



Maruthu Brothers In Tamil Nadu History – A View

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ABSTRACT:

Agambadi is one of the backward community among the Tamil Nadu Communities now a days they are mostly live in Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Viruthunagar and Madurai districts in Tamil Nadu. Marudu brothers were one of the members in this Community when there was trouble in political in Sivagangai, these brothers turned as leaders of people and safe guarded their dignity. The period between AD 1780-1801 was seemed that Battle against British. They administered the government well among many problems. They accompanied economy, art and literature work. They were not only good heroes but good rulers and patriotic.

Giving importance to some leaders is seen in Indian history. Some of the liberation hero's history is seem to unknown . So the purpose of this research is to focus the world about to omit such short comings and to show these heroes with the availability of sources. Observing, interviews, newspapers, books are used to conduct this research and analyzed the basis of approach of history

KEYWORDS : Local rulers, Palayakarar, Kalayar kovil temple, Battle of Kalayar kovil

BIRTH AND YOUNGER PERIODS

Europeans came to Eastern countries for trade and cunningly interfered those countries politics and fulfilled their aims by created conflicts among the rulers. British was important among these Europeans. They were ready to do anything to safeguard their dignity in Indian territory (*Mahrada,2013*). So their inland rulers took actions against English to control their activities. Those who were against whites were punished without any sympathy by the British in their early period. Tamil Nadu was not exceptional though the Inland rulers were all over the countries Maruthu Pandians ruled the country for twenty one years and they were challenged with British.

The persons Mokkaiah Pahanappan from Alagapuri Makkulam in Virudunagar district married to Anathai who was called as ponnaththal. She gave birth Periamaruthu in A.D 1748. He was called as Vellai Marudu he was fair and by this

reason he was called. After five years Sinnamarudhu was born.

He killed a tiger in the forest with bare hand, used a weapon called as Valari and thrilled the neighbors, when the king governs period, made people governs, constructed temples, followed religious activities (*Maareeswaran,A., 2010*). Declared war against British as first time. Produce liberation union all over places of Tamil Nadu and cornered the British were some of quotes for their brave and records of their regime.

Both were very good in education and war training when they were young, their brave and records were spreaded all over the places. Peria Marudhu bent Arcadu one rupee coin with his fingers. Sinna Marudhu also talented. Arcadu Navab Sent a pigeon. When It was flying in the sky, Sinnamardudhu shot it by a weapon vallari. Vallari is made by wood and used to attack a soldier. When one who throw this weapon to a foe, It attacks the foe and returns to the same person. To handle this weapon good practice must be needed. Otherwise it will kill the same person (*Kalaiventhan, M.,2009*).

Sinna Marudhu had some special characters. He could understand the weakness of foe – and used those weakness for his own benefit. What he thought was correct thing, then he accomplished it. Every his deeds made the British as fearful. His foes thought the people

were disagree and they got fear when they saw his activities. Ramanathapuram forts incharge Colonel Martins was attached by Sinnamarudhu's brave deeds and became his friend.

Colonel Wesley learnt to handle Vel, Vallari Sward as Tamils war weapons from him. It was mentioned in his diary. When they were young they entered to the place without knowing and body and touched those weapons and return home and play with kitchen utensils as in battle.

BECOME MINISTERS

MuththuVadugathan was a king of Sivagangai who was the one of the person who appreciated their brave deeds. Like him, his wife Velu Nachchiar also a heroine. She had own history. So the king and queen gave ministers post to Marudhu brothers in their government. When Muththu Vadule Nathan went for hunting a tiger appear suddenly then these brothers fhought with tiger and saved the king and won the respect from the king got appointed as leader of forces (*Mangaiyatkarasi,K., 2011*).

As many people of Palayam against for British Marudhu Pandiars were only declared war against British Colonel Wolles mentioned that these brothers used rocked in battle at temple forest. Whites got surprised about their gorillas attacks. Colonel Agniwa started that they were defeated in this battle.

Tanjour king took war against Ramanathapuram in A.C1770. At that time, Thamotharampillai was minister and who managed the situation and chased away the Tanjour king. Arcadu Navab saw this and feared then wrote a letter to British requesting to send forces to fight against Tanjour king. British accepted his request and asked Kernel Smith in Trichy to help Navab (*Mangalaruby,S., 2015*). Continuously Nawab's son Umathul Umara joined with the army of British and marched towards Tanjour and won the battle.

The Invasion at Ramanathapuram by the British and Navab's Forces

Navab requested the British to send the forces, and said false information that Ramanathapuram king and sivagangai king prepared for war and they won't give ransom. By this A regime led by Joseph Smith moved to Ramanathapuram in A.D.1772 (*Mangalaruby,S., 2015*). King of PuthukoodaiVijaya RagunathaThondaiman also sent his forces as support. By the end British easily conquered Ramanathapuram and put into jail a boy who was 9 years old and rules the place at that time and his mother and relatives.

