

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

MYSORE district has been rich in antiquarian remains including inscriptions. No district in Karnataka has so numerous inscriptions as Mysore, and the three volumes of *Epigraphia Carnatica* (revised edition) edited by Dr. B R. Gopal stand testimony to this fact. There are over 2,300 inscriptions published in these series. If availability of inscriptions is a testimony, the taluks of Periyapatna and Hunsur which do not have many inscriptions prior to the rule of the Hoysalas or the 13th and the 14th centuries, had perhaps very scarce human activity before this date. But early man's habitation in the region (two taluks) is testified by thousands of megaliths. Equally notable like inscriptions, are the number of temples. As no alien campaign was evidenced here, the iconoclasts had not touched the religious monuments in the region. Inscriptions found in the district are the most important sources for outlining the history from the 3rd to the 19th century.

PRE-HISTORY

The activity of the pre-historic man is visible here especially in the alluvial plains of the river valleys like the Cauvery and her numerous tributaries. These are mostly of the neolithic and megalithic phases, found in the taluks of Mysore, T. Narsipur, Kollegal, Yelandur and Chamarajnar. In the hilly western tracts, they are not so very common. Robert Bruce-Foote, Dr. M. Sheshadri, C. Krishna Murthy and Dr. A. V. Narasimha Murthy are some of the prominent archaeologists who had surveyed the tracts, the last named, having excavated Koppa, a megalithic site in Mysore taluk.

One palaeolithic tool was located at Ranganathapur in T. Narsipur taluk, indicating the existence of palaeolithic nomadic man in the area.

Few stone tools of palaeolithic phase II were unearthed in 1985 at Tonachikoppal (Kuvempunagar) area in Mysore city by Dr. B. K. Gururaja Rao. But nothing more is known of the palaeolithic man's activities in the area. Surface finds of microliths like lunates, hallow scrapers, scrapers, flakes and cores have been located, in a majority of cases by C. Krishna Murthy, at Yaragamballi and Gumballi in Yelandur taluk and Chandakavadi in Chamarajnar taluk. Dr. M. Sheshadri excavated neolithic sites at T. Narsipur and Hemmige, and Muttalavadi is another such site in the same taluk. The potential of T. Narsipur had been, in fact, noted by Robert Bruce-Foote himself. Other neolithic sites in the district are Budithittu and Hosalli in Chamarajnar taluk, Boodithittu and Shivakahalli in Yelandur taluk, Telnur in Kollegal taluk and Yachagali in Nanjangud taluk, mostly located by C. Krishnamurthy. In fact, he has listed three microlithic sites, 10 neolithic sites and fifty megalithic habitations in the district, and of the last named nine are from Yelandur, 15 from Kollegal and 11 from Nanjangud taluks. In many places, neolithic-chalcolithic cultural horizon has been succeeded by iron using megalithic culture, as at T. Narsipur.

All these neolithic sites, in addition to the stone tools (hand axes, etc.), and in some places, copper tools of a later phase, have also yielded pottery, typical of South Indian neolithic culture, *viz.*, burnished and unburnished ware. In these, there are the grey group and the red group. The pottery was generally hand made, using fine to medium grained clay. Large pots with globular body and everted rims, and bowls with round bottom with large mouths and not so distinct rims are the usual types. Lipped bowls or large shallow pinched bowls at the rims were also found. The black, black and red and red ware pottery were located at Hemmige, Shambhudevanapura, T. Narsipur and Kaveripur in T. Narsipur taluk, Hugya, Lokkanahally, Hannur, Beltur, Budithittu, Lakkundi, P. G. Palya, Huttur, Kondayyanapalya, Ganganadoddi, Chikkamalapura, Kanikkere, Uganiya and Chikailur in Kollegal taluk, Ambale, Gowdrahalli, Budithittu, Devarahalli, Yeriur, Ganiganur, Maddur and Malarapalya in Yelandur taluk, Alur, Bettahalli, Chandakavadi, Honganur and Nallur in Chamarajnar taluk, Talale, Panjanahalli, Veeranapura, Hosahalli and Gundlupet in Gundlupet taluk and Suttur, Taradale, Hedatole, Doddahomma, Tagadur, Uppinahalli, Alatur Mole, Hebya, Kemballu, Gowdrahalli, Rampura and Halre in Nanjangud taluk. One burial, that too outside the residential area, but in the habitation site was discovered at T. Narsipur, and a neckrest, a brick provided with a leg like that of wine cup, was found in the tomb.

Of the 113 groups of megalithic in Mysore district, 47 groups were found in Kollegal taluk. These megalithic burials consist of a stone circle with or without rubble filling with cists or porthole cists and pits containing urns. The megalithic burials at Changavadi, Kollegal taluk

are interesting. "They consist of stone circles with a cist in the centre of the circle. Here, I have come across the biggest circle that has been discovered so far in the region", says C. Krishna Murthy and he points out that the diameter of the biggest circle is 86 feet. "The peculiarity of these burials is that two circles are placed side by side, in such a way that a portion of the circle becomes common for both the circles. However, the circle that lies towards the south is generally smaller than the other". Of late, a megalithic site at Koppa in Mysore taluk was excavated by Dr. A. V. Narasimha Murthy and his team. Hundreds of megaliths with stone circles ranging from one-and-half to eight metres in diameter, some with double circles were located. Iron implements like huge axes, arrow-heads and knives, and also beads were unearthed. Paddy husk and a three-legged jar were special items located at this site of c 500 B.C.

A fossilised bone of a buffalo was discovered at T. Narsipur. The lone human skeleton discovered at the T. Narsipur site, belonging to the end of neolithic age with intrusive chalcolithic elements, was of the Mediterranean man, of the same stock as those inhabiting similar sites of Tekkalakota and Piklihal in Raichur district. A few black painted red pottery found at T. Narsipur resemble the Savalda type, and they belong to 1300 to 800 B.C. and the strata prior to that, the neolithic phase of T. Narsipur has been dated as 1900 to 800 B.C. The megalithic culture of the region including T. Narsipur has been dated as 3rd century B.C. to 2nd century A.D.

It is difficult to identify Mahishamandala mentioned in *Deepavamsha* of Ashokan times with Mysore, as Mahishmati in Madhya Pradesh is also identified with the place. But, Ptolemy's (130 A.D.) Punnato can be identified with Punnata or Punnadu in Mysore district, as later inscriptions speak of this region. Punnato according to Ptolemy was famous for mining beryl. Except this, not much is known of the history of district prior to the advent of the Gangas except the conjecture that the area was under the Pallavas for a few decade prior to the advent of the Gangas.

THE GANGAS

Mysore district area 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 Talakad was capital of the Gangas for quite some time, though their original capital was Kovalala, identified as Kolara. Their royal emblem was elephant.

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, scholars like Dr. S. Srikantha Sastry and Dr. S. Nagaraju have

shown that 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 Madhava has been identified as his son and successor. The Tamil inscriptions speak of the Gangas as Kongani (Konguni) Arasasars after this Kongani Varma, who appears to have revolted against Pallava rule over the region during the middle of the fourth century A.D. and founded his new kingdom with Kuvallala as the capital and Nandigiri fort (the Nandi Hills) as his another stronghold. The details about him are found in the Mysore and Nittur copper plates of his son Madhava I. The Mysore plates (My 103) speak of Konganivarma-dharmaharaja, of Kanvayanasa Gotra and speaks of his son Madhava as "Maharajadhiraja". The father is described as "disciplined by the study of several *shatras*" and the son (Madhava) as "a touchstone for testing gold, the learned and the poets", and as the one "who uprooted the obstacles by the prowess of his own arms". Later records speak of his having written a commentary to *Dattakasmrutivritti*, a Sanskrit work. Madhava was succeeded by Harivarma, who is also called Aryavarma and Krishnavarma. (Some scholars feel that these were the names of two other brothers of Harivarma, which is not correct). Harivarma was perhaps using Talakad as his secondary capital.

Harivarma was succeeded by his son Madhava II (also called Simhavarma) and he is said to have (according to a Penukonda 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, daughter of Skandavarman. But 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 Talakad 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, Porulare, Pennagara and other places and the author of a commentary on the 15th canto of *Kiratarjuneeya*, noted Sanskrit work by Bharavi. Punnata territory was merged into Ganga kingdom by him, and also Pannada (the territory of the Banas?). Gunadhya's work in Prakrit, *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 *Neetishastra*. It is said that he also wrote a commentary on Sanskrit grammar called *Shabdavatara*, but it is clear that the work of this name was the creation of his contemporary Jaina scholar Pujiyapada, and Durvinita appears to have written a Kannada work of the same name. Durvinita, a Kannada author referred to by *Kavirajamarga* has been identified with this scholarly prince. He appears to have accepted the supremacy of the Chalukyas of Badami, as Pulikeshin I claims to have performed horse sacrifice after defeating the neighbouring princes in his Badami cliff record of 543 A. D. According to the Sirgunda record, Durvinita has 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 Shrivikrama came to the throne. Shrivikrama is described as having mastered 14 *vidyas*. His successor Bhuvikrama, in close alliance with the Chalukya Vikramaditya I of Badami fought against the Pallavas and defeated Pallava Parameshwara Varman at Vilande in c 670 A.D., snatched from him a 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.

Shivamara's successor was his grandson Shripurusha (726-88), and his initial year is provided by the Javali plates. Name of Shrivamara's son is not known. Shripurusha's Talakad record (Tn 207) of his first regnal year speaks of his remission of certain taxes to the 25 of Talakad ("Talekkaada ippattayvarkkam"). His Agara record (Yl 138) speaks of his queen Vinettinimadi governing over Malavallur. Though Shripurusha 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 Shrivikrama had secured at Vilande in c 670. Pandya Termara kidnapped a Ganga princess, married her, and defeated Shripurusha at Venbai. A record from Holalavadi (Nj 182) speaks of his donation of income from tolls (*sunka*) for some charity, details being lost. The Saragur (Hg 90) plates of his speak of grants made for the feeding of brahmins at Dhannagawadi. Shripurusha 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.

Shivamara II

Rashtrakuta Krishna I's efforts to capture Manne were foiled and Shripurusha appears to have chased the Rashtrakuta army till Kampili in Bellary dt. Shripurusha had his queens from the Chalukya and the Nolamba families, but Nolamba Charuponnera later joined hands with

the Rashtrakutas. This scholarly prince wrote *Gajashastra* in Sanskrit. Of his three sons (Duggamara, Shivamara and Vijayaditya, the last named being the son of Vijamahadevi, perhaps the daughter of Chalukya emperor Vijayaditya) Saigotta Shivamara II succeeded him in 788. But, he had to struggle hard against the Rashtrakutas, and emperor Dhruva defeated him at Mudagunduru, took him captive, and Dhruva appointed his son Kamba as Governor of Gangavadi who ruled from Manne. But after the death of Dhruva, the rivalry for succession between his sons resulted in emperor Govinda III releasing Shivamara to counter Kamba his own brother. But Shivamara II did not help Govinda, and the latter imprisoned Shivamara again. Shivamara's son Marasimha ruled over Gangavadi for some time (796-97) and Govind III released Shivamara. Shivamara offered the throne to his younger brother Vijayaditya, who in turn offered it to his own son Rachamalla I. Shivamara II continued his struggle against the Rashtrakutas, and Amoghavarsha I killed him at Kagemogeyur in 816 A.D. Shivamara's younger son Prithvipati allied himself with the Pallavas, and ruled from Parvi (Anantpur dt) independently as against the main branch, and he in turn was succeeded by Nanniya Ganga and Prithvipathi II at Parvi, and with him the branch ended. A tenacious fighter, Shivamara II was also a poet who wrote *Gajashtaka* in Kannada. A devoted Jaina, he built the Chadraprabha basti at Shravana-belagola. *Gajamatha Kalpana* in Sanskrit and *Setubhandha*, perhaps in Prakrit, are also described as his works.

Rachamalla I continued to resist Rashtrakuta power, and he allied with the Nolambas of Henjeru (Hemavati) by marrying his daughter Jayabbe to Nolamba Polalchora. Though Rashtrakuta Commander Bankeya pursued him till the Cauveri in the south, still Rachamalla could retain his territories in tact. He was succeeded in 843 by his son Ereganga Nitimarga and Amoghavarsha decided to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the Gangas and married his daughter Chandrabalabbe to Ereganga's younger son Butuga. Amchavadi (Cn 256) has a herostone of his times. Ereganga's elder son Rachamalla II (870-919) who succeeded him had to face Nolamba Mahendra who turned hostile to him. But Prince Ereganga II (Butuga's son) killed Mahendra in 895, wrested all Ganga territories which Nolambas had conquered, and even Henjeru their capital. The Huskur record dated 871 (Nj 385) speaks of crown Prince Butuga (Rachamalla's brother) administering Kongalnad and Punnad. Another record from Chikkakati (Gu 57) also speaks Butuga making a grant of village Nelegur. A herostone at Mudahalli (Nj 197) speaks of grant of Adiraru-12 to the relations of a deceased hero by Rachamalla II and his queen. The villages Iggali and Dudugere were granted to the relation of a hero Racheyganga by the king (Nj 204). Ereganga Nitmarga II, who succeeded his uncle in 919 is compared to Bharata for his mastery over fine art like music and dance and described

as well-versed in grammar. The Doddahundi herostone (now in Bangalore Museum, Tn 257) speaks of Agarayya becoming a *kilgunte* on this prince's death by offering his own life.

Butuga II

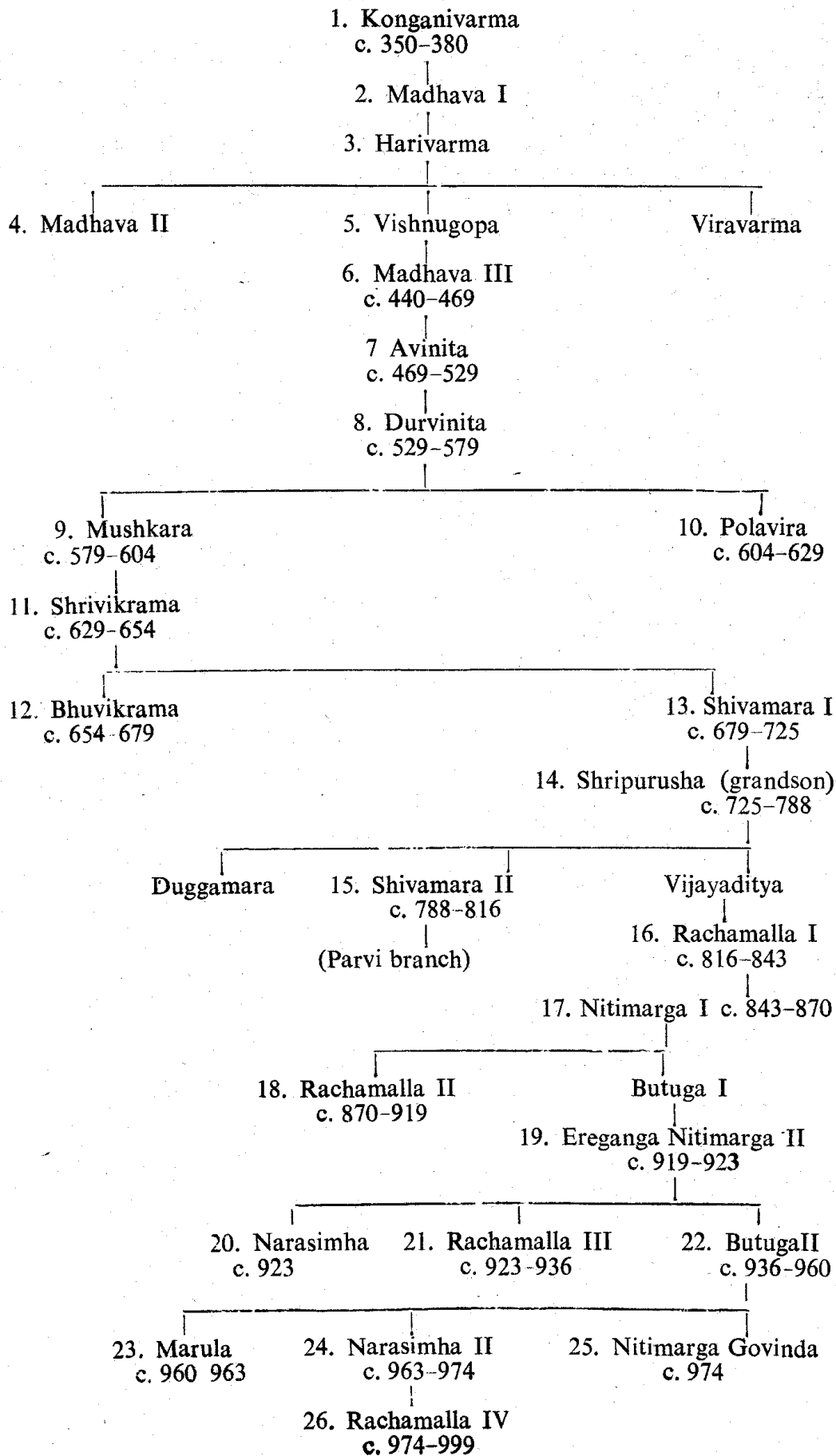
Ereganga's three sons succeeded to the Ganga throne one after the other *viz.* Narasimha (923), Kaccheya Ganga or Rachamalla III (923-36) and Butuga II (936-60), the last named coming to the throne after overthrowing his elder brother in 936 with the help of Rashtrakuta Amoghavarsha III or Baddegadeva. Hirenandi inscription (Hg 23) speaks of a battle in the civil war between Rachamalla and Butuga II (Bhuvanaditya). Butuga II had also helped Baddegadeva and his son Krishna III in their civil war of succession against Govinda IV in 936, and Baddegadeva not only helped Butuga II to secure the Ganga throne, but he married his daughter Revakanimmadi to Butuga II. From this date onwards (936), the Gangas became the subordinates and allies of the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II was granted many Rashtrakuta territories to govern such as Bagadage-70 (Bagalkot), Kisukadu-70 (Pattadakal), Belvola-300 (Annigeri) and Puligere-300 (Lakshmeshwar), and he helped the Rashtrakutas in their war against the Cholas by killing Chola Rajaditya at Takkolam in 949. He also helped Krishna III's campaigns in Tamilnadu when he captured Tanjore, the Chola capital. He secured Banavasi-12,000 from the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II was a scholar and a devotee Jaina.

After a short rule of the two years by Butuga's son Marula (960-3), succession to Ganga throne fell on Marasimha II (963-74), another son of Butuga II. The undated Chikkanya herostone (My 198) says that Satavakya-Permanadi, identified as Marasimha II as ruling from Gattavadi, a place in Nanjangud tq. 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 Indra IV, his nephew and grandson of Krishna III, by crowning him at Bankapura. A record at Kariya (Nj 282) speaks of Marasimha making a *bittuvatta* grant for the maintenance of two newly excavated tanks in 968. A servant of the king called Rachamma set up the pillar in front of the Nagarle Narayana-swamy temple in 970-71. After the death of Marasimha II in 975, his brother Govindara appears to have ruled for some time. A later record of his queen, Nolamba princess Prithivabbarasi is seen at Elukuru (Tn 82), dated 999-1000 A.D. He was overthrown by Rachamalla IV, son of Marasimha II with the help of the renowned general and minister of Marasimha, Chavundaraya, who became famous in history by installing the image of Gomata at Shravanabelgola. 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 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. His Hiremalali record (calling him Satyavakya Permanadi dated 976-77, Pp 133), describing him as ruling over Gangavadi-32,000 speaks of his granting Manalur as an *agrahara*. A Kunthur record (Ko 10) speaks of one Parabbayarasi administering the territory.

Being in the heartland of Gangavadi, Mysore district was lucky in enjoying the benevolent policies of the Gangas, and the famous Pataleshwara, Maruleshwara and Arkeshwara temples of Talakad (which was for long their capital) and the Narasamangala temple are among the many such creations of the Gangas in the region. They also undertook many irrigation schemes (See Chapter IV) and founded many *agraharas* which included the famous Ghattavadi Agrahara in Nanjangud taluk in the days of Ereganga (904 A.D.) (See Chapter XV).

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 till then. Shripurusha (No. 14) was the grandson of Shivamara I.



