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THE BRITISH SETTLEMENT IN TAMIL NADU(1640-1700)



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ABSTRACT

The landing of the English in Madras in 1640 cleared route for the foundation of settlements, securing of regions and the development of a standard type of government. The Raja of Chandragiri enabled the English East India Company to administer Madras and mint cash on the condition that the Company ought to pay him fifty for every penny of the income and traditions of the port. The assention between the Raja and Francis Day was drawn upon a plate of gold, dated March 1, 1639 and it was 1 safeguarded in Fort St. George until 1746. The primary harbor was on a sand bank at the mouth of the Coovum waterway to give a sheltered spot to the boats and exchange yet with a percentage of the characteristic points of interest for resistance. The main port was a little square, with a bastion at every

corner for protection, containing the Company's stockrooms and workplaces held up in hovels outside. This article endeavor to draw out the British settlement in Tamilnadu.

KEYWORDS:- British settlement in Tamilnadu, obtaining,

INTRODUCTION:

The Tamil nation kept up business relations with outside nations from right on time times.

With the coming of the European powers for



exchange and in addition legislative issues in the seventeenth century, it accepted another significance. While the English were building up themselves on the western area of India, they likewise made endeavors to impact as settlement on the shoreline of the Coromandel. They needed something more than a plant a region which they could brace and safeguard. Consequently, in 1639 Francis Day was deputed to travel southwards to discover a few spots suitable for exchange and settlement. The region on the Coovum, Francis Day thought, would fill his need. The tight portion of sandy arrive on the northern side of the Coovum waterway seemed alluring, for it had water on three sides, characteristic offices for exchange and access to the inner markets and also the Portuguese settlement at Santhome.

In the wake of turning into a companion of the Nayak, the nearby boss, Francis day succeeded in securing the award of a tract of area toward the north of Santhome, measuring five miles long along the ocean shore and one mile in width ashore. The Nayak craved that the station may be styled Chennappa Patnam, after his dad Chennappa, however the imperial gift charged the utilization of the name Sri Ranga Raya Patnam. Day likewise got authorization from Sri Ranga Raulu, the Raja of Chandragiri, to fabricate a post for insurance against the peril of assault from the neighborhood powers. He initiated forthwith the development of a fortification without securing the approval of the Company and named it Fort St. George, as its establishment was initiated on St. George's Day.

Post St. George, established in 1640, took thirteen years to build a little fortification which was step by step developed with stone, earth and block. The settlement had expanded and extended by 1671, when thirty years went by generous houses were worked at the northern corner of the post and the dividers were raised on the north, south and the east. A local settlement called at first Gentue2 Town and a while later Black Town, from the shade of its occupants, appeared before long.3 The Black Town was given a halfway found sanctuary and business sector. The occupants fitting in with different ranks were assigned separate streets.4 The inhabitants of the Black Town comprised for the most part the Tamils, the Telugus, the Jews and the Muslims.5 As Madras was very much arranged for exchange, traders wanted to have their homes in this city. A considerable lot of the occupants of Madras constructed their homes in order to make the avenues exceptionally uneven and sporadic. It was, in this manner, requested that no house ought to be worked without the former consent of the Governor. In the event that anyone manufactured a house in spite of the requests, the house was pulled down. William Jearsey, a free merchant, proposed to bring a thied story up in his home yet his solicitation was not in all actuality, for no houses were permitted to be over sure tallness to evade obstacle of the perspective of the encompassing nation from the Fort House. Indeed the Company authorized certain request in house working in their business settlement. In 1674 there were 188 houses in the White Town inside of Fort St. George.6 The White Town was dropped when the English started to manufacture houses for themselves outside the fortification especially along the street prompting St. Thomas Mount Roads were in harmed state and thus the Company's a piece of the rescue had been given to make the street perfect.7 The English regular citizen populace of Madras was assessed in 1700 at 114; twenty seven being organization's workers, twenty nine freeman, thirty nine mariners, eleven dowagers and eight maidens.8 The expansion of an organization of soliders brought the aggregate to almost 400.9 On July 2, 1702 Madras was depicted in the rundown of the load of the two East India Companies as "Stronghold St. George, with the mansion and fortresses and domain thereto having a place, whereupon an expansive city is constructed, comprising of houses, which are held of and pay rent to the said Governor and Company, together with the said city and its dependencies".10 There were seventy five houses operating at a profit Town in 1674 and it expanded to 8,700 in 1750 which plainly showed the quick development of the Black Town, 11 which was later on called George Town.

