeared again in June 1899, but eased by October. In the Cantonment 3,321 died between September and March, and 348 during 1899-90. In addition to deaths mentioned above over 30,000 left the old city alone by Dec. 1898, and though many returned later, population fell by 25% at the close of 1899, which was estimated to be 90,000 in 1898 (and was 80,285 in 1881). "Trade was almost at a stand-still during the plague season.....the estimated loss of revenue to the Municipality alone amounted to Rs. 40,000".

The Government took every measure possible to face the situation preparing for it in advance. A Chief Plague Officer was appointed and the City was divided into four wards and later two sub-wards were created to undertake anti-Plague operations. Prizes were awarded to killers of rodents. People were asked to vacate their house and live in segregation camps outside the city. A total of 8,419 houses in the city were disinfected. Of these, 684 were infected houses and the rest deserted. Passengers reaching the city, if found infected or suspected of infection were detained at Yeshwantpur, Kengeri and Cantonment railway stations and were taken to Magadi Road camp for treatment. Eight such outposts were also created on roads reaching the City. Passengers coming from infected places, were, on alightment made to undergo disinfection. The contagious diseases hospital on the Magadi Road was converted as the Government Plague Hospital. Telephone lines were laid and were used on a wide scale in the City to coordinate anti-plague operations. (The next year, these lines were used to provide connections to 50 Government offices in the city).

The epidemic helped Bangalore City to modernise itself by securing many modern amenities. Rs. one lakh were spent to improve the drainage system. Houses deserted after deaths etc., came to be demolished (by engaging inmates in Central Jail). The Old Taragupeth came to be partially demolished. congestion and overcrowding of houses in the original habitation area thus considerably eased. Regulations were issued for building new houses with proper facilities of sanitation and provision for ventilation etc. Together with disinfecting over 8,400 houses in city, steps were taken to provide ventilation by opening additional windows etc. A total of 893 houses were marked under the Land Acquisition Act "for the purpose of opening new roads and lanes on the congested part of the city". New extension, Basavanagudi by acquiring 440 acres of cultivated land and Malleshwaram by acquiring 291 acres were created with planned lay-out by providing conservancy roads, drainage and other amenities that a new lay-out could have. The City came to have a Health Officer from 1898 and soon the Victoria Hospital was inaugurated in 1900 by Lord Curzon, the Viceroy. Opening of hotels to feed officers who had sent their families away was another development of the year.

Though, the old City of Bangalore was on the way of modernisation with many new amenities provided, the misery caused by deaths, segregation and other measures left a deep mark in the minds of the people, turning them anti-government. Plague was evidenced later too and in the cantonment area in 1902-03 causing 85 deaths in the Chapparacharivi street. A new extension was created in 1904 in that segments.

KRISHNARAJA WODEYAR IV

Chamarajendra Wodeyar IX died in 1894 and was succeeded by Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV. The new king was a minor and the queen-mother, Kemparajammanni Vanivilas Sannidhana was the Regent. Seshadri Iyer retired in 1901. P.N. Krishna

Murthy, a descendent of Diwan Purnaiah was appointed Diwan in 1901. The next year, Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV came of age and his investiture ceremony took place. The new ruler was one of the most enlightened princes of modern India. He was highly devoted to the well-being and welfare of his subjects. He was a great lover of education, learning and fine arts. He had the good fortune of having able and far sighted Dewans like Sir M. Visveswaraya and Sir Mirza Ismail. His period was called the golden age of Mysore and Mysore grew to be a model princely state. Diwan Krishna Murthy introduced British methods of administration, especially with regard to the maintenance of records and files. *The Secretariat Manual* was prepared to guide the officials in this regard. Expansion of the agricultural department, founding the Co-operative Department in 1905 and extension of local self-government were some of the important measures of his time. It was around 1903 that motor vehicles came to be introduced in Bangalore. Electric street lights were inaugurated on the 3rd of August 1905. The Prince of Wales (later George V) unveiled the statue of Queen Victoria in 1906 in the Bangalore Cubbon Park.

V.P. Madhavarao succeeded to the dewanship in 1906. He paid great attention towards conservation of forests and founded the Veterinary Department. Establishment of Legislative Council in 1907 was an important step taken by him. It was to have not less than 10 and not more than 15 additional members to the existing strength of three Executive Councillors including the Dewan, and of this, not less than 3/5 were to be non-officials. Two members were to be elected by the Representative Assembly. The passing of the Mysore Newspapers' Regulation in 1908 was one of his regressive measures. The Vokkaligara Sangha was inaugurated in 1906. The Shankar Matha was founded in Bangalore in 1907. The Bangalore-Chikballapur narrow-gauge line was inaugurated in 1906. Power supply to Cantonment area was inaugurated on 26-9-1908.

T. Ananda Rao succeeded V.P. Madhavarao in 1909. Foundation for the Minto Eye Hospital was laid in 1909 by Viceroy Lord Minto. Inauguration of the Mysore Economic Conference, finalisation of Kannambadi project under the direction of the Chief Engineer Visveswaraya and the completion of the Mysore Palace in 1910 were some of the important developments of his period. Prohibition imposed on a speech by Annie Besant proposed to be held at the Bangalore Shankar Matha and a speech by Rt. Hon'ble Srinivasa Shastry were two strange acts of the Dewan.

Dewan Visveswaraya

Sir M. Visveswaraya became the Dewan in 1912. The Mysore Legislative Council came to be expanded during his time (1913) by increasing its membership from 18 to 24. Three members were to be elected from the Representative Assembly and four others from the eight districts. The Council was given powers to discuss the budget. The Assembly was allowed to have a second session in April 1917 called the budget session. The Mysore Local Boards and Village Panchayats'

Regulation VI was passed in 1918. It provided an elected majority in the district and taluk boards. Municipalities came to be provided with elected Vice-Presidents and Panchayats with the elected Chairmen. Viceroy Lord Hardinge who visited the State unveiled the statue of Dewan Sheshadri Iyer at Bangalore on 20-11-1913.

A number of projects and industries were implemented during Sir M. Visveswaraya's Diwanship. They included the starting of the Krishnarajasagara Dam at Kannambadi, the founding of the Iron Works at Bhadravathi and the Mysore Bank (1913) with Bangalore as the headquarters. A long list of other industries started during his period can be also given and it includes the Sandal Oil Factory at Mysore, the Government Soap Factory, the Metal Factory, the Wood Distillation Works at Bhadravathi together with the Iron Works. The Home Industries Institute was founded at Bangalore in 1914. He took special steps to promote sericulture and a silk farm was started at Channapatna in 1914 with the help of Italian experts. He was also responsible for the founding of the Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industries at Bangalore (1916). Special steps were taken to encourage founding of modern hotels in Bangalore and Mysore with view to promote tourism, and subsidies, loans and monthly rent for building to the tune of Rs. 100 per month for the period of two years were extended from 1916 for hotel keepers. The founding of the Mysore University (1916) and the Karnataka Sahitya Parishat (1915) were other major achievements. The latter was inaugurated at Bangalore on 3-5-1915, H.V. Nanjundiah presiding. The Government Engineering College was founded at Bangalore (at present known as the Visveswaraya College of Engineering). Technical and industrial schools also came to be started including the Chamarajendra Technological Institute at Mysore. The Agricultural School was founded at Hebbal in 1912, which was to be the nucleus of the future UAS. Influenza raged in the City and the State, causing a heavy toll of life.

It was during his time, in 1917, that a non-Brahmin organisation, Praja Mitra Mandali was founded and the organisation agitated for due representation for non-Brahmins in government jobs. The Maharaja appointed the Miller Committee to look into these grievances. As the Diwan was for considering only merit for appointments and opposed reservation of jobs, he resigned in 1918.

Sir M. Visveswaraya was succeeded by Sardar M. Kantaraj Urs in 1919. During his short term of three years, the Bhadravati Iron Works was commissioned. The Miller Committee, appointed to look into the grievances of the backward classes, submitted its report (August 1919). It recommended for the due representation to the backward classes in public service. Income Tax was levied for the first time, during the term of Urs.

He was succeeded by Sir Albion Banerji in 1922. He founded the Department of Industries and Commerce. It was during Banerji's time taluk boards were abolished and village panchayats came to be constituted on a statutory basis. Provision was made for having elected heads for the municipalities. According to the recommendations of the Seal Committee (1923), representation in the

Assembly came to be expanded. The Legislative Council became independent of the Executive. Franchise was also widened. Women were also enfranchised for the first time. "Still, Mysore's legislative institutions, compared to those of British India were little more than debating societies", says James Manor.

Dewan Mirza Ismail

Sir Mirza Ismail was appointed Dewan (1926) and the period of his administration was an eventful one. He built the superstructure on the foundations laid by Visveswaraya. His period saw the State making substantial progress in the fields of industries both in the private and public sectors. The Tippagondanahalli Reservoir was completed to supply water to Bangalore. But major part of his administration was spent in suppressing various kinds of public disturbances. In fact, he had to do a tight-rope walking in the face of popular agitations conducted by the Congress party. On the one hand, he tried to maintain good relations with top Congress leaders like Gandhi and Nehru, and on the other, he did everything possible to suppress Congress Movement in the State. The Binny Mill firing which took place soon after his coming to power killing four was a serious tragedy. The Sultanpet Ganapathi Disturbances in Bangalore in 1928 (and 1929) called for the appointment of enquiry commission headed by Sir M. Visveswaraya. The commission recommended the founding of the responsible government in the State. The disturbances made the Diwan somewhat unpopular and helped the Congress to gain ground in Mysore. Soon after this, in 1930, Praja Paksha was founded to work for responsible government. V. Venkatappa of the party was elected President of Bangalore District Board in 1930.

Sir Mirza expanded the Bhadravati Iron factory by adding a steel plant. A cement and a paper factory were founded at the same place. The Hindustan Aircrafts Limited, Porcelain Factory and the Glass Factory, all in Bangalore, were also established. The Spun Silk Mills at Channapatna was started as a joint stock company in 1936. The Sugar Factory at Mandya, Chemicals and Fertilisers at Belgola, Match Factory at Shimoga and the Khadi production Centre at Badanval were the other industries that were set up during his time. A Trade Commissioner was appointed at London. The Cauvery high level canal was also constructed, irrigating 1,20,000 acres of land in Mandya district.

Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV passed away in 1940. His period of rule was the golden age of Mysore and Mysore saw all round progress during his time. It came to be known as a model princely state. Not only agriculture and industry progressed but cultural activities were also fostered.

Sir Mirza resigned in May 1941, and he was followed by N. Madhava Rao. He had to face the stresses and strains of the Second World War and also the Quit India Movement led by the Congress. The Bhadra Reservoir Project and the Hydro-Electric Project at the Jog Falls were initiated. Madhava Rao retired in July 1946, and was followed by Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar. India became free and the

prince agreed to the accession of Mysore with the Indian Union. But he had to be forced to agree to the establishment of responsible government only after a stormy "Mysore Chalo" agitation of over 40 days when several lives were lost.

FREEDOM MOVEMENT

Freedom Movement in Mysore State has to be viewed in two dimensions-- the general patriotic demand which wanted the British to quit the country and see India as a free nation and the particular demand for responsible government which became popular by the close of the First World War when the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms were being discussed with reference to the British presidencies. The people of Mysore State who basked in the sunshine of the benevolent rule of the Maharaja, his durbar, the grandeur of the palace and the gorgeous Dasara celebrations, did not feel the pinch of foreign rule for long. Only when issues connected with native interest clashed with the imperial and the latter were upheld at the expense of the former did the Mysoreans realise that the alien rule is harmful. When an issue like the sharing of the Cauveri waters was being discussed at the time of the raising of the Kannambadi Dam, the British upheld the interests of their own imperial province, Madras as against the interest of the native Mysore State. Mysoreans soon realised that they were the "slaves of a slave" Maharaja. Imperial rumblings against the programmes of industrialisation pursued by Sir M.V. brought home the idea more convincingly, and the worst final major example was the opposition to the automobile factory proposed at Bangalore.

Mysore was also influenced by the national awakening being evidenced, mainly by reading the newspapers like the *Hindu*, Annie Besant's *New India* and the *Maratha* of Tilak and many local newspapers.

Rise of Intellectual class

The Bangalore City and Cantonment area saw the rise of a considerable section of educated men and intellectuals. The Central College founded in 1870 and the St. Joseph's College in 1882 helped the spread of modern education. Printing became widespread (There were nearly 20 printing presses in Bangalore before 1900) and newspapers numerous. Many newspapers came to be started from the City, some English, some Kannada and a few Urdu. They helped the spread of knowledge. *Mysore Vrittanta Bodhini* (1859), *Karnataka Prakashika* (1865), *Khasim-ul-Akbar* (Urdu, 1860), *Suryodaya Prakashika* (1894), *Nadegannadi* (1899), *Deshabhimani* (1874), *Evening Mail*, *Mysore Standard*, *Bangalore Spectator* (1869), *Bangalore Examiner* (1873), *Kannada Nadegannadi* (1895) etc. were some of the early newspapers which directly or indirectly helped the rise of nationalism. Organization like Brahma Samaj, Arya Samaj and Theosophical Society also started their branches. The Theosophical Society started its Lodges in Bangalore in 1886. The Brahma Samaj had started functioning in Bangalore in the 1870s. Pandit Shivanath Sastry and Veereshalingam Pantulu had visited Bangalore. The Arya Samaj was founded in Bangalore in 1894 by the efforts of one Vishveshwarananda

Saraswathi. Sir Sheshadri Iyer was quite sympathetic with such reformist socio-religious movements, and he had presided over the meeting when Olcott of Theosophical Society had visited Bangalore in 1886. When the British Government wrote to him that the activities of the Arya Samaj be carefully watched the Dewan had replied that the same was not engaged in any political activities but only in social service and reforms. Swamy Vivekananda visited Bangalore in 1882 before going to America, and had stayed with Dr. Palpu, an officer in medical service in the Cantonment area. He delivered some lectures too in the City. This helped in the long run for the establishment of Ramakrishna Ashrama at Bangalore in 1904.

There were also organisations of local origin which worked in the literary, cultural and social fields like the Bangalore Literary Union (founded by the efforts of later Dewan Rangacharlu and others in 1874 with V.P. Madhav Rao as the first president), Ranade Society (founded by a scientist B.V. Subbarayappa in 1880), the Friends Union (c 1881), the Indian Progressive Union (founded in c 1904 by C.Venkata Varada Iyengar, a social reformer), the Gayana Samaja (1904), the Gana Vinoda Sabha (c 1901), the Mythic Society (1909), the Mahila Seva Samaja (started by Theosophist Smt. Parvatamma in 1913), the Sharada Stree Samaja (founded by Smt. Parvatamma Puttanachetty), the Karnataka Sahitya Parishat (1915), the Central College Karnataka Sangha (1918), the Ceded Districts Dramatic Association (founded in c 1900 by students coming from the Ceded Districts-Bellary, Anantapur, Kadapa and Karnool), the Amateur Dramatic Association (1909) etc. Their veriegated activities encouraged public congregations, created social consciousness and spread the knowledge of India's heritage and culture. Men like Sarojini Naidu (1920) and Rabindranath Tagore (1919), came to Bangalore, to participate in the programmes organised by Amateur Dramatic Association. The amateur and professional drama troupes staged many historical plays which helped the awakening of national pride and nationalist spirit. By the efforts of the Karnataka Sahitya Parishat, the Mythic Society and the Central College Karnataka Sangha work for the resurgence of Kannada language and the study of Karnataka's history received a fillip.

The Veerashaiva Mahasabha (1904) (whose second session was held at Bangalore in 1905), the Vokkaligara Sangha (1906), the Central Mohammadan Association (1909), the Kurubara Sangha etc. created awakening in various sections of the society. Spread of Education in their respective communities was the main aim of these bodies. The demand for representation for these communities in public service resulted in the founding the Praja Mitra Mandali in 1917 and how it later became a stream strengthening Congress movement in the long run is discussed later.

The tone and tenor of writings of some local newspapers can be briefly examined here. *Karnataka Prakashika* (1865) supported the Indian National Congress from 1887. It demanded in 1896, representation to Indian Princely States in the British Parliament. "Even a negro of the West Indies and the savages of

Australia enjoy more liberty than the Indians", it wrote in 1891. It sympathised with the cause of local craftsmen including weavers. *Kashim-ul-Akbar* once caustically remarked that the British nationals were like sellers of doped sweet-meats, and they looted their patrons who consumed the sweet-meat and fell unconcious. This loot was sure to ruin the country, and once India turned bankrupt by this loot, the British would leave this land.

The dreaded disease plague which appeared in 1898 (as discussed earlier) had created enough anti-European feeling, as it did elsewhere in the country like Pune. The regulations passed to segregate people by forcing them to leave their homes, steps taken to disinfect and inoculate people, banning of *jatras* and *shandys* etc., caused lot of unrest. "Society was stirred to its very depth. A vague fear took possession of the peopel's mind", says the *Report on Plague Operations* and people also grew distrustful of officials. Segregation caused great unrest and Muslims highly resented it. There was even a protest meeting on 24th Aug (1898) in Bangalore, and the protesters even marched upto the Bangalore palace to speak to the Maharani Regent who actually did not come out to meet them. The same *Report* adds regarding the Bangalore City that "Trade was almost at a standstill.....The poor were on the verge of starvation, partly on account of loss of occupation and partly on account of abnormal prices".

The Swadeshi movement (1906 onwards) witnessed some stirrings in Bangalore. Though there were no public programmes like meetings or processions, the newspaper wrote critical articles against British. In fact, the Mysore Newspaper Regulation of 1908 was a reaction to such writings, and nationalist newspapers, and those that were critical of the adnistration closed down in protest and such nespapers included *Mysore Herald*, *Vrittanta Chintamani* (Mysore, of Sri M. Venkatakrishnaiah), *Nadegannadi* and *Bharati* (of DVG). Starting of Indian Swadeshi Stores by K. Shesha Iyer, a Theosophist to sell indigenous goods in Bangalore, was a direct fall-out of the Swadeshi Movement in other parts of India.

A public meeting was organised at Bangalore to mourn the demise of Gopalakrishna Gokhale in Feb. 1915. Karpura Srinivasa Rao, Chief Engineer presided over this condolence meeting and Dewan Visvesvaraya was one of speakers at the meetings. Gandhiji visited Bangalore during the same year (May 5) and D.V. Gundappa organised a programme to unveil the portriat of Gokhale at the hands of Gandhiji. A reception committee with K.S. Krishna Iyer (of the Irish Press) as Secretary had been formed. D.V. Gundappa who had started *The Karnataka*, an English bi-weekly in 1913 started taking active part of the public life, of Bangalore, and also propounded the idea of responsible Government. He was a follower of Gokhale. He drafted a petition in 1917 to the Maharaja of Bikaner, President of the Indian Princes League, appealing for the establishment of responsible Government in princely States. Later a booklet *The problems of Indian Native States* was published by him. D.V. Gundappa even attended the Bombay Session of the Indian National Congress in 1918 and pleaded for the establishment of a

separate cell in Congress to study the problems of the people of the princely States and also help establishment of responsible government in them. Mysore Peoples' Convention came to be organised by his efforts in Bangalore in Dec. 1919 and the demand for responsible government was stressed at its meeting.

The Theosophist including Besant (who had founded the Home Rule League in 1916) were also associated with the Scout Movement. Arundale and B.P. Wadia were pioneers of the Scout Movement, and they started their activities in Bangalore. (This movement was founded in opposition to the Boys' Scout Movement founded by Baden Powell which swore allegiance to the British Crown). Boys and girls who came in touch with the movement also turned national minded. The National High School was founded by some Theosophists in 1917. Prof K. Samapatgiri Rao who resigned his job in Central College in early 1920s became its Principal, and that too became a centre of nationalist activities. A unit of the Hindustani Seva Dal came to be founded at this High School in 1924. when Lokamanya Tilak died in 1920, the students organised procession in Bangalore to mourn his death. There was a public meeting near the Doddanna's Hall, and on the 10th day of his death a programme to offer *dharmodaka* to him was organised at the Kempambudhi Tank, Karpura Srinivasa Rao, the Chief Engineer taking the lead, accompanied by some 100 others. One S.V. Lingam started Varthaka Gumasta Sangam during this time in cantonment area, mostly to conduct political activities.