Rulers of Punnata

Punnata is a small administrative unit, also called as Punnata 6,000 in records, having Kirthipura (modern Kittur in Heggadadevanakote taluk) as its headquarters, and even Greek Geographer Ptolemy (130 A.D.) speaks of it as Paunnato, a land which was the source of the precious stone beryl, being taken to Greece and Rome. The unearthing of Roman coins in this region has supported the identification of Ptolemy's Paunnato with Punnata which is also called as Purnashtra, Poonadu and PudaInadu. A family ruled from here between the 4th and 6th centuries as contemporaneous to the Gangas, and later their territories were merged into the Ganga kingdom. The Basavanapur plates (Nj 175), Komaralingam plates and the Mamballi plates are the main sources for their history. Thamara Kashyapa, son of Mika was the first ruler of the dynasty. He is described as born in a copper vessel. Thamara Kashyapa was succeeded by Rajaditya, his son. Vishnudasa (c 405—30) is the next known ruler of the dynasty (his relationship with previous ruler is not clear) and his son Rashtravarman (c 430—55) married Prabhavathi, a Banavasi Kadamba princess, perhaps daughter of Kakuthsavarman. He had three sons, Prithvipathi (455—70) mentioned in the Mamballi plates (c 550), Skandavarman (470—85), and Nagadatta (485—500) who appear to have ruled in succession. Skandavarman's Basavanapura plates speak of grant of a village Muttallavviyur on the banks of the Kappuni (Kabini) to a brahmin scholar. The Mamballi plates of (YI 167) describe Purnashtra as resplendant with the Cauvery and the Kapini, full of rich fields, filled with buffaloes, cows, horses, gold, silver, rubies, pearls and corals, and thus rich and full of well-to-do persons. It also alludes to the blankets produced there and the scholarly persons inhabiting it. Nagadatta was succeeded by his son Bhujangadhiraja (c 500—25) whose son and successor Skandavarman II (c 525—550) is the author of the famous Komaralingam plates. Bhujangadhiraja had married the daughter of Kadamba Simhavarman. Ganga Avinitha had married Jyeshthadevi, daughter of Skandavarman II, and Skandavarman's son was Ravidatta who according to Dr. B. R. Gopal, predeceased his father. He was the last prince of the family. Durvinita had this territory merged in the Ganga Kingdom, as Ravidatta had died and Durvinita was the daughter's son of Skandavarman II. Thus the rule of the Punnata princes of Kashyapa Gotra ended. Other details of their rule are not known.

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. They had Talakad as one of their important centres, which they had occupied after the overthrow of the Gangas. They renamed Talakad as Rajarajapura after Rajaraja I (985—1016). Over 60 inscriptions of the Cholas have been found in the district, and though they had

direct control over major parts of the district, they did not have much control over Periyapatna taluk and had some control over Hunsur and Mysore taluks, that too only in the days of Rajendra I. They subdued the Chandalavas later. During the latter half of their rule, they could control Gundlupet region in the days of Rajadhiraja I and Kulottunga I. In the Heggadadevanakote taluk the Kadambas of Bayalnad were their feudatories. Almost the whole of the belongings of the Cholas in Mysore district were in the Gangikondachola Volanad which was a part of Mudigunda Cholamandala. We come across smaller units like Idainad, (Suttur etc., in Nanjangud tq. area), Kudagunad-300 (Gundlupet area), Navilnad (Kolligal, H.D.Kote), Nugunad, Bayalnad, Padinad and Ennenad (Chamarajanagar area), Vadakarenadu (Talakad) and Iduturained (K.R.Nagar), in the local inscriptions.

The Cholas built many temples, established many *agraharas* and Tamilised the administration. So wide-spread was the use of Tamil in records that even after they were thrown out from the region by the Hoysalas, even the Hoysala records of as late as the 14th century, are found in Tamil. Considerable number of Tamil settlers including Brahmins at the *agraharas* could enter this region. This trend continued under the Hoysalas also.

The earliest record of Rajaraja I is found at Kempanapura (Cn 145) dated 991 A.D. and is in Kannada, wherein the ruler is addressed as Chola Narayana and the administration makes a land grant in Kiru Herur for some academic and religious (repairing a temple) purpose. Another record of his, undated, in Tamil language speaks of his conquest of Gangavadi etc. The Kaliyur record (Tn 220) is a pillar of victory installed by Chola General Aprameya dated 1006 and it speaks of his having defeated among others the Hoysalas. At Mudigonda (Kollegal tq) was founded an *agrahara* in the name of Rajaraja I called Mudigondasolapura and the local Lakshminarayana temple was also built perhaps by Rajendra I.

Rajendra I (1016-44) consolidated Chola position in the area and most of the Chola records in the region nearly 15, are his. His Tadimalingi record of 1021-22 speaks of a grant to the temple Janardana of the place. The Cholas appear to have founded an *agrahara* at the place. The Hampapura record of 1033 (Kn 113) and of Kuruballi (Kn 85) are herostones reporting wars between the Cholas and the Chandalvas, indicating that the latter dynasty had not accepted Chola hegemony. Maliegowdanahoppalu record (My 113) also indicates the continuation of the struggle till 1036. Under Rajadhiraja I (1044-54) a village called Vellur was converted as an *agrahara* called Rajadhiraja Chaturvedimangalam (Cn 146) and was also converted into a commercial centre of *eri-virapattanam*, providing many facilities to the trading groups.

Chola Rajendra II (1054-64) in the Tadimalingi inscription (Tn 231) speaks of his victory against the (Kalyana) Chalukyas and his installing

Jayasthambha at Kolhapur and the same statement is repeated in Hale Alur record (Cn 186) dated 1058-59. The Belatur record of 1057, is a famous poem in Kannada, speaking of Rajendra II having ordered the execution of Raviga, who killed somebody in a wrestling bout, and Raviga's wife Dekabbe performing *sahagamana*.

There are a dozen records of Kulottunga I in the region, but most of them are damaged and their purport is not clear. The last of these is dated 1115-6, found at Annur (Hg 10). An *agrahara* with 108 *vrittis* (divisions) was founded at Agara by Kulottunga (YI 143). Though the rule of the Cholas in Gangavadi was ended between 1114-6 by Hoysala Vishnuvardhana, they did have some hold in eastern and southern parts of the district. Thus there is a lone record of the 12th century assigned to Kulottunga III by Dr. Gopal at Kellapur in Gundlupet tq (Gu 102).

The Bayalnad Kadambas

Claiming to be the descendants of Kadambas of Banavasi, the Kadambas of Bayalnad were ruling over the Heggadadevakote tq region in Mysore dt too, perhaps as subordinates of the Cholas between the 10th and 12th centuries. Dr. B. R. Gopal has carefully deciphered their records and pointed out many mistakes in the earlier decipherment by Rice. Five princes of the family are identified. The earliest known ruler of the family is Chagi I, mentioned in a herostone at Malali (Hg 110), and Dr. Gopal assigns the record to the 10th century. Next record of 998-99 is another herostone, from Magge (Hg 142) and it speaks of Uraviyammara and the prince is described as 'rajadhiraja'. The Kittur record (Hg 123) of Ikravarna, described as the master of Banavasi Vishaya and as ruling over 'Bayalnadu *ayau munnuru*' (five 300 districts?). The record is dated 1079 and announces a grant to the Raviyameshwara (now Rameshwara) temple. Keralanad, Punnad and Nidulenad are mentioned as among his territories, perhaps being three of the five 300 districts under him. The prince is called as Vishnupadasevaka (devotee of Vishnu) and also Maheswarabhaktha (devotee of Shiva). Another record of this dynasty is dated 1137 from Narasipura (Hg 117), but does not mention any prince. A record of Chagi found in Hassan dt (Mj 18) is assigned to the 12th century by Dr. Gopal and he can be called Chagi II. These Kadambas must be ruling from the neighbouring Vaynad, now in Kerala, formerly called as Bayalnad.

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, as already seen. 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 Dharavarsha or Dhruva is seen at Matakere (Hg 46) which says that under Dharavarsha (Dhruva), Kambarasa (Sthambha, Dhruva's son) was ruling over Gangavadi-96,000 and somebody else (name lost) was administering Torenad-500, and Damatigate was one Pergade under him. It speaks of grant of (or land at) Kodagur. His headquarters was Manne. It is known that Dhruva had 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 (793-814) who succeeded to the empire, superseding Kambarasa the elder. Govinda III defeated Kambarasa and took him prisoner. Later he pardoned his brother, released him and sent him back to Gangavadi. A copper plate from Devanur (Nj 278) dated 808 A. D. speaks of Kambayya as at the military camp (Vijayaskandhavara) at Talakad. It registers the grant of the village Badanaguppe ('Vadaneguppi' in Edanadu-Punnada Vishaya) to one Jaina teacher Vardhamanaguru. This grant was made at the request of Shankaragana, son of Kambayya.

Shivamara II continued to resist the Rashtrakutas. He offered the throne to his younger brother Vijayaditya, who in turn crowned his own son Rachamalla I. Shivamara II continued his defiance and died in a fight against the Rashtrakutas in 816 though earlier to that, he appears to have accepted the overlordship of Amoghavarsha I (814-78), as evidenced from a record at Kalbhavi in Belgaum district 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. No Rashtrakutas records are seen in Mysore district but the Gangas were in alliance with the Rashtrakutas is clear. Ganga Butuga II had to seek their support to secure the Ganga crown (938 A.D.). The rising power of the Cholas forced the Gangas to closely ally themselves with the Rashtrakutas. Butuga II helping Rashtrakuta Krishna III (939-67) in winning the battle of Takkolam (near Arkonam) in c 949 is too well known, where Butuga II killed Chola Rajaditya. Famous Atkur inscription (Md 42) in the neighbouring Mandya District speaks of this event. Extensive Rashtrakuta territories were conferred on Butuga II by Krishna, and this 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 the Chalukyas overthrew the Rashtrakutas in 973, the Gangas struggled hard to espouse the cause of the defeated family by even crowning Indra IV, a Rashtrakuta prince at Bankapura as already noted. Except the two inscriptions quoted above, of Dhruva and Kambayya, no vestiges of Rashtrakuta power are seen in Mysore district.

Chalukya of Varuna

A family of the Chalukyas, perhaps feudatories of the Rashtrakutas or the Gangas, was ruling over a small part of Mysore district from Varuna

in Mysore taluk. A dozen records of theirs are seen and three princes of the dynasty are mentioned. Durga has been considered as the first prince of the dynasty by Dr. B. R. Gopal. The Varakodu record commemorates the *nishidhi* of Pittabbe, his consort. But his Varuna record (My 168) addresses him as Mahasamanta and as belonging to Chalukya family. He made a grant of the village Torewalli to the Bhuteshwara temple, perhaps the present Mahadeveshwara at Varuna. Another record from the same place (My 169) speaks of the grant of the village Aragadupalli by another Chalukya prince Goggi, to the same (Bhuteshwara) temple. A number of herostones from the same place speak of Goggi and the death of some of his faithful servants (My 173-78). Another record from Varuna (My 167) speaks of Narasinga of the same family and his wife Gavilabbarasi, and a second record of his (My 223) from Kukkarahalli speaks of his having constructed the Narasingeshwara temple and granting of Manalewadi as grant to the temple. All these records are assigned to the 10th century by Dr. B. R. Gopal who says that the mutual relationships among these princes "are not clear" and that "these records have to be assigned to a period of about 50 years of the 10th century".

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

The first record of the Kalyana Chalukyas is seen at Somasamudra in Chamarajnagar taluk (Cn 404) dated 993. This speaks of Chalukya Permanadi identified as Taila II (973-97) and mentions construction of a tank by Ammadigavunda of Kuruvusur. This shows that by this time the Chalukyas had succeeded in penetrating as far as till the southern parts of Mysore district. A herostone dated 997-78 from Kudakur (Periyapatna taluk Pp. 92) speaks of the rule of the same prince and also his daughter Pampadevi, perhaps put in charge of this region.

No records of the Chalukyas are seen in this region, as soon as the areas fell into the hands of the Cholas. The Hoysalas, who were perhaps the subordinates of the Gangas, and were ruling in Mudugere region (Chikmagalur district) became prominent during the 11th century as feudatories of the Chalukyas. But they could penetrate in the Mysore area only during the 12th century.

THE HOYSALAS

The first mention of the Hoysalas in inscriptions is in a record from the Mysore district itself, that being the Kaliyur record of Chola general Aprameya dated 1006 in which among others he claims to have defeated

the Hoysalas also. The Hoysalas belonged to the Malenadu region near the Kuduremukh Range, Sosevur, modern Angadi in Mudugere taluk being their place of origin. They called themselves as 'Maleparolganda' or "Champion among the Male Chiefs". They shifted their capital to Belu and further to Halebidu (Dwarasamudra), both in Hassan district. Though Sala, who is said to have hit a tiger at the biddings of a Jaina Muni, is described as the first prince of the dynasty, it is not certain whether he was a historical figure. But the motif 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 extended their sway over Mysore district region. But in the neighbouring Mandya district, records of Vinayaditya (1095, Kr 39), Ereyanga (1052, Md 52) and Ballala I (1103, Kr 72) are seen. Vishnuvardhana himself was perhaps administering Belgola (Mandya district) 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 the Chalukyas. Hoysaladevi, one of the queens of Chalukya Someshwar I (1043—68) was a Hoysala princess. Of the nearly 300 inscriptions of the dynasty in Mysore district, nearly 20 belong to Vishnuvardhana who had succeeded in capturing Talakad, the headquarters of the Chola province in the area.

Vishnuvardhana

The earliest record of Vishnuvardhana in the district is of 1109—10, from Varakodu (My 130), and it speaks of him as Bittiga and also mentions Punisamayya, his Sandhivigrahi who made a grant to a *basadi* of the place, now not existing. The Varadaraja temple of the same place has another record of Vishnunripa (My 123), the other details being lost. Punisamayya also built the Parshwanatha *basadi* at Arakottara (present Chamarajanagar) in 1116 and made grants to it (Ch 2). Vishnuvardhana was the founder of Hoysala greatness. He not only further penetrated into Southern parts of Gangavadi, but even conquered Talakad in about 1116—17 and assumed the title Talakadugonda (Tn 118) and the record calls him as Viraganga Vishnuvardhana 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 Kirthinarayana temple at Talakad (Tn 151). He must have appointed his younger brother Udayaditya to administer the region. An inscription dated 1127 at Mahabaleshwara temple at the Mysore Chamundi hill speaks Tribhuvanamalla Talakadugonda Bhujabalaviraganga Hoysala administering Gangavadi 96,000 from Yadavapura and making a grant to Sri Marbbaladateertha.

A commander of his, Mahapradhana Gangappayya built a *basadi* at Hadaribagilabidu (My 207) near Kumarabidu in 1121. Vishnuvardhana had his headquarters at Talakad according to this record. A record from Ramapattana dated 1124 (Hs 16) speaks of Chattaraja a Commander of Vishnuvardhana and the former's younger brother Chavaraja building two *basadis* at the place (Herjjadi in Torenad). A herostone set up in memory of the Nirgunda administrator dated 1142 (Dec; Ch 117) at Bagali speaks of the deceased officer having died while laying siege to the Kulkulla Fort on the Nilagiri hills.

Vishnuvardhana conquered Kolar and Nangali in the east and humiliated the Kongalvas and the Cholas of Nidugal. He married a Kongalva princess, Chanchaladevi in around 1115. Nilagiri and the Kongu country (Salem-Coimbatore area) taken from the Cholas. In the north, he had conquered Nolambavadi, crossed the Tungabhadra and took some territories in Bellary dt region. Next he made inroads into the Belvola 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 Hanagal of the Kadambas and conquered it. Next, he made inroads into Banavasi 12,000 and Santalige (Shimoga region). 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 Kulottaunga 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 Hangal in 1141.

He was succeeded by his son Narasimha I in 1152. He had to face the revolt of the Changalvas and the Kongalvas and he also lost Nolambavadi. The earliest record of his in the district is from Kudlapur (Nj 322) where he is addressed as Vishnuvardhana Srinarasimha Permmadideva and Dr. B. R. Gopal feels that he might have been a joint ruler with his father. A campaign of Narasimha I led by Mahapasayita Vamana Mallana against Kongu, perhaps against the Cholas is mentioned in a record of 1157 from Gopalapura (Gu 215). A commander called Mallikarjuna made a grant to the Vasudeva temple at Kulagana in 1162—63 (Gu 64). His Kumarabidu record (My 211) dated 1167—8 speaks of his commander Bittimayya. To the Ramanatha temple of Kumarabidu, the king made a grant of lands from Belachalavadi in 1171, and one Mahapradhana Sarvadhikari Hergade Kallayya is mentioned in the record. 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 the Belur record (EC, XV, BI 93). Though he could have the control of the overlord over his loosened and the assumed 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. 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 Changalvas, took the famous impregnable hill fort of Uchangi from the Pandyas, and later after the vanishing of the Kalachuri and Chalukya power, marched northwards till the Krishna in the Raichur district. 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 princess Cholamahadevi as his queen. When Kulottunga 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 records in Mysore district, the earliest is of 1173 from Kulagana (Ch 343), recording a grant to a *basadi* at the place by 60 of Idainad or Periyana. Another of 1193 from Hemmanahalli (Mv 219) speaks of the rule of his senior queen Bammala, but it does not make clear from where did she administer. A record from the same place (My 214) states that Mahapasayita Mokhari Lakkayya was the father of this queen. Another record of 1195-6 from the same place also speaks of the same queen, perhaps to indicate that she was administering some territories from the same place, and it (My 216) speaks of her elder brother Mailanayaka. These are all records making grants to the temples of the place.

The war against the Kongalvas indicated in the records of the day of Narasimha I himself from Tondalu (Hs 12) and Sonahalli (Hs 33) continued in the days of Ballala II, and a record of 1174 (Pp 118) speaks of the battle at Palpare in which Changalva Mahadeva was killed in an encounter with Hoysala general Bettarasa, and the fight was further continued by Changalva Pemma Virarasa. Ballala II constructed the Vallaleshwara temple at Yeiryur in 1196-97 in Yelandur tq. The Gundlupet record of 1196 (Gu 3) speaks of the construction of Bitti Janalaya by one Bittigaunda when Kumara Lakshma was governing over Kudugunad under Ballala II. A Suttur record of 1196-97 (Nj 220) mentions Kumara Lakshma's march against Suttur

perhaps to face some enemy. A record from Honnur dated 1191 (YI 18) speaks of the establishment of the Tuluvalamahadevi Chaturvedimangalam *agrahara* at Honnur in memory of one of the queens of Ballala II and she was the princess of the Gutta family of Guttal (Dharwad district) as pointed by Dr. B. R. Gopal. The construction of temple and excavation of a tank in 1198 at Jodikatur by four citizens is mentioned in a Jodikatur record (Nj 156) when Nugunad was being administered by Mahapradhana Goudayya. The Kallambalu Kameshwara temple was provided with an audience hall in 1180 by the Gaundas of Nugunad and suitable donations were made (Hg 82). The Kallambalu record of 1218 speaks of Kumara Madhava Dandanayaka and Keshava Dandayaka as administering Kumaranad and it records a grant to the above temple itself (Hg 81). Ballala II and his senior queen Ketaladevi are spoken of in this record.

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 the over one dozen records of Narasimha II in Mysore district, the one from Kallahalli (Gu 89) makes a mention of Rangadanayaka having control over Kudugunad and speaks of a grant to the Vijayanarayana temple at Kulagana. A record of 1222 from Halepura (Nj 321) records a grant to Keshavanatha temple of Kuvalur. A Kumarabidu inscription (My 210) records the death of a hero at a battle fought at Bayanadu and speaks of Narasimha's general Bilavola Dannayaka in 1223-24. A grant to the Kelasur *basadi* by royal officers is recorded in 1229 (Gu 101). A Mudigonda inscription makes a mention of a royal officer called Shriranga Dannayaka in 1228-29 (Ko 109) under Narasimha II.

Someshwara and division

In 1235 Narasimha was succeeded by his son Someshwara, who had been brought up in Tamilnadu by his aunt (father's sister) Somaladevi, who was a Chola queen, as Someshwara had lost his mother very early. He was highly attached to Tamilnadu and even shifted his capital to Kannanur Kuppam. When Chola Rajendra III was trying to free himself from Hoysala alliance, Someshwara allied himself with the Pandyas of Madurai. His preoccupations 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 the second son Ramanatha at Kannanur Kuppam, Someshwara himself also continuing to stay there.