The English started to understand the significance of having the encompassing towns to shield their settlement against the intrusions for the most part from the Muslim rulers furthermore from the French. The English started to arrange with the Nayak and Muslim rulers for extra domain keeping in mind the end goal to enhance the security of the settlement, to get extra towns of weavers under the Company's control and to enlarge their income.

In 1672 Muja Khan who succeeded Neknam Khan as Governor in the Carnatic under the King of Golconda, affirmed every one of the benefits in a cowele12 under his mark and seal. Around the same time the Sultan of Golconda conceded a firman13 to the Englishmen permitting them to exchange traditions free all through his dominion.14 The English consented to pay the Sultan of Golcoda pagodas

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1,200 for every annum, as rent for the site of Madras.15 Triplicane went under the control of the English by 1658, however it was really allowed to them in 1672 for a yearly lease of fifty pagodas by Muja Khan, a boss under the Sultan of Golconda.16 The English let out the town of Triplicane to their boss vendor Kasi Viranna and afterward to Pedda Venkatadri. Securing of more towns rendered better correspondence a need. Access to the soth was made less demanding by the development of the triplicane Bridge.17 A firm stone extension over the waterway was built at the expense of 1000 pagodas out and about going to Triplicane from the island18 raising commitment from the inhabitants.19 The Sultan of Golconda conceded a general firman in 1674 affirming all the antiquated benefits as indicated by Sallabad20 to the English in Fort St. George. In course of time the Company extended its region to incorporate fifteen towns around Madras.

Somewhere around 1672 and 1679 Fort St. George ascended from a unimportant settlement into a seat of political influence.21 Sir Streynsham Master, Governor of Fort St. George, united the impact of the Company and raised its status, expanded its exchange and demonstrated a firm front to the neighborhood rulers. He opposed the requests made by Idngappa, the Nayak of Poonamallee.22 In 1690 Elihu Yale, Governor of Fort St. George, convinced countless of weavers to come and settle in Madras.23 He alloted separate justification for building their homes and managed them offices for their exchange and worship.24 A dispatch from England conveyed the message "that city of Madras might in a couple of years come to be the best city in Asia for quality, and also for business, cleanness and ornament".25

On the 30th January, 1693 Nathaniel Higginson, the Governor of Madras (1692-1698) composed a letter to the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb that the English had set their reliance on him and praved to have his firman.26 Accordingly in 1693 the boundries of Madras were expanded by the gift of three abutting towns of Tondiarpet, Purasawalkam and Egmore, around 8.8 Sq. miles in ranges. They were procured by a perwanna27 from Asad Khan, Aurangzeb's Grand Vizier.

ACQUISITION OF CUDDALORE:

Amid the time of the standard of Golconda exactions and inconveniences collected by the authorities made troubles the English at Fort St. George. To escape from this persecution, they mulled over upon a settlement in the Senji Country in the south. In 1674 Mohammad Khan, the Bijapuri Governor of Senji, welcomed the English to settle at or close Porto Novo and Volundavur to free him "from the urgencies of the French and the Dutch".28 The Directors affirmed the bargain made with the Khan yet Fort St. George found a way to set up manufacturing plants in the Senji Country till 1683.29 Elihu Yale, who was deputed to Harji Raja,30 the Maratha Chief at Senji, in 1681 obtained for the Company a cowie to settle at Porto Novo, Cuddalore and Kunimedu,31 yet the last forced extra obligation on all the material. In 1684 Gary was sent set for Sambhaji, the Maratha King who "from the apprehension of the English and in the trust of picking up the island of Bombay for himself, treated Gary with much consideration and conceded a manufacturing plant at Cuddalore and Devenampatnam with the "antiquated" immunities permitted to the production lines at Kunimedu and Porto Novo." The Mughal aggravations in resulting times constrained the English to sustain Kunimedu, Porto Novo and other depots.32 But in 1689 the English needed to shut down this processing plant at Porto Novo and move to Kunimedu and Cuddalore, which were better secured against outer attack.33

At Cuddalore, an ocean port in South Arcot, one square mile in region a plant was established.34 The Council of Fort St. George sent Davis as Chief of the proposed settlement. As a next step Robert Freeman was deputed to Senji, with a present of five yards red, a mirror and a bit of shoe wood to acquire benefits. Each local authority was drawn nearer, paid off, undermined and credits were offered;



hobby was pardoned and nothing was left untried. Virampattanam, Covelon, Armegon, Rampatanam, Krishnapattanam and Gangapattanam were thusly named as the picked sites.35 About Covelon the challenge with the free-dealers was pursued fervently. It had smooth landing place in the spring and summer months of the year. Be that as it may, the Directors did not care to have any more industrial facility to dodge charges to the Company.36 The Company requested that two of the three processing plants in the Senji Country were to be broken down and the other to be fortified.37

Endeavors were made to settle a production line at Kunimedu. The Subbedar of Kunimedu requested an advance of 30,000 pagodas. As the English expected addition by it, they wished to support him. In Kunimedu on the bank of South Arcot District, ten miles north of Pondicherry, an industrial facility was built up in 1683. In 1688, Rama Raja, the Maratha ruler, allowed a firman for a sustained settlement and freedom of exchange on a present of 800 pagodas.38 But the mounting of firearms at Kunimedu had set a portion of the Maratha officers to get squabble with the English, who let them know that it was for their own particular safeguard amid the troublesome times.39

The Directors affirmed that a stronghold to be inherent Senji Country was "a right, insightful and politic plan and will be roper intends to keep dependably the ruler and Court of Golconda reasonable to you."40

ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT ST. DAVID:

In 1690 the Company acquired Tegnapatnam, ten square miles in region, now some portion of Cuddalore in South Arcot District for 1,20,000 chakrams41 from Rama Raja. The Governor and board of Fort St. George, in the interview dated fourth December 1689 set out to send the Chief of Kunimedu to Senji to arrange with Rama Raja and as needs be a settlement was made. Hatsell was deputed to take ownership of the fortification, "Irregular shot" was to be discharged, which was to be finished with the best metal firearm from Madras that was sent uncommonly for the reason. Hatsell was told that "it lies in the heavy weapons specialist's demonstration to load and discharge it to the best favorable circumstances" and to painstakingly alter the imprints and limits at the focuses where the shots ought to fall.

The towns which fell inside of the arbitrary shot denoted the breaking points of the English region. Such towns are referred to even today as Gundu Gramam or Cannon Ball villages.42 As the irregular shot fell on Manjakupam which was then held by the Dutch on three years lease, on a yearly lease of 300 chakrams, 43 it was expected that they may give some inconvenience. Be that as it may, they helped in the exchange of the stronghold to the English. Rama Raja kept in touch with Madras Governor that Manjakuppam was out of their breaking points and guided them not to irritate the Dutch and their manufacturing plant and exchange at Tegnapatnam as some time recently. Be that as it may, the Madras Government trained Hatsell to seize Manjakuam, if the Dutch ought to decay to lease it from the English on the same terms as from the Marathas and "to drive them to reason, however to maintain a strategic distance from slaughter disagreeably." Towards the end of August 1691 the English took ownership of Manjakuppam. The Dutch Chief of the Tengnapatnam processing plant undermined to retake ownership of it and crane the Dutch banner. Immediately the Madras Council sent a Union Jack with requests that it ought to be contributed the towns of Majakuppam and a watchman mounted over it to guard it by power, if essential. In 1694 a firman was conceded by Nawab Zulfikar Khan for the eleven towns included inside of the cutoff points secured by the irregular shot of the stipend of Rama Raia.44