Congress Committee

During the early part of 1920, Khilafat Committee was founded in Bangalore Cantonment and it later joined hands with the Congress. Gandhiji visited Bangalore again on 21st Aug 1920, accompanied by Maulana Shoukat Ali, the famous Khilafat leader. A reception committee with Modi Abdul Gaffar as Chairman was formed. Gandhiji addressed a public meeting in Bangalore Cantonment, which was under British Rule then. Later in 1921 (after the formation of K.P.C.C. at Nagpur in 1921), Congress Committee was formed in Bangalore with Modi Abdul Gaffar as President and S.N.M. Razvi as the Secretary. S.S. Setlur, noted Advocate from Bangalore became the President of the Mysore Congress Committee (for the whole of Mysore State). Haji Usman Sait opened a National School in the Cantonment area in 1921 for those who had boycotted Government schools in response to the call by Congress. S.R.S. Raghavan (noted journalist who resigned his government job), Venkatarama Sharma and S. Venkataraman were some of the teachers at the school. Raghavan even attended the Ahmedabad Congress in 1921. Collection of contribution to Tilak Swaraj Fund and propagation of khadi were programmes seriously taken up all over. Leaders like Ganala Rama Murthy from Andhra and Mudvidu Krishna Rao from Dharwad came and addressed public meetings at Bangalore often. Noted nationalist *keertankar* Jayaramacharya Koppal also had his programmes in Bangalore in 1921. Newspapers from outside Karnataka like the *New India*, *Swarajya*, *the Hindu* and the *Maratha* in English, Tamil *Swadesha Mitran* and Telugu *Andhra Patrika* were popularly read by the elite

in addition to many local newspapers. Kannada papers like *Karnataka Vritta* and *Dhananjaya* from Dharwad were also widely read. During 1921 and 1923, Srinivasarao Koujalgi (Bijapur), R.S. Hukkerikar (Dharwad), and Swamy Dharmananda (Bellary) and leaders from Madras presidency like Konda Venkappayya, Balusu Sambamurthy, Kalluru Subba Rao, Duppuri Subbamma, Hari Sarvottama Rao, S. Satya Murthy etc. also visited Bangalore and addressed public meetings.

But agitational programmes were evidenced only in the Cantonment area, and hartal was observed on 17th of November 1921 when Prince of Wales visited India, and the 18th of November there was firing in Cantonment Area and Abdul Razak and Dastagir Sab, two Khilafat workers died. The army called to check picketers of foreign cloth shops bayoneted them. Mir Obaidulla and Abdul Subhan were convicted for nine months term after being arrested on that day. A.N. Subba Rao, Jamakhandi Bheema Rao and K. Jeevanna Rao from Bangalore among others attended the Gaya Congress in 1922.

Half-a-dozen volunteers from Bangalore and Cantonment went to Nagpur Flag Satyagraha in 1923 and courted arrest. When Hindustani Seva Dal was started in 1923 by Dr. Hardikar a unit was also opened at Bangalore and over 100 Sevadal volunteers from Bangalore and Cantonment led by H. Rama Rao attended the Belgaum Congress in 1924 together with many elderly delegates from the City. S. Chengalvaraya Mudaliar was one of the delegates from Cantonment area. The Varthaka Gumasta Sangam of the Cantonment area later converted itself as the Mahajana Sangam.

Leaders from Bangalore

Shah Jhaverchand, Lakshmiipathi Naidu, Seethapathi Naidu, Bheemacharya Pargi, Rama Rao Pol, Khadri Gundu Rao, Satwaji Rao, Venkata Varada Iyengar etc., were some of the early workers in the 1920, who took keen interest in Khadi work. Jamkhandi Bheema Rao, a perfume merchant, had even installed a loom in his house to produce Khadi. K.G. Pashupathi Iyer who had come from Burma and was engaged in textile trade was for long the Treasurer of Congress in the City. Ramalal Tivari, H.V. Subrahmanya and Jamkhandi Bhima Rao were some other prominent workers. Bangalore bar had a considerable number of supporters of Congress. S.S. Setlur, Sampige Venkatapathiaha, M.P. Someshekhara Rao, S.K. Venkataranga Iyengar, C.V. Narasimha Iyengar, K.T. Bhashyam, Kandade Shamanna, B.S. Chandrasekhara Rao, S. Venkatachala Iyengar and L.S. Raju and Nittur Srinivasa Rao of the younger generation were among supporters and sympathisers of Congress in those days. Sundaram Iyer from Cantonment was another lawyer who was Congress President in that area for some time. V.S. Sanjeeva Rao, journalist, also took keen interest in Congress activities. T.T. Sharman started *Vishwa Karnataka* in 1925. *Subodha* monthly was started by Rama Rao in 1925. *Veerakesari* edited by M. Seetharama Shastri (1928), *Chitragupta*

(1928) by H.K. Veeranna Gowda, *Navajeevana* (1929) by C. Ashwattha Narayana Rao and *Tayinadu*, initially published from Mysore and later shifted to Bangalore (1928), P.R. Ramaiah being its editor, were nationalist newspapers from Bangalore which played a notable part in nationalist propaganda. S.R.S. Raghavan edited English weekly *Democrat* (1928).

The scores of volunteers who had attended Belgaum Congress engaged themselves in Khadi work. Hindi classes had been started in 1923 at the upstairs of Irish Press of Krishna Iyer by Markandeya Rao, and Siddhanath Panth from Dharwad continued the work. This attracted considerable number of ladies towards Congress work. The District Congress Committee of Bangalore had S.N.M. Razvi (beginning with 1921), K.T. Bhashyam, L.S. Raju, B.S. Ramaswamy and K. Shamaraja Iyengar as Presidents in succession and V.S. Narayana Rao had been one of the Secretaries throughout.

After the withdrawal of the Non-Co-operation Movement in 1922 by Gandhiji following the Chauri Chaura episode, there was a slow-down in Congress activities all over the country, except the Nagpur Satyagraha of 1923. But the Hindustani Seva Dal activities begun in 1923 with Hubli as headquarters kept the Congressmen in Karnataka engaged. There was a stagnant phase soon after. But the Binny Mill firing proved to be a kind of blessing in disguise in Bangalore. On the demise of C.R. Das in June 1925, there was a condolence meeting in the city. Khadi Vastralays was inaugurated at Bangalore by Gangadhar Rao Deshpande in July 1926.

Binny Mill firing

The Binny Mill of Bangalore did not care for the rights of the labourers even after the passage of the Trade Unions Act of 1926 by the Government of India. Congressmen like K.T. Bhashyam and A.M. Rama Sharma (a journalist representing *Swadeshmitran*, nationalist Tamil daily from Madras which was popular in Bangalore) had given leadership to the workers and registered a labour union as a Society in 1926. The Binny Mill workers agitated over the issues of recognition of this union and raise in their salary in June 1926. Sir Mirza had just taken over as Dewan in that year. The workers of the Mill struck work and held demonstrations over their demands. There was police firing killing four workers. When the labourers demanded an enquiry into the police firing, the demand fell on deaf ears. The Congress appointed a private (citizens') enquiry committee headed by noted advocate C.V. Narasimha Iyengar as Chairman and S.R.S. Raghavan as Secretary. The enquiry continued for several weeks and considered the police action as unnecessary. Though the Government did not pay any heed to the report, it strengthened the morale of the mill workers and also helped Congress have closer contacts with the labourers. The newspapers of Bangalore covered the proceedings of the enquiry committee and extended their solid support to the cause of the labour. The labourers played a prominent part in freedom movement in Bangalore including the Quit India Movement in 1942.

Gandhiji in Bangalore

Gandhiji's visit to Bangalore in 1927 was a notable event. As he had a minor stroke (apoplexy) during his visit to Nipani in March 1927, he was advised complete rest. He was invited by the Mysore Government to have rest at the Nandi Hills (hill station) and he reached there on 7-4-1927 and for full four months he was in Mysore State. A reception committee presided over by Mir Humza Hussain (retired Council Member) and Pamadi Subbarama Setty and retired justice Nageshwara Iyer as among the members was formed at Bangalore. Many public figures, both officials and non-officials came to see Gandhiji to the Nandi Hills who included Sir M.V. and Dewan Mirza. In June he came to Bangalore and stayed at Kumara Kripa guest house, and every evening prayer meetings were held which were attended by hundreds from Bangalore including school children. Gandhiji insisted that the participants at the meeting must wear khadi. Madan Mohan Malaviya also joined him at Bangalore and they once visited Imperial Dairy Farm at Bangalore run by one Smith, a Scotman. Malaviya also spoke on eradication of untouchability at a discussion held at the Shankar Matha. In July, Gandhiji inaugurated South Indian Khadi Exhibition at the National High School. The Amateur Dramatic Association staged a Hindi play *Bhakta Kabir* in which Pandit Taranath acted, and proceeds of the play, Rs. 500 were presented to Gandhiji (who witnessed the play) for Khadi work by Bala Sundaram Iyer, Council Member and President of the Association.

An all-Karnatak Hindi Pracharaks' Conference was also organised at Bangalore in August, Gandhiji presiding over it. At the Mahila Samaj at a reception on 12-7-27, a purse of Rs. 225 was presented to him. Later, on Gandhiji's appeal for donations for Khadi work, many women donated their ornaments. A meeting of students on 12th Aug. presented Gandhiji a purse of Rs. 1,700. At the Indian Institute of Science the next day, the students presented him a purse of Rs. 325. Gandhiji had also visited many places in Mysore State, in Mysore, Tumkur, Chikmagalur, Hassan and Chitradurga districts, during his stay at Bangalore to propagate Khadi. He also paid a visit to the Mythic Society and requested the scholars there to help him with historical information to prove that the practice of untouchability had no sanctions. He also visited the Sanskrit College and the Civic and Social Progress Association. He inaugurated the Krishnaswamy Gymnasium at Bangalore on Aug. 27. On Aug 30th, a warm formal send off was organised at the Lal Bagh Glass House, presided over by Mir Humza Husain and a purse of Rs. 10,000 was presented to him on behalf of the citizens of Bangalore. A batch of volunteers, mostly National High School students, had worked to man Gandhiji's camp at Kumara Kripa, and Rajarama Iyengar was their head. Gandhiji's long stay at Bangalore not only helped the cause of Khadi, but created an atmosphere in favour of national movement. Not only the elite, but all sections of people including students and women were influenced by his stay. Gangadhar Rao Deshpande and C. Rajagopalachari had also stayed with him for all the four months.