Far earlier to his assuming the reins of administration, Someshwara is referred to in a grant to two Shiva temples at Badanalu in the year 1228, and he is described as ruling from Kannanur in Cholarajya (Nj 274). There is no reference to his father, the then ruling monarch. A record from Agara dated 1236 speaks of grant of an arecanut garden by Pergadideva Dandanayaka and others (YI 188). The Mudigonda inscriptions of 1237 and 1236 mention grants to the Deshiperumal temple by an officer (Ko 94 and 94). A Yelandur record (YI 5) speaks of the prince together with the Mahajanas of the *agrahara* of the same place in 1244-45. The Bandipur inscription of 1249 mentions the excavation of a tank and raising a garden by some individual in memory of a deceased hero (Gu 187). The Yedur record of the year (Cn 128) speaks of the grant by Perumal Dandanayaka, an officer under Someshwara to a temple at Mogur of the village Idaiyur in 1247. The same officer made a resettlement ('Punarpratishtha') of the village Agara in 1248 (YI 136). Most of the records of Someshwara in the district are in Tamil. Someshwara died in a fight with the Pandyas in Tamilnadu, espousing the cause of his son Ramanatha, and Narasimha III who had inherited the western part of the Hoysala territory after his partition in 1254 was ruling from Halebidu.

Narasimha III

Narasimha III (1254-92) during his long rule had to face the Seunas from the north, and his own step-brother Ramanatha. The latter was thrown out from Kannanur and also Tamilnadu, and he stayed at Kundani in Kolar before 1280 and started encroaching upon the Hoysala territory under Narasimha in Karnataka. Narasimha had to face him in six various encounters and Ramanatha had once reached even Bangalore and Kunigal. Narasimha's earliest record in the district is from 1259, when he is described as ruling from Dwarasamudra in a grant to an *agrahara* at Degganahala (modern Degganahalli), in Krishnarajanagar taluk (Kn 106). The Somanathapur inscription (Tn 88) dated 1269 speaks of the construction of the famous Keshavadeva temple at the *agrahara* called Vidyanidhi Prasanna Somanathapura by Somaya Dannayaka, described as ".dear son" of Narasimha III and various grants made to the temple. An attack by Perumala Dannayaka on the village and death of one Hemmadi is mentioned in the Mugur record of 1274 (My 204). The Hebbasur inscription of 1276 has a strange event recorded and that is relinquishing of the office of the Heggade by four incumbents saying that they were incapable of holding it (Ch 220). The Mugur record of 1277 (Tn 261) states that when Sankanna was administering Mugur, a decision was taken to convert Mugur into market and conduct the fair (*sante*) there and to execute this decision some exemption of taxes was assured. In 1278, younger brothers of Harihara Sove Dannayaka and others made some grant to the Deshanatha temple of Mugur (Tn 267). These very younger brothers of Sandhivigrahi Harihara Sove Dannayaka, whose names are mentioned as

Bommayya Dannayaka and Racheya Dannayaka, administering Kumaranad *alias* Torenad, are spoken of in a grant from Mugur dated 1279 (Tn 278). A record from Dasanur dated 1278 (Nj 290) mentions Sandhivigrahi Tareyana Dannayaka who was perhaps administering the region. An Uppinahally record (Nj 354) mentions the starting of weekly shandy at Manali (modern Malali) by Mahapradhana Manchanna Dandanayaka in 1278. Mahaprabhu of Hiriyanu, Chaundadeva is also mentioned here. The Tayur inscription of 1285 speaks of Perumala Dandanayaka and the Pattanaswamy of Nilagunda Chavundisetti (Nj 207). The Aladur record of 1285 (Ch 108) speaks of a grant of a village by Lakshminarayana Dandanayaka, son of Perumala Dandanayaka to the Rameshwara temple. The Kaveripura inscription 1285 (Tn 316) records some tax exemptions granted to the citizens of Chikkasomanathapura (perhaps of an *agrahara*) by Narasimha III. The Tadimalingi record (Tn 238) of 1290 of Perumala Dannayaka mentioned as the son of Vishnudeva and Manchale, (not to be identified as the one from Hemmaragala) speaks of his donation for running of primary school where Nagari, Kannada, Tamil, and Araya (Marathi) were to be taught.

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. Ballala III had to face the Seunas who had reached Holalkere in 1303, and he chased them till Lakkundi in 1304. The Kadambas of Hanagal and the Santaras of Hosagunda in Shimoga district also had to be encountered. Ballala's absence from the capital when he had gone to Tamilnadu to interfere in a dispute for succession in the Pandya family kept his capital open for attack by Malik Kafur, the commander of Alla-ud-din-Khilji, who after defeating the Seunas and plundering their capital Devagiri, reached Dwarasamudra in 1311. He attacked and plundered it. Ballala III had to submit to the Delhi forces, join them in their campaign against Madurai and later send his own son Virupaksha Ballala to Delhi with Malik Kafur. Virupaksha Ballala returned to Dwarasamudra in 1313. Soon after, a former feudatory of the Seunas, Kampilaraya of Kummata had to be encountered. In 1327 Muhammed-bin-Tughluq sent an expedition, and Dwarasamudra was plundered again. The army next 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 banks of the Tungabhadra as that region came under him after the fall of Kampli 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.

The first record of Ballala III in the district (dated 1292) is from Hemmaragala in which the four renowned Dandanayakas mentioned as belonging to this place, Perumala, Bhima, Mancha and Sakala are seen making a grant to a merchant (Nj 329). These very commanders made a grant to three Vaishnava temples at Hedatale (Nj 340) in the same year. The Bankahalli record of the same year (Nj 376) speak of Baicheya Dannayaka, the Nadaprabhu of Hokkunad, making a new settlement at the village (Bankihalli) and the settlers raising a temple etc. A decision regarding the services in temples to be rendered by the Shaiva and Srivaishnava Mahajanas of Somanathapura is made by the prince in 1300 (Tn 87). The Kurabur inscription speaks of a donation made to the Heggeshwara temple of the place by the orders of Mahapradhana Lakkumayya (Tn 287) in 1303. The Hiriyyur record of 1309 mentions Mahapasayita Rayappa as administering Torenadu in 1336 (Tn 266). The Chikkahanasoge tank was excavated in 1342 for the merit of Manneya Pradhana Hampe Odeya (Ko 39). The undated Kaudalli record (Ko 72), states that Rahutara Madappa Dandanayaka was in charge of that region under Ballala III. He may be Madhava Dannayaka son of Perumala Dannayaka, mentioned in records of Bettahalli dated 1311 (Gu 113), described as installing the image of Gopinatha at the temple of Govardhanagiri (1315 ; Gu 223), and excavating Madhava Samudra at Bommalapura in 1318 (Gu 174). He is described as the son of Perumala Dannayaka, administering Hadinalkunadu from Terakanambi and his son Kotaya is also mentioned in this record of 1303 (Ch 309). Three later records of Ketaya do not speak of his overlord (Gu 179, 151 and 172). The only record of Virupaksha Ballala found in the district is at Haradanahalli, is a copper plate, which is described as spurious.

Being in the core country of the Hoysalas, Mysore district enjoyed all the advantages of this position. The kings and their officers built temples and *bastis* at Talakad, Somanathapur, Hedatale, Yeriyyur (the Vallaleshwara), Gundlupet, etc. They also created *agraharas* to encourage learning and irrigational facilities like tanks. They continued the political divisions that the Cholas had founded, and we hear of the Mudigonda Cholamandala and Gangaikondachola Valanadu in their records. Divisions like Nugunadu, Edenadu, Ededoresaviranadu, Karenadu, Hongalawadinadu, Had'nadu, Navilenadu, Kudugunadu, Torenadu, Kumaranadu, Hadinalkunadu, Heriyanadu, Hokkunadu, Ennenadu, Uduvankanadu, Hosabalinadu, Tenkundanadu, Vadagarainadu, Hongalavadinadu, Badageronadu, etc. are mentioned in Hoysala records.

The Changalvas

Ruling over Changanad named after the dynasty, the Changalvas called themselves as the Yadavas and as belonging to the Chandravamsha, and

their rule spread over the areas in the present Periyapatna, Hunsur and Krishnarajanagar taluks of Mysore district and parts of Somwarpet taluk in Kodagu district. They appear to have been installed in this region by the Cholas and were their feudatories initially. This is clear from the very names of the early rulers. They had a love-hate relationship with the Hoysalas, and after 1300 for nearly two centuries they are not heard of, till the later half of the 15th century. They are seen as subordinates of Vijayanagara and the Mysore rulers who finally overthrew them.

The first known ruler of the dynasty is Rajendra Chola and he appears to be a Jaina, mentioned in an 11th century record in a *basadi* at Chikkahanasoge (Kn 20) which he appears to have built. Another record under it, of Virarajendra Nanni Changalva (Kn 21), says that he caused the construction of the *basadi* belonging to the Pustakagaccha section of Digambara Jainamunis. Perhaps he completed the *basadi*, the construction of which had been started by the previous ruler. Another record in the same place speaks of Changalvateertha at Hanasoge and the *basadis* there. The Jaina Swamis of Kondakundanvaya, Desiyagana, Pustakagaccha and Hanasogebali were quite famous, and this place was the headquarters of the section, and the Changalvas must have been their devotees. A record from the same place in the Shantishwara *basadi* says that its building was renovated by Virarajendra Nanni Changalva. Their earliest dated record is of 1091 from Kirangur (Hn 35), speaking of Changalvadova making a grant to an Ishwara temple. No other details regarding him are known. The ruler Kullotunga Udayaditya or Odeyaditya is mentioned in a number of records from Periyapatna taluk. One dated 1097 from Sangarasettihalley speaks of a grant to a Ganapati temple (Pp 137). It is not clear which was the headquarters of the family, but Chikkahanasoge could have been the surmise. One Boppadeva is mentioned in a record from the same place (Kn 43) in a herostone, assigned to the 12th century. Dr. B. R. Gopal assigns one record from Karatalu (Kn 70) also to the prince. After the emergence of the Hoysalas in the region, Changalvas appear to have clashed with them. A record of Narasimha I speaks of his clash with Changalva army at Bannagavadi (Hn 33). Death in a similar cattle raid in the Changalvas army is reported in a Joganahally record (Pp 37) of the days of Hoysala Vishnuvardhana earlier. The Changalvas shifted their capital to Palpare in Kodagu soon after. The Kampalapura record (Pp 118) mentions the Hoysala raid led by Bettarasanayaka on Palpare and killing Changalva Mahadeva. Next Changalva ruler Pemma Virarasa, with the help of the Kodagas of all Nadus attacked Palpare and perhaps wrested Palpare in the days of Ballala II in 1174. Both Mahadeva and Pemma Virarasa perhaps had the titles Kulottunga Chola Changalva as indicated by some records, the Chapparadahalli inscription of 1172 (Pp 12) perhaps referring to the former and two of Adagur dated 1174 (Pp 14 and 15) to the latter. The latter is mentioned as subordinate of Ballala II in a record

of 1175 from Sirha in Kodagu. The Heggundur herostone of 1186.87 (Hn 36) speaking of a prince of the title, can be assigned to Pemma Virarasa himself. Soon after this, the rule of the Changalvas appears to have been confined to parts of Kodagu only and Srirangapattan near Siddapur in Kodagu district became their capital. No records of theirs are seen in Mysore district. But two princes, Somadeva and Boppadeva had jointly started ruling from this place as feudatories of the Hoysalas, and they are also mentioned in a record from Ramanathpur in Hassan district together with Hoysala Someshwar in 1245. These were succeeded by Mallideva and the latter by his son Harihara as seen from records in Somwarpet taluk of Kodagu of 1280, 1296 and 1300.

Later Changalvas

The Changalvas appear again in Mysore district only in 1503—04 when Mahadeva, brother of Nanjaraja is mentioned in a record from Hiremodali (Pp 132). By then or perhaps even earlier, the Changalvas had become Shaivas or Veerashaivas. In this record, the family history is taken back to several generations, but cannot be linked with Harihara, the last king mentioned in the 1300. Changalva, Naga, Ranga and Piriya are the four previous persons mentioned in regular succession and Mahadeva is the second son of Piriya and younger brother of Nanjaraja. Mahadeva is found here making a grant to the Annadani Linga at Hiremalali, but he might not have ruled. Nanjaraja (Virananjayadeva), son of Piriya, granted the village Alanayakanahalli to Andani Mallikarjuna of Srigeri, (Bettadapura) in 1521 (Pp 22), and he calls himself here as Mahamandaleshwara, indicating his feudatory status under Vijayanagara. He appears to have shifted his capital to a new place, Nanjarajapattana in Kodagu district. A record from Kodagu states that Nanja was succeeded by Nanjunda, to whom Dr. B. R. Gopal assigns a period between 1521—44, and his successor Srikantha or Nanja II was Nanjunda's son. The Sanyasipura Copper Plate dated 1568 mentions Nanjarajapattana as the headquarters of the dynasty and this is a grant by Viradeva son of Srikantha, and the later had *aliases* like Nanjaraja II and also Channayya, as made known by subsequent records. Veeradeva's successor was his brother Piriya who rebuilt Singapattana and renamed it as Piriya Rajapattana in 1590 (Pp 1). This is present Periyapatna. The next ruler Rudragana (Pp 25 of 1598 from Suragahalli and Pp 10 of 1600 from Haranahalli) was another son of Srikantha. The former record is on granting the village Suragahalli to the Bettadapura temple and the latter announcing a grant of Haranahalli to the Chandrashekhara of Kodambali. (It is in Pp 10, that Channayya and Srikantha are identified as the same person). Next ruler, Viraparajayya, grandson of Srikantha and son of Viradeva succeeded Rudragana and his records are of 1612 (Pp 8) from Doddanerale (where he calls himself as "*Nanjarajapattana rājyada arasu*") and of 1620 from Tarikallu (Pp 9), both making grants to Veerashaiva Mathas for the merit of his father. The

Nelavadi record of 1613 (Pp 90) speaks of Virarajayya son of Krishna-rajayya whom Dr. B. R. Gopal considers to be perhaps a fourth son of Srikantha, or Nanjaraja II. Anyway it is not clear whether he was a rival to the prince, his cousin (son of Viradeva, Virapparaja), or his subordinate. Two records of Virarajadeva dated 1638 from Chikkahanasoge are the last inscription of the family, both announcing grants to Bettadapura temple. Literary tradition and other sources make it clear that the last prince, Nanjundaraja was taken captive and the territory was merged with Mysore by Kanthirava Narasaraja in about 1645. A ballad, "Piriyapattanada Ladhayi" describes this event. The family had great attachment to the Bettadapura Mallikarjuna temple. Kannada poets Mangarasa (work: *Jayanripa Kavya*), Nanjunda (*Kumara Ramana Sangatya*) and Devappa (*Rama Vijaya Kavya*) were patronised by these princes.

The Ummatthur chiefs

The Ummatthur chief, having titles like Ghonanka (or Genanka) Chakreshwara and Pesali Hanuma were ruling from Ummatthur (Chamarajanagar tq) and also from Terakanambi. They were having control over southern parts of Mysore district, like parts of Nanjangud, Gundlupet, Chamarajanagar and Yelandur taluks and also parts of Coimbatore district. They were feudatories of Vijayanagara. Their title Penukonda Chakreshwara makes one doubt whether they hailed from Penukonda in Anantpur district of Andhra Pradesh.

The first known prince of the family is Veera Hanumappa whose son Immadiraya, or Somayya is mentioned in records ranging from 1467 to 1482. His Mullur record speaks of grant to Nanjundeshwara of Nanjangud in 1467 (Nj 181) and he is described as from Ummatthur. At this time, his son Devaraja Odeya was ruling over Kudugunad from Terakanambi and is mentioned in a record of 1469 from Shivapura (Gu 176). Kudugunad is spoken of as granted to him by 'Rayaru', but it is not clear whether he refers to the Raya of Vijayanagar or his own father: 'Somaraya' (so addressed in this record).

Somayya or Someshwara's Karanika Devarasa constructed the *basdi* at Harave and this prince made necessary grants to it in 1482 (Ch 390). The record also states that Somayya had sunk a tank called Somasagara at Uyamahalli. (A record from Somasamudra of 1569, Ch 405 speaks of the later renovation of this tank in the year). His son Nanjaraja also made some additional grants (Ch 390) to the *basdi*. Somayya's elder son Devaraja or Depanna donated the village Haradanahally to the famous Divyalinga Anileshwara temple of the place, and revenue from various other village (Ch 274) in 1485.

The younger son, Nanjaraja is mentioned in nearly a dozen records in addition to the one from Harave dated 1482. The next reference to

Nanjaraja is in 1483 from Agara (YI 135) and in 1489 from Terakanambi (Gu 120). The Tagadur record of 1490 speaks of his officer settling a dispute over sharing of grants by the temples of the place (Nj 259). Three records from Nerale between 1492 and 1495 (Nj 334, 335 and 336) also mention him and one from Kuderu dated 1501 (Ch 76) speaks of Channa Nanja, perhaps his son (?). Another son of Nanjaraja clearly described so, Chikkaraya is mentioned in 1511 (Ch 300), and this prince was stationed at Terakanambi. But the same prince is described as the son of Depanna in a record of 1506 (as subordinate of Vijayanagara) from Honakanahalli (Gu 26). The Kuntur record of 1512 (Ko 7) speaks of him as Immadi Chikkaraja and announces a grant to the Saluru Veerashaiva Matha. The prince was administering Hadinadu. Nanjaraja is mentioned again in a record from Hondarablu in 1512, making grant of the village to the Nirasi Matha of Ummatthur. The Duggahatti record dated 1511 calls him Gangaraja (YI 12), and it is to be recalled here that Vijayanagara sources of Krishnadevaraya's times (against whom this Ummatthur chief had revolted, and who was suppressed in about 1512), also call him as Gangaraja instead of Nanjaraja, and this justifies such an address. By 1512 he was defeated and Ummatthur region came to be administered by Vijayanagara officer, Saluva Govindaraja. But Nanjaraja continued in a subordinate position. One Mallaraja of the family is mentioned as ruling in 1530 (Nj 338). A record of 1546 speaks of an Ummatthur chief without mentioning his name (Gu 29). The Ranganatha and the Bhujangeshwara temples at Ummatthur were enriched by this family.

A prince mentioned in three records (Hg. 28, Nj. 157 and 159) is mistaken as connected to this family. He belonged to the family called Nilgairi Nadalvass, calling themselves as "Chera Chola Pandya Mururayaraganca". The Mallyur record of 1504 (Hg 28) gives these details, and he is also mentioned in 1504 at Ibjala, and also at Rampura, in the same year. He is called as Govana (perhaps wrongly read for Devana), but the titles tally and he is described as ruling from Mudalakote, perhaps Rampura itself as he states to have renovated the Gopalakrishna temple here described as his 'sthalaswamy' (Village God).

The Hirikati record of 1533 (Gu 66) speaks of one Nadaprabhu of Thagadur called Chikkamale Odeya. Another record of 1543 from Thagadur itself speaks of Vira Devaraja Odeya. These two princes must be administering Thagadur in succession, and other details of the family are not known (They are also not connected to the Ummatthur family).

VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE

Vijayanagara empire filled the political vacuum created by the destruction of the Hoysala empire. In fact, the sons of Sangama, Harihara Bukka, Kampana, Marappa and Muddappa were related to the Hoysalas.

Harihara's daughter was married to Ballappa Dandanayaka, son of Sommayya Dandanayaka. Hoysala Ballala III had his sister married to Sommayya, and Ballappa, Harihara's son-in-law was Ballala III's nephew. Scholars have also pointed out that this Sommayya Dandanayaka was the grandson of the Somayya Dandanayaka who had built the famous Somanathapura temple. The attachment shown by Harihara and his Sangama dynasty to the temples of Keshava (Vijayanarayana) at Belur and Virupaksha of Hampe 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. Though there are nearly 220 Vijayanagara records in Mysore district no records of Harihara I are seen in this region though one records of 1341 of his times, but mentioning only Bukka is found in the neighbouring Mandya dt. at Bichanahalli. It is a hero stone in Kannada (Md 19). In fact till 1340, Ballala III's records are seen in this area. But Madhavamantri described as the Vijayanagara Governor posted round Talakad and one who built the Madhavamantri Katte across the Cauveri in around 1341-42 can be the same as Madhava Dandanayaka, mentioned in records from Haradanahalli (Cn 263, 275, 276 and 277). The last record of Madhava Dandanayaka mentioning Ballala III as his overlord is of 1340 (Ch 275) from Haradanahalli (Mageya) and he is a native of Haradanahalli. If this Hoysala General Madhava had stood by Vijayanagara empire, there could not have been much resistance from the other feudatories of Hoysalas to the new power. They were already known as relations and also commanders of the Hoysalas, and recognised by the people as men volunteering to fill the political vacuum. Madhava is also believed to have renovated the Vaideshwara temple of Talakad, an earlier Chola work. Harihara I (1336-56) succeeded in having control over the northern parts of Karnataka and Andhra from coast to coast ("Purvapaschima Samudradheeshwara"). In 1346, a grant was made to the Swamy of Sringeri by him and his 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. Harihara soon came into conflict with the Bahmani rulers who started ruling from Gulbarga in 1347.

