

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORY

**B**angalore District has very useful written records (inscriptions) beginning from the days of the Gangas, helping us to outline its history. Many megalithic sites too have been located in the area, though much work remains to be done with regard to prehistoric studies. Many legends and myths are narrated regarding some places in the district in the *sthalapuranas* and oral traditions in currency. Bangalore district area is described as part of Dandakaranya of *Ramayana* fame. Ramagiri near Ramanagaram is described as a place connected with Sugreeva and being visited by Rama. Rama's horse connected with *ashwamedha* is said to have visited Heggunda (Nelamangala tq) followed by his army. Aigandapura is described as a place visited by Pandavas and Dharmeshwara temple there as raised in memory of their visit. The Bhimeshwara temple at Makali, Magadi tq, is described as built by Bhima of *Mahabharatha* fame. At Kondrahalli (Hoskote tq), an old lake is identified as the place where the famous Yaksha Prashna episode of *Mahabharatha* had taken place. Kanva Maharshi is said to have lived in Channapatna tq and sage Mandavya at Magadi. Kannur in Magadi tq is also described as associated with Kanva and Sugganahalli with sage Shuka. Kanva is also associated with Abbur.

No sites of palaeolithic culture have been located in the Bangalore district. Kibbanahalli in the neighbouring Tumkur district is the only such site in this region. Tools of mesolithic stage, tiny micro-liths of quartz, have been located at Kibbanahalli of Tumkur District and also at Jalahalli near Bangalore and Chudasandra in Anekal tq and Siddapur in Channapatna tq. These tools are of a period earlier to 10,000 to 8,000 B.C. Some sites of the neolithic age have been located in Bangalore district such as Rajaghatta near Dodballapur or Virupapura in Magadi tq where ashmounds extending over a considerably

wide area have been located. In these ashmounds occasionally neolithic handaxes and pottery are also found. Similar sites are seen at Hoskote behind the fort, and at Doddahullur and Attur of the same tq. Black-and-red ware and iron pieces are found here. Megalithic sites have also been located at Jadigenahalli, Magondanahalli, Savana-durga (Magadi tq), Bellandur, etc. Iron implements have also been located in the megalithic tombs, mostly stone chambers. Chikkajala (now in Bangalore North tq) has megalithic tombs, spread over a considerable distance. This was first located in 1881 by Captian Branfil. Some of these stone chambers have slabs of the length or breadth of over four metres, and one or two of these 'sealed' chambers had opening (passage) to the east. The skeletal remains, pottery and iron implements have been found in these tombs. Some of these artefacts have been taken to Madras Museum. Jadigenahally in Hoskote tq has many megalithic tombs in circular enclosures of tall rough roundish stones, the actual tomb being at the centre. The circles vary in their size, having a diametre of two to six metres. Excavations were conducted here in 1957 by Dr. M. Sheshadri, and some of its artefacts are preserved in Bangalore Museum. Most of these are pit burials, and there are no chambers here. In one of the tombs is found a red sarcophagus, 7 feet in length with eight legs and a lid. Paddy had been deposited in the pit before placing this earthen coffin. Most of the pottery here is black-and-red ware including long-necked jars; black shining ware is also seen. Iron implements like swords, knives, sickles, pick-axes, tripods, pans and weapons like tridents are also seen. The earthen vessels included pots, plates and tumblers. A brass bell has also been located. In some tombs, in a huge pit, two smaller pits are dug, and one contains the coffin and some earthen vessels and iron implements and the other pit contains a heap of variety of earthen vessels. The coffins were covered with thick layers of potter's earth, and removing the buried materials is not easy. The date of this site has been fixed as first to third century A.D. This type of burials, especially with sarcophagus are common in the east in Chingalpet District, and at Kunathur of Tamilnadu.

#### THE GANGAS

The district under study was under the Gangas for the longest period in its history, 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 Koratagere 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 under study.

Though some records of the post-Ganga period have described the Gangas as originally Jainas and Simhanandi Acharya, a Jaina 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 post-Ganga records say. But contemporary records speak of one Konganivarma as the earliest ruler and the Madhava has been identified as his son and successor. The Tamil inscriptions speak of the Gangas as 'Kongani (Konguni) Arasars'. After Pallava rule over the region during the middle of the fourth century A.D. the Gangas founded their new kingdom with Kunalala as the capital and the 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-dharma-maharaja, 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 the learned and the poets" and as such one "who uprooted the obstacles by the prowess of his own arms." 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. The first Ganga record in this region in his Bendiganahalli plates dated in the first regnal year, where he is called Vijayakrishnavarma Maharaja, son of Madhava Dharma Maharaja granting the village Kuravuta as *agrahara* to a Vedic scholar (Ht 170).

Harivarma was succeeded by his son Madhava II (also called Simhavarma) 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 (Heggadevankote tq region), daughter of Skandaverman. Some other plates of Avinita are found in this region of which the one at Mallohalli speaks of grant of some land at Tippur (describing village in Maragure Rashtra) to a priest (Db 67). Avinita tried to overlook the claims of his elder son Durvinita for succession, and Durvinita his elder son 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, Purulare and Pennagara in many of his records including one from Mallohalli in Dodballapur tq. These were perhaps in the wars against the Pallavas. 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 Prakrit. *Vaddakata* 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 *Neethi shastra*. 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 Pujoyapada, and Durvinita appears to have written a Kannada work of the same name. 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). Pulikeshin I claims to have performed horse sacrifice after defeating the neighbouring princes in his 543 Badami Cliff record.

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 describe as having mastered 14 *vidyas*. His son and successor Bhuvikrama, in clsoe alliance with the Chalukya Vikramaditya I of Badami fought against the Pallavas and defeated Pallava Parameshwara Varman at Vilande near Arkonam in c 670 A.D., 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 Markunda near Channapatna as their capital.

#### SRIPURUSHA

Shivamara's successor was his grandson Sripurusha (726-89), 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 his victorious campaign against Kanchi, later the Pallavas invaded Gangavadi and recovered the necklace Ugrodaya which Srivikrama had secured at Vilande in c 670. Two records from Shivanapura, Hoskote tq speak of his war against Kaduvetti and death of Siyagellarasa, perhaps a Ganga prince. Pandya Termara kidnapped a Ganga princess, married her, and defeated Sripurusha at Venbai. Sripurusha shifted his capital to Manne (Nelamangala 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 district. Sripurusha had his queens from the Chalukya and Nolamba families, but Nolamba Charuponnera later joined hands with the Rashtrakutas. Of his records, one from Totagere (N<sub>1</sub> 33) speaks of the grant of Attigundur village as *sarvamanya* to a scholar called Sakka-harasharma. Two herostones, one at Gangavara and another at Chandapanahalli (both in Devanahalli tq), speak of a fight against Duggamara, Sripurusha's elder son. A record of his 39th year (c 764 AD) from Saligrama (Hoskote tq) speak of his grant to a scholar Bhutasharma (MAR1941). This scholarly prince Sripurusha wrote *Gajashastra* in Sanskrit. Of his three sons (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 Rashtrakutas. The Manne plates of 797 (N<sub>1</sub> 60) speak of his having dispersed the Rashtrakuta army of Dhruva at Mudugundur, now in Tumkur district. But Emperor Dhruva later defeated him and took him captive, and Dhruva appointed his son Kamba as Governor of Gangavadi. He ruled from Manne. But after the death of Dhruva, the rivalry for succession between his sons resulted in Emperor Govinda III releasing Shivamara II to counter Kamba, his own brother. But Shivamara did not help Govinda, and the latter imprisoned Shivamara again. Shivamara's son Marasimha ruled over Gangavadi for some time (796-97). He appears to have died early. A minister of Marasimha called Srivijaya built a *jinalaya* at Manne and donated the income from the village Kiruvukkuru for its maintenance in 797 A.D. (N<sub>1</sub> 60). Later Govinda III released Shivamara II. There is a herostone at Bhaktarahalli, Hoskote tq (Hk 160) speaking of Shivamara's fight against Kaduvetti (Pallava). 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 (N<sub>1</sub> 61). Shivamara II continued his struggle against the Rashtrakutas.

Amoghavarsha I killed him at Kagemogeyur in 816 A.D. Shivamara's younger son Prithvipati 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 Prithvipati II at Parvi, and with him the branch ended. A tenacious fighter, Shivamara II was also a poet and he wrote *Gajashtaka* in Kannada. A devoted *Jaina*, he built the Chandraprabha basti at Shravanabelagola.

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

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 the Ganga could not be fully subdued. Rachamalla I was succeeded in 843 by his son Ereganga Nitimarga and Amoghavarsha decided to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the Gangas. Amoghavarsha married his daughter Chandrabalabbe to Ereganga's younger son Butuga. 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 II (Butuga's son) killed Mahendra in 897, wrested all Ganga territories which the Nolambas had conquered, and even Henjeru their capital. A herostone at Yelachagere in Kanakapura tq and a *bittuvatta* grant at Agara near Bangalore (both of c 870) and another herostone dated c 899 from Satanur in Kanakapura tq are some 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. Erecting the Arkeshwara temple at Malur perhaps during his times in c 900 (Cp 134), is suggested. There is a herostone of his times at Honnayakanahalli (Cp 134) and granting of *bittuvatta* for the maintenance of tanks at Mogenahalli in Chanapatna tq and grants for three temples, the Shivamareshwara, the Jagadhara Nageshwara and the Nitimargeshwara of the place are mentioned (Cp 48). The Nitimargeshwara temple could have been his own creation. Apportioning of taxes for some charities at Mankunda (one of his capitals) is mentioned in his record of 913 A.D. (Cp 131).

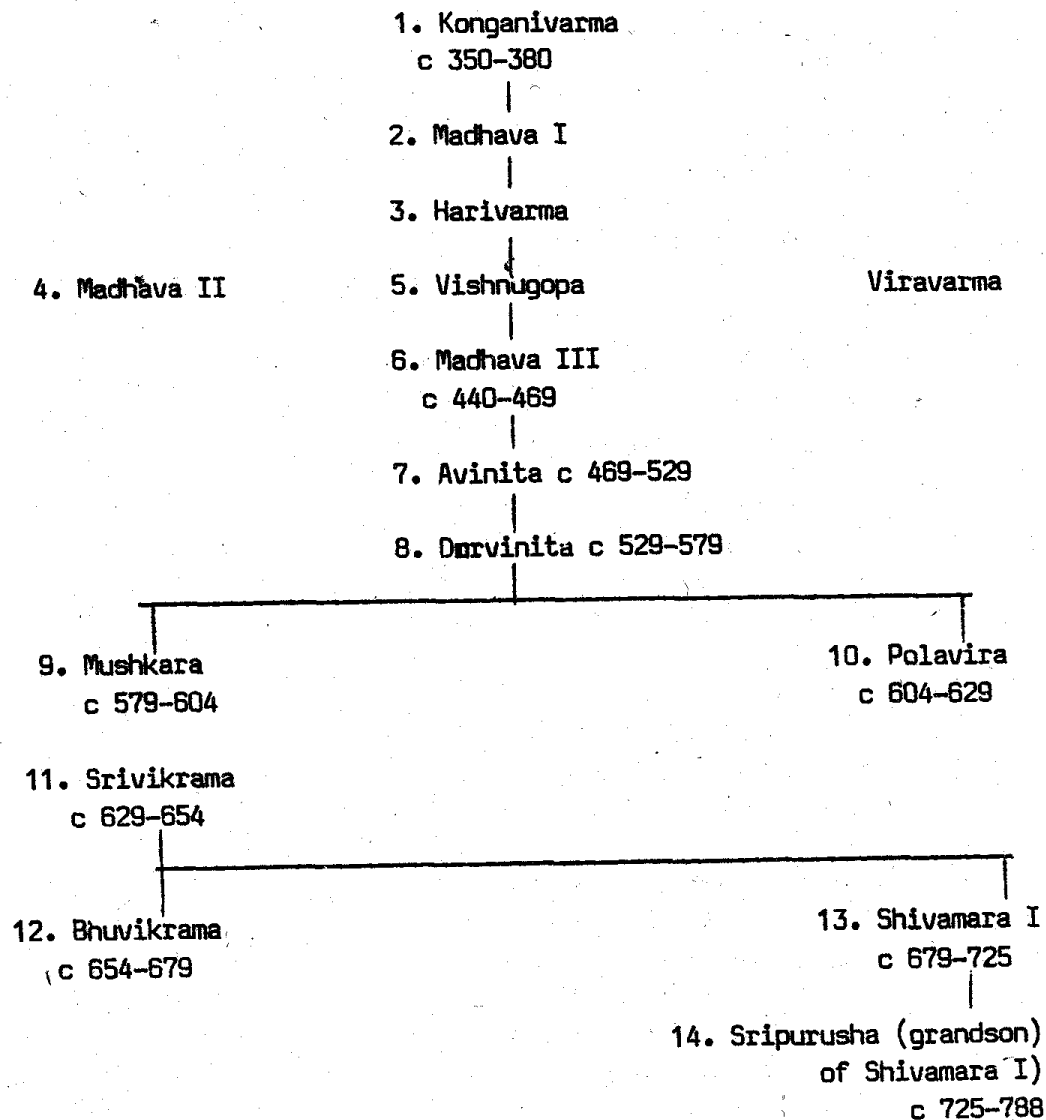
#### THE LAST GANGA RULERS

Ereganga's three sons succeeded to the Ganga throne one after the other viz. Narasimha (923), Kacceya Ganga or Ramachamalla III (923-36)