Dewan Mirza not only promised Gandhiji that there will be no opposition to government servants using khadi, but also opened the Khadi Production Centre at Badanwal (Mysore dt.) during that year.

The Ganapati Disturbances

But Sir Mirza's supposed support to Abbas Khan (one of the leaders of the Praja Mitra Mandali with which the Congressmen were at loggerheads) over a small issue in Bangalore caused some kind of communal disturbances in Bangalore in 1928 and public disturbances in 1929. This caused political awakening on an unprecedented scale. Abbas Khan had been the Municipal President of Bangalore, and his house was in Sultanpeth area. Opposite to his house was a Government Kannada School, wherein on open ground was an old Ganapati image (inside the school compound). The boys attending the school paid homage to the image, perhaps with somewhat seriousness during the 'examination seasons'. A contractor who repaired the school building provided some kind of canopy or shelter to this image in 1928, and mischievous elements provoked Abbas Khan to think that a temple was being raised, etc. It was believed that at the instance of Abbas Khan, the image was removed from the place where it remained installed from long. The school boys were agitated by this act and local newspapers wrote critically over the action. H.V. Subrahmanya, one of the Congress workers organised a demonstration demanding the restoration of the image. For five days there were meetings and processions by students in the City and on 29th July Jamkhandi Bheema Rao, H.V. Subrahmanya and Ramlal Tiwari, all Congressmen were arrested.

Demanding the release of these leaders, the students held a vociferous procession to the Police Superintendent's office. Wiser counsels prevailed and at the instructions of Mathen, a Council Member (the Dewan was on tour), the image was restored to its original place. But the agitating students led a procession to the Central Jail, demanding the release of the arrested, and public meetings were also held, under the leadership of T.T. Sharman and one Anekal Sarva Bhatta. The students had leaders from among themselves like K.L. Nanjappa and Anantapadmanbha Rao. On 30th July there was a mammoth procession joined by all primary and high school students and also labourers, and there were lawless acts by the agitators, and Mysore Lancers were summoned. By the intervention of some public men, the arrested were released in the evening. They were brought in a procession to the school premises, and there was an assemblage of 5,000. There was Ganapathi Pooja and the jubilant mob was dispersing, but severe clashes began soon after, leaving 72 Hindus and two Muslims wounded. One shot was fired from somewhere, wounding a boy. Trouble raged the whole night. Tension prevailed the next day though the situation was brought under control. The censorship on news imposed during the agitation was quite harmful.

A Committee headed by former Dewan Sir M. Visveswaraya was appointed to inquire into the disturbances. The proceedings were regularly reported in

newspapers, and the report stated that such disturbances occur because the public has no share in the administration, and establishment of responsible government was the only remedy to this situation. The Government did not publish the report, but H.K. Veerannagauda managed to secure a copy and serialised the report in his daily *Chitragupta*.

The next year (1929), when the boys at the same school celebrated Ganesha Festival, the Police permitted only the students to participate in the programme. The boys and some other people assembled in a temple nearby. A Police Officer provoked the assembly by entering the temple without removing the shoes, and hit some people including boys. This provoked the assemblage who were soon joined by the mill workers returning from their day shift. The Congress leaders like Sampige Venkatapathiah, Vajapeyam Venkateshiah, T.T. Sharman and H.K. Veerannagauda persuaded the mob to disperse. But the Magistrate, Narayanaswamy Naidu, lost his turban in the melee. The District Magistrate ordered firing. The police fired six rounds, and as they had no ammunition, left the place. One person died. There were disturbances on the whole night. Nearly 105 people including many Congress leaders and journalists were prosecuted on the charge of rioting. The case continued for over one year, resulting in the conviction of six labourers and acquittal of others.

'Veerakesari' Seetharama Shastri wrote an article in *Navajeevana* criticising the administration over these disturbances, comparing administration to an elephant in rut without any goadings. He and the publisher of the newspaper C. Aswattha Narayana Rao were tried for sedition and sentenced for nine months term each. These were the first political convicts from Bangalore. Hindu Mahasabha came to be organised in Bangalore soon after these disturbances. Sampige Venkatapathiah and Vajapeyam Venkateshiah took the lead.

The disturbances strengthened Congress in Bangalore. The Praja Mitra Mandal was weakened as its Hindu members developed distrust of the Muslim leaders in the party. "This put an end to whatever was left of the old informal alliance between Muslim and Non-Brahmin Hindu politicians", says James Manor. To the demand for responsible government put forth by Congress, strongest support came from the Sir M.V. Committee. Some leaders who did not join hands with Congress over the issue founded the Praja Paksha in 1930. V. Venkatappa and K.C. Reddy were the leaders of the new organisation. *Prajamatha* (weekly edited by B.N. Gupta) and *Janavani* (evening daily) came to be started as organs of this new party.

A meeting of the Congress leaders of Mysore State was organised at Mysore in June 1928. This first session of "Mysore State Congress" was presided over by Manikyavelu Mudaliar and S. Satyamurthy, Congress leaders from Madras also attended it. It demanded the granting of responsible government. The second session of this body was organised on May 5 at Bangalore, M. Venkatakrishnayya presiding. A Youth Conference sponsored by Congress was also organised in Bangalore the same year, V. Venkatappa presiding. Dr. N.S. Hardikar and

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya who came from Hubli to attend it were prevented from addressing the meeting by a ban order. But Madhwarao Kabbur, advocate and Congressman from Dharwad who had accompanied Dr. Hardikar spoke on the occasion and as the local authorities had not known him did not ban his speech. Indian States Subjects Day was also celebrated on 3-6-1929, D.V. Gundappa taking initiative to organise the meeting. The meetings demanded, among other things, responsible government. During 1929-30, picketing of liquor shops and foreign cloth shops was resorted to in Bangalore and mofussil areas like Anekal by Congressmen in a very peaceful way. V.S. Narayan Rao had been to Anekal to organise the programme.

The national issues and the national movement was engaging the attention of younger generations more and more than the mere demand for responsible government. The Salt Satyagraha to be followed by Civil Disobedience in 1930 in British area saw over 300 youths from Mysore State going out of the princely area and participating in the movement and courting arrest and submitting themselves to jail life. Scores of youths in various batches went to Belgaum area (Bombay province) and some to Madras province also. One batch of men went under the leadership of K.T. Bhashyam, which included Narayanaswamy Mudaliar of the Jayamaruti Vyayamashala and G. Changalaradya, later trade union leader. Many students of National High School trained by Seva Dal, and led by Prof. K. Sampathgiri Rao went to Ankola Salt Satyagraha. Many more went from Bangalore, who included Rumale Channabasavayya, K.A. Venkataramaiah etc. They not only worked at Ankola, but also in other parts of Uttara Kannada. Some reached Dharasana near Bombay to join the Salt depot raid there, and some others went to Sholapur to take part in the Anti-Marshall Law Satyagraha organised there. K.A. Venkataramiah and his wife Gouramma worked for the success of no-tax campaign, mainly in the Siddapur and Sirsi taluks both in 1930-31 and also in 1932-33. S. Chengalvaraya Mudaliar from Cantonment area was arrested at Ankola and T.M. Jagannatham Pillay at Sirsi in 1930. Some persons like V. Jagannathan from Cantonment went to Madras Presidency and courted imprisonment there in various centres. A.I. Doraiswamy Mudaliar and Shivanandam also organised programmes in the Cantonment area in 1930 and the former was arrested. Bangalore Congress Committee helped the movement in Bombay Karnataka area with men and materials during this period. Financial aid was channelised from here through Shimoga district.

The Second session of the States Peoples Conference was held at the Majestic Theatre, Bangalore on 30-8-1930. (A first such conference had been organised in 1929 at Trivandrum, Sir M. Visweswaraya presiding). This second session was presided over by Prof G.R. Abhyankar of Sangli.

Most of these volunteers who courted arrest in British areas returned to Bangalore after Gandhi-Irwin Pact in 1931 March. Nehru with Kamala Nehru and Indira Nehru visited Bangalore in 1931. He addressed a merchants' meeting in the

city, inaugurated a Swadeshi store and hoisted the tricolour at a tall poll installed in the Dharmambudhi tank maidan (present Subhashnagar). This visit of Nehru inspired the Cantonment area people to start Nehru Seva Sangam and Gandhi Charaka Sangam to pursue nationalist activities. Nehru's programmes not only inspired the youth but also created lot of commotion in the City as the flag post at Darmambudhi was removed by the police the very night. This caused lot of unrest. K.T. Bhashyam went on hunger strike. The Binny Mill workers led by Rama Sharma installed the staff overnight and the next morning (4th June) the flag was again hoisted at the hands of Bhashyam and then only he gave up his fast. S.R.S. Raghavan and K.T. Bhashyam were among the men from Bangalore, who attended the Karachi Congress of 1931.

When the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched again in 1932, as the K.P.C.C. was banned and its office at Dharwad closed. Sampige Venkatapathiah and Nittur Srinivasa Rao ran the underground K.P.C.C. office from Bangalore, and H.R. Venkataramiah was taking care of the office routine. Instructions to leaders in various districts of Karnataka in the British areas and financial aid were sent from here and reports were received at this office and consolidated. Funds were also received from Bombay in this office for disbursement in Bombay-Karnataka area. V.S. Narayan Rao worked at Ankola. K.A. Venkataramiah directed the movement in Siddapur taluk from resorts in Sagar taluk of Shimoga dt. Scores of volunteers again went to Bombay Karnataka. Movement was launched also in the Cantonment area. A batch of workers led by Jagannath Pillay offered Satyagraha in Feb. 1932 in Cantonment. A second batch from city area led by G.R. Swamy conducted picketing in front of cloth shops on 15-2-1932 in the Cantonment area and courted arrest. Several such batches courted arrest in the Cantonment area and according to one reckoning the total number of persons courting arrest came to 135, and most of them were convicted and confined not only at the Central Jail, Bangalore, but also at Vellore, Cannanore and Coimbatore Jails in Madras Presidency. Similarly workers going to Bombay area in scores, had to undergo imprisonment at Karwar, Hindalga, Yerawada and Visapur Jails in Bombay Presidency.