Bukka I

Harihara I had no sons. 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 Mysore district area. Of the over 20 records of Bukka I in Mysore region, more than half-a-dozen speak of Kampana or Chikka Kampana, his son as the Viceroy. But he was having his headquarters in Tamilnadu and was responsible for the conquest of Madurai from the Sultan posted there. He is the hero of the famous Sanskrit historical poem *Madhura Vijayam*, by his own consort, Gangambika. The rule of the Madurai Sultan was ended. He is mentioned in a Kamagere record (Ko 62) where he founded a new settlement at Madahalli called Kemparajapattana in 1354. He is also spoken of in the Mamballi (Y1 155) and Dasanapura (Ko 22) records of 1359-60. Two records of Haradanahalli dated 1363 (Ch 264) and 1368 (Ch 260) speak of one Basava Dannayaka, an officer under Bukka, stationed in the region in grants to the Divyalingeswara temple of the palace. The Thagadur record of 1365 mentions an officer Ramarasa in a grant to the Mulasthan temple of the place (Nj 378). Basavanna Dandanayaka with a subordinate officer (Adhikari) Raghavadeva is seen in a record from Mugur (Tn 285). Kampana's son Kumara Nanjanna is found posted in the region between 1369 and 1380. The Bettahalli records of 1369 (Gu 132) and 1374 (Gu 12) speak of both the princes, Kampana and Nanjanna, and the Doddakalavanda record states clearly that Nanjanna is the son of Kampana (Nj 308). It announces the establishing of Virakampana Agrahara. The Madehalli record of 1374 announces that Kampana died in that year, and a grant made to Vijayapura Ramayyadeva (the Ramanatha temple of Gundlupet) for the merit of his father by Nanjanna. This prince is seen in this area till 1380 (Gu 214). The Habsur record of 1377 announces the death of Bukka, and his son Harihara II founding the Bukkarajapura Agrahara in that village for the merit of his father (Kn 77).

Harihara II

Harihara II (1377-1404), Kampana'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 Bahmanis, who were in alliance with the Velamas were also defeated by him. Ballappa was administering Hadinadu under Harihara II in 1380 under the commands of Kampa Mantri as per the Homma record (Ch 148). A copper plate from T. Narasipur (Tn 17) dated 1397 speaks of Harihara II's nephew (brother Mallappa or Mallinatha's son) Narayanadeva Odeya who created an *agrahara* at Kolatur near Channapatna called Hariharapura for the merit of the ruling emperor who was his paternal uncle. An officer called Muddanna Odeya made a grant of an areca garden and wet land to the Bhoganatha temple of Ganaganur in 1386-87 (Ch 107). The Haradanahalli record of 1397 speaks Achanna, administering Hoysala Desha and he is described as subordinate of Mangappa Dandanayaka, the

Mahapradhana of Harihara II (Ch 261). It announces a grant to the Anileshwara temple. The Mallinathapura inscription speaks of another local officer Lakkanna, making a grant to the Kudukura Mallikarjuna in 1398 as per Emperor Harihara II's instructions (Pp 88). No records of the first two sons of Harihara II, Virupaksha I (1404-05) and Bukka II (1405-06) are seen in the district. The latter was the son of Pampadevi and had been the governor of Mulabagal in his father's time.

Devaraya I (1406-22), the third son of Harihara I extended the empire in the north-east, and the rivalry between the Gajapathis of Orissa and Vijayanagara was the legacy of his times. Firuz Bahmani's efforts to conquer the fort of Pangal were foiled by him. It was in his time that Italian traveller Nicolo Conti visited the imperial capital which he describes as 60 miles in circumference. Devaraya's earliest record in Mysore is at Budipadaga dated 1408, and is a grant to the Mallikarjuna of Gajanur (Ch 213). Another record from Signanallur (Ko 56) speaks of the settlement of new tenants in the village Hali Hiriyuru by a local officer called Vira Annayya, subordinate of Mahapradhana Naganna Nayaka in 1408. The Kuderu record of 1409 speaks of one officer Devarasa Odeya making some donation to the Mallinatha temple (Ch 73). One Chikkadevappa was in charge of Ummatthur in 1415 (Nj 288). The Triyambakapura copper plate dated 1417 is a major grant to the Triyambaka temple of the place, the donor being Harihara III, mentioned as son of Bukka. Actually he is Harihara III, son of Devaraya I and he restored the earlier grant to the temple founded in memory of his uncle Bukka II who was also known as Triyambaka, after renovating the building. The Maleyur copper plate and another stone record dated 1422 of the same prince clearly describe him as Devaraya's son, and announce grants to the Vijayanatha of Kanakagiri, the Parshwanatha Basti at Maleyur (Ch 355 and 372). The prince is called Kumara Harihara here. Another copper plate of the same prince, from Somanahalli of the same date (Gu 78) speaks of creation of Devarajapura Agrahara for the merit of Devaraya I by creating 12 *vrittis* (or shares). Quite likely that Devaraya I expired by that date (though all these three records dated Aug. 2, do not clearly indicate this). No records of Ramachandra (1422) son of Devaraya are seen in the district. Vijayaraya (1422-24), his second son has left one inscription in the district. It is from Saragur (Hg 91) recording a grant to the Gomata of Sravana-belagola. Ramachandra or Tammaraya ruled for a very short period, and he was overthrown by his younger brother Vijayaraya or Bukka III, and he in turn was succeeded by his own son Devaraya II (1424-44), the ablest among the Sangama princes.

Devaraya II

Even when he was the crown prince, Devaraya II had participated in a war against the Bahmanis (1423) in which the latter were defeated. This resulted in their shifting the capital to Bidar from Gulbarga soon after

the war. He fought three wars against the Gajapathis of Orissa, in 1427 (when Gajapathi Bhanudeva's effort to capture Kondavidu was foiled), in 1436 (when an attack on Rajamundry was repulsed) and again in 1441. In his war against the Bahmanis according to Ferishta, he is stated to have lost the Mudgal fort in 1436. But Mudgal has his inscription of that year. But in another war with Bahmanis in 1443, certain territories in the Doab were lost by the empire (1443). His scholarly commander Lakkanna Dandesh invaded Ceylon and collected tribute. Southern parts of Kerala, Quilon etc., were also included in his territory and 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. It is really strange that such a powerful emperor has not left many records in Mysore dt region. In 1426, an officer called Somarasa made a grant to the Arkanatha of Vijayapura (Kirunagara), as per orders of the governor over Hoysalanadu, one Piriyarasa (Tn 143). A Haradanahalli record of 1425 speaks of the emperor's subordinate called Hariyappa Dandanayaka (Ch 265). The Punjanur inscription records a land grant to the Divyalingeswara temple of Haradanahally by Amatya Devadannayaka in 1429 (Ch 240). For the enhancement of the glory of the emperor, the traders made a grant to the Hariharanatha of Mamballi in 1429 (Y1 16).

Weak rulers followed Devaraya II on the throne. For some time, his younger brother Vijaya Devaraya ruled (1446-47). Then Devaraya II's son Mallikarjuna (1447-65), also known as Devaraya III assumed power. He surrendered Rajamundry to the Gajapathis, and later Udayagiri and even Chandragiri in 1463 and the Gajapathi claims to have marched upto the Cauvery in the south. The Bahmanis too came till the imperial capital in 1450. The humiliation the empire had to face forced his own son kill Mallikarjuna and he was succeeded by his cousin (uncle Pratapa Devaraya's son) Virupaksha II in 1465. Of the records of Mallikarjuna in the district which are very few, one copper plate of 1448 from Triyambakapura (Gu 147) appears to be not pertaining to this region, but it helps us know that the emperor was named so as he was born "by the favour of God Mallikarjuna of Srigiri". The Kuragal record (Pp 29) speaks of : donation to the Annadani Mallikarjuna of Srigiri Kudakura by Sunkade Hamparasa for the merit of the Emperor in 1453.

Virupaksha II who dethroned Mallikarjuna did not prove to be any way better (1465-82) than his dethroned cousin. He was weak and vicious and taking advantage of his incapacity the Bahmanis under the aegis of their able minister Mahmud Gawan conquered Konkan and Goa in 1469-70, and also Belgaum (1472-74). In the east, Kondapalli and Rajamundry belonging to the Gajapathis were also taken by the Bahmanis, and in South, Pandyas in Tamilnadu also revolted. Saluva Narasimha, the governor of Chandragiri disgusted by the inability and inaction of the Emperor, on his

own, captured Udayagiri from the Gajapathi in 1471 and reconquered the lost territories in Tamilnadu, and reached till Rameswaram victorious, defeating all revolting feudatories of the empire. In the West, he conquered Nagamangala in Mandya dt. It was during this time that some of the feudatories like the Ummatthur 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 another son, Praudharaya came to the throne. But his rule was also short lived and Saluva Narasimha usurped power in 1485. Only two records of Mallikarjuna are seen in the Mysore area. One of them 1468 from Mysore is a copper plate which must have travelled from outside the district, and the other (Tn 237) is from Tadimalingi dated 1482 which speaks of Mahamandaleshwara Vira Somanna administering Hoysaladesha and announcing a donation to the local Janardana temple.

The Saluvas

Saluva Narasimha saved the empire when it was about to crumble down due to the incapable last Sangama rulers. This hereditary commander of the Empire administering Chandragiri had by his own efforts conquered Udayagiri (1469) and Kondavidu (1480) and his general Tuluva Ishwara took Bangalore, Nagamangala and Shrirangapattana under his control. Soon after the death of Virupaksha in 1485, Saluva Narasimha sent Saluva Ishwara to Vijayanagara city with an army and Praudharaya fled the royal capital. 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 Ummatthur 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 Gajapathis. When Narasimha was trying to take it back, sudden death came to him in 1491. No records of Saluva Narasimha I are seen in the district and it must have been a period of disturbances and revolts when he had little direct control over the region, though absence of records need not be taken as absence of authority over the region.

When Saluva Narasimha died, his minor son was appointed successor and Narasimha had made Tuluva Narasanayaka, son of his trusted general Tuluva Ishwara, the regent. The first son, Timma who was proclaimed Emperor, came to be murdered and his second son Saluva Narasimha II was proclaimed the Emperor, and Narasanayaka continued as the regent. In the Hanche record of 1496 (My 118), the village is granted to the Agastyeshwara of I. Narasipur and Narasanayaka is spoken of as Maha pradhana. Madanayakanahalli in Mysore-Sthala was granted to a brahmin in 1497 by Narasimha II (My 225). The Uyyamballi inscription announcing a grant to a Kittur temple in 1497 mentions Narasimha II and Tipparasa as his Pradhana (Hg 133). The Magge record of the same year also mentions Tipparasa and it announces a grant to the Magge Baneshwara

by Narasimha II. But a record of 1499 is issued in the name of Narasayanayaka himself by his minister by Simhabhupati from Shrirangapattana, and this was the grant of village Daliga to a resident of 'Maisurapura' (My 27). Similarly another record from Ariyur (Nj 377) speaks of a grant to a local temple by a local officer Uradunayaka, described as the subordinate of Sripradhana Tipparasayya under Narasanayaka in 1502.

Earlier in 1497 itself Narasanayaka addressed as Narasimha (son of Ishwara) had ordered his officer called Nanjaraja the restoration of the Somanathapura Agrahara (Tn 95). Narasa succeeded in keeping Bijapur at bay and pushing the Gajapathis, 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, 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 village Honakanahalli in Kudugunadu (Gundlupet tq) was granted as an *agrahara* by him in 1506, perhaps during a visit to Shrirangapattana. Vira Chikkaraja Vodeya was governing under him, calling himself as "Penukonda Chakreshwara" over Terakanambi Nadu, and the *agrahara* was named Chikkaraya Agrahara, perhaps after him (Gu 26). He appears to be the Ummatthur chief, forced to owe allegiance to the emperor though temporarily. A herostone of Narasimha's time dated 1506 from Periyapatna town (Pp 8) indicates the campaigns that might have taken place in the region to suppress revolts. Krishnadevaraya, his younger brother was a joint ruler with him, and he succeeded Tuluva Narasimha to the throne in 1509.

Krishnadevaraya

The greatest among the Emperors of Vijayanagara, Krishnadevaraya (1509-29) was the step-brother of Vira Narasimha, and was an able conqueror and a great scholar. He defeated Gajapathi in 1509 and also the combined army of Bijapur and the Bahmani rulers at Doni and pursued them till Kovilakonda where they were again defeated. His coronation took place soon after, in Jan 1510, and then another encounter followed with Yusuf Adilshah, in which the latter 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 Ummatthur in around 1512. It has already been seen that the ruler he humiliated was called Nanjaraja of Ummatthur, though Vijayanagara sources will call him Gangaraja. The younger brother of his trusted Minister Saluva Timma, Saluva Govindaraja was appointed Governor in the region, and many records of his are seen in the district. Krishnadevaraya had married Tirumaladevi from Shrirangapattana, the daughter of the feudatory

of the place, described as Vira Odeya by other sources. She was his crowned queen. Two records from Mysore district can perhaps be ascribed to this father-in-law of the Emperor, one from Gururu and another from Nanjangud. The Gururu record calls him Virappa Odeya, son of Chikkodeya, described as Saluva Gajasimha and called as "Manmahasena Samudra" of Shrirangapattana, making the grant of Gurur village to one Siddhalinganna Odeya in 1516 (My 194). The Nanjangud record of his of 1517 is grant to the Nanjundeshwara of the same place (Nj 17).

Krishnadevaraya reconquered Raichur from Bijapur in 1512, and in the east he secured Udayagiri from Gajapathi in 1513, followed by the wresting of the impregnable forts like Kandukuru, Addanki, Vinukonda, Bellamakonda, Nagajunakonda, Ketavaram and Kondavidu by 1515. Then he also took Vijayavada and Kondapalli and subdued Telangana. He further made inroads into the Gajapathi's kingdom after taking Rajamundri and Simhachalam. He erected a pillar of victory at Potnur. He invested Gajapathi's capital Cuttack and the Gajapathi came to terms and married his daughter to the Emperor. On way back from Kalinga he defeated the Sultan of Golkonda and foiled the efforts of Bijapur to retake Raichur. Still Bijapur ruler took Raichur again in 1522. The Emperor repulsed the Bijapur garrison from Raichur Fort and pursued the Bijapur army till the capital city. He entered and camped in the city for four days in March 1522. He also entered Gulbarga and crowned the imprisoned young Bahmani prince (who had been imprisoned by his own commander). Assuming the title "Yavanarajya Pratishtapanacharya", he returned to the capital in 1523. Till his death he ruled the empire peacefully though during his last days Raichur was lost by him.

The earliest record of Krishnadevaraya in Mysore dt is of Dec 1512 from Ramashettipura in Nanjangud tq (Nj 302) but the name of his local officer is obliterated. The Triyambakapura record of 1513 says that Saluva Govindaraja had been granted "nayakatana" of the area, and he, for the merit of the Emperor made some grants to the Triyambaka temple (Gu 136). Honganur was converted into an *agrahara* in 1517 (Ch 160). A record from Bhimanabidu assignable to 1518 (Bahudhanya) speaks of the birth of a son (Tirumala) to the Emperor, and Saluva Govindaraja makes a grant to two scholars (Gu 19). A record of 1529 from Nanjangud announces a grant made to the Nanjundeshwara temple for the merit of the same prince, who, by then, had deceased. Alakere and Benaka were donated as *agrahara* with the name Krishnasamudra in 1519 (Yl 168) by Govindaraja. A Mandapur record of 1519 announces a grant to Nanjaraja of Ummattur who had earlier revolted against the empire. This was donation of Madapura in Muguru Sthala for the conversion of the village into an *agrahara* (Tn 128). Maradipura was named Krishnarayapura and was donated, perhaps as an *agrahara* the details being lost (Tn 133). Renewal of an old *agrahara* in the village Kelavur (Kaliyur) by dividing

it into shares for 37 scholars and renaming it as Krishnapura is mentioned in a record of 1521 (Tn 225) and Saluva Govindaraja is mentioned in this as well as in the previous record. Another grant to the Triyambakapura temple was made in 1521, by Govindaraja himself for the merit of the Emperor (Gu 134). The Village Kaliyugawadi was donated for the services of the Agastyeshwara of T. Narasipur in 1522 by Saluva Govindaraja who calls himself as being assigned the 'nayakatana' of Ummatthur. The Tottawadi record speaks of Ummatthur Nanjaraja making a grant for the merit of Krishnadevaraya in 1527 (Tn 258). Two copper plates announcing grants to Vyasateertha of Sosalematha are also seen (Tn 105 and 106), one of them is dated 1521. Maradipura in T. Narasipur taluk was converted into an *agrahara* and donated in 1528 (Tn 132). Two subordinates of Saluva Govindaraja consecrated the Virabhadra temple at Haralukote in 1523 (Ch 224). One temple at Ummatthur was renovated in 1527 by Avasarada Demarasayya for the merit of the Emperor (Ch 106). These and many other records of the Emperor in the region illustrate his efforts to strengthen the Empire's authority in the region and win over popular support to the Empire. Govindaraja was found administering the territory even in 1528. An undated record from Settihally (Pp 123) mentions one Krishnaraya Nayaka as the 'Karyakarta' ('agent of affairs') in a grant to the Mahadeva temple of the place. Some Gaundas of Hanur (names given), Kollegal taluk went to Vijayanagara and met the Emperor and Suluva Timma, says one undated damaged record (Ko 83), and the purpose of the visit is not known, as the record is damaged. Krishnadevaraya was succeeded by his step-brother Achuta (1529-42) and he too retained his hold over the region.

Achutaraya

Achutaraya 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 Chellappa, an officer at Kanchi and also the ruler of Tiruvadi in Kerala. The invasion of Gajapathi and Qutbshah of Golconda was repulsed and they were pursued till Vijayawada. But Achutaraya was not such a capable ruler like his elder brothers and administration fell into the hands of his two brothers-in-law called Salakam Tirumala, Senior and Junior. Portuguese traveller Nuniz visited his court. Of his records in the district, the earliest is from Nanjadevarapura dated 1531 (Ch 401) which speaks of Permala Adhikari stationed perhaps at Uyyambali Sthala. Mallarapalya record of 1531 speaks of Chikkasanganna as holding the Nayakatana of Hadinadu (Y1 169). One Mallappa Nayaka, Karyakarta of Immadi Rabutaraya Mahapatrayya, a Senior Officer of the Emperor (perhaps hailing from Kalinga) is mentioned in a record of 1531 from Ummatthur (Ch 89). The same officer with his name clearly stated as Somashiladevu is mentioned in 1536 and was perhaps administering Hoyasaladesha province (Ch 302). One record from Mugar (Tn 245),

wrongly dated, speaks of Achuta's grant to the local Deshanatha temple. Another from the same place (Tn 264) dated 1534 announces another grant to the same temple and mentions Sankanna, a local officer. The Bannur inscription of 1541 records a grant to the temple Hanumanteswara of the place, and the donor is mentioned as Tammappanayaka, son of Kannappanayaka, the Karyakarta of Sirapradhana Varadappa (Tn 55). Tammappanayaka donated a *ratha* and images for temple. One Ramabhattachayya, a senior officer and his subordinate Dummardi Yellappayya, described as administering Hadinadu in 1538 (as successor to Chikkasankanna mentioned in 1531) is seen making a grant to the Haradanahalli Anileshwara (Ch 269). Ramabhattachayya, described as 'Bhujabalapratapa' in a record of Kunthur dated 1539 (Ko 8), restored a grant to the Kunthur Veerashaiva Matha.

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 assumption of authority by Sakala Tirumala at the capital is reflected in a copper record of 1543 from the district from Nanjangud, announcing a grant to Emmebasavadeva of Veerashaiva Matha and it does not mention any emperor (Nj 115). 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 and 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.

