

## Revenue Villages Hamlets and Towns of Mandya District

The district of Mandya came to existence when the Mysore District was divided in 1939. As per 1941 census, the then newly formed district had 7 taluks, 29 hoblis, 1489 (1342 habited and 147 uninhabited) villages and nine towns. But after 1961 as Keragodu and Sheelanere became Hobli headquarters, hobli numbers raised to 31. In the meantime few villages were transferred to the neighbouring districts.

This district with 4,961 sq.km area, at present has 7 taluks, 31 hoblis, 1478 (1365 habited and 113 uninhabited) villages, 653 hamlets and 7 towns. If the Krishnarajpet taluk has highest number (366) of villages, Srirangapatna taluk (96) has least number of villages. Although places like Srirangapatna, Kunthibetta, Maralahalli, Halagur and Muttati of prehistoric significance are in the district, places like Keragodu, Kolugala, Belkere, Bembampalu, Punisepatti and the then newly formed Pallava tataka (present day Halleger) situated in the Keragodu Vishaya, are the earliest mentioned villages recorded in the Halleger (Mandya taluk) copper plate grant of 713 A.D. Likewise, villages like Sripura and Ponnalli are the two other villages found mentioned in the Devarahalli (Nagamangala Tq) copper plate record of 776 A.D. The earliest reference to 'Mandya', the district headquarters is found in an epigraph of 1276 AD, hailing from Hosaboodanur, the neighbouring village wherein, it is referred as; 'Agrahara Mandya'. In an yet another copper plate inscription of Krishnadevaraya, dated 1516 A.D. the place is called as Krishnarajapura along with its usual name viz. 'Agrahara Manteya' along with Chikka Manteya. Later, due to the increase in habitation sites, how, new villages started increasing in the region is testified by the epigraphs of later period.

The place names found in the district are vivid and interesting. Placenames like Amruti, Appanahalli, Attuppe, Arani, Ijjalaghatta, Ukkada, Kallanakere, Kalkuni, Kadumenasu, Keelara, Konasale, Chikbali, Chikbagilu, Chikkada, Chinya, Jigundipattana, Dinka, Tuppadamadu, Tolasi, Dandebala, Dadamuduke, Dabbeghatta, Doddaguni, Dodda Jataka, Dodda Bala, Markalu, Bannadahalli, Biledegula, Baby, Bennahatti, Mikkere, Mugatigundi, Yamadurukaval, Lokasara, Sadholalu, Sakshibeedu, Sollepura, Hanasale, Halti, Hadli, Hebbani, Hebbetalu, Honnemadu and others draw our attention due to their uniqueness and peculiar nature. Besides, villages with similar placenames are also found abundantly and place names like Ankanahalli (5), Avverahalli (5) Kalenahalli (5), Kyatanahalli (5), Kenchenahallli (4), Jakkannahalli (5), Devarahalli (4) Pura (6) Ballegere (7) Byadarahalli (4), Beechanahalli (4), Bommanahalllk (4) Manchanahalli (4) Malligere (7), Mallenahalli (11), Yalladahalli (4) Laxmipura (5) Vadarahalli (8) Shivapura (5), Hosahalli (14), Hosur (6) may be cited as illustrations. The numberals given in the bracket indicate their numbers.

While major part of place names in the district end with "Halli" next comes the place names ending with pura-uru-kere as suffix, and few names ending with kuppe-koppalu-Doddi-Vadi, do find occasionally. Eight places ending with Kote (like Melukote, Bidurukote etc), 16 places ending with Hosahalli (like Gidugana Hosahalli, Gejje Hosahalli), 15 places ending with Hosur (like Mariyana Hosur, Ganada Hosur) are in the district. If, some village names with prefixes like Akki, Nellu, Atti, Kabbu, Yale, Gulukayi, Uddu, Kadale, Hurali, Nerale, Tengu, Halu, Majjige, Tappa, Enne etc., there are incidences where animals like Ane, Kage, Kudure, Kotti, Koti, Nandi, Nari, Navilu, Naga, Varaha, Huli, Hulle, finds part of village names. The terms like Arhat, Koppa, Boppa, Bomma, Jakka, Mara, Jaina, Basti and others occur either as suffix or as prefix, speak of their jain affinity. If the occurrence of Chola, Chokka indicate, of their Chola origin, placenames like Gangavadi, Gangasamudra, Ganganahalli, probably indicate the inhabitants of the respective villages belonging to Gangadikara Okkaligas.

The origin of the village names of the district may be traced to various sources like nature

(like Attiguppe, Kanghatta, Bidarahalli, Bandihole etc.) Communities (like Koravanagundi, Gangavadi, Hangarahalli, Nagamangala, Chunchangiri, Ganadalu, Vaddarahalli, Dasardoddi; Anche Beeranahalli etc.), Religions and Gods (Amrutheshwara halli, Allapattana, Ankanathapura, Kalludevarahalli, Gramadevatepura, Mailarapatna, Tirumlapura, Goomdanahalli, Tiruganahalli, Bommalapura etc.). But a considerable number of the Village names in the district are of personal names. All these aspects indicate that there is much scope for a systematic study of place names in the district.

With this background, based on 1991 census and the village lists obtained from the taluk authorities, the revenue villages (in Capital Letters) of the district is arranged alphabetically along with their hamlets (in Small Letters). As per 1991 census there were 10 towns, and one Notified area census town. But due to the administrative changes occurred later there are only 7 towns in the district, and the NAC town Krishnarajasagar is being considered as village panchayat since 2000. It is hoped that this village list serve the purpose of researches, historians and common man alike with useful information.