When a member of the British Parliamentary Delegation, Leonard Matters came to Karnataka, the noted Congress leader and advocate from Bangalore, Sampige Venkatapathiah took him round Uttara Kannada dt where the No-Tax campaign was in progress to convince him of the determined fight of the people and atrocities committed by the police. In record time, he also printed and published a book *In the Wake of Ordinances* in 1933 at the Indian Press owned by S.R.S. Raghavan who was publishing *Democrat*, English weekly from 1928. The book contained a detailed picture of the movement as going on in India, and also the repressive and high-handed acts of the Government and was based only on newspaper reports. Leonard Matters distributed copies of the book to MPs in

England and it created a furore in the British Press and the Parliament. Sampige Venkatapathiah was arrested and taken to Karwar in Aug. 1933 and was tried and convicted in Uttara Kannada dt. There were protests by the Advocates Associations of Bangalore, Mysore and Shimoga over his arrest and the matter was even raised by Matters in British Parliament which resulted in the early release of Sampige Venkatapathiah.

A regular Congress Committee was constituted in the Cantonment area in 1934, and in the Municipal election in the area in 1936 Congressmen like S. Sundaram Iyer, P. Narasimha Rao Naidu, R. Krishna Iyer, V.S. Arunachala Mudaliyar, N. Narayana Setty and V. Ekambaram won (six out of the eight Congress had contested and these were the elective Hindu representatives).

Gandhiji's fast at Poona over the question of untouchability had its own echoes in the State. Programmes to propagate eradication of untouchability were held in Bangalore and other places. Temple entry programme for the Scheduled Castes were also taken up. Among others, the Basavanagudi (temple) of Bangalore was opened to Harijans by a batch of Congressmen led by T.T. Sharman.

'Harijan Tour' by Gandhiji

Gandhiji's visit to Bangalore in 1934, his 'Harijan tour' was a notable event. Gandhiji started his tour on Jan 4 (1934) from Gauribidanur, and he was accompanied by Pamadi Subbarama Shetty, V. Venkatappa and Brahmachari Ramachandra of the Kengeri Gurukula. He visited Dodballapur and Tumkur and reached Bangalore in the afternoon on the same day, after spending some time at Yeshwantapur and the Malleshwaram Seva Samaja. Ramalinga Modaliyar had invited Gandhiji to his house, and a purse of Rs. 1,000 was presented to him for the Harijan Fund there. He also inaugurated the Khadi Stores at Commercial Street. After holding a prayer meeting at the Kumara Park, he left for Mysore in the night. On 6th June *via* Kanakapura, he visited Kengeri Gurukulashrama where he was presented a memorandum. For three days he stayed at Bangalore. A public meeting presided over by former Dewan V.P. Madhava Rao was held on 7th and a purse was presented to Gandhiji. At the meeting Gandhiji also appealed to the untouchables to abjure taking beef and intoxicants. The City Municipality also gave him a public address. He also laid foundations for the Harijan hostel in the city on the Magadi Road which is called after him as Bapuji hostel. He also attended a public meeting at the RBANM school grounds.

A second Harijan tour was organised in 1936 when Gandhiji came to the Nandi Hills on 10th May for rest, and he distributed certificates to those that had been successful in the Hindi examination at a function organised at the Bangalore Town Hall. From 10th to 13th June, there was a four-day conference of South Indian Harijan workers at the Kengeri Gurukulashram, and he stayed in Bangalore at the 'Race View' (building) during his visit to Bangalore proper. On 3rd June he visited

the Government Soap Factory and Government Workshop in Bangalore. He had an interview with Sir C.V. Raman.

In 1934, the Praja Mitra Mandali and the Praja Paksha decided to merge and work for responsible government. This was called United Peoples Party (Praja Samyuktha Paksha) and had H.B. Gundappa Gowda as its President and K.C. Reddy, V. Venkatappa, H.C. Dasappa (Mysore), H. Siddiah (Shimoga) and D.S. Mallappa (Tiptur) were its other leaders.

The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Congress were held in Bangalore in 1935 by holding processions and meetings. The meetings held in the City were addressed by Gangadhar Rao Deshpade, Dr. N.S. Hardikar, Karnad Sadashiv Rao, S. Satyamurthy, V.H. Obedullah Saheb, 'Sangu' Subrahmanyam, etc. In Cantonment, programmes were organised at Bhupalam Subbiah Chetty Choultry and a Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition was also organised.

Congress Reaches the Masses

As national movement was getting broad based and reaching various sections of the community and increasing its variegated activities, many big and small organisations were founded to serve as front units of Congress. The trade union of the Binny Mills founded in 1926 was growing in strength, and in other industrial units too trade unions were organised under Congress leadership and K.T. Bhashyam was the President of the United Federation of Bangalore textile workers. The workers of the Minerva and the Maharaja (textile) mills went on strike demanding wage raise in June-July, 1935. There was a similar strike at the Cigaratte factory in Cantonment in 1936. The mill workers became the source of strength for Congress for most of its activities. M.A. Parashuram, a mill worker organised Daridra Narayana Seva Sangham in 1933 and worked for propagating aims of Congress among the working classes. He also became the Secretary of the Textile Labour Union of Bangalore later. M.A. Parashuram was externed from Bangalore several times for his political activities in 1939, in 1940, in 1941 and again in 1944, together with his undergoing imprisonment several terms. His is a classic example of sufferings undergone by the nationalist workers in those days.

As early as in 1930 (July 14), Mahatma Gandhi Taruna Sangha was founded by B.N. Bheema Rao and Savay Ashwattha Rao. Next year its name was changed as National Youth League, and Prof. Sampathgiri Rao was its honorary President between 1932 and 1935. The organisation rendered yeoman service to mobilise youth till it was banned in 1938. A students' wing of Congress came to be organised. M.R. Masani who came to attend its conference in Dec. 1937 was banned from addressing the assembly. The nationalist minded students contested college union elections and won the posts of office bearers. Thus Siddaramanna was elected Vice-President and K.V. Vasanthiah Secretary of the College Union of the Intermediate College in 1937. Nationalist leaders like C. Rajagopalachari, S. Satyamurthy and Sharat Chandra Bose were invited to address the Students' union in the college in

between 1937 and 39. Similarly Deena Seva Sangham had been founded in the city's Harijan area by G.V. Chellam, Sadanandam and M. Jayasheelan. Azad National Youth League and National Service Centre were other such institutions. The Mass Awakeners' Union was founded in 1937, mostly by Leftists with B.M. Seenappa as President and C.B. Monnappa and M.S. Rama Rao were its Secretaries. There was another such body called Civil Liberties Union with L.S. Raju as President and B.M. Seenappa as the Secretary, also founded the same year. United Artists (1936) was another body, consisting of nationalist minded youth engaged in histrionic activities. Cantonment had Bharateeya Nataka Sabha with G. Shivaprakasham as President and A. Sebastian as Secretary. National spirit was thus touching all section of the society.

Congress was also having its network spread in rural areas such as Krishnarajapuram, Kengeri, Yalahanka, Sarjapura and Anekal. Activities were afoot in these areas in the early 1930s. Anekal town and taluk had workers like H. Munishwamy, Jigale Ramaswamy Reddy, Devarakondappa, T.N. Muniswamy Reddy and Muttanallur Akkila Reddy. Krishnarajapura had Guruva Reddy. Indian National Congress President Babu Rajendra Prasad visited Bangalore in 1935.

Fast Changes -1937

The year 1937 was a year of fast changes in Mysore Congress. Mysore Congress had secured 39 seats in the Representative Assembly in the election that were held in that year, and could function as an effective opposition. Sampige Venkatapathiah contesting from Bangalore lost the election and he resigned the post of President of Mysore Congress ('Parliamentary Board') as a sequel. T. Siddalingayya, noted advocate from Dodballapur was chosen president of Mysore Congress. Congress Ministries came to power in neighbouring Bombay and Madras Presidencies. But to the people of Mysore, responsible government was a mirage. In June, an order banning all processions in Bangalore was promulgated. Dewan Mirza made a highly provocative speech at Ramanagaram on 15-7-1937 condemning the demand for responsible government and severely criticising the local Congress leaders. This ignited the dry firewood pile of the spirited atmosphere. While democracy was on the run all over Europe, the local Congressmen were trying to rehabilitate it, Sir Mirza used to ridicule referring to the establishment of Fascist regimes in some European countries. "The tension between the princely Government's progressive image and the reality of its autocratic ways became so severe that the regime's carefully constructed facade began to come apart" says James Manors, commenting on these developments.

The State Congress after holding consultations with Jawaharlal Nehru through correspondence, appointed a "Council of Action" headed by Mysore Congress president T. Siddalingayya, and Tagadur Ramachandra Rao and Veerakesari Seetharama Shastri were two other members of the Committee. The Council

toured the whole Mysore State and condemned the prohibitory orders, the attitude of the Dewan and propagated the idea of responsible government at public meetings organised all over. They enrolled members to Congress. On completion of their tour of the whole State, the Council Members came to be arrested in Bangalore on 6-10-1937, and they were sentenced to one year imprisonment each as they refused to offer bail when produced before the I Class magistrate of Bangalore. Congress appointed K.T. Bhashyam as 'Dictator'. This was followed by the arrest of Bhashyam at Mysore on the midnight of 15th October when he had been to Mysore to attend the Representative Assembly Session the next day, and he was also the leader of the Congress Assembly party. The arrest of N.C. Timma Reddy was another provocative act. The situation was tense, the Praja Samyuktha Paksha on the 16th of October decided to merge with Congress at a Mysore meeting presided over by V.Venkatappa. A new body called 'Mysore Congress' came into existence, and the number of Congress members rose to 130 in the Representative Assembly. James Manors, commenting on these developments says that the non-Brahmin sections had come to realise that "the central problem of their time was not Brahmin domination of officialdom but official domination of State-level politics".

