

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

THE Karnataka State Archives collected a large quantity of private records and newspapers after 1982. Acquisition of the Palace papers in Mysore Palace, housed in the Gayatri temple premises is a landmark in the archival movement of the State. The newspapers are sure to throw considerable light on the history of Karnataka including Freedom Movement, Social Reform Movement and developments in the field of trade, industry and other economic developments for the several decades before independence. The palace papers deal with the durbar's patronage to scholars and artistes, the Palace Drama Company, the Dasara Celebrations including details on its expenses, correspondence of almost all religious *mathas* in Old Mysore State, The Khasa lands of the palace, on the various wings of the palace like Zanana, Gardens, Ashvashala, Gajashala, Palace Band, Chitrashala, Palace Library etc. *A Guide to the Records in the Divisional Archives*, Mysore, published in 1991 by the State Archives gives an idea of the holdings in the newly acquired repository.

One of the important archeological excavations conducted by the ASI is at the pre-historic site at Banahalli (1986-87) where a neolithic site was identified. They unearthed a blacksmith's furnace dating back to 1000 B.C. and other neolithic artefacts including pottery.

Some important palaeolithic sites were identified by K.B.Shivatarak, a teacher at the S.M.S. College, Brahamavar. They include Doddaguni in Gubbi taluk, Muganayakana Kote and Bettadahalli. They add to the list few sites

of the Old Stone Age in Karnataka like Kibbanahalli in Tumkur dt and Hunasgi excavated by Dr. Paddayya during the 1970's (discussed in Part I, Chapter II already).

Hampi Excavations*

Excavations at Hampi taken up in 1975 have brought to light many details on the capital city, especially during the 1980's. The excavations were jointly taken up by the ASI and State Department of Archaeology and Museums, the latter concentrating on one extension of the ancient city, unearthing some Jaina *basadis* and inscriptions.

The ASI undertook excavations in six localities, viz (1) Vithala Bazar (2) Mint Enclosure, (3) Royal Enclosure (4) The Jaina Temple complex (5) The Hazara Ramchandra temple complex and (6) the area located north-east of the Saraswati temple (here, the work is still in progress). Excavation in the above areas has laid bare the foundations of a number of palatial edifices, well laid blocks of what appear to be administrative structures, a network of water tanks and aqueducts and hundreds of antiquities in lithic, stucco, terracotta, metal and other media besides half-a-dozen stone inscriptions.

The palatial edifices exposed follow almost a uniform pattern having a 'U' shaped plan, rising in different levels and invariably have a spacious open courtyard in the front and accommodate secluded yet interconnected chambers in the upper levels. Each of the level is approached by a single or double flight of steps and occasionally provided with ornate balustrades positioned systematically either at the middle or at the sides of the landings. The available evidence indicates that the inner wall surfaces were decorated with shallow niches accommodating stucco images of various deities. The upper portion of the wall was embellished with stucco designs comprising birds, animals, pendent, Kudu, Kirtimukha and foliage motifs. The palaces are enclosed by massive walls with zig-zag entrances indicating utmost security arrangements. The remnants of the ornate palace structure in the Royal Enclosure, the Rangamahal complex, in the Mint enclosure and Structure No.I exposed to the north-east of the Sarasvathi temple illustrates all the above-mentioned features of Palaces of the Vijayanagara period.

*Information including on Sannati furnished by Dr. K.P. Poonacha, Suptd. Archaeologist, ASI, Bangalore Circle.

The secular type of structures exposed are extant only upto the basement level and usually they conform to a rectangular plan. The available evidence suggests that they are mostly large rectangular pillared halls arranged in groups and laid out in a systematic manner. Small avenues separate two such structures. The structures exposed on the southern part of the Royal enclosure conform to this description. The availability of a good number of slate pencils in this area hint at the possible usage of these structures as the administrative blocks or guards' quarters.

Excavation in the Royal enclosure and the area north-east of the Sarasvati temple have revealed valuable information pertaining to water supply and drainage systems evolved and perfected by the Vijayanagar town planners. A network of stone and terracotta water channels exposed at varying depths is connected to a number of small and big tanks. If the largest of the tanks is the public bath and the most ornate one is the unique stepped tank built of well dressed soap stone slabs. The tank excavated to the east of the Hazara Rama temple with four other tanks and interconnected network of channels exposed in the area north-east of the Sarasvati temple provide a glimpse of the hydraulic architectural achievements of the Vijayanagar period.