The Invasion at Sivagangai by the forces

An their victory at Ramanathapuram gave a path to sivaganagai. Strengthen forces of British

and Navab engaged in this battle. The King of Puthukoddai also sent his troops. This coalition forces attacked Kalyar temple which was as fort to Sivagangai. This battle is called as Kalayar temple battle in history. This coalition forces faced a big challenge Marudhu brothers confident and courage in battle came out in this battle. They were actively participated against coalition force Vellaimarudhu and Sinnamarudhu were ministers in those days, it was started before too. Ruler Muththuvaduganathan and Velunachchiar also took part in this battle (*Mangaiyatkarasi,K., 2011*). However enemies were strong enough hence Muthuvadagunathan sent his wife and Marudhu brothers then he thought with them only. Finally he was killed by British brutally. After cutting his two hands and legs he was shot by canon.

After the war British were engaged in looking and got 50,000 Pagodas valued gold (*Ravikumar, N., 2009*). Sivagangai tell into the hands of Navab. From that day Sivagangai name was changed as Usain Nagar. Ramanathapuram change as Ali Nagar. People's lands were snatched and handed over to government supporters.

Marudhu brothers as rulers of Sivagangai

Navab divided Sivagangai as many unite and left it for lease. This practice was not longer. People did not pay tax for lease. As the result violence broke out all over the country. Navab could not control the violences and he escaped and thought to hand over the country to Velunachchiar. He did what he thought opponent of British Hither Ali's activities, son Thippu sulthan's activities are remarkable. As Velunachchiar doesn't has son, Marudhu brothers comes from *Servaikarar* family and they have heroism and ability to rule the country, she thought that it was better to hand over the country to Marudhu brothers, and did like that. In later Vellai Marudhu stated in his death declaration the power of ruling was handed over to him because he married (*Sanjeevi,N., 2014*).

However, Marudhu brothers' thankfulness unity in Velunachiar matter was considerable when she was at Virupachchi with her son for 8 years they safe guarded her and son carefully. When they took the ruling powers, they did many common works for the people. They thought that they could win people support like doing these works. People considered them not only rulers but god too (*Tamilarasan, S., 2007*). They ruled sivgangai for 20years from A.D.1780 Velunachciar died in A.D 1800.

Invasion again at Sivagangai by British

After Velunachchiar death create troubles at Sivagangai as the key of cash. He placed question that how can became ruler from *Servaikarar* family among people .This made people to provoke against the government. At that time Kaddapomman thought against British. Hence they decided to take action against Kadapomman then to look into this matter.

After Kaddapomman was hang to death, his relative as brother named Oomathurai escaped from the prison and refuge to Marudhu brothers (*The Hindu, 5 November 2008*). As they gave refuge to him, anger of British against Marudhu brothers increase. As this is the background British marched towards Sivagangai in A.D.1801. They were thought at Kamuthi and Marudhu brothers won the battle.

After sometimes British attached Sivagangai freely. When this battle was going on, before falls the capital Siruvayal of Sivagangai to the hands of British Marudhu brothers destroyed it and stayed beak at Kalayer temple with their soliders. In this stage British took the benefit of cash appointed Udayathevam as king of part of Sivagangai.The Friends of Marudhu brothers and well known people went to the British and turned as their agents. so, Marudhu brothers annoyed (*The Hindu, 5 November 2008*).

The British knew the secret that Marudhu brothers were hid in Piram mountain and attack so



they rounded up. British were up in this battle. Hence Marudhu brothers reached Kalayer temple. Heavy battles took place in this place. British used modern weapons and captures Kalayer temple. But Marudhu brothers and Oomathurai escaped from there and reached Sangaraphthik fort. But agent of British showed them.

HANG TO DEATH

English people attacked at marudhu brothers in the midnight. They thought that they would not falls into the hands of British and escaped to the forest. Their government informed that to pay 4000/= Rs to the person who will capture the brothers. However nobody seen them. Once they saw the three persons were going in the woods, and they attacked them. Periamarudhu got injured in the leg and other two men lifted him. At that time British captured them (*Mangaiyatkarasi, K., 2011*). They were imprisoned in Thiruppaththur fort. Then they were hanged to death. Oomathurai was taken to Panchalankuruchchi and hanged. They didn't stop. Relatives of Marudhu brothers, friends were taken to the prison and given punishments.