There was a walk-out staged by all these members from the Representative Assembly at its meeting on 19-10-1937 led by H.K. Veerannagauda. Ban was imposed on K.F. Nariman, Congress leader from Bombay, on his addressing the public meeting of Bangalore on October 24. He was manhandled by the Police while arresting him. This was followed by lathi-charge and firing to disperse unruly mob which protested against the arrest. Bangalore was very tense for almost a week from Oct 24 when there was firing and one Gundappa was killed and several others injured. Curfew was imposed. Dozens came to be arrested who included M. Jayasheelan, B.M. Seenappa, G.R. Swamy, C.B. Monnayya etc.

H.K. Veerannagauda together with Suryanarayana Pandit and Tayamma Veerannagauda conducted another whirlwind propaganda tour programme in the State as the Action Committee had done earlier. A.I.C.C. at its Calcutta session in October 1937 passed resolution supporting the agitations of the Congress in the State. To demonstrate the popularity of Congress, 13 Congress members of the Representative Assembly resigned and got themselves reelected at the by-elections held in Nov. 1937 by thumping majority. The K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar Committee was appointed on 1-4-1938 to consider the question of 'Constitutional reforms' in the State, but over the very issue of giving representation to State Congress in the Committee there were differences between the Government and the Congress.

Shivapura Congress

This was followed by the famous Shivapura Congress, the first session of Mysore Congress near Maddur on 10th, 11th and 12th April 1938. T. Siddalingaiah was its President. This unprecedented political gathering in Mysore State saw the

arrest of T. Siddalingaiah and M.N. Jois on the first day for hoisting the tricolour flag. Flag Satyagraha was offered for one month at Shivapur by hoisting the flag daily and the police arresting one or two persons (though not daily). The Congress at Shivapura gave a call for launching Flag Satyagraha all over the State together with continuation of the same at Shivapura. The delegates after the three-day session returned to their places and organised Satyagraha in all towns and centres. In Bangalore on April 17th a procession led by K. Hanumanthiah, Ramlal Tiwari and Parthanasarayana Pandit offered flag Satyagraha and Pandit was arrested for unfurling the flag. Smt. Lalithamma G.R. Swamy was the first lady to be arrested at Bangalore and she too offered Satyagraha. Other leaders arrested in Bangalore were B.M. Seenappa, M.N. Seetharamayya and Tiwari. Scores courted arrest in Bangalore. Satyagraha was also offered at Anekal.

The firing at Vidhurashwattha in Kolar district at the *jatra* of the place when Flag Satyagraha had been launched resulted in the death of 10 including a pregnant woman on 25-4-1938. This further aggravated situation. The censorship imposed on newspapers helped wild rumours like describing the death toll at 40, to spread. Described as the 'Jalianwala of Mysore', the Vidhurashwattha tragedy rudely shocked many well-meaning persons who had faith in the benevolence of the Maharaja. Congress gained mass support. Sardar Patel and Kripalani visited the State, spoke to the Dewan, and some sort of understanding was reached by his efforts. But the "patch-work" was not adhered to by the Government. Congress gained mass support. The Government appointed Vepa Ramesam to enquire into the firing and L.S. Raju worked as the advocate on behalf of the public. The proceedings of the enquiry got wide coverage in the Press.

Taluk Level Peasants' Conferences came to be launched in almost all taluks of the State by Congress to enlarge its base in the rural areas during 1938-39. The problems of the peasants and of the rural areas were ventilated at these conference. Pro-ryot measures undertaken by the Congress Ministries in Madras and Bombay were quoted widely.

The second session of Mysore Congress held at Vidhurashwattha in April 1939 presided over by H.C. Dasappa and the All-Mysore Congress Committee held at Arsikere in July 1939 found the attitude of the government towards the demand for responsible government too rigid and unhelpful, even over the nomination of the members to the Srinivasa Iyengar Committee appointed to look into the demand for responsible government. In February 1939, Congress members resigned their membership in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council. The Hamilton Building Satyagraha at Mysore in February-March 1939 and the K.G.F. Satyagraha in Aug. 1939 resulted in the arrest of the hundreds. The latter had to be launched as the Government banned the entry of State Congress Working Committee members to K.G.F. Finally the State Congress decided to launch Civil Disobedience in the State to press for the demand of responsible Government. This included Jungle Satyagraha of cutting toddy trees all over.

Siddalingayya offered Satyagraha at the Banappa Park, Bangalore on 1st Sept. 1939 and was imprisoned for one year. This was signal to begin the movement. A total over 2,800 people were convicted for various political offences in the Mysore State during this Satyagraha of 1939-40. Later all convicts were released at the Investiture of Jayachamaraja Wodeyar in August 1940. In the elections that were held to DLBs and Municipalities in 1940 and to the Legislature, the success of Congress despite the tactics of the Government to muzzle the elections demonstrated the mass base Congress had come to acquire by then.

The Seva Dal, the Jana Jagriti Sangha, the Students' Association etc., had helped the mobilisation of the youth in Bangalore. Youth Congress was also functioning. The Nariman episode of 1937 created unprecedented awakening among the youth of Bangalore. In Dec. 1937, the visit of M.R. Masani and the ban on his lecture further infuriated the youth. Sharat Chandra Bose addressed the Mysore State Students Conference in Bangalore in 1939. College Unions also became the fora nationalist activity. Leaders like S. Satyamurthy, C. Rajagopalachari and V.S. Srinivasa Shastry were invited to address the students at these unions. Almost all student hostels in Bangalore had been centres of nationalist activity. Similarly the labour force too had been organised by Congress. The 25-day long Binny Mill strike in 1941 (ending on Feb.14) had resulted in the recognition of the Binny Mill Workers Union. N.D. Shankar, K.S. Kumaran and M.S. Rama Rao had successfully led the strike. There was a similar strike in the Cigarette Factory (Imperial Tobacco Co., Ltd.) in the Cantonment area in April 1940 and Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose had issued statements supporting this strike. In addition to K.T. Bhashyam, labour leaders like N.D. Shankar, M.N. Chandur and M.A. Parashuram had toiled for the success of the strike. Congress had by then grown as a mass organisation. In 1939, of the eight Hindu elective seats in the Cantonment Municipality Congress won 7, and among the elected were H.S. Narasiah and H.B. Battanlal. K.T. Bhashyam of Bangalore became the President of Mysore Congress, presiding over its sessions held at Shimoga in May 1940. At the election held to the Representative Assembly in February 1941, "The Government continued to obstruct the mobilization activities of Congress" (-Hettne) and despite this Congress won 106 of 298 seats to the Assembly, 18 of the 44 seats in the Council. K.C. Reddy became the leader of the party in the Assembly and T. Mariyappa in the Legislative Council. According to new reforms, two elected Assembly members, J.M. Imam and H.B. Gundappa Gauda became ministers (Council Members), but the Council was not responsible to the Assembly.

Fifteen persons from the Cantonment area went to Dharwad and offered anti-war Individual Satyagraha in North Karnataka in 1941 and were imprisoned. Congress was not permitting the launching of any such movement in the princely area. The convicted included Chengalvaraya Mudaliyar, M.M. Devaraja Chettiyar, D.S. Sriramulu and V.K. Kothandapani. Earlier M. Palanivelu and Armugam had

been convicted for a six-month term in the Cantonment area in 1940, for pasting anti-war posters. At the elections held for the Bangalore City Municipality, Congress won 23 out of the 24 seats in 1941. Congress also secured majority in these elections at Mysore, Tumkur, Mandya etc.

Though the idea of responsible government was uppermost in the minds of the local Congress leaders, the younger elements, especially the youth, were more concerned with national freedom. A "ginger group" called Pragathi Paksha was launched inside Congress in 1934 by leaders like M.N. Jois, H.C. Boranna Gauda, K.S. Kumaran, H.S. Doreswamy, T.K. Gangi Reddy, K.R. Sridhara Murthy, M.N. Seetharamayya, etc. to stress the importance of national freedom and, they also started *Pauravani*, a weekly. When the Quit India Movement was launched in 1942, the issue of responsible government was relegated to the background, and 'Quit' call to the British alone engaged the attention of the agitating Congressmen.

The All Mysore Congress Committee prior to the Bombay A.I.C.C. had endorsed the resolution of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress. The A.M.C.C. resolution read thus: ".....the Working Committee, therefore, desires to associate itself with the Indian National Congress in its latest decision and resolved upon recommending to the All Mysore Congress Committee to accept the lead so that such struggle might help creation of a Free India and the establishment of responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore....."

"QUIT INDIA" MOVEMENT

The Quit India Movement was like a volcanic eruption. Students and labourers in towns struck work and merchants observed hartal by closing shops. Even in village slogans 'Quit India' were written all over and picketing of liquor shops and even attacking them and cutting of telegraph and telephone wires in the villages on main roads were activities resorted to. Holding of public meetings and procession in contravention of ban orders was quite common. The Mysore Government had served a notice on the Secretaries and leading members of Congress on 9-8-42 that All- Mysore Congress Committee and the District and City Committees have been declared as unlawful associations. But the spontaneous upsurge saw unprecedented scenes of mass fury.

A public meeting was organised at Bangalore Chiklabbagh in the evening of 9-8-1942 (on hearing the news of arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders on 9th morning), presided over by H.C. Suryanarayana Rao and Kengal Hanuman-tayya, N. D. Shankar and K. Ramaswamy addressed it. After condemning the arrest of the national leaders, the meeting resolved to wait for the State leaders to return from the Bombay A.I.C.C. and then decide on the future course. August 10 was a Monday, and the news of leaders' arrest was widely known in the mofussil areas too through newspapers. In Bangalore there was procession by students who boycotted classes. Led by the students of National High School the procession

passed through various educational institutions like S.L.N. High School, Mission High School etc., and also the Intermediate College. All these institutions were closed. On request by this processionists, most of the shops in the Avenue Road, Dodpet, Chikpet, Market etc. were closed. Students of the Medical College, and the Fort High School students appearing for terminal examinations also came out. The St. Josephs and the Central College were also closed. The workers of Minerva Mills struck work for one hour on 10th as it was their pay day (The Binny Mill workers also struck work for one hour on 11-9-42). A meeting of students numbering 12,000 was held at 1.30 P.M. at the Banappa Park on the 10th and it resolved to continue the strike, till Gandhiji's release. K.V. Vasanthiah, Deenadayalu Naidu and K. Krishna Murthy addressed the students. The next day too there was a meeting of students at the Central College Cricket Pavilion which was attended by about 12,000 and K.V. Vasanthiah announced the programme to be undertaken by continuing the strike. At another public meeting held at the Banappa Park on 11-8-42, presided over by Hoskote Mahadeva Shastry, K. Ramaswamy read out the 13-point programme described as laid down by the Indian National Congress.