Large number of antiquities and other artifacts unearthed from excavations in the above areas are of immense help in understanding the standard of life and aesthetic and religious facets of the life of both the elite and the common man of the medieval capital city. The stone antiquities like ornate architectural members and sculptures of religious and secular nature are found in abundance. Vishnu, Lakshmi, Siva, Ganesha, Virabhadra and other deities of the Hindu pantheon and the Tirthankara images of Jaina Pantheon are also found. The lime stone panels depicting the important episodes of the life of the Buddha and Jataka stories are yet another significant find. Sculptures of bracket figures, merchants, royal personages, plaques depicting socio-religious themes, etc., are also discovered in considerable numbers. Stylistically, these specimens belong to Amaravati, the late Chalukyan and Vijayanagara Schools of sculptural art. Ornamented motifs like Kirtimukha, floral designs, human and animal figures are noteworthy stucco finds. Terracotta objects discovered include figures of deities, vegetables, fruits, tiles and heads of various types besides conical seals bearing legend in Nagari script.

Gold and copper coins of various dimensions and two circular copper coins bearing legends in Chinese script are amongst the important numismatic finds. A variety of gold ornaments, copper objects like rings, finials and vessels,

iron objects like nails, swords, arrowheads, caltrops, cannons, etc, are some of the other noteworthy metal antiquities retrieved from the excavations. Shell and ivory objects, beads of glass and semi-precious stones and other materials are also encountered in considerable numbers.

The stone inscriptions found during the excavation range in date from 2nd to 16th Century A.D. and throw valuable fresh light on the political and cultural history of Vijayanagara - the capital city and the history of its earlier times.

Medieval earthen wares of black, red and polished red colours and various fabrics are found in abundance. The representative shapes include plates, platters, pots, dishes, carinated bowls, storage vessels and multi-spouted vessels of ritualistic purposes, etc. Chinese porcelain used as a deluxe ware by the elite, some bearing legend in Chinese script are also found.

Exploration in and around Sannati

The Bangalore circle of the Archaeological Survey of India explored the twentyfour villages on the banks of the river Bhima as part of the exploration of the submergence area. The exploration has brought to light, for the first time, a continuous cultural sequence from the early Palaeolithic times down to the Rashtrakuta - Kalyana Chalukya times in the Bhima valley besides enriching our knowledge in the early history of the area.

Lower palaeolithic implements in lime stone and quartzite are found at Sannati and Kollur. Middle palaeolithic, mesolithic and upper palaeolithic artefacts are discovered at Rajwal, Sirwal, Hotinmadu and Hasargundgi. Though two stray neoliths are discovered, no site yielding habitational deposits of Neolithic, Chalcolithic or megalithic periods were noticed.

In the year 1989, the officials of the Hyderabad Circle of the Survey discovered a steel bearing Asokan Edicts at Sannati. The slab was actually used as the Yonipitha for installing Bhadrakali image in a sub-shrine in the Chandralamba temple complex. This is a significant discovery because the slab contains parts of separate Rock Edicts I and II of Asoka which were hitherto known only from Kalinga area (Orissa State), in addition to portions of Major Rock Edicts XII, XIII and XIV.

Among the significant early historic sites, Sannati, Hasargundgi and Kanaganahalli are important. The fortified early historic township at Sannati

was thoroughly re-explored. The upper and lower citadels alignments of brick structural activity have been identified and large number of pottery including typical moulded variety and what appears to be sherds of Northern Black polished ware are also retrieved for the first time from Sannati. A number of new Brahmi inscriptions and sculptural slabs were discovered. On the northern part of the Ranamandala area, the bead manufacturing site was also identified.

At Hasargundgi, located on the right bank opposite to Sannati two mounds of Buddhist affinity are noticed. Near one of the mounds some architectural members like ornate pillars, cross-bars, etc belonging to a stupa-railing were found. An outstanding discovery in this site is the sculpture in round of a Yaksha wearing necklace. The pendent of the necklace has a beautiful seated Gajalakshmi being anointed by elephants. This is the earliest Gajalakshmi representation in the whole of South India.

At Kanaganahalli, a much disturbed drum portion of a stupa and several sculptural and inscribed slabs were discovered.

There are as many as twentyone temples and two ornately designed stepped tanks at Sirwal, more than half a dozen temples at Kollur and almost a dozen temples at Anbi. Stylistically all these are assignable to the Rasthrakuta period. Temples and sculptures of the medieval period are also noticed in some of the explored villages.

Excavation conducted by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums in Karnataka under the directions of Dr. A. Sundara (1986-87) on the south-west corner of Ranamandala area has laid bare structural remains in the brick medium and other relics datable to Satavahana period. Excavation done upto an average of 2.5 meters has laid bare part of a warehouse and a copper smithy. The copper smithy contains a circular furnace with accessory units and terracotta crucibles containing copper ingots. Antiquities of glass, jasper and beads of terracotta and a number of spherical stone balls of varying size, probably used as weights were found in the excavation.