Sadashiva and Ramaraya

Ramaraya was an able administrator and diplomat. But he was over-confident about his capacities, 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 surviving brother Tirumala and Emperor Sadashiva who fled to Penukonda. The 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 Tirumala in 1572. Six more rulers of the Aravidu family ruled over the truncated Empire from Penukonda, later Chandragiri, and finally from Vellore till 1646. They

were Sriranga I (1572-86), who was (Aliya) Tirumala's elder son, followed by his younger son Venkata II (1586-1614). The next rulers were Tirumala's grandson (son Rama's son) Sriranga II (1614), the latter's son Ramadeva (1617-32), Aliya Ramaraya's grandson Venkata III (1632-42) and the latter's nephew (brother's son) Sriranga III (1642-46).

Over 20 records of Sadashiva, some of them mentioning Ramaraya and also Tirumala are seen in the dt. In one record from Berambadi dated 1562 (Gu 216), Ramaraya is referred to as 'Husansahu Sahansahu' Odeya, the import of which is not clear. It is a grant to a Veerashaiva leader (Ganachari) by Basavappa Odeya, a local officer. Three Muslim Imperial Officers are also seen in the local records, holding important posts. The earliest records of Sadashiva from Amchawadi, mentioning both Ramaraya and Tirumala speaks of a local officer called Tippanna Dalavayi (Ch 254). The Ummatthur record of 1545 (Ch 95) mentions one Ahubala Maha Arasu as the local officer who is also spoken of in other records (Tn 94 of 1550 etc.), where he is described as a member of the Aravidu family, and thus a cousin of Ramaraya. The same officer remitted certain (annual) dues from the *agrahara* and the temples of Somathapura to the Government in 1550 (Tn 94). The Masahalli record dated 1546 (Gu 23) mentions Rustumjikhana Odeya, described as a local officer, working under the instructions of Ramaraya. He is also mentioned in the Gundlupet record of 1554 (Gu 6). The Udigala record of 1551 (Ch 315) mentions Nandyala Timmaraja, described as Ramaraya's Karyakarta. The Haradanahalli record of 1554 announces a grant to the famous Anileshvara (Divyalingeswara) temple of the place by Nandyala Ahubala. Vidyadhara Mahapatre (perhaps from Kalinga) was holding the Nayakatana of Terakanambi since 1551 (Gu 85) when Halladapura was made an *agrahara*. He was holding the Nayakatana of Vijayapura (Gundlupet) Sime as per a record of 1554 (Gu 6). It is not clear whether he was transferred from Terakanambi to this place, or holding both the Simes under him. The Arakalawadi grant of 1555 mentions one Gobbur Rangarajayya Maha Arasu son of Timmarajayya Maha Arasu, donor to the Varadaraja of Terakanambi (Ch 301). The T. Narasipur inscription (Tn 2) dated 1556 makes grants to both the Agasyteshwara and the Gunjanarasimha of the place by Rayasada Venkatadri, Karyakarta of Kondarajadeva Maha Arasu. Another record of 1556 from Tumbala by the same officer (Tn 42) records grant to the above two and the Keshava temple of the place. The Belachalavadi record speaks of one Diwan Khan Odeya and his agent Govindaraja in 1549 (Gu 46). The same Diwankhan is spoken of as Diwana Odeya who granted a village as compensation to one feudatory called Chamarasa (Ramarasa) Odeya who was the 'Prabhu' of Hadinadu Sime. This compensation or *raketa koduge* was granted as another officer called Sanjarkhan had wrongly killed Devagouda, the father of Chamarasa (actually Ramarasa) and Diwankhan made representations to the Government over the wrong done and secured

necessary sanction (YI 179). This and another record (YI 80) from Ganiganur speak of Ramarasa (not 'Chamarasa' as the record is read; vide later records including YI 2) and the latter (1566) announces a grant by him to the Gaureshwara of Yelandur. He is also mentioned as the 'Karyakarta' of one senior officer, Jagadevaraya (YI 208) in 1563. The Kollegal inscription of 1569 (Ko 1) mentions the grant of a village called Hiriyyur near 'Kologala' as *pallaki umbali* (grant to maintain palanquin) to Ramarajanayaka, the Hadinadusime Prabhu. The last record from the district, of Sadashiva, also speaks of this Ramaraja and a superior officer called Rajajagadeva Maha Arasu, the Karyakarta of Ramaraja (?) and Tirumalaraja is also mentioned (Ch 177). In 1585 the same Ramaraja, son of Devappagouda is seen administering Hadinadu under Emperor Rangaraja (Hg 40). Another record of this Ramaraja (Ch 216) acknowledging overlordship of Venkata II records a grant to the Suttur Matha in 1593.

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. Some records of Venkata II are seen in the district. One Devaraya Odeya, son of Jagadevaraya Odeya speaks of Venkata II as his overlord in 1598 (Tn 103). The Chamarajanagar record of 1605, speaks Venkata II as Emperor, and mentions two princelings, Chandrashekhara Odeya, son of Channaraja Odeya of Arekothara (present Chamarajanagar) and Malaraja Odeya son of Vira Ramayya Odeya of Kammaravalli (Ch 1). There are also records of 1607 (Pp 59) and 1610 (Ch 307) speaking of Venkata II. The nominal allegiance shown by Raja Odeya of Mysore to him in 1615 when he is no more is also recorded (Tn 50). But how Vijayanagara authority was weakened by the revolting feudatories in the region, mainly the Mysore princes can be seen in the section under Mysore. But the temples built, expanded or repaired, grants made to them, *agraharas* founded or restored and the irrigation works taken up by the empire in the region have contributed in its own way to the all-round enrichment of the region, both economically and culturally. The Mysore dynasty inherited very sound traditions in all respects from Vijayanagara Empire.

The Hadinadu Rulers

The Hadinadu rulers were feudatories of Vijayanagara. They were ruling over parts of Yelandur and T. Narasipur taluks from Yelandur. The Yelandur inscription (YI 1) gives their genealogy beginning with Singadeva Devaraja, and he is the same as Devagauda, described as wrongly killed by the Vijayanagara Officer Sanjar Khan (YI 179). Devaraja or Devarasa's son Ramaraja (wrongly read as Chamaraja in many records as seen above) came to the throne in about 1550, and he continued to rule till 1593 under Venkata II, and his grant to the second Swamy of Suttur Matha is already seen. His grant of Ganiganur village to the

Goureshwara temple of Yelandur in 1566 noted already, is also mentioned in YI 1. Ramaraja was granted many honours by the Imperial authority, as already seen. He was succeeded by his brother Channanripala's son Tirumala as seen from Mugur record (Tn 269) of 1628 as well. Tirumala's son Mudduraja built the *gopura* of the Yelandur Gaureshwara in 1634-56 (YI 1). He also made a grant to Tiruvengalaswamy of the Biligiri Rangana Betta in 1667 (for the Navaratri festival in the temple). This is one of the many feudatory families of Vijayanagara in the region and on this family nearly one dozen records are found.

MYSORE DYNASTY

The Mysore dynasty was one among the many minor feudatories of Vijayanagara that originated during the beginning of the 15th century, but emerged as a successor to the fortunes of the Vijayanagara Empire during the 17th century in South Karnataka. It came to further digest many big and small pategars during the 18th century by the efforts of Haider who came to rule over almost the whole of Karnataka and parts of Kerala, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh. The state was reduced to the status of a subsidiary of the British in 1799. In 1799, it secured more territory than what it had prior to the advent of Haider in Karnataka (though it lost the possessions in Tamilnadu) and this Kannada dynasty developed the State to serve as a nucleus to foster Kannada language and Karnataka's culture. When Karnataka was unified in 1956, it was around the nucleus of this territory ruled by the Mysore princes. Earlier they ruled from Mysore and from 1610, Shirangapattana 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 rulers of Mysore claim to belong to the family of 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 Wodeyar 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 are described as having ruled between 1399-1423. It is stated that Mysore had already a minor Pategar called Chamaraja who died by the close of the 14th century, and Yadu and Vijaya who were on a pilgrimage to visit the Chamundi temple were forced to interfere in the affairs of the Mysore principality as Chamaraja had died and his queen was being harassed by a general called Mara Nayaka. With the help of a Jangama (Wodeyar), Yadu killed Mara Nayaka and married the daughter of Chamaraja and succeeded to the Mysore principality. The family assumed the name

Wodeyar (Odeyar) in gratitude to the Jangama who had helped them. 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 of the Shrirangapattana province of the Vijayanagar 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. Haya-vadana Rao. Chamaraja I married Gopajamma of Bettadakote. His younger brother, was administering Kenchalgud area. Chamaraja I's son, the next ruler Timmaraja had married Kantajamma of Kalale, a family of rulers, who were also powerful in the region. (But Kalale family annals do not speak of any matrimonial relationship before 1500 with Mysore). The next prince Chamaraja II (son of Timmaraja I) married Padmajamma of Bilikere and (Bettada) Chamaraja III is their son. Chamaraja III (1513-53) is said to have built the fort in Mysore and named the place as Mysore Nagara (town). He also constructed the Hirekere on the Chamundi Hill behind the temple. Other feudatories of Vijayanagara in his time in the region were those of Kalale, Hura (Pura), Mugur, Thagadur and Ummatthur.

Chamaraja III's son, Timmaraja II (1553-72) defeated many local princelings and assumed the title "Master of the Holders of Titles" ('Birudantembara Ganda'). Timmaraja defeated the chief of Ummatthur and protected neighbouring chiefs of Sindhuvalli and Hunasanalu, who were perhaps minor feudatories of Vijayanagara. He had married Kempamma of Toravalli and was issueless. 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 struck him during his visit to the Chamundi and he turned completely bald (*bolu*) as a result. He was a contemporary of Emperor Sriranga I (1572-87). Chamaraja IV encroached upon the territories of other neighbouring feudatories like those of Karugahalli, Kannambadi, Amchawadi and Talakad, and the Imperial army sent under Remati Venkatayya was repulsed. Then, Vijayanagara governor at Shrirangapattana, Rama, son of Emperor Tirumala concluded a treaty with him. Thus his overlordship over a total of 33 villages appears to have been conceded with a revenue of 3,000 pagodas and it appears he had an army of 300. He built the Trineshwara temple of Mysore and drained the Cholagere in Mysore town. His successor was his nephew (brother Krishnaraja's son) Bettada Devaraja Odeya (1576-78) who was found incapable, and was deposed, as the tribute due to the empire had fallen in arrears.

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 adjoining 12 villages 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 Shrirangapattana. The Emperor Venkata II ruling from Chandragiri was an able prince and this governor, Tirumala, Emperor's brother's son, was not so 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 Shrirangapattana and made it his capital. By then, he had strengthened the fort of Mysore too and raised another fort at Rangasamudra, and had taken Arakere (1600), Sosale (1606), Bannur (1607), Kannambadi and Bukanakere (1608), Belur, Gama and even Hole-Narasipur in 1609. The last named place was taken at the instructions of Tirumala himself as Lakshmappa Nayaka of the place had defied Imperial authority. This was followed by capture of Shrirangapattana where the Imperial throne is believed to have been acquired by Raja Odeya. He appointed his eldest son Narasaraja, the crown prince in that year (1610) who died in the same year. Emperor Venkata II did not oppose this act of occupation of Shrirangapattana by Raja Odeya. Rather he welcomed the expulsion of his disloyal nephew Tirumala who soon after died. (His wife is said to have drowned herself at Malingi after cursing the Mysore family, according to a legend). Venkata II even sent an elephant and other presents to Raja Odeya. Villages Siryur and Saragur and the territories of Terakanambi and Ummatthur were also taken by him and soon after Hura (1614) and Haradanahalli (1615) were also conquered. He also levied tribute on the other chiefs of Talakad Hullahalli, Kalale, Malalayadi, Bilikere, Kottagala and Amchawadi. Mugur, Kikkeri, Hosaholalu and Ramasamudra in 1616 and Mavattur in 1617 were also added to Mysore. Thus major parts of Mysore and parts of Mandya district came under his control. His territory extended from Shrirangapattana in the north to Ummatthur and Terakanambi in the south from Bannur to Mavattur in the east, and to Akkihebbal in the west and Holenarasipur in the north-west. It touched the borders of the principalities of Channapatna and Madurai. He started the Dasara celebrations at Shrirangapattana from 1610. This continues to be a colourful festival even now at Mysore. Donating Rajamudi, a jewelled crown to the Melukote temple and erecting a *gopura* to the Mysore Lakshmikantaswamy temple were among his pious acts. Both these temples have his *bhakta vigrahas* in stone. Singaracharya wrote *Sriranga Mahatme* (1600) and Tirumalaya *Karnavrittanta kathe* (c 1615) in Kannada during his time. 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 (Narasaraja's son) Chamaraj V (1617-37).

The period after the death of Emperor Venkata II was one of civil wars of successions at Chandragiri and Ramadeva (1617-32) who succeeded to the throne was faced with many problems. This weak authority helped Mysore to conquer Hoskote from Kannambadi, Maddur (1619) and Keregodu (1620). Later, Dalavayi Linganna took Talakad (1621), Malavalli, Arikothara (Chamarajanagar), Bukanakere and Sindhughatta (1623) and Satyagala (1625). Heggadadevanakote was also taken in 1626. The next Dalavayi Basavalinganna captured Honganur, Amchawadi, Hadya and Katte-Malalavadi and forced Bommarasayya of Periyapatna to pay tribute. Thagadur, Kottagala and Padale were also acquired in 1626. Ghatta Mudaliyar below the ghats was forced to pay an annual tribute of 3,000 varahas. The next Dalavayi was Vikramaraya (1630) who had to engage himself in war against Keladi as the latter had helped Periyapatna. In 1630 he took Channapatna, Kanakanahalli (Kanakapura) and Bellur. He also defeated the chieftain of Holenarasipur and Belur (Balam in Malenad). In 1634, he took Kolatur (Channarayapatna) in the north-west. He made a grant to the Mahabaleshwara on the Chamundi Hill in 1620. He persuaded the Jaina Guru of Shravanabelgola who had taken shelter at far off Gersoppe to return to the place and the Guru was also accorded a reception at Shrirangapattana. The prince arranged to free the Matha from heavy debts in 1634. He created the Dalavayi Agrahara named Chamaraja Samudra in 1623 for the merit of his father at the villages of Aladur and Navilur. Ramachandra wrote *Ashwashastra* (c 1625), *Devarasa Hayarsara Samuccaya* (1627) and the prince himself wrote in prose Valmiki's *Ramayana* with the title *Chamarajokti Vilasa* (all works in Kannada). His successor was Raja Odeyar II, his youngest uncle, the last of the four son of Raja Odeya I, actually a posthumous son, and he had a very short rule (1637-38). He came to be poisoned and killed by the machinations of Dalavayi Vikramaraya.

Kanthirava Narasaraja I

Kanthirava Narasaraja I (1638-39) 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 compares him to God Narasimha. During his time, Vijayanagara's nominal control vanished with Vellore being taken by the Bijapur-Golconda army in 1646. But even before that Bijapur entered the region, and levied atleast a nominal tribute from Mysore in 1638.

Kanthirava was renowned for his physical strength and was an expert in fencing. He dismissed Vikramarya, the insolent Dalavayi soon after coming to the throne in 1638. In the wake of this came the huge army of Bijapur led by Ranadaula Khan and Shahji, who had already levied tribute on the rulers of Keladi, Basavapatna, Chitradurga, Sira, Bangalore, etc. At Bangalore, the Bijapur ruler posted Shahji as Jahgirdar sending

Kempegowda to Magadi. The feudatory of Nagamangala, Chennayya also encouraged Bijapur to invade. They laid siege to Shrirangapattana in 1639 and 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, he secured Channarayapatna fort in lieu of some tribute to Bijapur. He secured many more territories in Tamilnadu in 1642 when his power was challenged by the Madurai ruler. The area acquired included Singanallur, Kaveripuram and Changappadi. Hampapura was taken from Holenarasipur after forcing the chief of the place to pay dues in 1644. Nanjundaraja of Periyapatna was taken captive in 1645 and the territory acquired fully, as already noted. Kanthirava built the Narasimha temple at Shrirangapattana and Shrirangapattana fort was expanded. He minted his own coins known as Kanthiraya Pagodas on the Vijayanagara pattern. The Cauvery was dammed near Chandravana, near the capital. In addition to Govinda Vaidya, Bhaskara (*work: Behara Ganita*) and Timmarasa (*Markandeya Ramayana*) were Kannada authors patronised by him. The Mysore Kingdom witnessed substantial expansion including possessions in Tamilnadu. Mysore soldiers had remarkable talent in fighting. Instead of cutting heads of enemies from close quarters, they used to disfigure them by using an instrument called *sammattige* to cut the nose. This technique was in vogue right from the days of Chamaraja IV who had employed this against the Imperial army led by Remati Venkatayya. Kanthirava Narasaraja and later Chikkadevaraya also used this queer technique, and the Keladi records call Mysore rulers as 'Mayavigalu' (sorcerers) in view of these strange practice of theirs.

Kanthirava Narasaraja was childless and he was succeeded by (Kempa) Doddadevaraja, the third son of Muppina Devaraja who was the third son of (Bola) Chamaraja IV (1572—76). This Muppina Devaraja was the younger brother of Kanthirava Narasaraja's father. Soon after coming to the throne, Doddadevaraja had to face an invasion of Keladi and Shivappa Nayaka reached Shrirangapattana itself. But an epidemic forced him to withdraw. The Madurai Nayaka who invaded his territory had to lose Erode and Dharmapuri to Mysore. He also marched northward and conquered Huliurdurga, Kunigal and Chikkanayakanahalli. Creation (1666) of an *agrahara* at Bherya (Yelandur taluk) and donation of villages Hunkunda and Deshipura to a Mahattina Matha at Nanjangud (1668) are a few of his many charities in Mysore district. The causing of cutting steps to the Chamundi hill and the creation of the monolithic Nandi on way to the hill are also his works. *Devaraya Sangatya*, a Kannada historical poem was composed by Chamayya during his time.

Chikkadevaraja Wodeyar

Devaraja's successor was Chikkadevaraya (1673—1704), his nephew, son of his eldest brother called Devaraja. In his boyhood, Chikkadevaraya had been confined to the fort at Hangala and had been subjected to proper discipline and education, both physical and academic. During his time Mysore territory saw unprecedented expansion. Chikkadevaraya conquered territories on the north like Hassan, Banavara, Vastare and Chikkamagalur. Shivaji visited Bangalore in 1677 and plundered Mysore territory. Chikkadevaraya appears to have bought him off as suggested by Jesuit records from Madurai, but 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 Tyamagondlu were also acquired by him. He allied himself with the Mughuls (who had conquered Bijapur) and secured from them territories like Bangalore, Tumkur and Hoskote on lease. Mughul Commander Kasim Khan, who conquered Sira, descended on Bangalore in 1687. It belonged to Ekoji, Shahaji's son who had shifted himself to Tanjore. Chikkadevaraya secured these territories on lease (*izara*) and agreed to pay the Mughuls annual rent in return and also keep an army contingent ready for them. He built the Venkataramana temple in Bangalore Fort. The Marathas (Harji Raje Mahadik, Sambhaji's brother-in-law) sent an army of Jinji against him, to conquer Bangalore. The Maratha Commanders in this army called Dadaji Kakade, Jaitaji Katkar and Nimbaji Ghatge were killed by Chikkadevaraya's army. Later another Maratha Commander from Tanjore, Yeshwantrao laid siege to Hoskote. Chikkadevaraya had him disfigured by cutting his nose and routed him.

Chikkadevaraya's agreement with Aurangzeb which secured him Bangalore made him a sort of feudatory of the Mughuls. Though the Mysore records claims that Mughuls were in alliance with him and treated him as a friend, it was not a factual situation. 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 after the death of Sambhaji (1689) and Rajaram (1700).