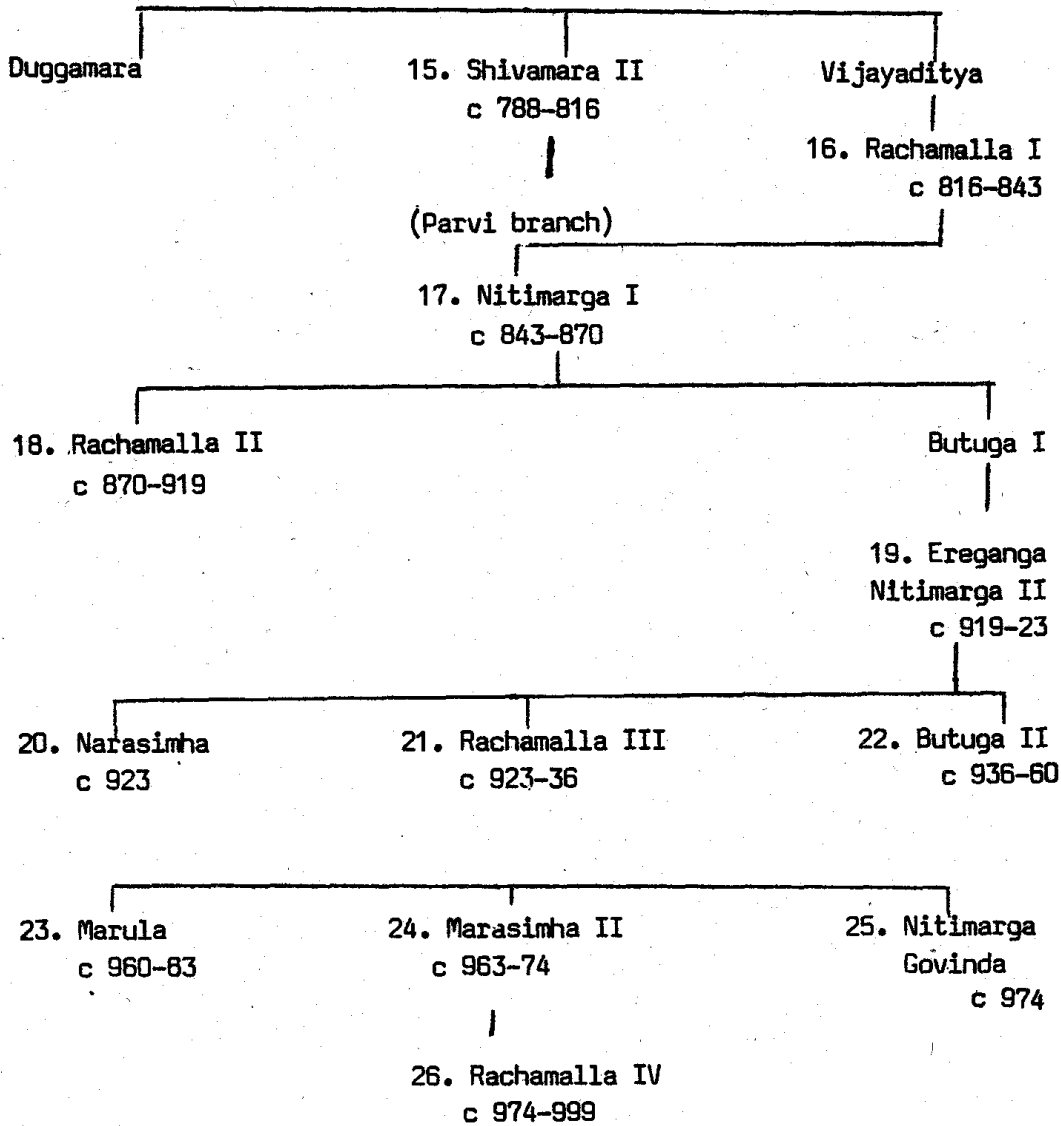
and Butuga II (936-60), the last named coming to the throne after overthrowing his elder brother in 936 with the help of Rashtrakuta Amoghavarsha III or Baddegadeva. Butuga had also helped Baddegadeva and his son Krishna III in their civil war of succession against Govinda IV in 936, and Baddegadeva 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 Puliger-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 from the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II was a scholar and a devout Jain.

After a short rule of two years by his son Marula (960-3), succession to 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 the Rashtrakutas were overthrown by the Later Chalukyas in 973, and Marasimha II tried to espouse the cause of Rashtrakuta Indra IV, his nephew and grandson of Krishna III, by crowning him at Bankapur. A Manne herostone of his dated 970 speaks of death of a hero called Narayana from his army (N1 54). In his wars against Taila II, the Ganga army was led by general Panchaladeva and a hero called Adipadathe died according to a herostone at Malur (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 minister 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 via 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 Kukanare Nadu, Paru Vishaya, Perati 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 Arkeshwara at Malurpatna, the Srirama at Kudlur, the Kapileshwara, Someshwara and the Basti at Manne, the Someshwara at Gangavara, the Someshwara at Hasigala, the Ishwara temple at Bevur, the Rudreshwara and the Arkeshwara at Biskur, the Rameshwara at Virupapura, some shrines at Shivaganga, etc. are some of the creations of their period. 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.







## NOLAMBA PALLAVAS

The Pallavas of Tamilnadu had some direct control over Karnataka during the latter half of the third century (after the fall of the Shatavahanas) and the beginning of the fourth century. Records like Sakrepatna plates of Pallava Simhavarman or Hirehadagli plates of Skandavarman testify to their rule over Karnataka. The Kadambas and the Gangas had revolted against the Pallavas to assert their freedom. But no records of the Pallavas are located in the Gangavadi region. But the impact of Pallava rule on Ganga art is clearly visible when we examine the pillars with lion motif at the base at Gangavara or Manne temples. The Nolambas, claiming to be descendants of the Pallavas

started to rule over Nolambalige - 1,000 (mainly areas around Chitradurga district) and later their territories included parts of Anantapur district in A.P. and Kolar, Tumkur and Bangalore districts in Karnataka and Dharmapuri district in Tamilnadu. Henjeru or Hemavathi in Madakashira tq of Anantapur district was their capital and nearly 16 princes of the family ruled in this region between c 730 to 1050, not as sovereigns but as feudatories of the Gangas or Rashtrakutas. They became the feudatories of the Chalukyas of Kalyana, and their territories were extended till Bellary district, Kampli being their capital then.

Mangala Nolambaraja (c 730-775), his son Simhapota (c 775-805), Charuponnera (son of Simhapota, c 805-830) and Polalchora I (son of Charuponnera c 830-875) were some of the early rulers of the dynasty. In a civil war that followed the death of Ganga Shripurusha (788), Simhapota appears to have sided with Shivarmara II as against Duggamara, the former's brother. When Shivamara II was defeated by Rashtrakuta Govinda II, Nolamba Charuponnera appears to have shifted loyalties and accepted the overlordship of the Rashtrakutas as against the Gangas. But, the Nolambas reverted to the Ganga fold and in about 820, Polalchora even married the daughter of Ganga Rachamalla I called Jayabbe.

Polalchora's son Mahendra I or Mayinda (c 875-897) was administering Ganga - 1,000 (Gangasasira) province under the Ganga Rachamalla II. The Bana's ruling in Kolar region clashed with him and Mahendra calls himself as 'Mahabali Vidhwamsaka' or destroyer of the Banas who were also calling themselves as the Mahabalis. Mahendra had control over parts of Bangalore district in the east and the south. He was subordinate of Ganga Nitimarga Ereganga. The Belavangala herostone from Dodballapur tq (Db 3) dated c 880 speaks of one of his fights against the Gangas and the Dalasigere herostone dated c 870 (Ht 9) speaks of his ruling over Ganga-6,000. Mahendra had married a Ganga princess Gamabbe. His successor Ayyappa (897-934) had married Ganga Pollabbarasi, he himself being the son of Ganga princess, Gamabbe. But initially he appears to have clashed with Ganga Rachamalla II and war between him and the Gangas took place at Kanikatte in Arasikere tq. His later alliance with the Gangas and his coming to rule over larger Nolambavadi - 32,000 is testified by records. He also owed allegiance to the Rashtrakutas, whose overlordship had been accepted by the Gangas, and the former assigned Masavadi and Kogali regions (931) in the neighbourhood of Bellary district. Death came to Ayyappa in a war the Gangas fought against the Vengi Chalukyas at Tumbepadi. He fought for Rachamalla III. His sway over Bangalore district like his prede-

cessor's was limited to Dodballapur, Devanahalli and Hoskote taluks, touching the borders of Kolar district only. There is a record of his at siddanahalli, Hoskote tq (Ht 14) and a hereostone at Jakkasandra, Dodballapur tq (Db 9).

Ayyappa's successor, his first son Anniga or Bira Nolamba (934-940) clashed with the Gangas and lost a battle at Kottamangala, and Rashtrakuta Krishna III also later defeated him in c 936. His successor was his younger brother Dileepa or Iriva Nolamba (c 940-68), and he was in alliance with both the Rashtrakutas and the Gangas and he took active part in Rashtrakuta Krishna III's campaigns against the Cholas. His Kondahalli record from Hoskote tq (Ht 37) speaks of his assigning the management of certain temples in Kayvara Nadu and Nekkundi Nadu to certain officer in c 950. His Satenahalli record (Dv 10) is a herostone announcing a grant to a deceased hero's family. A herostone from Korati of Hoskote tq (Ht 47) speaks of his war against the Cholas at Betamangala. It is even likely that Iriva Nolamba died in the war. His son Nanninolamba ruled for a short period after him (968-70) and his successors were his son Polalchora II also known as Raja Manoja. Five more Nolamba rulers succeeded Polalchora II and they included his sons Mahendra II (c 997-81) and Iriva Nolamba II (mentioned in records between 1010-1024), the latter's son Jagadekamalla (c 1024-37) and grandsons Jagadekamalla II (c 1037-44) and Trailokyamalla Nanni Nolamba (c 1044-54). Their territories (Nolambavadi) were then merged in the Kalyana Chalukya Empire whose subordinates they had been in their last days. But they had no sway over Bangalore region. In 991, the area was occupied by Chola Rajaraja, and Nolamba Gannarasa, and nephew of Nanni Nolamba (his brother Ayyappa II's son) is mentioned as ruling as a subordinate of Chola Rajaraja in 997 over Sandaligawadi, etc. according to a record at Kammasandra (Ht 111). In administrative matters, the Nolambas continued more or less, the Ganga traditions. Their fine temples are seen at Henjeru (Madakshira tq. A.P.), Nandi and Avani (Kolar dt), etc. but none in Bangalore district.

## 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) Vala-

nad, a part of Vikrama Cholamandala. Certain areas were also in the Nigerili Cholamandala or in the Jayagonda Cholamandala. We come across smaller units like Kukkanuru Nadu (in Nelamangala tq), Mannenadu, Sannainadu (in Hoskote tq), Sigalanadu (in Kanakapura tq), Kilalainadu (in Channapatna tq), Hullurunadu etc. 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 Kammasandra in Hoskote tq (Ht 111) and is in Kannada, wherein the ruler is described as the overlord of Nolamba Gannarasa who administered Daligawadi etc. Another record of his, in Kannada script and Tamil language is from Mogenahalli (Cp 47) announcing the establishment of an *agrahara* at Punganur (modern Honganur in Channapatna tq) in about 1000 A.D. It was called Trailokamahadevi Chaturvedimangalam after Rajaraja's queen. The Narayanaswamy temple at Malurpatna was founded by Rajaraja in 1007 with the name Jayagonda Chola Vinnagar Alwar temple. There are several records of his times announcing grants to this temple on its walls. Rajaraja also founded the *agrahara* at Malurpatna (Periya Malavur) called as Rajaraja Chaturvedimangalam in 1007 or even earlier. Vandur also had an *agrahara* founded by him named after his queen Cholamahadevi by 1007 A.D. (Cp 132). The Kudalur Agarahara nearby is also named after Rajaraja, according to a subsequent record of A.D. 1030 (Cp 133). Malurpatna or Manalur was renamed Nigaril Cholapura after one of his titles. It is likely that the Aprameya temple at Malur was built by one of his generals called Aprameya, mentioned in the Kaliyur record of 1006.

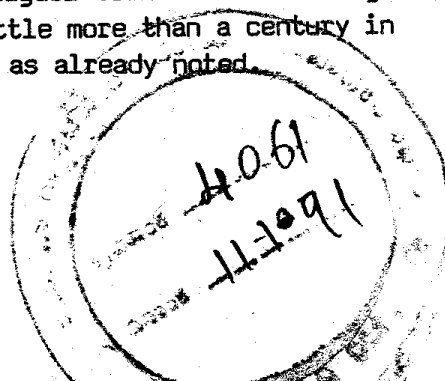
Rajendra I (1016-44) appears to have consolidated Chola position in the area. Many of his early records are seen in Channapatna tq in places like those at Honganur dated 1013 and 1018 A.D. even when he was crown prince. He built the Kailaseshwara temple at Malur in 1034 and founded an *agrahara* named after himself (Rajendranika Chaturvedimangalam). His commander Vamana built the Siddheshwara temple at Sola-devanahalli in 1029 in Nelamangala tq. (The temple is not seen now). A record from Aigandapura dated 1033 speaks of grant perhaps to this Siddheshwara temple.

Rajadhiraja (1044-54), second son of Rajendra, is mentioned in donative grants in this region. One from the Shiva temple at Gangavara in Devanahalli tq (Dv 15) dated 1096, announcing a grant to the local Shiva temple and another from Aigandapura dated 1050 making a grant to

the Dhareshwara temple there N1 38). The Mandikere inscription of 1050 speaks of his commander Jayagonda making some land settlement in Mannainadu (N1 25). A herostone of his 32nd regnal year from Varanayakanahalli speaks of a land grant by way of compensation for three deaths. His successor was his younger brother Rajendra II (1054-64). No records of his are seen in the area under study. 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 district dated 1065 (Ht 36). Vira Rajendra's (1064-69) Muruli Chikkanahalli record dated 1065 (N1 24) speaks of his having frightened Kalyana ruler Avahamalla and a citizen announces some grant in its last portion. His Malur records (A.D. 1066; Cp 85) perhaps making some grant to the local Kailaseshwara temple is incomplete. His Byadarahalli record (1067; Dv 14) is a Sati stone.