The Hyderabad circle of the Archaeological Survey of India has conducted excavations at Sannati in collaboration with the Society for South Asian Studies represented by James Robert Hovell during the seasons 1986-87, 1988-89 and 1989-90. The work was concentrated in and around Stupa II at Sannati. As a result of the excavation to a depth of five meters, it was found that the core of the Stupa was made up of mud mixed with the lime stone fragments

to form a stable base for the structure. Excavation extended on the peripheral area of the Stupa has revealed basements of a pillared platform-like structure, brick revetment provided to the *stupa* which was further strengthened by providing revetment in stone and some memorial or votive platforms which probably accommodated the *chhaya-pratimas*.

Antiquities like lead, potin and copper coins of the Satavahana period, beads of glass and semi-precious stones, kohl sticks, iron nails, fragments of inscribed slabs and pottery all assignable to the Satavahana period have been retrieved during the above excavation.

Excavations at Talakadu *

The State Department of Archaeology in collaboration with the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, Mysore University conducted in 1993 excavations in the sand dune covered ancient capital of Talakadu of the Gangas on the banks of the Cauvery. They unearthed monuments of Vijayanagara times which included some residential site including two wells (or grain stores?) made of terracotta rings, each having more than a dozen rings, pottery, some metallic vessels, earthen smoking pipes etc., They could conclude that sand started accumulating at the site from the last days of Vijayanagara empire (17th Century onwards). A thick brick wall of considerable length has also been identified.

Of the Ganga times, a brick Jaina Basadi with three *garbhagrihas* having Parshwanatha as the main deity is unearthed. The *basadi* could be located in a place in the vicinity of a tree under which the original Parshwanatha image had been lying. Pottery of the time and a beautiful image of Mahishamardini has also been unearthed. Some of the brick structures are also of the Ganga times.

More interesting is the unearthing of artefacts to be identified with Satavahana culture (beginning of the Christian era) like pottery, a very large number and variety of coloured beads, a goldsmiths furnace with a mould near it in which counterfeit Roman coins were minted, together with the ashes from the furnace. There are layers under this of neolithic culture with artefacts

* Information furnished by Dr. D.V. Devaraj, Director of Archaeology and Museums, Mysore.

resembling those found at Hemmige and T.Narsipur. Talakadu excavation will continue for many more years.

QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

Part I, p.368 : Instead of the first sentence in para II, substitute the following:

A total 11 people were killed in Bangalore. In Hassan district, people refused to pay tolls at the weekly shandys, and thousands participated in such demonstrations held all over the district. At Shravanabelagola on 6-10-1942, the demonstrators turned violent and stoned the police party, killing one Constable. The police resorted to firing, and in all 118 rounds were fired, killing six, three on the spot and wounding 12.

P. 368 : at the beginning of the last para, instead of 1st sentence :

A total of over 15,000 people came to be arrested in Karnataka during 1942-43, in which princely Mysore areas quota itself was 10,000 persons. In Belgaum and Dharwad districts too over 2000 each came to be arrested or detained.

Part I P. 369, add after para II:

A list of persons killed during the Quit India movement is compiled as follows :

Narayana Doni at Hubli and Satappa Topannavar at Kadiveshivapura (Belgaum dt) both on 15.8.42 by police firing. Satalingappa Pangire of Nipani and one more person on 17.8.42 by police firing.

In Bangalore, Timmadas on the Avenue Rd by police firing on 16.8.42. Three persons who were not identified, one aged 45 at the Dodpeth Chauk, another aged 20 near the Tuppada Anjaneya temple, and a third person aged 35 at Sultanpeth, all by police firing on 17.8.42. On the same day, one Tippayya near the Tuppada Anjaneya temple, one Appayya at the Arcot Srinivasachar Street V.R. Srinivasan near Dodpeth Chauk, Narayanachar at Chikpeth and Subasingh near the post office or Arcot Srinivasachar Street and Ponnuswamy on the Avenue Rd, died when police resorted to firing. One person died similarly on Aug 23 near the Mysore Bank, whose name is not known.

At Bailhongal seven persons died due to police firing on 17-8-42. Their names are : Siddappa Sattigeri, Shivalingappa Kotambari, Ramappa Dodwad, Dattu Matade, Mallappa Hirehali, Rachappa Hebbal and Shivaputrappa Belgavi.

At Davangere, as a result of police firing on 17-8-42, three died on the spot and four others that were wounded died subsequently. Ningappa, Nagappa and Virupakshappa died on the spot. Lingappa on 18th and Thimmappa, Nilaji Hannumanthappa and Basappa subsequently.

At Tiptur one Siddappa of Maranagere village was wounded by firing on 18-8-42 and died the next day.

The names of those that died at Shravanabelagola due to firing on 6-10-42 are Dyavayya, Shivananjegauda (from Narasinganahalli), Venkategauda (from Amajihalli), Nanjegauda (local person ?), Boranna (from Sollapur) and Muddegauda (from Bommeganahalli). One person who was wounded on that day died on 13-10-42. His identity was not known.