Chikkadevaraya was not only a conqueror but an able administrator. He organised the secretariat called Athara Cutchery which nomenclature 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. He improved irrigational facilities. He built the Svetavaraha temple at the capital

In memory of his father, he built the Para Vasudeva temple at Gundlupet and founded the Devanagara Agrahara nearby also in memory of his father. He was a scholar and writer, and was a patron of scholars. Being a Srivaishnava and a devotee of Cheluvanarayanawamy of Melkote, he composed *Chikkadevaraya Binnapam* in Kannada in praise of the deity. Kannada poets Tirumalarya (his minister and friend of boyhood days) wrote *Chikkadevaraja Vijaya*, *Chikkadevaraya Vamshavali* and *Apratima Veeracharite*. Tirumalarya's younger brother Singararya (work : *Mitravinda Govinda*, the first extant Kannada play), Chikupadhyaya, Sancliyaya Honnamma and Singaramma were patronised by him. In fact Mysore was the only important court which fostered Kannada scholarship in the long run on the foundations laid by the rulers like Chikkadevaraya.*

Chikkadevaraya had sent an embassy to the Mughul camp and Aurangzeb in 1699 conferred the title 'Raja Jagadev' on Chikkadevaraya and sent him many presents. But on the death of the prince in 1704, Aurangzeb had ordered the seizure of his treasure. The Mughul records call him only as the Zamindar of Shrirangapattana, and on his death, Aurangzeb's order for the seizure of his treasure 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 (*anche*) system. When he died, none of his queens committed *sati* and this was the first such example. His son, Kanthirava Narasaraja II (1704-1714) was dumb, and this resulted in many developments leading to weakening the royal authority.

*Col. Wilks with help "traditionary account traced through several channel to sources of the most respectable information", says that the highly centralised administration of Chikkadevaraya which resulted in the total emaciation of many petty princelings angered their retinue, and the strict collection of revenue displeased the cultivators. This led to a revolt of peasantry encouraged by some Jangamas, who had lost their local importance "and much of their pecuniary receipts, by the removal of these mock courts from provinces". To express their displeasure, the peasants hung an inverted plough on a tree near the gate of their villages. Chikkadeva invited the revolting Jangamas for parleys to Nanjangud and said to have killed 400 of them and later destroyed more than 700 of their Mathas. Devachandra in his *Rajavali Kathe* also echoes a similar account. There might have been some insurrection and some Jangamas punished. One Veerashaiva Matha at Haradanahalli is described as destroyed and its material used to build the Gopalakrishna temple by Chikkadevaraya. But to what extent the story of wholesale massacre of Jangamas and destruction of their Mathas is true, requires proper examination.

The General despatched by Aurangzeb to Mysore to "seize the treasury" etc., 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 Chikkaballapur and levied tribute on the ruler of Midigeshi near Madhugiri and the Mysore army marched till Sira, the Mughul headquarters in 1710. This resulted in the Mughul officer attacking Mysore in 1711 and collecting dues. On the death of Kanthirava II in 1714 his 12 year-old son (Dodda) Krishnaraja succeeded him. Kanthirava II was dumb and his son a mere boy while ascending the throne. These circumstances paved the way for the relegation of actual ruler to the background in Mysore history. The members of the Kalale family who were also the in-laws of the family became Dalavayis, and in the long run assumed power as Sarvadhikaris. Kalale Chaluvayya from 1714 to 1724 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 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, Sadatulla. Thus a huge army of Mughuls led by Sadatulla of Arcot assisted by Sira, Kurnool and Cuddappah Nawabs and contingents of Ikkeri and Gutti attacked Shrirangapattna 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, Dalavayi Kemparajayya conquered Magadi and put an end to the rule of the Kempegaudas. Then he 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 their adventures in Tamilnadu. A devout Shri vaishnava like his predecessors, Krishnaraja I expanded the Kalale Lakshmikantha temple, founded an *agrahara* and excavated a tank there.

On his death in 1732, his adopted son, Chamaraja VI succeeded to the throne. But the Kalale family arrogated all powers to themselves. His efforts to assert his authority were thwarted by Dalavayi Kalale Devarajayya and resulted in his deposition in 1734, and his confinement to Kabbal fort where he died soon after. 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 and he won a major victory at Kailancha. Involvement in the politics of Tamilnadu and Malabar kept the Dalavayi active during subsequent years. The resources of Mysore were drained without any actual financial gain. In 1746, Nasir Jung, the Nawab of Arcot collected dues from Mysore. From 1746 Nanjarajayya of Kalale became the Dalavayi, he having married his

daughter to Krishnaraja II in 1746. The political situation in the South was changing fast with the advent of the English and the French. The Arcot Succession War began in 1751, and Muhammad Ali enlisted the support of Mysore, Tanjore and Ghorpade of Gutti. Tiruchirapally was offered as a prize to Mysore for its assistance to Muhammad Ali. But the prolonged engagements at Tiruchirapalli cost Mysore three crores of rupees. In 1753, the Marathas came and collected Rs. 30 Lakhs as *chauth*. Again in 1755, the Maratha army sent by Peshwa Balaji Rao and Nizam's army led by Salabat Jung himself attacked Mysore demanding arrears. Nanjarajayya was away at Srirangam. The Nizam was paid Rs. 56 lakhs. The Marathas returned as they had no hopes of collecting anything. 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 the Dalvayi. Peshwa's commander Sadashivbhai reached Shrirangapattana with a strong army in 1757. Nanjarajayya agreed to pay Rs. 32 lakhs, and paid Rs. six lakhs immediately and pledged 13 taluks for arrears. The misunderstandings between the prince and the Dalavayi continued. The army of Mysore, which was in arrears of pay, demanded payment and undertook *dharana* in front of the palace and Nanjarajayya's house. The treasury was empty and no funds could be procured. It was then that both the prince and Nanjarajayya invited Haider Ali, one of their distinguished commanders to intervene. With the help of Khande Rao, another officer, Haider succeeded in controlling the situation. When Marathas came back asking for arrears in 1758, Haider defeated them and captured Bangalore from them. Haider ousted Nanjarajayya from office. The prince honoured Haider with the title Nawab Haider Ali Khan. What was to follow was the complete relegation of the prince to the background, and Krishnaraja II continued as prince only in name till 1766 and he was succeeded by his son Nanjaraja (1766-70) as a ruler only in name.

HAIDER ALI AND TIPU SULTAN

Haider Ali and his son Tipu Sultan are two notable figures in the history of Mysore who also came to have global fame as a result of their major role in the history of South India and also by their clash with the British. To Haider goes the credit of making Mysore a great power and expanding its size on an unprecedented scale. Haider was an ordinary captain in the army of Dalavayi Nanjarajayya. He rose into eminence during the storming of Devanahalli in 1749, when he demonstrated his daring and talent. Later in 1751, during the war fought near Jinji in connection with the Arcot succession, Haider was sent in the contingent from Mysore led by Baraki 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 a 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*. Thus he had vast resources at his disposal and he could have a strong army trained by the French experts.

It was during these critical days when the Mysore army was on *dharana* demanding arrears of pay that Haider was invited by Nanjarajayya 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. It has been already seen how Haider managed to diffuse the crisis in 1758 and oust Nanjarajayya. The king who had got rid of Nanjarajayya and had appointed Haider in his place, soon found himself in further trouble. 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. 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. The troops of the royal party and that of the Marathas appeared to encircle him. Haider was helpless. But then the news of the Maratha debacle at Panipat (1761) reached Visaji. He opened negotiations with Haider. Haider, though surprised by this sudden change of attitude, agreed to Visaji's terms, but soon refused to implement them as he had learnt of the plight of the Maratha power. The Mysore ruler was forced to placate Haider. The king was made to enjoy a Jahgir worth Rs three lakhs and Haider was to administer the realm.

Thus by 1761 he was the most powerful figure in the Mysore Court with all political powers in his hands. The political crisis that developed in Mysore inevitably led to this state of affairs. "Nothing but the vigour of Haider Ali's rule could have saved Mysore at the time from her internal and external crises and preserved her independence and integrity". Haider helped rebel Nizam Balasat Jung in his campaigns against the Marathas in Karnataka. He got himself nominated as the Nawab of Sira and later captured Chikkaballapur, Doddaballapur, Penukonda and Madaksira in 1762.

The internal troubles in the Keladi kingdom helped Haider to capture it in 1763. The Marathas whose ally the Keladi kingdom was, could not come to the latter's succour during this critical hour, as they were licking the wounds of Panipat. This was followed by the capture (1764) of Sonde by Haider. The capture of Keladi capital, Bidanur, 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, and Haider agreed to pay tribute (*khandani*) to the Marathas.

But Haider came into conflict with the British due to his expansionist activities in Tamil Nadu. The Marathas, the Nizam and the English were aligning themselves against him. The First Anglo-Mysore War that broke out in 1767 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 Europeans. These were the source of his strength. Later, when the Marathas invaded Mysore and defeated Haider in 1771, the British did not come to his help as agreed upon by the Treaty in 1769. The Marathas humiliated him more than once. But the death of Peshwa Madhava Rao in 1772 relieved him of the Maratha pressure. In the meanwhile Haider subdued Kodagu in 1772, later captured Chitradurga, another rich principality and an ally of the Marathas in 1778. Rivalry between Raghunath Rao (Raghoba) and Nana Phadnavis kept the Maratha power busy. Major parts of Karnataka till Dharwad and Bellary, parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala came under Haider's control. He befriended himself with the French.

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

In 1780, Haider joined the confederacy formed against the English, the confederacy 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 in progress. His son Tipu continued the war. Haider's period saw the unprecedented expansion of Mysore territory, which more than doubled in size. It was 80,000 square miles in extent. To him goes the credit of having rid Karnataka of many warring minor principalities and welding it into one strong kingdom. 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. Though a devoted Muslim, he never allowed his religion to interfere with political matters.

Tipu Sultan

Tipu had led armies and had won many victories for his father during the Second Anglo-Mysore War and even earlier. He continued the war with the British even after his father's death. He defeated the British at

Wandiwash in 1783. But in the west, he lost Bidanur and Mangalore. He concluded a treaty (of Mangalore) with the British (1784). The French, with whom he was allied, deserted him after the signing of the Versailles Treaty in Europe in 1783, when the American War of Independence ended. This was followed by a war against Marathas who occupied Badami in 1786 as a reply to Tipu's action against Nargund. By the peace of 1787, Kittur, Nargund and Badami were returned to the Marathas. Two years later Tipu attacked Travancore, a British ally and this caused the Third-Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92). After some initial successes, Tipu had to face only reverses, and he came to be besieged in Shrirangapattana. By the treaty signed in March 1792, his territory was reduced to half and he was forced to pay an indemnity and send his two sons as hostages for dues to the British. Tipu felt hurt and humiliated.

But the Sultan was indomitable. He would have no rest till the British were defeated. 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. Queen mother, Lakshammanni, wife of Krishnaraja II had been secretly negotiating with the British with the help of an agent stationed at Tanjore and had promised them all help for Tipu's ouster.

When Chamaraja VII, son of Krishnaraja II died in 1776, he was followed by Chamaraja VIII, a child adopted from Arikothara (Chamarajanagar) by Queen Lakshammanni. Haider had this child crowned 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. 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, and Chinese experts were secured for this purpose. Manufacture of quality paper, glass and fine wires (required for musical instruments) was initiated. Special steps were taken to encourage live stock, especially draught bullocks. Introduction of prohibition on production and sale of liquors and intoxicant drugs was another step of his. Rockets were

produced and used in his wars, a unique invention. To encourage foreign trade, royal marts were opened in many port towns and Middle-eastern centres.

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 and adds: "He was fond of introducing novelty and invention in all matters".

When Tipu assumed administration, the provinces (*asofies*) he had inherited from his father were five in number. But they were not uniform in size. Dr. M. H. Gopal has pointed out that out of the 171 *paraganas* or taluks in these five provinces, the province of Sira had only five taluks in it with a total revenue of two lakh varahas (pagodas) and Shrirangapattana had 102 taluks with 17 lakh varaha revenue. In 1796, his kingdom, which was slightly more than 62,000 square miles in area, was divided into 37 *asofies* (*province*) with a total of 124 taluks in them. Every *asofie* (*province*) had one *asof* and one deputy *asof* each. This province was divided into *amil* or taluk, which had an *amildar*. *Simpt* consisting of a group of villages was the next unit and below that was the village, looked after by the *patel*. The Central Government had six departments, *viz.*, military, revenue, commerce, marine, treasury and ordnance. Four ministers looked after these six departments, *Mir Miran* being the War Minister, *Mir Asof* the Revenue Minister, *Mir Yem* the Marine Minister, and *Mullik-u-Tujar* looked after ordinance, marine and treasury. Each minister had an advisory council consisting of two to four members.

For governmental correspondence he reorganised Chikkadevaraya's postal system having Shrirangapattana, Bangalore, Bidanur, Gutti, Gurramkonda, Chitradurga and Sira as its chief 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. For the second year, only half the revenue was collected. Takkavi loans were extended to purchase ploughs etc.

The traditional taxes and land revenue were continued. He undertook a systematic census, and regular entries of births and deaths were made. There was an annual survey of revenue. The *amildar* who was responsible for the collection, was not to exact unduly. If the collection was excessive, and any villager fled, the officials were fined.

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 37 *asofs* was a Hindu in 1798. Not many educated Muslims could be had, and at times half literates, who were ignorant of administration, came

to be appointed as officials. Their ignorance led to fall in revenue collection, says Kirmani. He extended liberal patronage to many Hindu temples including those of Nanjangud and Kalale and even made munificent grants to the Sringeri Matha. But in Kodagu, Malabar and Raichur, he resorted to proselytize many. Though tolerant towards other religions, he was a devout Muslim. To a new convert in his own kingdom, house tax was exempted, and 50 per cent remission was given in land revenue. On the whole his administration was efficient. "The well regulated vigorous government of Haider has become under his son more systematical and more srtolg," according to Col. Munre. In the history of Mysore, this period of Muslim interregnum is a brilliant epoch.

MODERN MYSORE

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III

The East India Company could have dismembered the Mysore kingdom by overlooking the claims of the royal family of Mysore after Tipu's fall. But political expediency required them to retain Mysore in some form or the other. For the settlement of the newly acquired territory, the Governor-General appointed a Commission consisting of Gen. Harris, Col. Arthur Wellesley, Kirkpatrick and Barry Close, with Malcolm and Major Munro as secretaries and Edward Golding as Assistant Secretary. The Commission drew up the Partition Treaty. Mysore signed it in June 1799 and the Nizam in July 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 a 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 Diwan and Barry Close the Resident.

Diwanship 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 *subhahs* and a *subhedar* looked after the province. The *subhas* were divided into districts and the latter into *amils* (taluks). The *amil* wielded judicial, police and revenue functions. Taluk was divided into smaller units called *hobli* and it had an official called, *parupatti*. The village officials consisted of the Patel, Shanbhog, Toti and Talavara. Land revenue, sayer, tax on liquors, loom, etc., were the main sources of State income.

He reorganised the old Kandachar militia and took steps to make them a regular infantry. He also undertook many public works and paid attention to irrigational facilities. The dam at Sagarakatte across the Cauvery and the Purnaiah Nala are his works. So prosperous was the state under him that famine-stricken subjects from the Nizam's dominions migrated to Mysore in 1804. Vaccination against small-pox was introduced in Mysore (1806) perhaps for the first time in India. Purnaiah's service to the State was highly praised and he was granted Yelandur as a *jahgir* in 1807.

Personal Rule of Krishnaraja III

Krishnaraja Wodeyer III was 16 years old when he assumed administration personally in 1811. "The Raja had to encounter difficulties when he assumed power. He lacked worldly knowledge and experience and was left to himself to judge the matters at a time when he badly required men of ability to guide him", says Dr. B. R. K. Murthy. The Madras Government supervised the affairs of Mysore and the Government had instructed the Resident at Mysore that he should not interfere with the internal affairs of the State. The Raja divided the realm into six *tukadis* or *faujdaris* (districts). The *tukadis* were divided into taluks. The administration went on smoothly for the first few years. State income, which was Rs. 60 lakhs in 1811, rose to 71 lakhs in 1816.

But soon corruption, nepotism and excessive expenditure of the royal household created an economic crisis. Rama Rao, the Diwan filled the key posts by his relatives and friends. The Raja's personal expenses, his presents, pensions, grants, etc., increased substantially and as early as in 1814 the Resident had reported to the Madras Government that the financial position of the state was not satisfactory. But the Resident was instructed not to interfere with the administration as the Raja's minority had ended. In 1814, the Raja dismissed Diwan Rama Rao and ran the administration personally till 1818. There was none to regulate the Raja's personal expenses which went on mounting. Siddaraja (1818-20), Babu Rao (1820) and Aliya Lingaraja (1821) came to be appointed as Diwans during succeeding years, but none could improve the financial position. Lingaraja was removed from diwanship in 1822 and the Raja found it difficult to run the administration personally. He appointed Venkataraj as Diwan in 1827. The new Diwan instituted an enquiry into all cases where revenue was in arrears and he even introduced *varadabandi* and *tingalabandi* weekly and monthly remittance of revenue accounts, respectively. He ordered all the Amildars (majority of whom were staying at Mysore) to stay at their headquarters so that they can personally look into the grievances of the cultivators and check the rapacity of their subordinates. "Venkataraj has succeeded in levying from the taluks the regular Payment of periodical kists" wrote the Resident in 1828. This could happen despite their being near-famine conditions in 1827-28. 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.

Insurrection

But soon there was a wide-spread outbreak of insurrection against the administration, especially in the Nagar region in 1830. The Raja sent his *Diwan* with an army to suppress the insurgents and in early 1831 he personally visited many places to hear the grievances of the people and punish the guilty officials. Except in a few taluks of Nagar region, peace was restored. But the Resident had already found the Raja incapable of handling the state affairs and the Raja's personal debt had also increased enormously. The Resident wrote to the Madras Governor against this. After a respite of few weeks, insurrection again broke out in 1831 and the expropriated *palegars* of Balam (also called 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 Lushington of Madras who visited Mysore, wrote to the Governor-General (4-7-1831) that there has been for a long time "great disorder in the financial department of administration and that the people had been driven to revolt by misrule and oppression". Governor-General Bentinck by his letter dated 7th September informed the Raja of the Company's intention to assume the administration of Mysore, and a proclamation to that effect was issued on October 21.

There followed a period of direct rule of the British from 1831 to 1881 in Mysore. The Raja, while continuing his efforts to secure his throne back, lived till 1868. Deprived of his responsibilities of administration, he spent most of his time in religious, cultural and literary pursuits. He was himself a scholar and writer and was a great patron of writers and artists. He contributed greatly to the Renaissance that was evidenced in Karnataka during later decades. He patronised Kannada writers like Devachandra, Kempu Narayana and Aliya Lingaraja, to mention only a few, Mysore Sadashivaraya, a great musician and *veena* maestros like Veene Sambayya and Venkatasubbayya adored his court. They were responsible for the growth of a new Mysore school of Karnataka music. The Jagannohan Palace was also constructed by the Raja (1861). The Raja's Free School (1833) to import English education was founded by him. The Ambavilasa Press was started in 1840. He has a reckonable place in the cultural history of modern Karnataka. Construction of the Chamarajeshwar temple at Chamarajanagar (in memory of his father), the Prasanna Krishnaswamy temple at Mysore, the Mahadeshwara temple at Varuna, the *gopura* of the Chamundi temple and the *gopura* and *prakara* of the Nanjuneshwara at Nanjangud are his works.

Rule of Commissioners

The administration of Mysore was entrusted to a Board of Commissioners which included a Senior Commissioner and a Junior Commissioner. This Board was to be assisted by the Diwan in financial matters and the Resident was to look after only the political relations of the Raja. From June 1832 the Commissioners were made responsible to the Government of India instead of to the Madras Government. Lushington assumed charge as Junior Commissioner in October 1831 and Briggs as Senior Commissioner in December. Later Drury was appointed Junior Commissioner in the place of Lushington in February 1832. Briggs resigned in June 1832. This resulted in the abolition of the Board of Commissioners and administration entrusted to one single or sole Commissioner. Morrison, Brigg's successor was the first to hold this post. Morrison reduced the six *faujdaris* into four divisions, and each division had an European Superintendent. The Superintendents were to preserve the native administrative set up and carry on the administration. Morrison was succeeded by Mark Cubbon in 1834.

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*. They were subordinates of European Superintendents. 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, *sawar*, *maramat*, medical, *amritmahal*, justice and education. The revenue department had a *sheristedar* as its head, performing the duties of the former *diwan*. 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 head-quarter towns came to be connected by road with Bangalore at which place the state capital had been shifted. The central secretariat was first housed at the Tipu's Palace, and later shifted to a new building, Athara Kacheri (1867).

Cubbon was responsible for the laying of 1,597 miles of new roads with 309 bridges. Telegraph lines of the length of 366 miles were also laid. Bangalore was connected by railway with Jalarpet (1864), laying of the line being started in 1859. He 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 including Mysore dt in 1862. The district was looked after by a Deputy Superintendent and each division by the Superintendent which were three in number.