Half-a-dozen records of Kulottunga I who was a prince from the Vengi Chalukya family succeeding to the Chola throne in 1070, are seen in the district till his ouster from Karnataka by the Hoysala, Vishnuvardhana. His first record in the area is dated 1075 from Marenahally (Hoskote tq; Ht 101) announcing a grant to a temple. In 1086, he similarly made a grant to the Kailaseshwara temple of 'Periya Malavur' (Cp 77). The Malur record of 1086 proclaims his having forced Vikkalan (Chalukya Vikrama VI) to flee from Nangili to Manalur (Channapatna tq), his elephants dying all along the way. In 1100, he donated the village Nakkur to the Mukteshwara temple at Binnamangala (N1 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 (N1 38). A very interesting record from Elachavadi (Kanakapura tq) dated 1118 is a Sati stone in memory of one Sikkavai whose husband Sakkagaunda had pierced a tiger and died (Kn 12).

In addition to the building of temples at Malur, Honganur, etc. the Cholas also built the Mukteshwara at Binnamangala and the beautiful Ulsur Someshwara, the Begur Choleshwara and the temple at Domlur in Bangalore City. The tank at Pattandur near Kadugodi, Hoskote taluk was built by a Chola officer in 1043 and 250 kuli of land was granted for its maintenance. The Shiva temples on the bank of Doddahullur tank and at Muguval in Hoskote taluk are Hoysala creations in Chola style. Tradition ascribes the creation of Magadi town to them. 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.



## THE 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 Badami Chalukyas. 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 c 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 (793-914) who succeeded to the empire superseding 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 Devanahalli tq, of c 800 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 who 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. 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. 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 too well known, where Butuga II killed Chola Rajaditya. A record from Mudalapalya in Magadi tq (Ma 75) speaks of the construction of a temple called Dadigeshvara in 966 when Krishna III (Kannaradeva) was ruling. Dadiga (whose son built the temples) is described as the Nalagavunda of Mannenad-300. Extensive Rashtrakuta 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 R.S. Panchamukhi. When 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 as already noted. Manne was the headquarters of the Rashtrakuta province (as seen above) for some time.

The Kalyana Chalukyas who overthrew the Rashtrakutas in 973 tried to subdue the Gangas. It has been seen how Marasimha II had crowned and Indra IV could not continue for long and he 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. Taila 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) 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 till 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 (Chikamagalur 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, 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). There is a tradition that noted jurist Vijaneshwara (author of Mitakshara) is from Malur. But it is now proved from inscriptional evidence that he belonged to Kalyana region itself, and was in the court of Vikramaditya VI.

#### 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 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 Ereyanga. It was only in the days of the last named that the Hoysalas extend their sway over Bangalore district region. But in the neighbouring Mandya district, records of Vinayaditya (c 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 in 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, nearly almost half are in Tamil and the rest in Kannada.

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 calls him as Viraganga Vishnuvarhana Bittiga 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 district 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 Gangavadi as Chola Kulottunga made inroads into Gangavadi. Vishnuvardhana'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 near Bangalore dated c 1110 where he is called only as Poysala Deva. The Heggunda inscription dated 1115 speaks of his donation to the Mallikarjuna temple of the place by one Koragamunda, administrator of Mannenadu. A feudatory of Vishnuvardhana called Vishnuvardhan of Adala family built the Gangadhareshwara temple at Shivaganga in 1140. A notable incident connected with the life of Vishnuvardhana is the death of his senior queen Shanthaladevi, renowned scholar and artiste, at Shivaganga under tragic circumstances in 1131.

Vishnuvardhan 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 thing to his credit - he killed his overlord Emperor Taila III in 1162 as pointed out by Sitaram Jagirdar with the help of one Belur record (EC 'X' B1 93). Though he could have the control of the overlord over him loosened and assume the title Tenkana Chakravarti, he could not gain any special advantage by this 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 the region. The earliest of them is from Vobalenahalli, Hoskote tq, dated 1145 announcing certain grants by the Gamunda of Kaivaranadu, Brahmadirajan, for some religious purpose and expansion of a tank. A campaign personally led by Narasimha on Sigalnadu and its destruction is mentioned by a record from Balepura, Kanakapura tq dated 1150 (Kn 23). Hanganur has a herostone mentioning a war fought by his Pradhana Mallideva and the death of one Kanaka Nayaka in 1153 (Cp 45). 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 had him defeated. 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 I drove Ballala II out of Belvola. Ballala II developed friendly relations with the Cholas and his daughter Somala was married to Chola Kulottunga III, and Ballala himself had 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 Pratishtapanacharya. He also gained some territory in Tamilnadu. Of his numerous records in the district, his grant of the village Kenkere to God Shivaganganatha in 1196 is notable (N1 82). The Honnanayakanahalli (Channapatna tq; Cp 160) record dated 1183 speaks of grant to a Mahadeva temple of Mangalishwaram (perhaps the earlier name of the place) by a commander called Nambiyandan. He founded an *agrahara*, named after his father Narasimha at Marudur in 1181 (Cp 167).

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. Of his records in the district one from Hachchalu, Kanakapura taluk is of the days when he was the crown prince (1196). Another dated 1218 from Kuntur of the same taluk (Kn 87) is a herostone.

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 the 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 Senas from the North, and his own step-brother who was thrown out from Kannanur and also Tamilnadu, and he stayed at Kundani in Kolar district before 1280 and started encroaching upon the Hoyalala territory under Narasimha in Karnatak. Rice fields that 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 district. Narasimha had to face him in six various encounters and Ramanatha had once reached even Bangalore and Kunigal.

Half-a-dozen records of Ramanatha are seen in the region and of these the earliest is of 1286, from Huskur in Nelamangala tq (N 36). They are found on the eastern fringe of the eastern taluks of Nelamangala, Hoskote and Devanahalli to indicate his sway over these regions only in the district. The Kotekoppa herostone dated 1292 speak of his inroads into Bangalore district and even further. In the fight near Doddaganavadi one Ketanna son of Harigauda 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. He had held under him Hesarighatta-Kundani, Yelahanka and Kaiyara Nadus in Bangalore district area according to some records of ballala III of a later date. Of the records of Ramanatha, one dated 1286 (M 36) announces a grant by a private citizen to a temple at Huskur and another dated 1292 records a donation to the Alvarakandapura Dharmeshwara temple, the God being called as Alvarakanda Nayanar (modern Aligandapura).

The records of Vishwanatha, Ramanatha's son (1295-1300) are also seen in the district to indicate that his sway extended over parts of present Hoskote tq. Both these records are dated 1297 (Ht 136 and 138), found at Wagata, and their subject matter is the same. It is the announcement of a grant to the local *agahara* and the Varadarajaswamy temple of the place. Vishwanatha died in 1300.

Of a dozen inscriptions of Narasimha III in this region, one dated 1276 from Chikkaballigere speaks of the construction of a Shiva temple at the place and making of grants for the services in the temple (Kn 13). He had under him one Hiriyala Kaleyana Danayaka at Honganur (Punganur) looking after Chikkaganavadi in 1265 (Kn 80). Another record of 1267 (Db 31) speaks of Bichidevarasa administering Yelahanka- had under him. An officer at Chikkaganavadi made a grant to a Maddur temple in 1277 (Kn 72).

## 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 district 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 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 district 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 bank 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.

More than 100 inscriptions of Ballala III are seen in the region under study. The political instability evidenced in the period is also reflected in the records in the region, Cp 73 informing of Arunasamudra being his headquarters, Cp 12 mentioning it as Dwarasamudra in 1319, Db 14 telling us of his stay at Unnamalai in 1328 and N1 9 describing Hosabetta as his centre in 1333. Many commanders are seen administering certain regions continuously or hereditarily during his time. Thus we come across rulers of Sigalanadu in Kanakapura tq or Kukkalanadu in Bangalore tq. The Kukkalanadu Prabhus continued in power even under Vijayanagara times later. An important officer of Ballala III found repeatedly mentioned in the records in the region was

his own brother-in-law Dadiya Somayanayaka and the latter's sons, Singeya and Vallappa (Ht 90 of 1342). We know from other sources that Vallappa or Ballappa married the daughter of Harihara I, the later founder of Vijayanagara Empire.

After the death of Vishwanatha, Ballala III succeeded in taking over the territories 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 include the grants to the Gunjuru Someshwara temple (Bn 51), the Madivala Someshwara temple etc. For the repairing of the Muguvala tank suitable grant was made by the remission of certain taxes (Ht 96). Vallappa Dannayaka made certain land grants to the scholars at the *agrahara* at Wagata in 1336 (Ht 134). Of his last records, one dated 1343 speaks of Vallappa (Ht 75) and another of the same date speaks of Vettarasa (Ht 112) Dannayaka, both from Hoskote tq. No records of Virupaksha Ballala (son of Ballala III) mentioning him by name are seen, but one from Bangalore (Urban) district dated 1346 reads "In the days of Ballalaraya" (Bn 120).

#### THE SIGALANADA PRABHUS

The Hoysala State was highly centralised. It ran the administration only with the help of transferable officials and did not permit new feudatory States to emerge. But during the last years of Hoysala rule, a few such hereditary feudatory families did emerge, and of these the Sigalanada Prabhus are one. Sigalanadu (or Shiyalanadu of Tamil records) is seen as an administrative unit from Chola times having some villages of Kanakapura tq bordering Channapatna tq. The earliest record of this minor dynasty is from Nayakanahalli dated 1295 wherein Maradeva or Marappa from Aruhalli is described as a Manaprabhu of Sigalanadu, Ballala III being his overlord. Aruhalli, modern Aralalu must be his headquarters. Records from Mullavalli (Kn 41; 1300 A.D.), Tungani (Kn 104; 1315) and Hachchalu (Kn 68; 1316) also speak of the same person, Tungani record being a grant for undertaking the sinking of a tank. Aralalu record of 1391 speaks of Marappa's son Siddaya (Kn 98) and another record from the same place (Kn 100) dated 1393 mentions Chikka Ayivanna, another son of Marappa making a grant to the Narayana temple of the place. But it is not clear whether this prince's father is to be identified with Marappa of Kn 47 or some other successor of the latter with the same name as there is a gap of nearly 100 years between the two references.

In 1400, in the days of Emperor Harihara II, Allagauda, son of Maragauda, improved a tank called Marasamudra by laying a sluice etc. (Kn 97). This Maragauda can be a second or a third chieftain of the same name in the dynasty. After one century, in 1506 (Kn 39) we hear of on Vigneshwara Vodeya in a record from Edamaranahalli, making a *puradharm* grant to one Halage Odeya. Nallahalli record (Kn 31) mentions one Channappa administering the principality in 1530. Devappa is described as the ruling prince in 1563. One later recorded of 1633 (from Doddakoppa; Kn 29) mentions one Dandagaltuta (?) as the prince of the dynasty administering Sigalanadu under Narayanadeva Odeya, described as Mahamandalaeshwara. His political affiliation can hardly be identified. We do not hear anything further of this Sigalanada Prabhus.

A similar dynasty is of the Kukkalanadu Mahaprabhus, whose records are found in villages of Bangalore tq bordering on Magadi 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 Kittanalli record (Kn 12) is Mayilaya (Jaleya?) Dandanayaka as administering Kukkalanadu. The Manthalu record of 1333 speaks of Channaya (Janneya?) son of Maileya. They were subordinates of Hoysala Ballala III. Channaya is also mentioned in a record from Byadarahalli (Bn 110) dated 1336 and two records dated 1339 and 1340 speak of Channaya's son Koleya Nayaka, the latter at Ramasamudra (Bn 111). Some records identified as of this family are found under Vijayanagara, one of Banasvadi dated 1340 of Harihara I second of Aijuru (dated 1351 under Bukka I), and third of Ketamaranahalli (dated 1386 under Harhara II), to quote a few. Mayileya in the Banasvadi record, he and his younger brother Channaya in Aijuru record and Mayilaya and his son Kotayanayaka in the Ketamaranahalli one are seen mentioned. 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 Dandanayaka, son of Somayya Dandanayaka. Hoysals 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 "Bhashegetappuva

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. The traditional date of the establishment of the Empire is 1336 and the manuscripts examined by Francis Buchanan at Barkur also support this date. There are over 200 Vijayanagara records in the former Bangalore district area. Three records of Harihara I are seen in this region and of these one of 1340 from Banasvadi speaks of Mayileya Nayaka, the Nadaprabhu of Kukkalanadu, described as a subordinate of Mahamandaleshwara Vira Hariyappa Odeya. It is already noted that this Maileya was subordinate of the Hoysalas (1330) and by 1340 the overlordship of Harihara I is acknowledged by him. A record from Dodda Kannalle (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. 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 Vallapa 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 Bahmani 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 says that he was administering his territory from Mulbagal (Bn 81). Another dated 1365 from Madivala also speaks of him (Bn 67). Two Chikkanallala records dated 1369 mentions Kampana alone as the overlord and they are herostones (Ht 103 and 103a). The

Hondenahalli record of 1374 mentions both Bukka and Kampanna Odeya (Ht 157).

Some records of Bukka also mention Mayileya Nayaka of Kukkala Nadu as his feudatory such as the one from Katigenahalli of 1348 (Dv 50), Aijuru dated 1351 (Cp 10) or Banasvadi of 1359 (Nl 19), as already noted. Two records of 1348 (Dv 50) and 1367 (Ht 117) mention one Bairideva as Yelahankanadaprabhu. Bukka's Kalya record (Mg 18) of settling a dispute between the Srivaishnavas and the Jains dated 1368 is very famous, the record was written a little earlier than the similar Shravanabelagola one.

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. His earliest record from Jodikondalahalli dated 1385 speaks of one Naganna as the local officer. Aralalu record dated 1400 (Kn 97) mentions of his subordinate of Sigalanadu and repairing of a local tank sluice. The Kitaganur record of 1401 (Ht 118) announces a grant to the local Gopalaswamy temple. But how Harihara II is mentioned as an emperor in a record dated 1406 (cyclic year Vyaya) even after his death in 1404 in a record from Mailappanahally (Db 66) is surprising. Harihara II's son Bukka was governing over Maluvayi (Mulbagal) Rajya and some records of his are seen in this region between 1380 to 1386. One from Chikkabanahalli dated 1382 speaks of Toravali Nadaprabhu Rayagaunda. One from Kalya dated 1388 speaks of an officer called Vithalanatha building a tank and cutting a canal. No records of Virupaksha (1404-05), son of Harihara II are seen in this region. Nor are records of direct rule of Bukka II (1405-06) found here, when he was an emperor, though his records when he was a governor at Mulabagal in the days of his father were seen as noted already.