On 12th August, workers of the Binny Mill, the Government Press, the Porcelain Factory and the AMCO Batteries went on strike, and the Mysore Spinning Mills observed stay-in strike. The Hindustan Aircraft Factory workers also struck work and organised a meeting at the Sampangi Tank, attended by 4,000. All educational institutions including the Medical School and the Maharani's College remained closed on the 12th. There were separate meetings by Binny Mill workers attended by 4,000 and the Minerva Mills attended by 600. Mysore Congress leaders like K.T. Bhashyam, N.C. Thimma Reddy, Talakere Subrahmanya (then President of Mysore Congress) and Malavalli Veerappa returning by railway from Bombay A.I.C.C. were arrested at the Yeshwantpur railway station on the same day.

On the 13th morning, the workers of the Binny, Mysore, Minerva and T.R. Mills struck work and organised a procession in the morning and a toddy shop on the Dharmambudhi Tank Bund was attacked. A joint meeting of the mill workers was attended by 8,000. There was a meeting of the students also on that day. The Hindustan Aircraft factory was closed until further notice, and there was strike in the Government Electric Factory, AMCO, Mysore Tannery, Hosieries Factory, ITL, Mahalakshmi Mills, Suryodays Mills, Government Glass Factory etc., on that day. The Bar Association at its meeting attended by 90 members requested the Law Minister to close the Courts for one week. If the request were to be turned down, the advocates decided to picket the courts.

On the 14th of Aug the Mysore Mill workers assembled in front of the Vegetable Oil Factory and persuaded them to strike work. The labourers of Mysore Lamp Works also struck work. The striking workers of the Hindustan Aircraft held a meeting at the Banappa Park. The students' meeting at the Central College Cricket Pavilion was attended by 25 to 30,000 students and others on that day according to police reports. There were also meetings organised by the Congress

at the Banappa Park and the labourers at the Municipal Gardens. By then most of the leading workers had been arrested and detained.

On the 15th Mahadeva Desai, Gandhiji's close assistant died in Jail at Pune. Over the arrest of leaders like Gandhiji, Nehru and others there had been lot of panic all over the country including Bangalore (and there had been rumours that they had been taken to unknown destinations and even shot dead). So the news of Desai's death created panic as it reached the city in the evening. The Bangalore Transport Co. workers struck work on the same day, demanding the release of their arrested leader Chellam and grant of leave for one week as running vehicles had become impossible in the city due to the agitation. The City Municipality at its meeting on 15th adjourned itself in protest against the arrest of Gandhiji, Kengal Hanumanthiah (the President of the Municipality) and two other Municipal Councillors. The resolution was moved by L.S. Raju and Venkataswamy Chetty in the Chair. Dr. Kamala Ramachandra and B. Narasimhiah, two Council members had resigned their membership. There was a public meeting at the Banappa Park and when the City Magistrate informed the speakers there that a ban had been imposed on all meetings and processions, the speakers asked the people to disperse. "Some still stayed on the roads causing obstruction to traffic and persisted on remaining there even though requested to disperse. With a mild lathi charge, the gathering was dispersed. The gathering on their way was joined by rowdy elements. They caused damage" to some buildings on Kempegowda Road, says the police report. Telephone wires were also cut. There was a meeting of the labourers at the Banappa Park and it was joined by scores of people coming from Tumkur by ticketless travel by railway. Procession and hartals were also organised in mofussil areas including Yelahanka, Kengeri, Anekal etc., on the 15th.

Firing and Deaths

But the news of Mahadevabhai's death created very serious incidents of mob fury on the 16th and 17th resulting in firing and imposition of curfew. Cavalry had to be engaged to control the unruly mob in the city and the tar roads were strewn with raji to make the horses trip and tumble. "Large crowds had gathered in the Mysore Bank Square in the Avenue and Kempegowda Roads in defiance of prohibitory order on 16th" say the police reports and add that "Police made a lathi charge on the crowd on the Kempegowda Road". This was followed by firing as "big stones were hurled at the cavalry". Avenue Road Post Office was set on fire. The crowd tried to enter the Chikepth police station and 27 military personnel were reported wounded. As a result of firing one person, Thimmanna Das, died on that day. V.P. Muniswamy and J. Lingiah, trade union leaders were among the hundreds arrested on the day. Curfew was imposed in the City.

Press Censorship imposed proved so irksome that Editors of Bangalore papers *Vishwa Karnataka*, *Daily News* and *Tainadu* decided to close their establishments temporarily as "impartial reporting has been impaired". Two days

earlier, *Prajamata* weekly and *Janavani* daily had expressed similar views. On 17th August situation turned worst. Crowds gathered in Mysore Bank Square Area, and the communication lines were damaged. Cottonpet Post Office and Kengeri Gate Police Station were attacked. The City Post Office was set on fire and fire engines were also attacked. The Government Storage Depot near the Kashi Vishveshwara Temple was looted. There was firing at the City Post Office, Balepet Circle and Cottonpet, and nine persons were killed and 39 injured. Of the deceased three males could not be identified and the other six were Tippaiah (15), Appaiah (16), H.R. Srinivasan (16), Narayanachar (or Narayana Das, 35), Subbasing Ramasingh (25) and Ponnuswamy (16). One injured person died later on Aug. 23.

"I have been desired by Mysore Congress Working Committee to request Your Highness to kindly renounce all treaty obligations with imperialist Britain and resist all and every interference from the representative.....", a letter written by N. Keshava Iyengar, eminent advocate from Bangalore read. The letter addressed to the Maharaja also requested him to establish responsible government and to release all political prisoners. It was at the instance of Talakere Subrahmanya (who had sent a secret letter to V.S. Narayan Rao), the Mysore Congress President who had been arrested, that the letter to the Maharaja was sent on 18th Aug and copies of this letter were pasted all over the State in public places. The Mysore Piece Goods Association, presided over by Ramnarayan Chellaram, passed a resolution demanding the release of arrested leaders, withdrawal of ban on public meeting and procession and also curfew etc., on 18th Aug. Congress office was taken possession of by the Government on 19th night and curfew was imposed under the Public Security Act.

After the climax of the 17th, calm returned to the city, and most of the factories re-opened and attendance improved in the course of a week, the police pickets were withdrawn from all mills on 21st, a meeting of students held at the Banashankari temple in the outskirts of the city resolved to continue the strike. K.V. Vasanthiah and M.A. Vasudeva Rao addressed the students.

A serious sabotage effort was unearthed at the Hindustan Aircraft on the 24th of Aug and sit-in strike was reported in Mysore Mills demanding the release of their leaders on the 26th. Ten labourers were released and they resumed work on 27th. N. Keshava Iyengar was arrested on 26th and V.S. Narayana Rao on the previous day for the letter addressed to the Maharaja. Kannada journalists T.T. Sharman, B.N. Gupta, P.R. Ramaiah and S. Krishna Sharma were arrested on 25th.

By then some kind of organisation was being evolved in Bangalore, an underground office was opened for the Mysore State, and Nittur Srinivasa Rao and H.R. Venkataramiah took care of it. M.P.L. Shastry handled financial matters. Many volunteers helped them undertake correspondence, arrange for the stay of local and visiting underground workers and co-ordinate work. A.G. Ramachandra Rao assisted by H.S. Seetharam, Buddha Das, K.A. Venkataramiah, K. Deviah, Prem Chand, Y.V. Ramachandra, H.S. Doreswamy, Kuntala etc., undertook co-or-

dination work. M.H. Shah who had resigned his important position in Hindustan Aircraft, M.C. Venugopal, N.D. Shankar and Prabhudev were working among labourers. K.V. Vasanthiah and M.A. Vasudeva Rao worked among students. Underground bulletins were being brought out by R. Bhadranna, K. Srinivasa Rao and B. Ramachandra. Kengeri, where G.R. Swamy stayed, provided a jaunt for under-ground workers to meet and discuss. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, who had come to Bangalore and who had been moving round addressing underground meetings and establishing contacts, was arrested on 5th September. The St. Joseph's College in the Cantonment Area announced its closure on the 7th of Sept as a majority of students had decided to continue the strike, and other schools and colleges in the city mostly remained closed. A procession of labourers, carrying the coffin (*chatta* in Kannada) of what was called as the 'Defence of India Rules' being led by noted labour leader G. Chengalaradhya and his wife Bhagirathamma was held on 7th Sept. Starting from Mastansab Dargah area, Cottonpeth, the procession reached Majestic Circle, and as the police stopped them, they squatted on the road for nearly six hours, raising slogans and singing patriotic songs. The *chatta* or bier was cremated on the spot in the evening and then the processionists dispersed. "When we were standing in the sun for nearly six hours, the public entertained their labour brethren by supplying cool drinks", says Bhagirathamma. G. Chengalaradhya and Bhagirathamma were arrested on the 9th Sept.

Strike by Labour, Students

There was strike again, beginning from 21st September by three textile mills (Binny, Minerva and Mysore) demanding release of Gandhiji and other leaders etc., and Congress had taken steps to distribute some relief to the striking workers. All the three mills declared lock-out on the 25th. The workers of the Mahalakshmi Mill, Hebbal struck work on 25th. The strike continued for more than three weeks, and in the meanwhile Binny Mill dismissed 78 workers, Minerva 85 and Mysore 110. Work was resumed in the Binny Mill on 16th, and strike fizzled out by the close of October. But the struggle of workers during the Quit India Movement, which was quite heroic, ended causing dismissal, sufferings and starvation to scores. Over 200 labourers were dismissed and could be reinstated only after 1947. But in the unprecedented demonstration of popular wrath against British rule, the role of the Bangalore labourers was no way small.