Bowring reorganised the revenue survey and settlement departments and regularity in measurement of land and assessment of revenue were introduced from 1862. This policy of separation of powers initiated by him was later continued by his successors. He also introduced the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure into Mysore. 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). 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.

RENDITION AND DIWANS

Krishnaraja Wodeyar III sent many representations to various men in power and even sent Dr. Campbell, his family Surgeon to England in 1864 to represent his case for restoration of power. The Raja succeeded in creating a lobby in his favour even in London and Major Evans Bell even wrote a book *Mysore Reversion—An Exceptional Case*. The Raja was permitted to adopt a son in 1864 and Chamarajendra, a two-and-half-year old child was adopted in 1865. A petition signed by 7,000 citizens under the initiative of a Mysore Parsee resident was sent to the British Government in support of the Raja's plea and a public meeting was also held at Madras in September 1865 to support the Raja's claim. Many newspapers in England like *Morning Standard*, *Morning Star*, *Daily News*, etc. saw reason in the Raja's request and in July 1866, a deputation headed by Major Rawlinson which had ten British M.Ps. among others, met the Secretary of State for India and argued in favour of the Raja's case. This was followed by a debate in the House of Commons on 22-2-1867 and finally 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 IX was crowned in March 1881.

After the Rendition many administrative changes were introduced. The post of the Commissioner was abolished and a British Resident was appointed at the Mysore court. The post of the *diwan* was created and he was to be the head of the administrative machinery. He was to have a Council of two advisors. Rangacharlu who had been the Chief Secretary of Revenue in Mysore was appointed the first Diwan. He was responsible for establishing some sort of a Representative Assembly which was convoked in 1881 at the time of the *dasara* when the leading merchants, planters and agriculturists had assembled for the *dasara darbar*. It consisted of 144

members who were leading citizens. 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 as there had been a severe famine in 1876-77 and revenue had fallen in arrears. Agriculture suffered as a result. Reserve funds in the state treasury had been spent and public debts were mounting. The Diwan introduced great economy in administration, floated public loans and undertook public works to provide jobs to the unemployed peasants. Bangalore-Mysore Railway line was completed in 1882 and work on Bangalore-Tiptur line was begun.

Sheshadri Iyer

Rangacharlu died in 1883 and was succeeded by Sir K. Seshadri Iyer in August, 1883. He was a wise and talented administrator and was responsible for implementing many schemes aimed at the economic progress of the state. He persuaded the British Government to waive the payment of the enhanced subsidy till 1896. It was during his time that gold mining was started in Kolar (1886). He undertook extensive plantation programme especially of coffee. Bangalore was connected with Harihar by railway by 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).

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. He also founded taluk boards in 1884. He introduced Mysore Civil Service Examination in 1881 to attract young brilliant men for Mysore Civil Service. The old Anche system was amalgamated with the British postal system in 1889. The agricultural and industrial exhibition at Mysore was started during the Dasara (1888). Archaeological Department of Mysore was organised in 1890 with B.L. Rice as its head. He founded the Department of Geology in 1894 and the Department of Agriculture in 1898. He paid great attention to irrigation and the Marihalla project which created the Vani Vilas reservoir was his major venture. The Sivanasamudra hydro-electric project was begun by him in 1899-1900. Electricity was supplied to the K.G.F. in 1902, to Bangalore in 1905 and Mysore in 1908. The girls high school in Mysore was upgraded as the Maharani's College in 1901. Mysore Oriental Manuscript's Library was opened. The scheduled castes were provided with separate Panchama schools as they hesitated to attend other schools. The Mysore Infant Marriages' Act was passed in 1894 by which marriage of girls below eight was banned.

Chamarajendra Wodeyar IX died in 1894 and was succeeded by his son Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV. The new king was a minor and the queen mother, Kemparajamanni 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 with great pomp. It was attended by Lord Curzon. 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 *diwan* like Sir M. Visveswaraya and Sir Mirza Ismail. His period is called the golden age of Mysore and Mysore grew to be a model princely state. Diwan Krishna Murthy introduced British methods of administration, especially with regard to the maintenance of records and files. The *Secretariat Manual* was prepared to guide the officials in this regard. Expansion of the Agricultural Department, 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 1905. He paid great attention towards conservation of forests. The Veterinary Department was founded during his time. Establishment of the 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 Central Co-operative Bank was also founded in Bangalore. 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 and his period had been one of "routine activity with nothing extra-ordinary about it" (in the words of Dr. D. V. Gundappa). Inauguration of the Mysore Economic Conference, finalisation of the Kannambadi project under the direction of Chief Engineer Visveswaraya and the completion of Mysore Palace in 1910 were some important developments of his period.

Sir M. Visveswaraya

The name of Sir M. Visveswaraya has a pride of place in the history of modern Mysore. He was a liberal statesman associated with Gokhale and Ranade and was a great believer in democratic institutions. 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 June from 1919 called the budget session. The Mysore Local Boards' and Village Panchayats' Regulation VI was passed in 1918. It provided an elected majority in district and taluk boards. Municipalities came to be provided with elected Vice-President and Panchayats with the elected Chairman. The Mysore Economic Conference was expanded and it came to have three Committees for industry and commerce, education and agriculture.

A number of projects and industries were implemented by him during his diwanship. They include the completion of the Krishnarajasagara 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 at Bangalore, the Metal Factory, the Wood Distillation Works at Bhadravati together with the Iron Works. 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. He introduced legislation for the introduction of compulsory education by stages and took measures to expand female education. Scholarships were instituted for students belonging to the backward classes. The Government Engineering College was founded at Bangalore (at present known as the University Visveswaraya College of Engineering). Technical and industrial schools also came to be started. The Chamarajendra Technical Institute at Mysore was the most important among them. The state had a total of 372 miles of railway line by the close of his period, when the Mysore-Arsikere and the Bowringpet-Kolar lines were commissioned.

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

Sir M. Vesveswaraya was succeeded by Sardar Kantrraj Urs in 1919. During his short term of three years, the Bhadravati Iron Works was commissioned. The Miller Committee, appointed to look into the grievances of the backward classes, submitted its report (August 1919). It recommended for the due representation to the backward classes in public service. Income Tax was levied for the first time, during the term of Urs. He was succeeded by Sir Albion Banerji in 1922. It was during Banerji's time the Local Self-Government Conference was held (1923), and according to its recommendations, 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. The Seal Committee was appointed

to suggest constitutional reforms. According to its recommendations (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 and the Apex Bank was established.

Sir Mirza Ismail

Sir Mirza M. 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 field 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 movement in the State. The Suitanpet Ganapathi Disturbances in Bangalore in 1928 called for the appointment of an enquiry commission headed by 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 factory by adding a steel plant. A cement and a paper factory were found at the same place. The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Porcelain Factory and the Glass Factory, all in Bangalore, were also established. The Sugar Factory at Mandya, Chemicals and Fertilisers at Belgola, Match Factory at Shimoga and the Khadi Production Centre at Badanval were the other industries that were set up during his time. A Trade Commissioner was appointed at London.

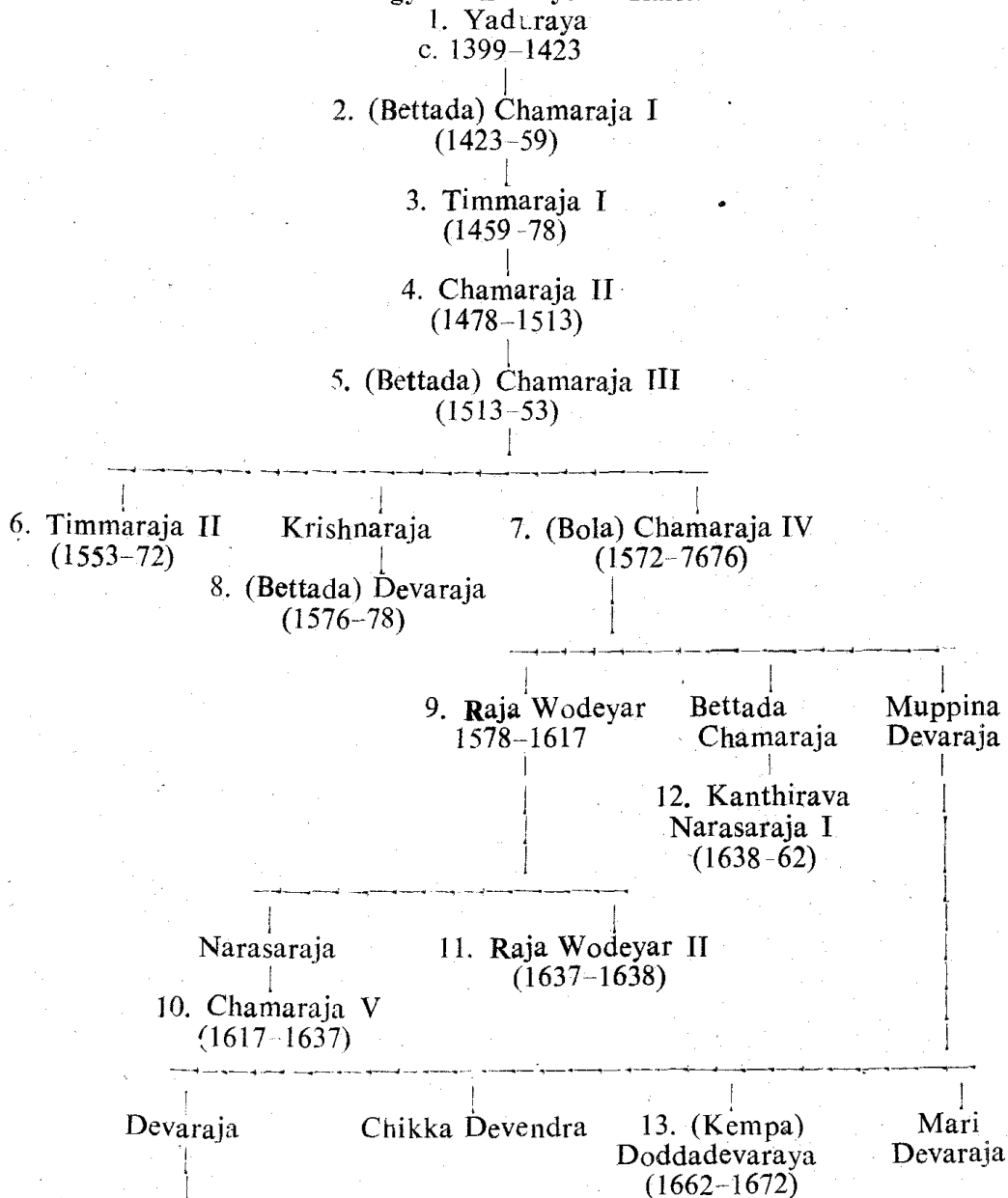
He was a great lover of gardens and parks and the founding of gardens, parks and beautiful squares in towns and cities was encouraged by him. The Cauvery high level canal was also constructed, irrigating 1,20,000 acres of land in Mandya district. The Brindavan Gardens near Krishnarajasagar were laid during his period. He also opened the Medical College in Mysore.

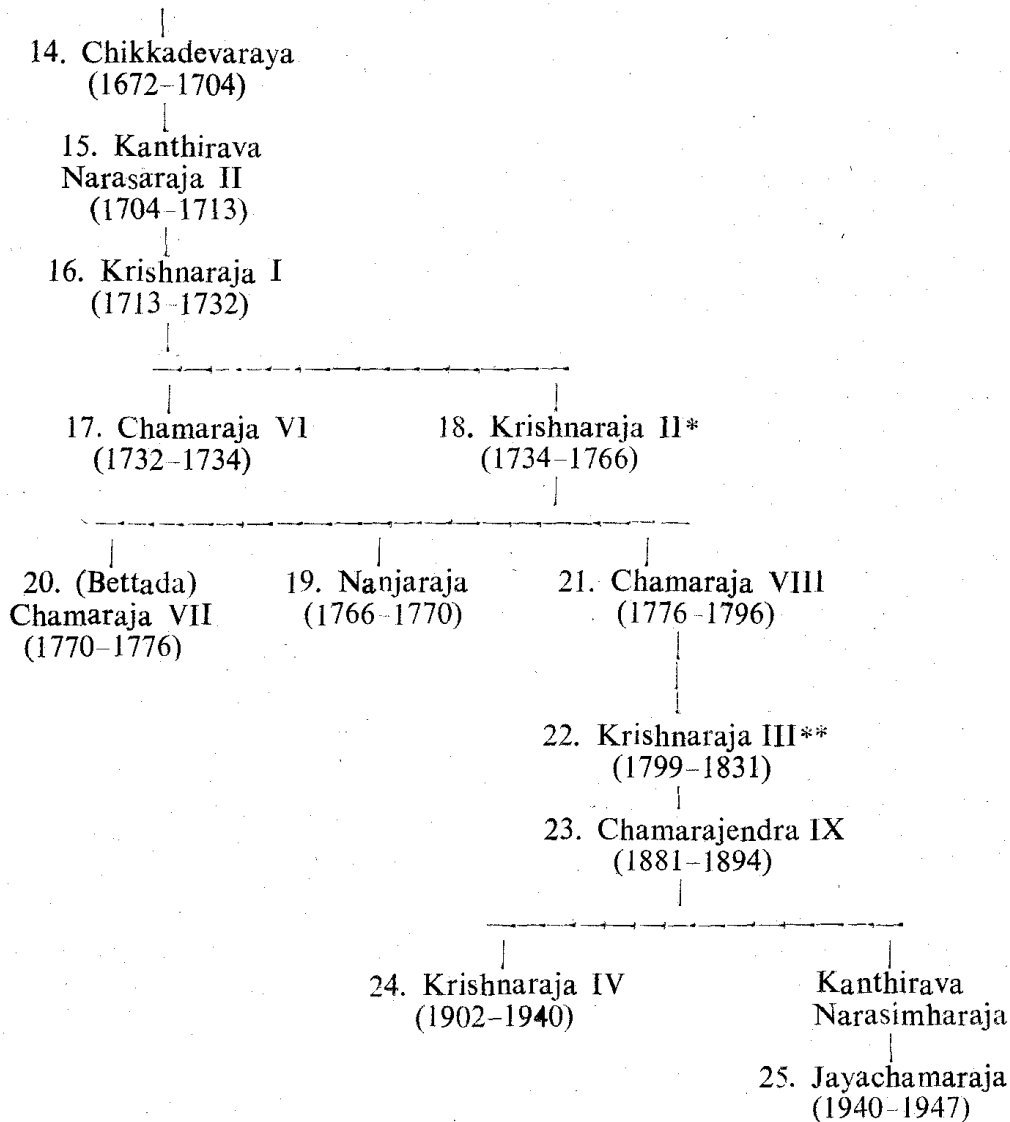
Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV passed away in 1940. His period of rule was the golden age of Mysore and Mysore saw all-round progress during his time. It came to be known as a model state. Not only agriculture and industry progressed but cultural activities were also fostered. His period saw great Diwan like Visveswaraya and Mirza Ismail, great artistes like Vine Seshanna, Bidaram Krishnappa. K. Venkatappa and T. Chaudayya, and great scholars like Dr. R. Shama Sastry and Prof. M. Hiriyanna. All these were patronised by him. In fact, Mysore became the nucleus

of Karnataka's economic and cultural progress. The Prince has been praised as "Rajarshi".

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. It was during his time that the K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar Committee Report on constitutional reforms was implemented. The Bhadra Reservoir project and the Sharavati Hydro-Electric Project were initiated. He retired in July 1946, and was followed by Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar. It was during the time of Arcot that the Maharaja of Mysore, Jayachamaraja Wodeyar was forced to grant responsible government after India became free in 1947.

Genealogy of the Mysore Rulers





*Tipu and Haider *de facto* rulers from 1761 to 1799

**Commissioners' Rule 1831-81.

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. For the people of Mysore who basked in the sunshine of the benevolent rule of the Maharaja, his *darbar*, the grandeur of the palace and the gorgeous Dasara celebrations, the pinch of foreign rule was not felt 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 is

harmful. When an issue like sharing of the Cauveri waters was being discussed at the time of the raising of the K.R. Sagar Dam, the British upheld the interests of their own 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*, the *New India* and the *Maratha* of Tilak and local newspapers too like *Karnataka Prakashika* (Mysore, 1874) *Suryodaya Prakashika* (Mysore, 1888), and papers started by M. Venkata Krishnayya like *Vrittanta Chittamani* (1884). *Karnataka Prakashika* had commended the activities of Indian National Congress, and in 1896, demanded for the provision of seats in British Parliament for the native states. *Suryodaya Prakashika* had condemned the police atrocities in Pune city during the anti-plague action. It had also supported the nationalist view point regarding the Council Act of 1890. M. Venkata Krishnayya had criticised the conviction of Tilak in his journal on 6-10-1897. In the wake of the Swadeshi movement following the division of Bengal, one Swamirao Deshpande addressed public meetings in Mysore, and this was followed by the boycott and throwing away of the dishes prepared with sugar content at the annual *vanabhajana* offered by the palace, as pointed by K. Jeevanna Rao. Demand for popular representation in the Dewan's Council were evoked in the Representative Assembly in 1890, 1892, and again in 1893, when a resolution moved by M. Venkata Krishnayya and seconded by Srinivasrao of Chikmgalur pleaded for inclusion of two or three members elected by the Assembly in the Diwan's Council.

Beginnings of Agitations

But some kind of definite activity in the direction of national awakening was evidenced only during the First World War when Tagadur Ramchandra Rao started his movement against foul criticism of the Hindu society by the Christian Missionaries, and he also started selling pictures of Jalianwala Bag Tragedy at his mobile shop at Mysore in 1919. On the death of Tilak on 1st of August, 1920, there was a huge procession of mourning, and shops in Mysore were closed and even the district court was forced to be closed. The procession was led by the students of the Maharaja's College, followed by the boys of Marimallappa High School and other schools, and among the leaders was Devudu Narasimha Shastry, a college student then. M. Venkata Krishnayya who was the Principal of the Marimallappa High School was responsible for initiating later leaders like Tagadur Ramachandra Rao, M. N. Jois, Palahalli Sitaramayya and Agaram Rangayya to the national cause. Soon after Tilak's death, Tilak National Union was started

at Mysore in 1920, and Swamirao, Ramaswamy Iyengar, G. Virupaksha and Narayana, a journalist were the moving spirits behind the body.

When K.P.C.C. was formed at the Nagpur Congress, its branches were opened all over Karnataka in 1921, and M. Venkata Krishnayya was the first President of the Mysore D.C.C., and later Advocate S. Rangaramayya succeeded him. Leaders like Alur Venkatrao, Kadapa Raghavendra Rao and Mudvidu Krishna Rao from Dharwad and S. Satyamurthy from Madras addressed public meetings in Mysore during the 1920s, and inspired by the address of Mudividu Krishna Rao, a 'holi' of foreign clothes was organised by the audience, and Tagadur Ramachandra Rao, who was selling foreign goods in his mobile shop pushed the very cart filled with foreign goods into the bonfire. Congress office was opened at the Lansdowne building.

Even earlier to this, Tagadur Ramachandra Rao had opened Swarajya Mandira at Tagadur in Nanjanagud tq. in about April 1919, and started his activities against the proselytisation of the untouchables. In the moffusil areas, Visveswaragauda of Nanjangud, T. S. Subbanna of Tagadur, T. Rama Rao, Siddhoji Rao and T.P. Boriah at T. Narsipur, Advocate M.A. Srinivas Iyengar and G. Krishna Murthy of Hunsur and Ganapati Shastry of Saligrama were some of the early leaders of Congress during the late 1920s and early 1930s. Philanthropists like Sahukar D. Banumiah, P.N. Sangappa and hotelier Badari Prasad of Mysore were financing Congress activities including those of Tagadur Ramachandra Rao who was a prodigy among fighters. He was permitted to address the delegates of Belgaum Congress (1924) regarding his constructive work, and his report earned him appreciations from Madan Mohan Malaviya and Mahatma Gandhi.