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 was 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. Of the records of Devaraya I in the region one from Mankasandra (Dv 32) dated 1407 speaks of the creation of *agrahara* Mangasamudra by Timmanayaka in Anjadunadu. The Solur record dated 1410 (Dv 12) announces the granting of the village Devarayasamudra for maintaining a *patasale* (school) by his minister Hirana Dannayaka of Yelahanka Nadu. A herostone from Hari-



hara, Kanakapura taluk dated 1412 (Kn 74) refers to the emperor as Praudharaya. The Malurpattana record makes a mention of the Mahaprabhu of Kelalenu, Kittigauda and his son Manjappagauda in the year 1414 (Cp 148) and the same place appears to be their headquarters. A record from Makali dated 1416 (Cp 169) records a grant of land to one Talagauda for his constructing a tank, perhaps the present Tavarekatte. Devaraya is also referred to in a herostone from Garikehalli dated 1417 (Cp 58). The Satanur record indicates the undertaking of some irrigation tank by Mallappa, an officer in 1420 (Kn 49). This Mallappa must be the same officer, described as Devaraya's elder brother Bukka II's son, spoken of in a grant to the Bannerghatta Champakadhamaswamy temple, dated 1421 (An 86). Devaraya's successor (1422) Ramachandra or Tammaraya who ruled for only some months has not left any records here. But one record from Dodddivur (Kanakapur, No.2) refers to Ramachandra Odeya, son of Harihara (?), and it is dated Sarvadhari (140??). It is difficult to place this prince in the genealogy. Vijayaraya (1422-24), Devaraya's second son has left only one inscription in the region that too from Anekal tq dated 1422. Ramachandra or Tammaraya had ruled for a very short period, and he was overthrown by this younger brother Vijayaraya or Bukka III.

## DEVARAYA II

Vijayaraya was succeeded by his son Devaraya II (1424-44) the ablest among the Sangama princes. Even when he was the crown prince, Devaraya had participated in a war against the Bahamanis (1423) in which the later 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 Gajapathi 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 Bahmanis in 1443, certain territories in the Doab were lost by the empire (1443). His scholarly Commander Lakkanna Dandesha (hailing from Kolar district) invaded Ceylon and collected tribute from them. 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 a ruler and a man, and also informs us that rulers of Pegu and Tenasserim in Burma paid tributes to him. Devaraya II's earliest record in the district is a copper plate from Devanahalli tq donating a village to one scholar (physician) Keshava Pandita in 1425. The Honnahalli stone inscription of the same year (Kn 59) records the installation of a *garuda kambha* at the Gopalaswamy temple at Belatur (Ht 155) by Devujeeya, the Mahaprabhu of Taravalinadu in the year 1433 (Ht 155). The Wagata record dated 1440 speaks of one Kanna Odeya(?) stationed at Mulbagal having control over this region.

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. Two records of Mallikarjuna, one of 1464 from Kanasavadi, Doddaballapur taluk (Db 51) and another from Maralebekuppe (Kn 36) are seen in this district, dated 1464 and 1465 respectively. One Junjanayaka was enjoying the Nayakatana of Nelamangala under him 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 Bahamanistoo came till the imperial capital in 1450. The humiliation the empire had to face forced his own son kill Mallikarjuna and Mallikarjuna was succeeded by his cousin (uncle Pratapa Devaraya's son) Virupaksha II in 1465.

Virupaksha II (1465-82) 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 Mahamud 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 Bahmanis, and in the South, the Pandyas in Tamilnadu also revolted. Saluva Narasimha, the governor of Chandragiri disgusted with the inability and inaction of the Emperor, on his own captured Udayagiri from the Gajapati in 1471 and reconquered the lost territories in Tamilnadu, and reached till Rameshwaram victorious, defeating all revolting feudatories of the empire. In the west he conquered Nagamangala in Mandya. It was during this time that some of feudatories like the Ummattur chiefs in Mysore area thought of revolting. Insubordination of feudatories and officials was common. Infuriated by this, Virupaksha's own son killed Virupaksha in 1485 and his rule was also short lived and Saluva Narasimha usurped power in 1485.

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 Shrirangapatna 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-Karkala 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. Narasimha's records are seen in the area right from 1478, and the record of this date is from Chakkalur making a grant to a *matha* of Gaudalli for the merit of Saluva Narasimha. The donation is by an officer, Varadarajadeva (Cp 158). The Maralavadi record is of 1481 donating Chikka Maralavadi and Habbuhalli as *puradharm* grant (Kn 8) to one religious person of Mangandihalli. Hulikatti inscription dated 1484 announces a land grant to a scholar Gange Odeya (Ma 32). The Talekere record of the year 1489 announces a village grant to a religious head for the merit of Saluva Narasimha (Nl 47).

When Saluva Narasimha died, his minor son was appointed successor and Narasimha had made Tuluva Narasayaka, son of his trusted general Tuluva Ishwara, the regent. The first son, Timma who was proclaimed Emperor, came to be murdered, and Narasimha's second son Saluva Narasimha II, was proclaimed the Emperor, and Narasayaka continued as the regent. The Kodamballi record dated 1499 speaks of Narasimha II and his 'Karyakarta' Narasanna Nayaka and announces the grant of the village Sigeya to the Malaleshwara of Kodamballi (Cp 52). Earlier, in 1495, Narasimha II is spoken of in a record of Kondahalli (Ma 31).

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. The Jyotipura inscription (Ht 121) announces a grant by Saluva Narasimha II in 1506 (?) but Saluva Narasimha II no longer survived. It is a grant to the local Someshwara temple. They are the days when Tuluva Narasimha was in full control.

#### KRISHNADEVARAYA

The greatest among the Emperors of Vijayanagara, 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 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, in which he 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 around 1512-13. Krishnadevaraya had married Tirumaladevi from Srirangapattan, the daughter of the feudatory of the place, described as Vira Odeya by other sources. 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 Kondavidu by 1515. Then he also took Vijayavada and Kondappalli and subdued Telangana. He further made inroads into the Gajapathi'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 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 Pratishthapanacharya" 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. His earliest record in the district is dated 1510, announcing a grant to the Lakshmidivi temple of Lingapura in Dodballapur tq (Ob 1). To the Kalinatha temple on the hill near Kalya, he made a grant in 1512 (Ma 22). Granting of the Nayakatana of Soluru Sime to Apparasaaya (Nandidla Appa), Saluva Timma's nephew is mentioned in a record from Magadi taluk (Ma 11). For the merit of the Emperor, Arasinakunte village in Magadi taluk (Ma 68) was granted to a religious leader called Jaggeya Viranna Odeya. The grant was made by an officer called Madeyanayaka in 1516. The Abbur copper plate dated 1523 records a donation to Vyasateertha, the celebrated Maadhwa saint (Cp 153). A record from Magadi speaks of a donation made to the local ('Magudi') Tiruvengaleshwara (Ranganatha) temple for the merit of Krishnadevaraya, and Timma Dannayaka (Saluva Timma?) also made certain grants for the merit of Prince Tirumala (Mg 6). Tibbanahalli was renamed as Krishnasamudra and donated to Irappadeva of Channapatna (MAR, Ng 106) in 1524. The Maranahalli record dated 1524 records the donation of the village 'Marayanahalli' after renaming it as Danayakapur by Konappanayaka, the carrier of the Ganges water for Emperor Krishna-devaraya. The grant was to the Kallura Varadaraja temple for the merit of prince Tirumala (Krishnadevaraya's son) and Saluva Timma (Ma 82).

The Emperor caused the construction of the *prakara* of the Keshava temple of Hadonahalli (Db 15).

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 Gajapati and Qutbshah of Golconda was repulsed and they were pursued till Vijayawada. But Achutaraya was not such a capable ruler like his brothers and administration fell into the hand of his two brothers-in-law called Salakam brothers. Portuguese traveller Nuniz visited his court. To the Kallehvara temple on a hill near Kalya, Achuta's officer and relative Singaraja made a donation in the year 1531 (Ma 21). A grant by Achuta to the Mallikarjuna temple at Harokyatanahalli is dated 1533 (N1 10). Earlier, in 1532, doorkeeper Kamana Nayaka donated the village Shripatihalli to the Gangadhara temple at Shivaganga (N1 83). The newly founded Tiruven galanatha temple at Harohalli received a donation from Achuta in 1532 (Kn 3). The emperor ordered the repairing of the Tirumala temple at Chakkere in 1534 (Cp 155). An *agrahara* was founded at Rampura in Magadi taluk by him in 1535 (Db 2). Exemption was granted of marriage levy in Solurusime by Achutaraya in 1537 (Ma 62). He also made a grant to the Magenahalli Nanjundeshwara temple (1535; Cp 70) and restored a charity at Marur for the merit of his father in 1540 (Ma 48). To the Tirumalanatha temple at Mallasandra he made donation in 1540 (Ma 60).

On the death of Achuta 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 and supporters of Sadashiva (nephew of Achuta, son of the latter's brother Ranga) led by Aliya Ramaraya of Aravidu family who was the son-in-law of Krishnadevaraya. They succeeded in crowning 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.

Ramaraya was an able administrator and diplomat. But he was overconfident 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 Ceylon. 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 in Tamilnadu 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).

Records of both Sadashiva and Ramaraya are seen in this area. The earliest one dated 1544 from Allalasantra in Bangalore (Urban) district area where one Maratheya Vithaleshwara Odeya is stated as the Mahamandaleshwara and his agent Rachur Narasimhaya, announcing the grant of the Jakkur village for the Allalanatha temple of the place. The Shivaganga record dated 1545 (Nl 81) announces grants to several temples on the hill. A grant to Banavadi Virabhadra temple for the merit of Emperor Sadashiva is recorded in 1547. The village Ramapura was donated to the temple (Ma 74). Renewal of certain grants by Sadashiva's local officer at Kalya called Achappa Dannayaka for certain local temples is recorded in an inscription at Kalya (Ma 28) in 1558. A record from Solur dated 1556 speaks of Ramaraya (Ma 63). Another record from Kalya dated 1562 not only speaks of Ramaraya and Sadashiva but also announces certain exemption in marriage tax in Satiyanad (Ma 17). Sugatur Timmappagauda is seen making a grant for the merit of Sadashiva in 1566 to a temple a Nelavagalahalli (Nl 3). Then follows one record of Tirumala, younger brother of Ramaraya from Malur dated 1572, announcing some grant to some brahmins of the place (Cp 99), apparently ruling from the capital Penukonda. One record of Sriranga (1572-86), Tirumala's son is seen at Doddabele, Nelamangala taluk (Nl 49) dated 1579.

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. Of the

records of Venkata II, there is one from Bommenahalli speaking of one Veerayagaudappa of Tavarekere (Ht 119) and another from Nagenahalli speaking of Havalibayirappa Gauda II of Avatinadu (Db 49), both these being of 1610. There are also records of Ramadeva (1617-32) and Sri Ranga III, but some of them wrongly dated. 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 and "emperor without empire" and even after his death. He is described as emperor from 1630 to 1713 in the records found in the area, especially of this Bangalore-Magadi rulers to suit their own convenience. Of the feudatories of the empire those of Bangalore-Magadi, Sugatur, Channapatna and Avati continued in the region long after the fall of the empire.

#### THE YELAHANKA NADAPRABHUS

The most prominent among the feudatories of Vijayanagar from this region were the Bangalore-Magadi rulers, popularly known as the Kempegouda family. They were originally Yelahanka Nadaprabhus, later having Bangalore as their headquarters and after the Adilshahi campaigns in 1637-38, shifting their headquarters to Magadi and Savanadurga from where they ruled till their overthrow by the Mysore dynasty in 1728. *Virabhadra Vijayam* in Sanskrit and *Kenpegowda 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 (Yenamanji Puttur near Kanchi) and also as descendants of the founder of the Avati Nadaprabhus. But the whole story that seven brothers 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. Yenamanji Uttur in Mulbagal taluk could be the place of their origin. It is likely that the family also spoke Telugu as it was a popular literary medium in Vijayanagar times. But most of the Morasu Okkalus (Vokkalus) are Kannada speaking.

The first known figure of the family was Bayiregouda, the Yelahanka Nadaprabhu, as mentioned in literary traditions. An inscription from Kitaganur in Hoskote taluk 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 Bayiregouda. No other details regard-

ing this prince are known. Some accounts hold Jayagauda described as the next ruler of Yelahanka as the son of Ranabayiregauda of Avati. But inscriptions of the Nadaprabhus of Avati are seen only from the end of the 16th century. Kempananjegauda 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. A clear and regular account of the family based on inscriptions begins from Kempanachegauda (Kempananjegauda). The earliest mention of Kempanachegauda is in a record dated 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 the grandfather of Immadi Kempegauda in the Bangalore copper plate dated 1597, a grant to a priest.

His son Kempegauda I (c 1510-70) is responsible for building the modern city of Bangalore (c 1537) by erecting a fort. This he is said to have done at the instructions of emperor Achutaraya and it is he who sunk the Kempambudhi and Dharmambudhi tanks in the city, raised the Basvanagudi (temple) and expanded the Gavigangadhara and the Ulsoor Someshwara temples. He is also credited with the authorship of one Teluga Yakshagana called *Ganga-gauri Sallapam*. 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 clearly states "Kempayagauda son of Kempanacheyagauda". 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 sometime his elder son Giddegauda (c 1570-85) administered the territory, according to literary sources, but inscriptions do not mention this prince, but mention only Kempegauda II (Immadi) whose 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 (or step-mother?) Venkatakrishnajamma dated 1598 (Kg 12) is found at Krishnasagara, Kunigal, announcing the founding of an *agrahara*. Of his numerous records, one copper plate from Magadi dated 1630 announces grant of two villages, Kanchugarahalli and Shinganahalli to the Rameshwara temple (Ma 1). In 1621, he also made a grant to the Kalleshwara 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; Mg 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 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.