WORK OF TAMIL LANGUAGE

Even Marudhu brothers faced many problems; they did their work as the people. Their work for Tamil is great. There were 21 poets in their regime. Sawathu poet, Muththuvel poet,,

Vethantham Muththuvel poet, Vethantham Subramaniampillai, Muththuparathy, Second Sakkarai poet, Muththumari poet are some of them. The songs were written about them are now in use. Marudhu brothers gave village for the poets as present. As the three kings regime, not only Sward and Valari rise up but books and pen too (*Mangalaruby, S., 2015*).

Once Periamarudhu decided to construct a food house at Kalianagari and came there. Sargarai poet from Sirugambai heard this and decided to write a poes "Adda Nagapantham" and to give him. His son also wrote a poem and kept inside his father's book. When father gave his poem to king him read poet son's poem then he called that boy and praised. Then he gave a place in the poets lobby – and named as Santhup poet.

Lord Kundrakudy Murugan cured Peria Marudhu's *Pilavai* illness. Hence he constructed boundary wall halls and pond. He asked poet Shanthu to produce Mauragiri kovail of lord Murugan and staged in A.D.1799 (*Ravikumar, N., 2009*). He gave clothes and jewelry and presented a village Maruthankuddi near Kalayer temple. In these 14 songs it tells glory of lord Murugan and Marudhubrothers' contribution.

*"Valli Mayilser Mayinmalaike
Maruthaiyan Seitha*



*Velli Mayilai Virumbum Kuganarul
Venthana*” (Tamil Poem)

Poet Shanthu was happy of Marudhu brothers' love not only he was well in poet but engaged in battle too. After British destroyed Marudhu brothers' he also died.

Once, Muththu poet and his wife from the country Kamuthy were coming to meet Marudhu brothers, thief stole wife's chain. Poet was coming with crying face to the palace. Then Marudhu brothers gave him a new chain and asked him to wear it to his wife. Their fame was in history.

Arcadu Navab sent a spy named Kalaiman towards Marudhu brothers. But he was affricated by Periamarudhu's behavior. He was a friend with them later as he changes his mind. Periamarudhu was attracted by Kalaiman's heroism. the Kalaiman sent a message through a pigeon of Arcadu Navab. Sinna Marudhu was suspicious about this; finally Kalaiman was killed by Sinnamarudhu. When Periamrudhu heard this, he felt sad. Even he was enemy's man, he praised his heroism and made a school for him (*Kalaiventhan, M., 2009*).

GENERAL SERVICES

In their 21 years services, they constructed many temples during 10 years which was seem quiet period. Kuntrachkuddy temple Kalayer temple, Thirumogurperumal temple, two temples

at Narikuddy, temple at Veerakudy, Thirupaththur temple, Thirukoddiur temple, Thiruppachethtur temple, Memble Alah temple, Sarugani made temple were some temples repaired by them. They constructed temples without show any difference or cash and religion. They constructed 151 feet tall tower at the entrance of Kalayer temple. Marudhu brothers also were fond of art like morals. They dug well and ponds. Ponds in rural areas called Pandiankulam nowadays to. Considering the safety of the region they constructed fort too.

They constructed public houses and handed over to poor people. We can mention the rest houses at Narikuddy, Pampan, Kadiyoor, Mana Madurai. Their glory spreaded not only in Tamil Nadu but all over India by their deeds. Some of Kannathasan's poet lines describes about Marudhu brothers regime.

*“Sivakangai Valrtha Dhevar
Thirukkovil Kattik Kaakka
Navamani Vilaiyum Boomi*

Nalkinar Thunaijum Ninrar” (Tamil Poem)

In the beginning regime of British kings made many struggles against them. When considering Tamil Nadu, who were in power in powers in Southern parts such as Ramanathapuram, Thooththukuddy, Madurai, Thirunelveli were big challenge for British. Marudhu brothers are among them. They thought



against British until last not only they thought, they cindered the plan of work of welfare. They gave support to Tamil and Poets. Maintained understanding among religions.

CONCLUSION

Marudhu brothers work and contribution is respectable at Sivagangai in the history. They changed a small region as respectable in history. From the beginning of join with Muththuvdangantham and till hang to death their activities were in struggle. They were the join to work against the British and they were able to work as a plan and compare with the British. However they were beaten by British, their instinct to liberate as not to give tax, not cooperate was not beaten. They had the chance to continue their government with the support of British; in any situation they didn't get their support. As they needed freedom, they opposed British. Hence they considered British not as their foe, but common enemy. They were an example for cooperate with religious. The Political aims were seen only some of Palayam people. Marudhu brothers were the first in those. In any situations, foreigners could not win them, then they selected cast as an arrow of last weapon. Their attempt was successful. TamilNadu government released a stamp of their heads and gave them a glory was remarkable.

NOTES

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