A little earlier to Belgaum Congress, Dr. N. S. Hardikar started a unit of the Hindustani Seva Dal at Mysore and weekly flag salutation programmes were being organised by M. N. Jois, Agaram Rangiah, L. V. Rajagopal and others. Whenever the administration prohibited this activity, it was arranged in private compounds. Many youths from Mysore went to Belgaum Congress as volunteers and returned inspired from the session. A group of advocates from Mysore like M. Lakshminarayan Rao, S. Srirangachar, M.A. Doreswamy Iyengar, S. Subba Rao, C. Narasimhaya, Palahally Sitaramayya and B. Narayanaswamy supported nationalist activities. Around this time was started the Hindi Premi Mandali at Mysore by one Jamuna Prasad and Siddhanath Pant of Dharwad later continued Hindi propaganda work, and this activity attracted considerable number of ladies towards the national movement. "Tuntara Tanda" started by G. R. Swamy and others in Chamundipuram also proved to be a nucleus of nationalist work. In Kollegal of Madras State, Srinivas Iyengar, Gopalaswamy Iyer, M. S. Nanjundayya and C. A. Subramanya were engaged in nationalist activities in the 1930s.

Open verbal rivalry between Brahmins and others, mainly Lingayats in Mysore started during the 1890s when the Lingayats were termed as 'Shudras' in the Census Report of 1891. Lingayat leader Yajaman G. Veerasangappa strongly protested against this through his newly started journal *Mysore Star*. This resulted in a prolonged debate over the subject, and the view that Lingayats must be considered as 'Shudras' was ventilated by M. Venkata Krishnayya in his paper. Venkata Krishnayya being a sympathiser of Congress, and many English educated Brahmins being supporters of the nationalist view, Congress was criticised as an organisation of the Brahmins. *Mysore Star*, being later edited by G. Virupakshayya was critical of Congress. It opposed Swadeshi Movement (issue of 16-4-1906 and 29-11-1906). It condemned Savarkar for his activities (issue dated 3-7-1911). It argued that India was not fit to be a free country (27-5-1915 and 7-4-1918), and it was critical of the Non-Co-operation Movement. When the Praja Mitra Mandali was founded in 1917, "*Mysore Star*" strongly supported its views. At the same time these sections were opposed to the demand for responsible government in Mysore, propounded by the Congress leaders. The demand for responsible government was put forth for the first time by the journal *Satyavadi* (of Mysore) in 1918. Thus, as elsewhere in Mysore State, Congress had to struggle hard to win over the sympathies of the masses.

Constructive Work

But the constructive work and the agitations spearheaded by Tagadur Ramachandra Rao such as the Khadi work (he started Khaddar Sahakara Sangha at Tagadur in 1925 and helped scores of villagers to earn their livelihood), the agitations he conducted to eradicate untouchability by taking them to temples (the temple entry effort at the Gunja Narasimhaswamy temple at T. Narasipur was a notable event), his efforts to help the untouchables to overcome their disabilities by taking them to public wells and tanks to draw water and his movement to help the Kaniyar community to overcome their social disabilities are some such instances. To ventilate the grievances of the Kaniyars, he started in *Kaniyara Patrike*, and the ban imposed on its publication and his efforts to break it led to many tireless struggles led by him single-handed, and they made big news, and won him and the nationalist cause he represented, wide sympathy. Gandhiji toured in Mysore district on 19th August 1927 and visited Mysore and Krishnarajanagar to propagate the cause of Khadi. The Dewan also met him. The government also opened a khadi production centre at Badanwal. The prestige of the Congress rose as a result.

At the time of the visit of Simon Commission in India, Tagadur Ramachandra Rao published a booklet *Simon Commissionnige Dhikara* and addressed a public meeting at Mysore. He was sentenced for 15 days imprisonment, and thus became the first political prisoner in Mysore State (1928).

With view to project the demand for responsible government "Mysore State Congress" was founded and in May 1928 its first session was held at Mysore by the efforts of M. Venkata Krishnayya and Hoskoppa Krishna Rao of Chikmagalur and V. Manikyavelu Mudaliar presided over the session and G. R. Joyser was its Secretary. S. Satyamurthy from Madras attended the session. Next year, the session was held at Bangalore, M. Venkata Krishnayya presiding.

Tricolour was hoisted by M. N. Jois and L. V. Rajagopal on January 26, 1930 at Mysore as per the call of the All India Congress Committee. N. D. Srirangachar founded Mysore City Vidyarthi Sangha and mobilised youth for national work like khadi hawking and K. Puttaswamy and A. C. Bhairappa were his close colleagues. Srirangachar was arrested in January 1931, imprisoned for a month and rusticated from the college. When Civil Disobedience Movement was launched in the British territories, two batches of volunteers, one led by Siddhanath Pant and another by G. R. Swamy went to Bombay Karnataka area. They returned after the Gandhi-Irvine Pact in 1931, many of them undergoing imprisonment in Bombay Presidency, and of these, B. Srinivas Murthy and Krishnamurthy Padaki with the help of A. N. Suryanarayan Rao started the Diamonds' League a nationalist youth organisation in Chamundipuram Extension to mobilise the youth. The League organised an exhibition of Swadeshi Goods in the Summer of 1932 at Chamundipuram.

In the month of May 1931 Ranganath Nayak, a Seva Dal worker organised the Karnataka Vyaama Shikshana Shibira at Mysore to train the Satyagrahis and the validictory address was delivered by Jawaharlal Nehru who visited Mysore with his wife and daughter, and Diwan Mirza invited him to visit the Representative Assembly also. Good number of youths went to Bombay Karnataka again in 1932, and also underwent imprisonment, and these included M.N. Jois and his wife Subbamma Jois, Suryanarayan Pandit, N. D. Srirangachar and T. S. Subbanna. Many had to face social boycott on return and M. N. Jois and his wife were refused entry into their house.

Indian National Congress had instructed its units in princely states not to engage themselves in any act of breaking law or civil disobedience, but undertake constructive work. Tagadur Ramachandra Rao organised temple entry programme for the untouchables at Nanjangud and also founded a Harijan hostel at Tagadur in 1934. Gandhiji visited Mysore, Tagadur, Badanwal and Nanjangud on January 5, 1934, addressed meetings advocating eradication of untouchability and raised contributions for Harijan Fund. The Harijan Sevak Sangh, Mysore District Unit, headed by its President K. Sheshadri, Advocate, rendered yeoman service to the cause of upliftment of the untouchables. Tagadur and his colleagues like M. N. Jois had to face lot of humiliation and insults when they went to work among the villagers for this cause as they were denied food and shelter

even by hotels, and were 'welcomed' by throwing stones, foot-wear and cowdung at them. In places like Kirgund, Tagadur organised a movement to relieve the untouchables of their loan commitments. Amble Subrahmanya Iyer, retired IGP, helped the movement by functioning as an arbitrator between the creditors and debtors. "This long agitation of ours not only kindled patriotic feeling among the Harijans, but also among the caste Hindus, and also sense of social justice", says M. N. Jois. Babu Rajendra Prasad visited Mysore in 1935.

From 1935, on the occasion of the birth day of the Maharaja, Krishnaraja Wode, ar IV, an exhibition of Swadeshi goods came to be organised by Congress in Mysore for 15 days. Amble Subrahmanya Iyer was the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee in 1935, and M. N. Jois and G. A. Acharya were Secretaries. This gave great fillip to khadi work and village industries. Spinning and weaving khadi had become so popular that the census report of 1931 called the Badanwal centre "good angel". The Yuvajana Sangha, started by N. D. Srirangachar engaged itself in khadi hawking and educating the untouchables. It mobilised youths including those coming from rural areas to Mysore for education. Soon Students Federation strated its activities in 1937 and M. N. Ramachandra Jois, T. N. Madappa, K. Puttaswamy and Sadique were some of the active workers. Leaders like K. F. Nariman (1937), Pattabhi Seetharamaiah (1937) and Sharat Chandra Bose (1938) were among the national leaders who visited Mysore to address student meetings and conferences. Student leaders like Ramachandra Jois, H. S. Sadashivayya and T. S. Subbanna conducted nationalist programmes in the Maharajas College including flag hoisting in 1937, 1938 and also in 1939. As nationalist activities were increasing among the student communities and Congress-minded students were getting elected as office bearers at the colleges' and schools' students' Associations, McAlpine, the Vice-Chancellor and Rollo, the Principal of the Maharaja's College were feeling highly restless. The suggestion to invite Diwan Mirza to address the students' union of the Maharaja's College was rejected by the elected student representatives. To curb the nationalist activities among students, an order was issued in June 1938 that pupils failing in annual examinations of the high school classes should not be permitted to attend classes for a second year. This resulted in Congress leaders like M. N. Jois taking initiative to start the Mahajan High School for such victimised pupils in 1938. At the elections held to Madras Assembly in 1937, Congress candidate was elected from Kollegal.

Merger of Praja Paksha

The period 1937-38 was one of rapid changes in Mysore politics. When the Representative Assembly met in October 1937, K. T. Bhashyam (leader of 37 member Congress group) came to be arrested in Mysore, and this was followed by the arrest of B. N. Gupta, a journalist.

Praja Mitra Mandali founded in 1917 to fight for a fair deal for non-Brahmins in Government appointments had merged itself in 1934 with the Praja Paksha, another party started in 1930 by leaders like K. C. Reddy and V. Venkatappa to demand responsible government. The new party called itself as Praja Samyukta Paksha, but was not willing to join hands with Congress which was also fighting for achieving responsible government. But the Mysore administration's efforts to woo the leaders of this party by some bait or the other did not help in the long run, and the leaders were keen on responsible government being established, and Congress securing power in the neighbouring states of Bombay and Madras Provinces in 1937 made them to change their attitude towards Congress. Many repressive acts of the government culminating in the arrest of Bhashyam and Gupta made the Samyukta Praja Paksha to change its stand, and on October 16th, 1937 the Paksha at a meeting held at Mysore decided to merge with Congress, and the new organisation was called Mysore Congress. H. C. Dasappa, a public figure from Mysore, thus joined Congress with K. C. Reddy and others. To celebrate Independence Day on January 26, Subbamma Jois hoisted the tri-colour on 26th January 1938 at Mysore, and she with Tagadur Rangayya was arrested and convicted. Subbamma Jois was the first lady political convict in the state.

The then Mysore D.C.C. (Mandya district was a part of Mysore) hosted the first session of Mysore Congress at Shivapur near Maddur in April 1938, and Sahukar Channayya, a senior social worker from Mysore, was its Reception Committee Chairman.

Series of Satyagraha

When the delegates assembled were hesitating over the question of breaking the prohibitory order against the hoisting of the national flag, it is the ladies who insisted on breaking the prohibitory orders as pointed out by T. Siddalingayya, the President of the session, and the ladies included those from Mysore like Yashodharamma Dasappa, Sunanda Iyengar, Palahalli Venkamma and Subbamma Jois. The very first day, M. N. Jois, as GOC, was arrested together with T. Siddalingayya, and among the others arrested from Mysore included H. C. Dasappa in the course of the Satyagraha at Shivapura. In the Dhwaja Satyagraha at Mysore two scores courted arrest in April 1938, and in February 1939 was launched Hamilton Building Satyagraha to protest against the naming of a public building in Mysore after a Police Officer who had become unpopular by his repressive acts. Satyagraha was offered by dozens, who tried to erase the name board atop the building and they were convicted. Tagadur Ramachandra Rao, Javarappa Gauda, Subbarao Upadhya, A. N. Suryanarayana Rao and M. N. Jois were among the convicted in this movement. The prohibitory order against holding public meetings near the Rangacharlu Town Hall provoked the launching of Town Hall Satyagraha from 2-12-1939 by breaking the prohibitory order, and scores from the city and the district, courted

arrest and came to be convicted. The convicted included A. Ramanna, M. Shankarayya, Chamundayya and V. N. Dasappa.

The Congress also organised taluk-level ryots' conferences all over the state including the Mysore district, and secured a mass base. During the Second World War, despite orders against launching any movement in the state, Tagadur Ramachandra Rao courted arrest in April 1940. S. Prabhuvayya offered Individual Satyagraha at Kollegal and was convicted on 2-5-1941. By then, the railway workers at the Mysore Workshop had organised themselves with Palahalli Seetaramayya as their leader and when V. V. Giri came to address the workers, prohibitory order was imposed and all the workers reached Shrirangapattana, and Giri addressed them there. The K. R. Mill Workers union was founded in December 1941 with T. Mariyappa, a Congressman, as President.

At the Municipal elections held in 1941, Congress secured a majority. Similarly, the mass base acquired by Congress in the district was clearly visible in the DLB elections where it won a majority of seats, and also in the elections to the Representative Assembly, despite repressive acts, prohibitory orders and other handicaps placed before Congress by the administration.

Quit India movement

The successful mobilisation of the masses in the district to the cause of nationalism by long efforts was clearly visible when Congress launched the Quit India movement. Leaders like Sahukar Channayya, Subbarao Upadhyaya, H. C. Dasappa, Tagadur Ramachandra Rao and A. N. Suryanarayana Rao were arrested the moment they returned from the Bombay A.I.C.C. and other leaders like Agaram Rangayya, M. N. Jois, A. Ramanna, Rangaramayya, T. Mariyappa, Palahalli Sitharamayya, A. Shivanna and Suryanarayana Pandit were also arrested in a day or two. The news of Gandhiji's arrest reached on 9th August itself, and after a meeting at the Maharaja's College Karnataka Sangha on the 9th, addressed by Sriranga, noted Kannada writer, the students arranged a separate meeting to protest against the arrest of Gandhiji. On the 10th, students not only did not attend classes, but organised a meeting at the Subbarayanakere which was attended by 4,000, and all office bearers of student's unions in colleges tendered resignations to their positions. The labourers of K. R. Mills struck work on the issue of D.A. on the 9th and 10th. Processions were also organised at Hunsur, Krishnarajanagar, Chunchanakatte, Chamaraj-nagar on the 10th, followed by protest meetings against the arrest of Gandhiji and other leaders. On the 11th too, similar programmes were held in all these places, and Nanjangud too witnessed a procession. Two persons were arrested at Chamarajnagar, and nine at Chunchanakatte on the 10th. Due to the continuation of strike of students in Mysore on the 11th, schools and colleges were ordered to be closed till the 17th. The

students organised public meetings almost everyday, and on the 12th, the gathering was 10,000, and student leader M. V. Krishnappa appointed M. V. Ananda Rao as "General Officer in Command" for the volunteer of crops of students, and Maharaja's College Hostel was called as "Swarajya Bhavan" and the headquarters of the movement. H. Y. Sharada Prasad, K. S. Abdul Gaffoor, Henry Devidas, D. M. Siddaya and Bhupalam Vasudeva Murthy were other student leaders and lady students also joined the movement beginning with 13-8-1942, and on warning from the Hostel Warden, 25 of the 47 inmates of the Maharani's College Hostel left the hostel on 14th. The K. R. Mill workers struck work again on the 13th, demanding the release of their leaders, T. Mariyappa and A. Krishna Murthy. The meeting of the Mysore Municipality was adjourned on 14-8-1942 to protest against the arrest of leaders. The movement was spreading to other mofussil areas, and reports of processions and meeting at Bannur, Yelandur, Saligrama, etc. in addition to places mentioned above were pouring in. The meeting to mourn the death of Mahadev Desai, held on 16th was attended by 12,000 and suggestions to undertake sabotage like cutting of telegraphs and telephone wire and removing of rail lines was made by one student speaker. K. R. Mill strike continued till 19-8-1942 when the attendance was 'normal'.

Students' Lead

Students strike continued even after, and students fanned out themselves in groups to mofussil areas in batches, and one report of 21-8-1942 says that 18 volunteers visited Badanaguppe, Panyadahundi, Hegdotara, Kalanahundi and Nanjededevanapura in Chamarajnar tq and conducted propaganda in these places. There were more such groups. Similarly, large batches of students travelled by rail ticketless and organised processions and meetings at Holenarasipura, Hassan, Arakere, and Mandya. But military was used to prevent students from travelling ticketless from 25th August. Pressure was brought on parents, beginning with the government servants to persuade their children to attend schools and colleges. The inmates of the Ananthalaya were instructed to attend their classes or to face ouster. They went on hunger strike on 23rd, and on 24th, 63 of the total 85 inmates left the Ananthalaya. Eight student leaders including Sharada Prasad and Abdul Ghaffoor were arrested on 26th, and 26 elderly (non-student) detenues from Mysore Jail were shifted to Bangalore Central Jail with a view to keep the students in 'isolation' in Mysore Jail. The Government made every effort to end the students' strike, and on 28th August, four buses were sent to various extensions to fetch students to colleges, and of the only seven that boarded the buses, all alighted near the colleges and stayed away from colleges.

Picketing of liquor shops and other such activities were reported from all taluk places and other towns, and 11 persons were arrested at Hunsur on 31st. Cutting of telegraph wires in many parts of the district was

started by the close of the month. Despite the arrest of senior leaders, student strike continued. The attendance at the Maharaja's College on 1-8-1942 was 73 (675), Intermediate College 16 (800), Maharani's 69 (430), Sharada Vilas High School 77 (527), Banumaiah's High School 43 (365) and Marimallappa High School 43 (365) to give a few examples, the figures in brackets being the total strength. On the 5th of September only 25 out of a total of 63 students of the Maharaja's Sanskrit College attended the examination scheduled to be held on that day and 11 students of the college were arrested. A report dated 14th September states that movement was continuing at Chamarajnar, Bannur and Hunsur.

There were 301 students, some of them from Bangalore also, in Mysore Jail on 21-9-1942, and from 23-9-1942 girls started taking prominent part. The Vice-Chancellor issued a letter on 22nd of September that if students failed to attend classes before 28th, their names would be struck off, and the Mysore Deputy Commissioner reports that "There was no change in students' strike" even after this announcement. Cihkkalingappa, M R A, Chamarajanagar, was arrested on 27-9-1942 after addressing a public meeting in the town, and 23 persons had been arrested at the place during earlier days for addressing meetings. Public meeting, mainly organised by students, continued almost daily in Mysore, and Vice-Chancellor complained to government about the continuation of such seditious speeches and compared the movement to some kind of civil war. Government took steps to stop picketing in front of schools and colleges, and despite the warning of striking off of names, not even 50% students attended the classes on 23th September, and on 5th October, the attendance was 192 in Maharaja's College. Names of 310 students were struck off from Banumaiah's High School and 247 from Sharada Vilas High School. At Kollegal, a procession accompanied by bhajans, organised on Gandhi Jayanti Day resulted in the arrest of four or five persons (2-10-1942) and S. Prabhuvayya was convicted.

The students tenaciously continued the strike. But the death of a student, Shankarappa in Mysore Jail due to lathi charge on 29th October created panic among both the jail inmates and their parents. This broke the morale. The important student leaders and elders were in jail and the students had no proper leaders. A meeting of the students on 29th October announced that if the arrested students were released, they will attend the classes. The Government also took a conciliatory attitude and released 89 students on November 5th, 20 on November 8th and also withdrew cases on 14 students. A students' meeting at the Town Hall on November 23, chaired by Bhupalan Vasudeva Murthy attended by 1,000 students passed a resolution to withdraw the strike, return to classes and engage themselves in national and constructive work to strengthen nationalist forces. This was followed by the release of H. Y. Sharada Prasad and other convicted leaders (3-12-1942). Even after the reopening of schools and colleges, there were incidents of explosions in the Maharajas

College Library (9-12-1942) and other places. M. V. Krishnappa, who was underground, offered Satyagraha and courted arrest in January 1943.

Other leaders of the city were released in the course of 1943. They included both the detenus and the convicted. But the student struggle in Mysore, which went on for over eleven weeks was something unique in Karnataka's history of Quit India Movement.

The last phase of the freedom movement, 'Mysore Chalo' was organised with a view to force the Maharaja to establish responsible government. Congress gave a call that volunteers from all parts of Mysore State must take **jathas** to Mysore beginning with September 4, 1947. They were to offer Satyagraha in front of the palace. Students, factory workers and railway employees went on strike and processions became the order of the day not only in Mysore city but in moffusil areas too. Thousands of volunteers rushing towards Mysore had to be checked. In rural areas, the liquor shops were attacked and taluk offices were gheraoed. Peasants too participated in the movement in thousands. One high school student, Ramaswamy, died in Mysore when the police fired on a procession. A boy called Chandrashekhar managed to hoist the national flag on the palace itself. As the jails were full, from 14-9-1947, the arrested were taken in vehicles and let off at far off places. At last, the Maharaja climbed down by accepting the demands on 24th September, and responsible government headed by K. C. Reddy was sworn in on 27th September. H. C. Dasappa from Mysore was included in the Cabinet.