Kempegaua III (1633-78), son of Kempegaua I, 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 Ranadaula Khan who conquered Bangalore. He forced Kempegaua to vacate Bangalore and make Magadi his headquarters. Kempegaua 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 Kempegaua III are seen confined to only Magadi to region after his shifting the headquarters to Magadi. The hillfort of Savanadurga became his headquarters. His Alalakuppe record dated 1667 speaks of his having built *matha* at Kashi (Varanasi) and granting the Alalakuppe 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 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 Kempegaua II (Ma 2). His last known record is a stone inscription from Magadi dated 1676 which repeats the donation made in the Halasettihalli 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 village, Kallikere and Donkanapur, to 15 brahmins by him, addressed as Mummadi Doddaveerappa. In 1685 he donated the village Shigekuppe to the Shringeri Matha (Ma 95). This record dated 1685 like the previous one also 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 Udduralahalli village to Gavi Gangadhara, probably of Shivaganga. A similar copper plate from Magadi announces donation of Jattanahalli and Sripatihalli villages to the Someshwara temple in 1712. It is he who built this huge temple at Magadi in that year.

Savanadurga was an important fort under this prince during his time. 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. Ramagiri fort is also ascribed to them. Initially they had control over major parts of Bangalore, Nelamangala, Ramanagaram and Magadi taluks of Bangalore district and parts of Kunigal taluk of Tumkur district and later, after the conquests of Bijapur, they were confined mostly to the Magadi 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 district and they appear to have had control over seven nadus in Vijayanagara times which included Hoskote, Kolalu (Kolar), Sugatur etc. Literary sources like *Shan'karasamhita* 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 a 1494 (Ht 186) states that it is he who built the town Hoskote and the fort 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 (No 76) 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 of 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 he is described as the *karyakarta* of Tirumala (Ramaraya's brother). He donated the village Simhasandra to the Nandagudi Malleshwara temple (Amrita Mallikarjuna of 'Nanjiguli'; Ht 1). For the merit of one Erasomara-jayya, 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 Vodera 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. Telugu author Baddeveetidattaya wrote *Ganita deepika* 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). 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 Cikkaraya 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 (1693-1706). His Anekal copper plate dated 1693 calls Emperor Srirangaraya at Ghanagiri as his overlord. Two records of his successor called Shivanegauda dated 1706 are found in Bisanahalli and Kattigenahalli, both in Hoskote tq (MAR. 1919). The family later appears to have shifted to Punganur in Dharmapuri dt of Tamilnadu. The Avimukteshwara temple at Hoskote is ascribed to this family.

## THE CHANNAPATNA RULERS

The Palegars of Channapatna ruled for a very short period, from about 1570 to 1630 A.D. Their administration was extended over Channapatna and Kanakapura taluks of Bangalore district and parts of Nagamangala and Maddur taluks of Mandya district. Devarakondareddy points out, with the help of *Vamanapuram*, a Telugu work by Ponnatoti Obalavani and inscriptions that though the first ruler of Channapatna, Immadi Jagadeva was assigned the administration of Channapatna in the 1570s, his father Timmanayaka and great grandfather Timmanayaka were prominent Vijayanagara officers, the latter being mentioned as a treasury officer (*bhandary*: Cp 53 dated 1535) and the former, Timmanayaka or Jagadevaraja was an officer in Nagamangala region (Ng 40) in 1563. The Muttige inscription from Mandya district dated 1573 A.D. describes (his son) Pedda Jagadevaraya as an officer in charge of the area (Mandya 28). His younger brother Immadi Jagadeva assisted the Vijayanagara Emperor Tirumala at Penukonda to resist the joint attack of Golconda and Ahmednagar armies, and for this heroic act, he was granted Channapatna as his fief, described as worth nine lakh pagodas. The incident must have occurred after 1570, when Murtada Khan had been deputed to attack Penukonda, and *Vamanapuram* says that Jagadeva had opposed 'Mrityujakhan'. Thus Immadi Jagadeva became the first recognised ruler of Channapatna, he being the younger brother of Pedda Jagadeva. (This Jagadeva is not to be identified with one of the in-laws of Emperor Venkata II).

His son who succeeded him around 1597 is known as Jagadeva. He ruled for a short period of 10 or 12 years to be followed by his younger brother Ankusha Venkatapathi. Two records, one from Maddur tq (No 40) dated 1616 and another from Nagamangala tq (No 11) of c 1617 mention Venkatapathi as the ruler. Venkatapathi's successor was his nephew, Immadi Kumara Jagaraja (c 1620-29) son of Kumara Jagadevaraya, mentioned in two records of 1621 and 1622. The former record is from Allalasanra in Kanakapura tq, announcing a grant of that village to a temple of Shiva (Vishveshwara; Kn 108). The latter is from Dasavara village in Channapatna tq (Cp 182). The record calls the prince as of Vishnuvardhanagotra, and the son of Jagadevaraya, who was the minister of Rana Jagadevaraya. This Kumara Immadi Jagadevaraya calls himself as the feudatory of Emperor Aravidu Ramadevaraya (1617-32). In around 1629-30, Chamaraja Wodeya V of Mysore invaded Channapatna and conquered the territory, putting an end to this principality which existed for hardly six decades. Some of the princes of the family were scholars and also patrons of scholars. Obala Kavi was patronised by

Immadi Jagadevaraya (c 1570-97) and the poet composed Telugu *Vamana puranam*. Immadi Jagadeva himself is said to have written *Uttara Naisadha* perhaps in Sanskrit and *Adhyatma Ramayana* and *Chandikaratanamu* in Telugu. His brother Ankushendra patronised Telugu poet Revuri Ekambaranatha.

#### THE AVATI NADAPRABHUS

Avati, now a village in Devanahalli tq was once the seat of a small principality which originated as a feudatory dynasty in Vijayanagara times. It was formerly known as Ahuti. Ranabhairagauda, according to traditional accounts, from Yenamanji Puttur near Kanchi (Conjeevaram) came and settled down here with his three brothers and three sons. He founded the Avati principality. In the days of his son Mallabhairagauda, the forts at Dodballapur and Devanahalli were created. Mallabhairagauda appointed his younger brother Sannabhairagauda the administrator at the latter places. Mallabhairagauda laid the foundation for the growth of these taluk headquarters. All these are statements based on traditional accounts. The earliest known record of this family is a copper plate from Devanahalli of the days of Emperor Srirangaraya I (1572-86) dated 1584 recording the establishment of an *agrahara* by Bhairava son of Baichaya (Dv 82) who in turn is the son Bhairava and grandson of Sonnappa. This Bhairava is perhaps the father of Haveli Bhairappa who in turn is described as Hiriya Haveli Bhairappa in a record of the latter's son Haveli Bhairappa II dated 1598 (Dv 69). A record dated 1610 of Haveli Bhairagaud II ('Immadi') also describes him as the son of Havalibhairagauda and grandson of Bhairagauda (Db 49). Here Havalibhairagauda II granted an *agrahara* called Immadi Bhairapura in Dodballapur taluk.

Successor of Haveli Bhairagauda II appears to be Sonnappa Gauda (Dv 52 dated 1648) or Sonna Bhairagauda (Db 63 and Dv 30). He is the son of Mudubayiregauda (Db 63 and Dv 70). He must be the same as Chikkappa (Sonna or Sanna meaning younger) who was defeated by Ranadaula Khan of Bijapur in 1638. Dodballapur was taken away from him and included to Shahji's *jahgir*. His successor was his son Gopalagauda who made a grant to the Gopalaswamy temple (Dv 70). Gopalagauda's successor was his son Doddabairappa. Two records of his are seen, one founding an *agrahara* at Kurubarahalli naming it as Gopalapura in 1716 (Db 63). He also made a grant to the Chennakeshava of Vadigenahalli (Vijayapura) in 1729 (Dv 30). He calls himself as the feudatory of (God) Venkateshwaraswamy of Tirupati (Venkatachala; Db 63 from Haveli-pura). Narayanagauda, the next ruler mentioned in paper records was

the successor of Doddabairegauda. But how was he related to Gopala-gauda is not known. He ruled for only 10 months. Devanahalli was occupied by Rangegauda, perhaps his cousin, and he sought the help of Babuji Naik, the Maratha Commander. But Nanjarajayya, the Dalavayi of Mysore conquered Devanahalli in 1747 by defeating Rangegauda and the rule of Avati Nadaprabhus thus ended. Rangegauda was permitted to take shelter at the Chikkaballapura court.

## BIJAPUR AND THE MARATHAS

In the year 1638, a large Bijapur army led by Ranadaula Khan (with the title Rustum-i-Zaman), commander of Mohammad Adilshah (1626-56) accompanied by Shahji Bhonsle invaded southern Karnataka, and after subduing Sira, Hiriyur etc. it reached Shivaganga. Kengenayaka of Basavapatna helped the Bijapur army. They subdued the Bangalore ruler Kempegouda II and made him a tributary. He yielded without much resistance. He was forced to vacate Bangalore and move over to Magadi-Savanadurga area. They 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 Chikaballapur, Dodballapur, Kolar and Chintamani areas. 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 Shivaji lived. *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*. This *jahgir* was a part of the new Adilshahi province called Bijapur Karnatak which included Shira also. Shira 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 (N1 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 around Bangalore 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 on 1666 and another of 1670 (K1 222 and 224). Another son of Sambhaji called Malukoji of 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 *uyyale-mantapa* at the temple.

Shahji died in 1664, soon after his return from an expedition against the Keladi Nayakas in the company of Bahlol Khan 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 1642 and stayed at the town for some time. It is the atmosphere at Bangalore, where the remains of the glorious times of Vijayanagara 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 rulers, especially Chikkadevaraja who had started encroaching upon his territory. Ekoji also conquered Tanjore in 1675. He had his advisor 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 South and demand his share from his father's possessions in the south. Shivaji reached Tamilnadu, conquered Jinji and met his brothers at Tanjore. But Ekoji was not willing to share his inheritance with Shivaji. In 1677 Shivaji conquered the whole of Bangalore *jahgir* but later surrendered Bangalore and Hoskote to his sister-in-law (Ekoji's wife) Dipabai for pocket money, but retained Chikaballapur and Kolar under his control. His son Sambhaji also retained these regions under his control as testified by some record in Kolar dt including the one on the Nandi Hill. A record from Hoskote tq from an Agrahara village dated 1684 announces the rule of Sambhaji (Sambhojiraya). Another Mughul record from Dodballapur 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 record one at Malleshwaram temple in Bangalore dated 1669 is famous. One of the records dated 1680 is found at Dasarahalli in Kolar dt. Shahji's *jahgir* survived for nearly five decades in Bangalore dt and included parts of Nelamangala and Channapatna taluks and the whole of Hoskote and Dodballapur taluks.

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 in 1687. 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. 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 (Dodballapur) was put in the charge of one Sheik Abdulla from Delhi in 1691. Though Bangalore and surrounding regions were under the control of Mysore, Dodballapur, Hoskote and other areas were under the administrator at Sira, who appears to have been under the control of the Nawab of Arcot. A record from Bhimapura, Hoskote tq dated 1745 records a grant of land to a resident of the place by Nawab of Arcot Dilawarkhan. According to C. Hayavadan Rao, the Mughul province of Sira had seven paraganas which included those of Dodballapur, Hoskote and Kolar.

## MYSORE DYNASTY

The Mysore royal family's inroads into the present Bangalore district area began in the days of Chamaraja V in about 1629-30 when he conquered Channapatna and Devanahalli. Later Chikkadevaraya secured Bangalore in around 1690 and Devanahalli was occupied by 1749. 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 more so during the 18th century by the efforts of Haider who came to rule over the whole of Karnataka. 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 territory ruled by the Mysore princes. Earlier they ruled from Mysore, and from 1610, Srirangapatna 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 Vijayanagara. 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 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 Nayak of Karunanahally. 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 is said to have 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 circumstances 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 Srirangapatna 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 (1553-92) defeated many local princelings and assumed the title "Master of Holder of Titles" (Biru-dantembara Ganda). Timmaraja defeated the chief of Ummattur.

His successor was (Bola) Chamaraja IV, his youngest brother. (Chamaraja III had three sons, and the next ruler was his grandson, son of Krishnaraja, his second son). His rule was very short (1572-76) and 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 (1572-87). 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. Then, Vijayanagara governor at Srirangapattan, 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 revenue of 3,000 pagodas and he appears to have had an army of 300. He built the Trineshwara temple at Mysore. His successor was his nephew (brother's son) Bettada Odeya (1576--78) who was found incapable, and was deposed.

His successor Raja Odeya (1578-1617) was the eldest among the four sons of Chamaraja IV. He conquered Akki Hebbalu from Hole Narasipur in 1584, Rangasamudra and other adjoining areas in 1586, Mullur in 1591, Harohalli and Naruhalli in 1595, destroyed the Karugahalli fort, and by this and other actions incurred the displeasure of the Imperial governor Tirumala at Srirangapattan. The Emperor Venkata II ruling from Chandragiri was an able prince and this governor, Tirumala, Emperor's brother's son, was not as very loyal to him, and the misunderstandings between the two were taken full advantage of by Raja Odeya, and in 1610, he succeeded in capturing Srirangapattan and made it his capital. By then, he had also taken Arakere (1600), Sosale (1606), Bannur (1607), Kannambadi and Bukanakere (1608), Belur, Gama and 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 Srirangapattan where the imperial throne is believed to have been acquired by Raja Odeya. 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 Srirangapattan from 1610. He was the prince who enlarged Mysore to be a reckonable principality, from a small feudal fief of 33 villages inherited by him. He was succeeded by his grandson (deceased son 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 further expand itself. Thus Mysore kingdom extended till parts of Bangalore dt, when Dalvayi Vikramaraya took Channapatna and Kanakanahalli (Kanakapura). Chamaraja's successor was Raja Odeyar II, his youngest uncle, the last of the four sons of Raja Odeya II, actually a posthumous son, and he had a very short rule (1637-38). He came to be killed by Dalavayi Vikramaraya.