The students strike continued, both at Bangalore, Mysore and at many other centres including Tumkur and Chikmagalur. Ticketless travel by students led by M.V. Krishnappa of Mysore and their visit to Hassan, Arsikere, Hole Narasipur, Mandya and Arakere in large groups created alarm. They held processions and meetings in those places. There had been sabotage of railway traffic too, apart from damaging of stations at Tiptur, Banavar, Davangere, etc. on the 16th and 17th Aug. From the 25th Aug, the Mysore students were prevented from travelling ticketless by the railways. But the students strike continued both at Bangalore and Mysore causing headache to the government, and their meetings and processions were also

common, together with picketing at the gates of schools and colleges. Many students from Bangalore City fanned out into villages in the mofussil areas in groups to conduct propaganda. "Most of the students who proceed towards village side are ascertained to be preaching to villagers not to sell anything to Merchants and Agents who come to them to purchase Butter, Milk and other produce as these items would be sent to military centres", says a police report. On 30th Sept attendance at the Central College was 161 out of a total strength of 900, the Intermediate College 307 out of 1150, and at the Maharanis, only 35 out of 326. This was despite stringent orders passed by the Government on 15th September ordering the stoppage of picketing at schools and colleges and threat of serious action against the absentees. The Government servants were instructed to see that their wards did not participate in the strike and were threatened with disciplinary action if their children continued to take part in civil disobedience. Divide-and-rule tactics of the government made the President of the Muslim Students' Federation issue a statement".....We the Muslims in general and Muslim students in particular are no party to this struggle....."etc. There was a meeting of students at the Bangalore Town Hall on 1-10-1942, and all students (about 2,000 in number) voted for continuing the strike.

Symbolic protest programmes against ban order on processions etc., were also organised. There was a procession of ladies on 7- 10-1942, and nine of the processionists were arrested and charge- sheeted. There was a similar procession on 8-10-42 and 14 ladies were arrested and charge-sheeted and 40 others were let off. K. Kannan, K. Keshavalu and M. Narasimhamurthy from the Cantonment area (all students) went to conduct propaganda in rural areas, and later K. Kannan and his father K. Kumaraswamy Mudaliar, were arrested. Devayaniyammal (wife of the veteran Muniswamy Gaunder), Nagabhushanammal (wife of Chengalvaraya Mudaliyar), Papamma and Venkatachalamma were similarly arrested in the Cantonment area. For picketing at the Vanivilas Institute, 24 lady students were arrested on 7-10-42. Death of a student, Shankarappa in Mysore Jail when the police lathi-charged the student inmates (including those from Bangalore) resulted in creating panic in the minds of students. After the Dasara Holidays, when the colleges were re- opened, and students started attending classes after the second week of October. Attendance in Central College was 499 on 18th Oct, 535 on the 10th and 689 on the 16th out of total strength of 900. In the intermediate College, 710 out of 1,150 attended the classes on 16th Oct and these figure for the Maharani's College was 220 (on 15th Oct) out of a total of 326. Four students including V.S. Krishna Iyer were arrested, at the Central College gates on 27th October for picketing.

As peaceful methods for continuing the strike had failed violent methods were tried. There was an explosion in a lecture hall of the St. Joseph's College on 20-10-42. The thatched roof of the dancing hall of one Mysore Royal Show then

being organised at the Doddanna Hall Compound was set on fire on 8-11-42. There was an incident of fire in the District Office compound on the 9th Nov. night. There was similar explosion in the Intermediate College on 11-11-42. The Caltex Storage Tank evidenced an explosion on the 13th. A report of that date (13th Nov.) says that attendance at the educational institutions was normal. Many leaders came to be arrested including those underground, and by November, the movement slowly cooled down losing its vigour. M. Kannan, Vice- President, Minerva Mill Association and Y.V. Ramachandra Iyer a hotel owner ('an ex-political convict') were arrested. There was an explosion in the Central College Library on Nov. 24th and also in the Chemistry Laboratory of the Intermediate College on the 4th Dec. followed by similar explosions in the Malleswaram High School on 6th December. There were also explosions at the Intermediate and Engineering College on the 9th and a similar incident in the latter College on the 10th Dec also. Soon M.H. Shah, A.G. Ramachandra Rao, H.S. Seetharam (16-12-42), H.S. Doreswamy (19- 12-42) etc., were also arrested.

During 1943, the movement took the shape of only symbolic protest. Collecting signatures for a mercy petition pleading for the Isur convicts, who were to be hanged was one of the programmes. K.V. Vasanthaiah offered Satyagraha on 26-1-43 and courted arrest. There were processions in the city and Cantonment area on 26-1-43 to celebrate independence days. Some persons were arrested. College students observed hartal. House of one Joshi was searched on 7-3-43 and huge quantity of 'objectionable pamphlets' were seized from his house. Devarakondappa, a worker from Anekal, died in Central Jail due to the lathi charge by police. When Gandhiji went on fast in Feb. 1943, there were prayer meetings and other programmes in Bangalore. At the Sahitya Parishat D.V. Gundappa recited a poem composed by him, praying for the long life of Gandhiji on 4th March. Five persons from Isur were hanged in Bangalore Jail in March. K.A. Venkataramaiah was arrested in March first week. Wali Channappa, under-ground leader from Belgaum was arrested in Bangalore in June 1943. Chengalvaraya Mudaliyar, Kumaraswamy Mudaliyar and K. Kannan were arrested in the Cantonment area on the 5th Aug though they had been released from jail in July. Several arrests were made both in the City and Cantonment area on 9th Aug 1943 for holding processions etc., and the arrested included Ramakrishna from Cantonment and M.V. Subbayya from the city area.

The movement had practically cooled down from Jan. 1943. K.C. Reddy was released on 24th Jan and most of the detinues in July 1943. But the movement had touched almost every section of the society. In the Mysore State alone 10,000 persons had been arrested and detained or convicted during 1942-43 and 1943-44, and of this, the quota from Bangalore alone must be over 2,000. Mysore Congress session (6th) was held in Bangalore (1946), K.C. Reddy presiding..

"MYSORE CHALO" MOVEMENT

The last phase of the Congress movement in the district was the one launched in 1947 demanding responsible government. Already Congress had won 125 seats in the Representative Assembly in the 1945 elections and had proved its popularity. Though India became free and the Maharaja agreed for the accession of the State to the Indian Union, the demand for responsible government was not conceded. Congress celebrated Independence day with programmes of mass jubilation on 15th Aug. 1947. Congress gave a call to volunteers from all parts of the State to march by foot and offer Satyagraha in front of the Mysore Palace from 14-9-1947 to press for responsible government. This "Mysore Chalo" movement launched on 1-9-1947 continued till 24th October. K.C. Reddy was appointed 'Dictator' for the movement. Reddy addressed a public meeting attended by over one lakh at Bangalore on 1-9-1947. 'Arcot-Boycott' (against the Dewan) and 'Tambuchetty Chatta katti' (against a Council Member) were the slogans raised. On the 3rd Sept. K.C. Reddy, T. Siddalingayya, K.T. Bhashyam, H. Siddayya, K.R. Madhav Rao and T. Subramanya were arrested in Bangalore. The students, labourers and peasants joined the movement in large numbers in the State. Taluk Offices came to be surrounded by picketing demonstrators. The police and the railway employees also joined the strike. S. Nijalingappa was arrested on the 14th and he was confined at the Mysore Railway station. Most of the arrested were taken in police vehicles and left off at far off places, mostly in forest tracts during nights, forcing only one Satyagrahi to alight at a point, and letting off another at a distance of another mile or so. This was resorted to because the jails were full, and also, to terrorise the Satyagrahis.

Bangalore City saw unprecedented scenes of demonstrations. There was a procession by labourers on Aug. 30, which gave a call for complete hartal on 31st of Aug. In Cantonment area, Rama Rao (formerly of the INA) organised processions every day. F.J. Simon was the first Satyagrahi to be arrested there. There was firing on a procession at Seppings Road on 8-9-1947 and seven persons were killed. (The deceased were Anniah, Chinnappa, Jakkaria, Karim Khan, Madhurai Muthu, Natesan and Raju). K.B. Srinivasan and others were publishing *Free Mysore Gazette* an underground bulletin beginning with 9-9-1947, having formed a 'Council of Action' with G.V. Chellam as President and K. Kannan as the Convenor. Processions and meetings were daily occurring in the city. They were attended by thousands. *Pauravani*, a weekly from Bangalore, became a daily, two months prior to the movement. For having published a series of articles by T.T. Sharman, the press was seized on Sept. 2. From September 9th, H.S. Doreswamy started its publication from Hindupur (Anantpur dt) where, with the help of a local Congress leaders, M. Linganna, a Satyagraha Camp had been founded. M.A. Parashuraman and K.R. Sridhara Murthy from Bangalore also stayed at the camp and the paper was smuggled inside the State everyday, and 38 daily issues were brought out.

Satyagraha and other activities were also organised from this Hindupur camp in the border areas, especially in the Kolar and Tumkur dts. An 'Azad Mysore Government' was also founded there.

The upsurge in 1947 was unprecedented. The mobs surrounding taluk offices resulted in firing in several places, and six persons were killed in Hosadurga, one at Mysore, two at Tumkur, two at Madhugiri etc. Batches after batches of volunteers leaving far off places converged on Mysore, and thousands came to be arrested.

Finally, the Maharaja was forced to climb down and agreement between the Congress and the Government was reached on 24-10-1947, and responsible Government headed by K.C. Reddy was sworn in on 27-10-1947. (Kengal Hanumantayya later became the Chief Minister following the General Elections of 1952. From Aug to October 1956, Kadidal Manjappa was the Chief Minister).

On the eve of Independence the Cantonment area was transferred to the Mysore Government and in 1949 Bangalore City Corporation was inaugurated by merging the city area and Cantonment. Six enclaves belonging to Madras Province were handed over to Mysore State and were merged in Anekal tq. in 1950. The district became a part of Karnataka after Reorganisation of States in 1956.

Karnataka Unification movement was strongly supported by the intellectuals and writers from Bangalore like Masti, A.N. Krishna Rao, M. Ramamurthy, G. P. Rajarathnam, Devudu, Subodha M. Rama Rao, T.T. Sharman, Kuvempu, Shivamurthy Shastry etc., and newspapers like *Tainadu* and *Prajavani* (1948). Weeklies like *Prajamata*, *Chitragupta* and *Janapragathi* and most of the Kannada magazines also supported the cause. After unification, S. Nijalingappa became the Chief Minister, and Vidhana Soudha, a large and impressive building of the Secretariat and Legislature of the new State, was inaugurated in 1956.