One Huliappa from Gangur, Hassan district died on 27-10-47 due to the lathi blows he received in his own village. One student, C. Shankarappa (from Kolar village) died in Mysore Jail due to police atrocities on 29-10-42.

One person from Khavatikoppa near Kudachi (Raibag taluk) died when the military fired in the night of 5-11-1942. The name of the deceased is not known.

Five persons convicted in the Isur case (Shimoga dt) were hanged in Bangalore Central Jail on March 1, 2 and 3rd. They are Gurappa of Arasingere village, Mallappa of Churchugundi village and Suryanarayanachari, Halappa and Shankarappa, all from Isur.

Mailara Mahadevappa, Irayya Hiremath and Tirukappa Madivalar died on police firing at Hosaritti, Haveri taluk on 1-4-43.

Timmanagauda Patil of Menasihal village received serious injuries on a bomb explosion which took place at Kuppelur in Ranebennur tq. in a scuffle with the police on 10-2-43 when he was trying to confiscate the revenue amount collected, and his death occurred subsequently due to tetanus caused by want of proper treatment as he was underground.

Hanumantappa Gandolli of Munavalli (Belgaum dt) died of injuries sustained at the hands of the police.

Ranganatha Prabhu of Karkala, D.K. died of jaundice in Bellary (Alipuram) prison. Moorusavirappa Ichageri of Hubli died of cholera in Visapur Jail now in Maharastra. Dyavappa Bhavi of Hebli (Dharwar dt), Smt. Gangubai Kinare

of Nipani (Belgaum dt), Vamanrao Potdar of Akkol, Jinagauda Patil of Bedkihal and Gopal Manjire of Nipani (all of Chikodi tq, Belgaum dt) died in Yerwada (Pune) or Belgaum (Hindalga) prisons due to cholera. (A few more who died in prison whose names could not be ascertained). Kotre Nanjappa from Dognalu, Chitradurga dt. who was underground for over two years and had an arrest warrant on him, died of anaemia at Hubli on 11-11-43.

P.369: Change the first sentence thus: When India was to be free, though the Mysore Maharaja signed the Instrument of Accession on 9th Aug 1947, he did not agree to establish responsible government in Mysore State. Then the Mysore Congress decided to launch "Mysore Chalo" movement to force the Maharaja to agree to establish responsible government.

P.385, para 3 add:

Among the literary men add the name of Adya Rangacharya (Sriranga).

After 1956

Add after page 388:

S.Nijalingappa became the first Chief Minister of Karnataka on 1-11-56. After the General Elections of 1957 he was appointed the Chief Minister again as the leader of the Congress Party, enjoying a strength of 151 members. He was sworn in on 19-4-1957. On 16-5-1957 B.D.Jatti was elected the leader of the Congress Party and became the Chief Minister and continued in the post till the General Elections of 9-3-1962.

In 1962, S.R.Kanthi became the Chief Minister on 14-3-1962 after General Elections, being elected the leader of the Congress Party and later, on 21-6-1962 S.Nijalingappa assumed Chief Ministership and was re-elected to the post on 5-3-1967 after the fourth General Elections of 1967. On 29-5-1968, Nijalingappa vacated the post in favour of Veerendra Patil who continued as Chief Minister till 1971. On the resignation of his cabinet, Karnataka saw President's rule from 27-3-1971 to 20-3-1972.

After the elections were held to the State Assembly in 1972, Devaraj Urs of the Congress(I) became the Chief Minister on 20-3-1972 and he continued in the post till 31-12-1977 when again President's rule was imposed for the period between 31-12-1977 to 28-2-1978. Devaraj Urs became the Chief Minister again on 28-2-1978 after elections to the State Assembly when the Congress-

I Party of which he was the leader secured majority again in the Assembly elections. But he had to resign and make way to R. Gundu Rao who was sworn in as the Chief Minister on 12-1-1980.

After the elections to the Assembly, a coalition led by the Janatha Party secured majority. Ramakrishna Hegde was sworn in as Chief Minister on 10-1-1983, and after a re-election to the Assembly, the Janata Party secured more seats than earlier and Hegde was again sworn in as the Chief Minister on 8-3-1985 and continued in the post till S.R.Bomma was elected to the post from the same party on 13-8-1988. On 21-4-1989, the Assembly was dissolved and President's rule was imposed between 21-4-1989 and 30-11-1989.

After the elections to the State Assembly in 1989, Veerendra Patil became the Chief Minister, being the leader of the Congress Party which secured majority in the Assembly, and he was followed by S.Bangarappa as the Chief Minister on 17-10-1990. At present Veerappa Moily is the Chief Minister from 19-11-1992.