### KANTHIRAVA NARASARAJA I

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-Golkonda army in 1646. But even before that Bijapur had entered the region. The huge army of Bijapur led by Ranadaula 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. Kanthirava built the Narasimha temple at Shrirangapattana and Shrirangapattana fort was expanded. He minted his own coins known as Kanthirayi pagodas on the Vijayanagara pattern. One of the records in Channapatna taluk dated 1647 announces his grant of the village Byalakuli to certain scholars. The grant was made in the presence of God Aprameya at Malur (Cp 23).

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 younger 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 Doddadevaraja or Devaraja succeeded him (1659-1673). He was the third son of Muppina Devaraja. 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. The causing of the cutting of steps to the Chamundi hill and the creation of the monolithic Nandi on way to the hill are also his works. One of the records in Channapatna to dated 1666 speaks of his conversion of the village Garikkahalli into an *agrahara* (Cp 56).

#### CHIKKA DEVARAYA WODEYAR

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 on the north like Hassan, Banavara, 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 Thymagondlu all in Bangalore dt were also acquired by him. The fort at Nijagal was also constructed during his time. The Mughuls who conquered Sira, descended on Bangalore in 1687. Chikkadevaraya who had helped them in the conquest of Bangalore 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, Jaitaji Katkar and Nimbaji Ghatge were killed by him. Later another Maratha Commander, Yeshwantrao laid siege to Hoskote. Chikkadevaraya had him disfigured by cutting his nose and routed him.

Chikka Devaraya's *kaul* with Aurangzeb which secured him Bangalore made him a sort of feudatory of the Mughuls. Though the Mysore records claim that Mughals were in alliance with him and treated him as a friend, it was not the factual situation. 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 point is not properly taken note of 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 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. Being a Srivaishnava and a devotee of Cheluvanarayanawamy of Melukote, he composed *Chikkadevaraya Binnapam* in Kannada in praise of the deity. Kannada poets Tirumalaraya, Tirumalaraya's younger brother Singararya, Chikupadhyaya, Sanchiya Honnamma and Sringaramma 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 treasury. 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". 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. When he died, none of his queens committed *sati* and his was the first such example. His son, Kanthirava Narasaraaja II (1704-1714) was dumb, and this resulted in many developments leading to weakening of 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 marching till Sira, the Mughul headquarters in 1710. This resulted in the Mughul officer attacking Mysore in 1711 and levying tribute. 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 for relegation of the actual ruler to the background in Mysore history. The members of the Kalale family who were also in-laws of the family became Dalvayis, and in the long run 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 an 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 Cuddappah Nawabs and contingents of Ikkeri and Gutti (Ghorpade) 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 Shrirangapattana in 1727 and collected Rs 21 lakhs. Soon after this in 1728 Dalvayi Deva Raja conquered Magadi and put an end to the rule of the Kempegaudas. The last ruler of the Kempegauda family was taken prisoner. 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 mis-adventures in Tamilnadu. An inscription records a donation to the Narasimha temple at Gotegere, Nelamangala tq (NI 70) in 1720 by the prince Krishnaraja I.

On his death in 1732, his adopted son, Chamaraja VII succeeded to the throne. But the Kalale family aggrandized all power to itself. Chamaraja VII's efforts to assert his authority were thwarted by Dalvayi Kalale Devarajayya and this resulted in the prince's deposition in 1734, and his confinement to Kabbal fort where he died soon after. A lone record of Chamaraja VII is seen in Magadi tq at Halasabela, perhaps announcing a grant to the local Ishwara temple in 1732. 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* Chikkaballapur, Hoskote and Bangalore and looted these places. But the Dalvayi faced the army and he won a major victory at Kylanchna 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. It was during these days that Babuji Naik, a relation of the Peshwa under the excuse of strengthening the Maratha position at Arcot came to the south in 1744, invaded Bednur and wanted to reach Shrirangapattana. But he was checked by the army of Nizam and Mysore. As his mission could not succeed, he acquired Yelur and Bedur in Devanahalli tq in 1747 and held the forts under him for sometime. Later Babuji Naik helped Rangegowda of Dodballapur to seize Devanahalli from the local ruler Narayanagauda. But the Mysore army with the help of the Ghorpade of Gutti conquered Devanahalli in 1747. Babuji Naik returned to Satara loosing all his conquests in Bangalore dt.

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. In 1747 Devanahalli was invested and taken, and Haider Ali, one of his captains played a leading role in this fight. The political situation in the south was changing fast with the advent of the French and the English. The Arcot Succession war began in 1751, and Muhammad Ali enlisted the support of Mysore, Tanjore and Ghorpade of Gutti. Tiruchirapally was offered as price to Mysore for its assistance to Muhammad Ali. But prolonged engagements at Tiruchirapalli cost Mysore three crores of rupees. In 1753, the Maharathas 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 Salabat Jung himself attacked Mysore demanding arrears. Nanjarajayya was away at Srirangam. The Marathas were paid Rs 56 lakhs. The Marathas next moved north-eastwards and took Chikballapur and Devanahalli into their hands. Nanjarajayya returned to the capital and made the prince trying to assert himself, a virtual prisoner. Then, the prince sought the help of the Peshwa against Dalavayi. Peshwa's commander Sadashivbhai 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, Dodbhallapur 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 prince and Nanjarajayya invited Hyder 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 succeeded by his son Nanjaraja (1766-70) as a ruler only in name.

## 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 Dalvayi Nanjaraja. He rose into eminence during the storming of Devanahalli in 1747, when he demonstrated his daring and talent. His son Tipu was born at Devanahalli in 1750. 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 the future career as militarist. Later, he was appointed the Foujdar at Dindigal in 1755. He had to administer a territory under Mysore ruled by 26 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 Haider was invited by Nanjaraja to Shrirangapattana. Haider, in the meanwhile, led an expedition to Malabar on a request from the chief of Palghat and his victories there had further enhanced his power and prestige. The Marathas in April 1758 captured Begur. Though they were ousted from Hoskote Mehandale acquired Devanahalli. They further reached to Channapatna, and Maddur in August 1758, and proceeded towards Shrirangapattana. They insisted on the prince paying them Rs 50 lakhs. They assembled at Bangalore. Haider was deputed to Bangalore. He took Bangalore and humiliated the Marathas. It had been already seen how Haider managed to diffuse the crisis, got Bangalore as *jahgir* in 1758 and ousted Nanjarajayya. The king who had got rid of Nanjarajayya and had appointed Haider in his place, soon found himself to be in the clutches of the 'devil' after escaping from "the deep sea". Krishnaraja II, now won over Khande Rao to his side and with his help, tried to secure the help 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. From there



he succeeded in capturing Bangalore. Haider's effort to enter Shrirangapattana were foiled. The troops of the royal party and those of the Marathas appeared to encircle him. Haider was helpless. His two wives and children were taken captive by Khande Rao. 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 negotiation 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. The Maratha possessions in Nelamangala and Devanahalli were taken back and Mukund Sripath, the Maratha official at Hoskote was threatened.

Thus by 1761, Haider 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 this 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 Chikkaballapur, Dodballapur, Penukonda and Madak-sira in 1762. Haider enlarged the Bangalore fort and built a new fort in stone to the south of old mud fort. Krishnaraja II in 1759, donated the revenue from Mogehalli as 'Phakiradharma' to one Akalshah (Cp 1759).

The internal troubles in the Keladi kingdom helped Haider to capture it in 1763. This was followed by the capture (1764) of Sonda by Haider. The capture of Bidanur, capital of Keladi kingdom laid a vast booty at Haider's disposal and this helped him in all his future ventures. He proceeded against Gutti near Ananthapur, humiliated its Maratha chief Ghorpade, defeated the Savanur Nawab and extended his boundaries beyond the Tungabhadra till Dharwad. But soon the Marathas under Peshwa Madhava Rao defeated him in 1765. Gutti was returned to Ghorpade family 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. Haider hurried to Bangalore from the West Coast on 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, Madhav Rao Peshwa came till Nijagal in 1770. The Marathas defeated Haider in 1771. The British did not help him 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, Doddaballapur, Sira and Kolar (1772). But the death of Peshwa Madhava Rao in 1772 relieved Haider of the Maratha pressure. Raghunath Rao (Raghoba) returned Madhugiri and Hoskote to Haider. In the meanwhile, Haider subdued Kodagu in 1773. He also retook Sira, Hoskote and Doddaballapur from the Marathas. 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 his control. He befriended himself with the French.

When Krishnaraja Wodeyar II died in 1766, and his son Nanjaraja Wodeyar became his successor, Haider confiscated the royal jaghir 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. 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 now 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, Chikkaballapur, Chitradurga, Harapanahalli, Rayadurga and others. Its revenue rose to 110 lakh 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. Haider's grant to the Gopalaswami temple at Devanahalli of a silver

vessel (Dv 83), to Lakshmidhara Teertha of Channapatna of 300 kanthirayi varahas in 1768 in the name of Krishnaraj Wodeyar II (MAR 1923) and Haider's grant of Maganur village to Khadirshah Saheb Matha in 1761 (Cp 166) and of Bannikuppa village to a Phakir in 1767 (Cp 18), all in Bangalore district, are to be noted here.

## TIPU SULTAN

Tipu had led armies and had won many victories for his father during 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 Bidnur 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 Verasailles Treaty in Europe in 1783, when the American War of Independence ended. This was followed by a war against Marathas who occupied Badami in 1786 as a reply of 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 Shrirangapattan. Bangalore came to be captured by Lord Cornwallis after a 15 day struggle in March 1791. From Madras *via* the Ambur Pass, he passed through Anekal and reached Bangalore. He proceeded to Devanahalli, where he was joined by the Nizam's army. Then he returned to Bangalore, and *via* Kanakapura marched towards Tipu's capital. Marathas joined him at Chinkurli. After being in the vicinity of Shrirangapattan, his army had to return to Bangalore on the 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 the 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 Tungabhadra and 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.

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.

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 including at Channapatna and Ramanagaram, etc. 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 specially encouraged and quality sugar and sugar candy were produced at Devanahally 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 livestock, especially draught bullocks. Introduction of prohibition on production and sale of liquors and intoxicating drugs was another step of his. He founded an ordnance 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 Kirmani, 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 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 *amidar*. *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 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 Kirmani. 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.

#### BUCHANAN'S SURVEY

Dr. Francis Buchanan who travelled in Bangalore District area in May to July in 1800 gives a very interesting description of the country. From Bangalore on way to Shrirangapattana, he went to Kengeri ('Kingare' or 'Tingara') which had a fort, not in good condition then, and it was said to have been destroyed by Tipu. Bidadi ('Wiridy' or 'Biridy') he describes as having 'beautiful' country around, but the villages around 'being small and poor'. He gives a description of the flora around the place. "The people here, instead of addressing themselves immediately to the God worship him under the form of his favourite tree". He speaks of people in this part of the country using snuff very commonly, but not smoking *hukka*. The lower classes smoked beedi ('cheruts' or tobacco rolled up in a leaf), but not the brahmins.

Channapatna ('Chinapatam' or 'Chinapatna') "a very beautiful country" had trees "by far the finest" although they were short. Bamboo was common. The place had 1,000 houses. He speaks of glass industry producing bottles and bangles of the place and also steel wire industry and white sugar units. He calls the place as full of coconut gardens. They produced jaggery too and sugarcane was also grown. From Channapatna to Magadi, the whole area is described as full of betelnut and coconut gardens. The Holey community was engaged in producing coir ropes. He speaks of *palmira* trees from which toddy was extracted and its wood used for building. The coconut leaves were woven into mats (used to cover roofs before thatching) at the place. At Ramagiri he found plenty of cows and goats. He refers to the iron ore and iron

and steel industry at Magadi and Ghattipura and describes at length the flora around Magadi which had thick forests. At Agara near Bangalore he finds fine mango groves and Sarjapura having flourishing weaving industry, producing cloth of fine quality. Dodballapur had 2,000 houses with commerce there being not considerable. Traders from far and near came to the place. The place manufactured red cotton cloth. It had many kitchen gardens and onion, garlic and capsicum were raised. Jaggery was sold in abundance. (Buchanan also presents a long picture of Bangalore City including its trade and industry).

### MODERN MYSORE

Political expediency required the British to retain Mysore principality in some form or the other. For the settlement of the newly acquired territory, the Governor-General appointed a commission consisting of General Harris, Col. Arthur Wellesley, Kirkpatrick and Barry Close, with Malcom and Major Munro as Secretaries and Edward Golding as Assistant Secretary. The Commission drew up the partition treaty for Mysore and signed it in June 1799.

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 a 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 Faujdari. Later it was called Bangalore division till the creation of Nandidurga division in 1863. The Faujdaris were divided into districts and the latter into *amils* (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*. Land revenue, sayer, tax on liquors, looms etc. were the main sources of State income.

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. He created the new town Closepeth in 1800 (now Ramanagaram). The British troops earlier cantoned at Shrirangapattana were shifted to Bangalore Cantonment in 1809. It was during his time that Colin Mackenzie conducted a survey of Mysore in 1799-1800, and he drew a scientific map of Mysore State in 1808.

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 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. None of the successive Dewans could improve the financial position till 1822. The Raja found it difficult to run the administration which he had assumed in 1822 personally. He appointed one Venkataraj as Dewan in 1827. 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 wide-spread outbreak 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 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 *palegars* of Balam (also known as Belur or Aigur or Manjarabad) and Tarikere and a pretender prince of Nagar called Budi Basappa joined the insurrectionists. Even the subsidiary troops had to be employed in March in Nagar

region. Order could be restored only in July. 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 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. Briggs was appointed Commissioner and Lushington assumed charge as Junior Commissioner in Oct. 1831. Later Drury was appointed Junior Commissioner in February 1832. Col. Brigg, resigned in Nov. 1832. This resulted in the abolition of the Board of Commissioner and administration was entrusted to one single or sole Commissioner. Morrison, Briggs' 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.

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* was an official, *hoblidar* or *shekdar*, looking after a group of villages in one hobli. The central office of the Commissioner's secretariat had nine departments, viz., revenue, the post, police, *swar. maramat*, medical, *amritmahal*, justice and 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 public works, education, audit and accounts and forest were founded by him in course of time. All headquarter towns came to be connected by road 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). Yelahanka which was a taluk till 1871 was abolished in that year.



Cubbon was responsible for the laying of 1,597 miles of new roads with 309 bridges in the State. The bridge at Hoskote was one such major work. Sarjapur and Kengeri taluks were abolished in 1873. 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. Cubbon abolished the old currency, the pagodas, and introduced the silver rupees in 1854. 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 each, and each division by the Superintendent which were three in number. Kolar district came to be separated from Bangalore in 1863, and this composite Bangalore district continued till 1886. Bowring reorganised the revenue survey and settlement departments and regularity in measurement of land and assessment of revenue were introduced from 1862. The 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. He introduced municipalities in Bangalore and Mysore in 1862. He also started the Muzrai department to look after temples and other religious bodies. A census was conducted for the first time in 1871 and State's population was found to be 50.5 lakhs. Bowring resigned in 1870 and he was followed by Sir Richard Meade (till 1875), Saunders (till 1877) and Gordon (from 1878). A severe famine was evidenced 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 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, the State was fast modernised, though the administration had also been 'Europeanised' causing heavy demands on the State Treasury.

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III sent many representations to various men in power and even sent Dr. Camp Bell, 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 Council of two advisors. Rangacharlu who had been the Chief Secretary of Revenue in Mysore was appointed the first *dewan*. He was responsible for establishing some sort of the 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 durbar*. 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 of the State was in a very bad shape when Rangacharlu took over administration due to the severe famine of 1876-78 and revenue falling in arrears. Agriculture suffered as a result. Reserve funds in the state treasury had been spent and public debt was mounting. The Diwan introduced great economy in administration, floated public loans and undertook public works to provide jobs to the unemployed peasants. 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 stations at Kengeri, Bidadi, Closepet (Ramanagaram), Channapatna and Mudgere in the district. Its total cost was Rs.43 lakhs.

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. 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. Closepet sub-division was created in 1884 with three taluks, Closepet being sub-taluk of Channapatna.

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. Sheshadri Iyer founded taluk boards in 1884. The old Anche system was amalgamated with the British postal system in 1889. Sivanasamudra hydroelectric project was implemented by him in 1899-1900. Electricity was supplied to the K.G.F. in 1902 and to Bangalore City in 1905.

Chamerajendra 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 descendant 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 foresighted Diwans 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 method 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, the founding of the Co-operative Department in 1905 and extension of local self-government were some of the important measures of his time.

V.P. Madhavarao succeeded to the diwanship in 1906. He paid great attention towards conservation of forests and founded the Vererinary Deapartment. 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 *diwan*. 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 Act in 1908 was one of his regressive measures. T. Ananda Rao succeeded V.P. Madhavarao in 1909. 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.

#### SIR M. VISWESWARAYA

Sir M. Visweswaraya became 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 from 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 Chairman.

A number of projects and industries were implemented by him during his Diwanship. They include the completion of the Krishnarajasagar Dam at Kannambadi, the founding of the Iron Works at Bhadravati and the Mysore Bank (1913). 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 Bhadravati together with the Iron Works. 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). The founding of the Mysore University (1916) and the Karnataka Sahitya Parishat (1915) were other major achievements. 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 at Hebbal was also started.

It was during his time, in 1917, that a non-Brahmins' 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 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 grievance 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. It was during Banerji's time that 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. Department of Industries and Commerce was founded.

## SIR MIRZA ISMAIL

Sir Mirza Ismail was appointed Diwan (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. 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 the top Congress leaders like Gandhi and Nehru, and on the other, he did everything possible to suppress Congress movements in the State. The Sultanpet Ganapathi Disturbances in Bangalore in 1928 and 1929 called for the appointment of an 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 Congress to gain ground in Mysore.

He expanded the Bhadravati iron works 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 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. Special steps were taken to train sericulturists by opening Rural Welfare Centre at Ramanagaram in about 1939. 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 popular agitation, led by the Congress, the Quit India Movement. It was during his time that the K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar Committee report on constitutional reforms was implemented. The Bhadra Reservoir project and the Hydro-Electric Project at Jog Falls were initiated. Madhav 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 interests clashed with the imperial and the latter were upheld at the expense of the former did the Mysoreans realise that the alien rule was 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 *Mahratha* of Tilak and many local newspapers. Bangalore rural district area was within the orbit of cities like Bangalore and Mysore. Activities in these centres could easily influence the mofussil parts. Newspapers had their own impact. In addition to the English newspapers from outside the State mentioned above, there were local papers like *Karnataka Prakashika* (1866) from Bangalore which had been a nationalist newspaper which wrote articles supporting the Indian National Congress from 1887 and it had even demanded representation to Indian princely States in British Parliament in 1896. "Even the 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. *Suryodaya Prakashika* (1888) from Mysore was also nationalist in outlook, and wrote against 'plague atrocities' in Pune and also on the

Council Act of 1890, upholding nationalist interest. The dreaded disease plague which appeared in the State in 1898 generated anti-European feelings as it was a legacy of European advent. The quarantining of people and other such stiff measures caused much distress and unhappiness. There were 14,831 attacks and 12,273 deaths in the Mysore State due to plague, Bangalore dt alone having a toll of 4,472 deaths after an attack to 4,992 persons in the year 1898-99. It spread to mofussil areas like Channapatna, Nelamangala, etc. *Kashim-ul-Akbar* (1863), the Urdu journal from Bangalore once caustically remarked that the British nationals are sellers of doped sweetmeats, and they loot their patron who consumes the sweetmeat and falls unconscious. This loot will ruin the country, and only after India has turned bankrupt the British plan to leave this land, the journal caustically remarked. The activities of Brahma Samaj, Arya Samaj and the Theosophical Society helped national awakening though in the long run. The Theosophical Society had men like Dewan Seshadri Iyer as its members, and in addition to Bangalore (1886), it had branches at Dodballapur (1906) and Thyamagondlu (1917). Men like T. Sidalingaiah (Dodballapur), H.K.Veerannagauda and V. Venkatappa (Channapatna) came under its spell, and they were some of the early non-brahmin leaders sympathising with Congress or joining it at time when Congress was being dubbed as a "party of brahmins". A nationalist Kannada monthly, *Subhashini* was started by one S. S. Sharma from Channapatna in 1907 and he was highly inspired by the work of Tilak and other patriots. But the 1908 Regulation resulted in the stopping of the journal. S. S. Setlur, a brilliant advocate from Channapatna taluk (from Settihalli) had been practising from Bombay and was a great friend of Tilak. He was later appointed a Judge of the Chief Court of Mysore. He was an ardent patriot, and his being in correspondence with noted revolutionary Aurobindo was brought to the notice of the Mysore Government by the British Government. This made Setlur to resign his post, and after some years he settled in Bangalore and continued his nationalist activities. He had close contacts with people in Channapatna area including V. Venkatappa and later Kengal Hanumanthayya. Setlur became the President of Mysore (actually State) Congress Committee when the 'Mysore District Congress Committee' was founded in 1921, soon after the creation of the K. P. C. C. in 1920 at the Nagpur Congress.

#### EARLY DAYS OF CONGRESS

Even earlier to that, there had been a nucleus of Congress-minded men in Bangalore and other urban centres. In 1915 Gandhiji had visited Bangalore to unveil the portrait of Gokhale. But the visit had no political importance. But he visited the city again, accompanied by

Shaukat Ali to Bangalore on 21st August 1920 and addressed a huge meeting of Khilafat workers in Bangalore Cantonment which was an area under direct British rule. It had considerable impact on the elite and students in Bangalore, and especially those studying in the schools and colleges. Some of them were from rural areas of Bangalore dt. Earlier to that there had been processions of students on the death of Tilak in August 1920 and the first death anniversary of Tilak was also celebrated in Bangalore. The National High school of Bangalore founded by the Theosophists in 1917 became a centre of nationalist activity in Bangalore. V. Venkatappa of Channapatna was one such student of this National High School. Many patriotic workers of later years like K. Subba Rao, H.K. Veeranna gauda and Made Gowda were his school mates earlier at Channapatna High School. The Theosophists including Besant (who had founded Home Rule League in 1916) were associated with Scout Movement and many young men associated with the Scout Movement were also attracted towards the nationalist cause. Of these, mention may be made of Rumale Channabasavayya from Dodbhallapur and H.K.Veerannagauda. K. Subba Rao of Ramanagaram who joined Hindustani Seva Dal in 1924 and participated in Belgaum Congress as a volunteer started practising as an advocate from his town from 1927 and also started Congress activities in the town from that year. Of the many men participating in Belgaum Congress presided over by Gandhiji were men like H.K. Veeranna gauda, V. Venkatappa and K.A. Venkataramaiah from Kanakapura and the last named became an important Seva Dal worker.

The establishment of Praja Mitra Mandali in 1917 was another important development. This body was founded to agitate for the proper representation of non-brahmins in State service. Miller Committee was appointed to look into its demands. But Khilafat Movement weaned away many Muslim leaders from the Mandali. The Sultanpeth Ganapathi Disturbances of 1928-29 resulted in further weakening of the organisation. K.C. Reddy and V. Venkatappa founded the Praja Paksha in 1930 to agitate for the rights of backward sections and also to work for the demand of responsible government in the State. They founded the new party known as Praja Paksha. Praja Mitra Mandali had been charged with anti-brahminical stance and had been opposing the demand for responsible Government. But Praja Paksha did not openly join hands with Congress which had been agitating for responsible Government as Congress was dubbed as an organisation of the brahmins. But later these two parties - Praja Paksha and Praja Mitra Mandali - came to be merged (1934) to form Praja Samyukta Paksha ('United Peoples' Party'). As this new party later merged with Congress in 1937, an understanding of these movements is necessary while tracing the history of Freedom movement.



## GANDHIJI'S TOUR

A notable event in 1927 had been Gandhiji's visit. In addition to visiting Bangalore, Gandhiji also visited Ramanagaram and Kanakapura on 7th Aug 1927 where he addressed public meeting for the propagation of Khadi. One Krishnayya Master organised the meeting at Ramanagaram, and by then in addition to K. Subba Rao, Advocate Made Gowda, R. Iyengar, M.N. Ishwar Rao (of Lakshmipura) and L.K. Krishnaswamy had been Congress workers. When the Congress workers organised a youth conference at Bangalore in 1929, V. Venkatappa of Channapatna presided over it. Channapatna by then had Abbur Gopanna, D.R. Lingayya, Venkataramana Reddy, Paddu Ashwatha Narayana Rao and Abbur Krishnamurthy as prominent Congress workers. H.K. Veerannagauda started *Chitragupta* daily in 1928 from Bangalore. In 1930-31 he organised a *jatha* on foot of peasants from Mandya dt to ventilate their grievances on the water charges of the Irwin Canal. This procession of 4,000 passing through Channapatna and Ramanagaram and success the agitation attained had deep effect. By the beginning of 1930, picketing of liquor shops in a peaceful way was taken up by Congress in many places in the district, and at Magadi workers like Karlamangala Krishnamurthy, L. Ramachandra and Shivaram Singh took initiative in this, and also in khadi work. They worked in rural areas too and Solur Siddappa, T.D. Maranna, Harti Adirajayya and A.K. Bharadwaj were Congressmen from the taluk. A Congress worker from Magadi, Mahadeva Shastri settled down at Hoskote and started constructive work at the place.

The Civil Disobedience Movement beginning with the Salt Satyagraha in April 1930 had its serious impact in Mysore State because of the news appearing in newspapers. Many youngmen from Mysore State including Rumale Channabasayya and K.A. Venkataramayya and his wife, went to Belgaum area to participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement. There were Civil Disobedience activities in the Bangalore Cantonment area too. Newspapers from Bangalore like *Veerakesari*, *Nava-jeevana*, *Tayinadu*, *Viswakarnataka*, *Janavani* and *Prajamata* played an important role in spreading the gospel of nationalism. Many volunteers from Mysore who returned after undergoing imprisonment after participating in the movement in British India like the present Belgaum area of Karnataka, took to Congress work very seriously and Bangalore district could not be free from it. Gandhiji's fast for the cause of the 'untouchables' followed by the Poona Pact also had its impact. Kengal Hanumantayya, who was a law student at Pune returned to his native place in 1932 (in Ramanagaram tq) and addressed a public meeting at Channapatna. He had met Gandhiji at Pune and spoke touchingly about the Mahathma's concern for the down-trodden and the peasants.

Gandhiji visited Dodballapur and Nelamangala on Jan 4th and Kanakapura and Channapatna in Jan 6th, 1934 during his Harijan tour. To Dodballapur he came from Hindupur on 4th morning and addressed a public meeting which was translated by V. Venkatappa. He spoke on the eradication of untouchability and a public address was presented to him. From there he proceeded to Tumkur, and from Tumkur, while proceeding to Bangalore, he also halted for a while at Nelamangala. On 6th Jan, he visited Channapatna where he visited Abhaya Kutira being run by Arya Murthy, a Harijan worker and addressed a public meeting there. A well newly sunk for Harijans was inaugurated by him. At Ramanagaram he also addressed a public meeting and was presented a public address. Next, he visited Kanakapura where he was presented a purse after his address. Certain presents offered to him were auctioned. All these programmes were on 6th Jan. 1934. To the unit of the District Harijan Sevak Sangh started then, Arya Murthy of Channapatna became the Secretary. Gandhiji conducted another tour in the district in 1936, and at that time during his stay at the Nandi Hills, K.C. Reddy, the leader of the Praja Samyuktha Paksha, was assured by Gandhiji that if he and his followers were to join Congress they would not be discriminated against in comparison to the 'old guards'. Gandhiji had accompanied Kaka Kalelkar to Dodballapur where the latter inaugurated Hindi classes in May 1936. Gandhiji's visit had deep impact on the minds of the people assembling at the public meetings and all this contributed in an effective way in channelising public sympathy and support to the cause of nationalism.

T. Siddalingayya, a Member of the Representative Assembly then from Dodballapur, had gone to United States on a private visit in early 1930s. The treatment meted out to him there convinced him that there is a need for India to be a free country. This made him feel the need to join Congress. An association called 'Nigers Youth League' was founded at Dodballapur in 1935 with view to protest against Italy's attack on Abyssinia and express sympathies towards the Blacks of Africa. T. Siddalingayya was its President and Rumale Channabasavayya, the seasoned Sevalal worker the Secretary. Many nationalist minded youth became its members. During Gandhiji's stay at the Nandi Hills in 1936, T. Siddalingayya who had visited him invited Vallabhbai Patel who was staying with Gandhiji to visit Dodballapur. Patel at his public speech at Dodballapur questioned the wisdom of starting Nigers' League when an organisation like Congress was already striving with similar objects as those of the League. This was followed by the visit of Dr.N.S. Hardikar, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya and B.N. Gupta to Dodballapur and "their programme invoked lot to public enthusiasm" in Dodballapur and all these events made T. Siddalingayya to join Congress. The Nigers' Youth League was dissolved and all its members joined Cong-

ress. Rumale Brothers (Channabasavayya and Channarudrayya), C. Krishna Murthy, R.V. Bhadranna, H. Keshava Murthy, H. Muguvalappa and N. Nanjuhdiah were working in Congress from the late 1920s, and they were joined by S.R. Guru, S.R. Chandra, S.P. Thammayya, Narasimha Iyengar and his wife, Tailor Subba Rao and Pundalika Rao and Dodballapur became a strong centre of Congress activities, spreading the message to other villages in the taluk. T. Siddalingayya was soon elected President of Mysore Congress ('Parliamentary Board') (on 2-8-1937) and later he presided over the first session of 'Mysore Congress' held at Shivapura near Maddur in April 1938.

By the close of 1937 Congress Committees, either local or taluk-level ones were also founded in many places. The Ramanagaram T.C.C. was founded in 1937 had K. Subba Rao as President. Ramanagaram Hobli Committee had V. Giryappa of Hagalahalli as President. H.R. Sheenappa had started Congress activities at Harohalli (Kanakapura tq) from 1934. The hostel and school started by S. Kariyappa in 1936 at Kanakapura (Grama Vidya Prasarak Sangha) had been a notable centre of nationalist activities and D.V. Subramanya Iyer, Gurikar Range Gowda, K.Y.A. Muddappa, D. Ramayya and D. Venkatachalapathy Setty were some notable workers there. Mahadeva Shastry who founded an *ashram* to undertake nationalist and constructive work at Hoskote had colleagues like J.C. Rudrappa and Shivalingiah.

In 1937, Kamaladevi had toured in Bangalore, Mandya and Bangalore district, and this charming lady speaking in challenging tones charged the young minds with nationalist spirit. She visited Bidadi, Ramanagaram, Channapatna, Bhairapatna etc. in the district. The year 1937 was a year of fast changes in Mysore Congress. Mysore Congress had secured 39 seats in Representative Assembly in the election that were held in that year, and could function as effective opposition. But Congress Ministries came to power in neighbouring Bombay and Madras presidencies. But to people of Mysore, responsible government was a mirage. Diwan 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. Earlier to this, in June, an order banning all processions in Bangalore had been promulgated.

## "COUNCIL OF ACTION"

Mysore Congress, after holding consultation with Jawaharlal Nehru through correspondence, appointed a Council of Action headed by Mysore Congress President T. Siddalingayya, and Tagadur Ramachandra Rao and Veerakesari Seetharama Shastry were two other members of the Council. 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 delivered lectures at Hoskote, Anekal, Harohalli, Kanakapur, Channapatna, Ramanagaram, Magadi, Nelamangala, Devanahalli, Vijayapura, etc. in Bangalore District and also enrolled members to Congress in the month of July. On completion of their tour of the whole state, the Council members came to be arrested on 6-10-1937, and they were sentenced to one year imprisonment as they refused to offer bail when produced before the I Class Magistrate of Bangalore. This was followed by the arrest of K.T. Bhashyam at Mysore on the midnight of the 15th October when he had been to Mysore to attend the Representative Assembly Session, and he was the leader of the Congress Assembly Party. The arrest of N.C. Timma Reddy of Dodballapur was another provocative act. The situation was tense and 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. There was a walk-out staged by all these members from the Representative Assembly at its meeting on 19-10-1938. The ban on Nariman, Congress leader from Bombay, on his addressing a public meeting at Bangalore, the lathi-charge and firing that followed causing one death and the tense situation that followed were serious developments. H.K. Veerannagouda together with Suryanarayana Pandit and Tayamma Veeranna gauda conducted another whirlwind propaganda tour programme in the State as the Council of Action had done earlier, and they also addressed meetings at Dodballapur, Devanahalli, Magadi, Kanakapura etc., in the district as well.

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), and among the arrested at Shivapura were leaders like V. Venkatappa and K. Hanumanthiah from Bangalore District. S.T. Tammayya of Dodballapur, Muddappa of Kanakapura and many others from the town were not arrested

though they hoisted the flag and offered Satyagraha on subsequent days. 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. Thus in addition to launching of Satyagraha in Bangalore, in other centre of the district too Satyagraha was offered. K. Subba Rao of Ramanagaram who had offered Satyagraha at Shivapura on the third day together with Gundappa Gowda, was not arrested, and soon after he offered Satyagraha by hoisting the flag at Mangalavrapeth near Channapatna after holding a meeting. He was arrested and sentenced for one week. T.N. Madappa Gowda offered Satyagraha at Ramanagaram. Savoy Ashwath of Bangalore with four others offered Satyagraha at Vijayapura and they were arrested. Satyagraha was launched in all towns of Bangalore District and scores came to be arrested. The Government found it difficult to face the situation when civil disobedience was launched all over the State against the prohibition of hoisting the tricolour. 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 the situation. The censorship imposed on newspapers helped wild rumours like describing the death toll as 40, to spread. Described as the 'Jalianwala Tragedy of Mysore', the Vidhuraahswattha tragedy rudely shocked many well-meaning persons who had faith in the benevolence of the Maharaja. Congress gained mass support.

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 those conferences. Pro-ryot measures undertaken by the Congress Ministries in Madras and Bombay were quoted widely. One such conference was held at Lakshmipura in Ramanagaram taluk, with V. Venkatappa presiding in October 1938. A similar conference was held at Melekote in Dodballapur tq. K. Pattabhisaman presided over the peasants' conference held at Anugondanahalli, Hoskote tq. Congress also organised various agitational programmes, and this included picketing of liquor shops. Harti Adirajayya, Gubbi Huchappa and Santoji Rao at Nelamangala and Chikkabairappa and Siddalingappa in Dodballapur taluk faced legal action for picketing in April 1939.

The second session of Mysore Congress held at Vidhurashwattha in April 1939 was presided over by H.C. Dasappa and the All-Mysore Congress Committee meeting 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 Srinivas Iyengar Committee appointed to look into the demand of responsible government, the Diwan's attitude was rigid. In February 1939, Congress members had 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 August 1939 resulted in the arrest of hundreds. Finally the State Congress decided to launch Civil Disobedience in the State to press for the demand of responsible government. This included Jungle Satyagraha or cutting toddy trees all over. Seven persons were arrested at Lakshmiपुरa, Ramnagar taluk and prosecuted under Section 107 of I. P.C. on charge of destroying toddy shop in October 1939. Rumale Channabasavayya and several others were arrested near Doddballapur for cutting toddy trees. Picketing of liquor shops was undertaken on a wide scale in rural areas in all the taluks of the district. K. Subba Rao says that almost all liquor shops in Ramnagar taluk came to be closed as a result. This was the situation in almost all other taluks too, and sale of liquor had to be stopped for several weeks. Many leaders in the district came to be convicted for sedition for the speeches they made, such as N. Nanjundayya, H. Muguvalappa, B. Veerabhadrappa and Pundalika Rao of Doddballapur. Punitive fine was levied on the people of Bhairapatha on 21-12-1939. A total of over 2,800 people were convicted for various political offences in the State during this Satyagraha of 1939-40. Later all convicts were released on the institution 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 them demonstrated the mass base Congress had come to acquire by then.

A very notable event in the history of Mysore Congress with regard to the Bangalore District was the holding of the Fifth Session of Mysore Congress at Ittamarahalli near Channapatna on 11th and 12th April 1942. V. Venkatappa was the Chairman of the Reception Committee and Talakere Subrahmanya was the President. This was a few months earlier to the launching of the Quit India Movement, and when it was launched, the issue of the responsible government was totally forgotten, and getting India liberated from the British became the main issue. Hoskote by then had a T.C.C. headed by Melavagalu Bijjanna. Younger people like Alur Hanumanthappa and Govindaraju were active in Nelamangala taluk area.

#### "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 villages slogan 'Quit India' was written all over and picketing of liquor shops and even attacking them and cutting of telegraph and telephone wires in villages on main roads were activities resorted to. Holding of public meetings and processions in contravention of ban orders was quite common.

A public meeting was organised at Bangalore Chikka Lalbagh in the evening on 9-8-1942 (on hearing the news of arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders on 9th morning), presided over by H.C. Suryanarayana and Kengal Hanumantayya, 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 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. Congress leaders like K.T. Bhashyam, N.C. Thimma Reddy, Talakere Subramanya (President, Mysore Congress) and Malavalli Veerappa returning from Bombay A.I.C.C were arrested at Yeshawanthpur railway station on the 12th. The labourers and students jumped into the movement with greater enthusiasm in Bangalore.

Hartal was observed at Ramanagaram on the 9th itself by closing all shops. Channapatna observed hartal on the 10th. Similar reaction was evidenced in other taluk centres too on the 10th, 11th and 12th like Magadi, Hoskote, Doddaballapur, Kanakapur and Devanahalli. People from Tumkur travelling ticketless, got down at Niduvanda and damaged milk cans kept for transport to Bangalore (described as to be taken to the military headquarters) and a liquor shop at Gollahalli. School boys and others conducted processions at Kuduru, Nelamangala, Magadi, Channapatna, Devanahalli, Kanakapura, Ramanagaram etc., on the 15th as per a report. There were public meetings too. The news of death of Mahadevbhai Desai in jail on 15th further aggravated the situation and there was firing in Bangalore on 16th and 17th, causing deaths of agitators.

High School students of Ramanagaram and Channapatna not only abstained from classes, but 300 of them went to Maddur by train on the 18th, and also on the 19th, and held a procession in the town. They also damaged government school property at Kestur and Atagur on their way and set fire to a toddy shop at Hemanahally. Similarly a toddy shop at Hanchikuppe, Magadi tq was burnt on the 18th. The Military radio transmission station at Hanchikuppe was surrounded by people from Magadi demanding its shifting. A group of people damaged the bags carrying toddy at Veeragaudana Doddy on the 19th. A lorry carrying toddy was attacked at Mayinayakanahalli of Channapatna tq on the same

day, damaging the nine toddy casks. Seven persons were taken into custody on the 18th at Veeregaudana Doddy, Magadi taluk for picketing liquor shops.

Many leaders from the mofussil towns like K. Subbarao, S. Kariyappa of Kanakapura, Mahadeva Shastry of Hoskote, Harti Adirajayya, Chikkegauda, Solur Siddappa and T.O. Maranna from Magadi, etc had been arrested at the outset. The workers of the Mysore Spun Silk Factory, Channapatna, struck work on 6.9.42, demanding higher D.A. Only 30 out of 204 workers attended the factory, but the strike ended the next day. The movement continued with full enthusiasm in some form or the other for one full month in the rural district, and then cooled down with the arrest of important workers and stringent measures taken by the Government against students participating in the boycott of classes. Incidents of cutting of telegraph wires or damaging of liquor shops or liquor carriers continued here and there for some more weeks. N.R. Bhadranna of Dodballapur was publishing cyclostyled bulletins from Bangalore and distributing them in Dodballapur and other areas. Picketing of the Channapatna high school which was continued for nearly five weeks, almost ended after 17.9.1942 when 26 persons including 16 students among the 300 demonstrators in front of the school were arrested on that day. Cutting of wires was continued around Kanakapura and some persons were arrested. Electric polls near Kanakapura were cut plunging the area in darkness for many days.

The notable development after September by the close of which the movement had by and large cooled down in the Rural District was the celebration of Gandhi Jayanthi at Kanakapura, Channapatna, Dodballapur and other places. Most of the leaders arrested and detained during the movement came to be released during the second half of the year 1943.

Among the princely states of India, Mysore played a notable role in the Quit India Movement. About 10,000 persons were behind the bars during the year 1942 to 1944 in Mysore State in connection with the movement (3,504 in 1942-43 and 6,453 in 1943-44), and it is difficult to ascertain the 'quota' of the Rural District, but it could definitely be more than 200. Channapatna, Kanakapura and Dodballapur were the major centres of the Quit India Movement. Devarakondappa of Anekal, who was wounded in a lathi charge in Central Jail, Bangalore, died during the early part of 1943.

### "MYSORE CHALO" MOVEMENT

The last phase of the freedom movement in the district was the one launched in 1947 demanding responsible government. 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. The Mysore Congress gave a call to volunteers from all parts of the State to march to Mysore by foot and offer Satyagraha in front of the Mysore Palace from 14.9.1947. This "Mysore Chalo" movement launched on 1.9.1947 continued till 24th October. The students, labourers and peasants joined the movement in large numbers in the State. Taluk offices came to be surrounded by picketing demonstrators. Slogans "Arcot Boycott" (against the then Diwan, Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar) were heard all over. The police and the railway employees also joined the strike. Several batches of volunteers totalling thousands came to be arrested on the Bangalore-Mysore Road passing through Bidadi, Ramnagaram and Channapatna. A batch of volunteers numbering 30 starting from Harohalli under the leadership of K.N. Narasimha Shastry and H.R. Shinappa was arrested near Kanakapura, and they were taken in a police van to Nandagudi of Hoskote tq and let off. They reassembled at Hoskote and addressed a meeting there. Similarly a batch from Magadi with Shivram Singh and A.K. Bharadwaj as leaders started on foot. They were detained at Shrirangapattana. A batch of six starting from Hoskote, led by Nelavagalu Bajanna was arrested at Nandgudi. They were let off in the Kaggalipura forest. They came back to Hoskote, and while addressing meeting, were arrested, the group now totalling 30. Most of the arrested were taken in police vehicles and let 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.

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.

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