The fortification was named Fort St. David, likely to pay tribute to the Welsh Saint whom, Elihu Yale, the

Governor of Madras (1687-1692) himself a Welshman, needed to honour.45 The Directors were happy



to hear that Fort St. David was so encouraging a settlement. By reason of numerous characteristic preferences, it was fit for being made equivalent or better than Fort St. George. It had a region bigger than that of Fort St. George.46 The occupants who profited ought to settle the charge of their security.⁴⁷ Fort St. David was fortified as it lay so close to the Dutch at Tegnapatnam. Other than the places of the Company and different Europeans, it contained the town of Cuddalore, occupied by the Indian Merchants and a few crowded towns. Despite the fact that the fortification was little it was felt that it was more grounded than any of its size in India.48 In 1746 when the French caught Madras, Fort St. David turned into the seat of the Company's administration on the coast.⁴⁹

The development of Fort St. David was a blemish for the Dutch. They encouraged Rama Raja to deny the English of its ownership and impelled him to exchange the fortress. In any case, the English were sufficiently solid to restrict any move against the firman and arranged to utilize power of arms. There upon the Dutch consented to pay to the English the same rent they paid the nawab for their ownership of Tegnapatnam.50 However, when the Dutch made peace with Ekoji, the Maratha leader of Thanjavur, they wanted to tingle the Dutch banner at Majakuppam yet the English figured out how to deflect the contention with the Dutch.⁵¹

METHODS ADOPTED:

Begun with the buy of the site at Madras in 1640 the English started to set up a settlement with post and stronghold. In this manner the thought process in exchange and contemplations for political power asked them to go for extension of regions, bringing about further acquisitions in Madras and Cuddalore and different spots. The vicinity of countless large and in addition little offered them incredible points of interest. Along these lines they managed the Mughals and the Nawabs. As the Indian powers, they utilized spies and operators either the Brahmins or the Muslims. They displayed blessings to the rulers, sent fixes, gave objects of interest, broadened neighborliness and even offered help in arms. Here they encountered troubles when the other European powers rivaled them or conveyed stories against them. Yet through fruitful strategy and presentation of quality they figured out how to pick up ownership of domains, win business rights, exception from installment of traditions and benefit to erect dividers. Association of a managerial framework and foundation of military presents included political hints their business settlements and exchanges.

The standing framework was a shelter to the English in every last bit of their development of exchange. It was a chess board for the English to play their amusements and traps that gave achievement in their points. The Hindus operating at a profit Town had a place with two divisions known as Right and left Hand castes.52 The obstruction of the English was welcome to the Hindus. As the two gatherings clashed, the English assumed the part of assertion in the best shape which drove them to numerous new fields of speculations.

Influences and displays were exceptionally normal from the earliest starting point of the settlement in Fort St. George. Endowments or compliments for different purposes introduce some fascinating elements. It was by all accounts a lifestyle for both the English and the local rulers. In a few events, the presents were offered as an influence and in this manner the local rulers had been renumerated into quiet and the benefit dependably went to the English.

Amid the seventeenth century the organization taught the neighborhood controls the significance of ocean as an element ever. The Company established another city in madras which presented another sort of life. Political life began from Madras, through the metropolitan self-

governemnt. The English presented new occupations in exchange and industry on the Coromandel Coast. Social impact and political power were held by the Company's vendors and dubashes. They were



conceded controls over income, business and legal matters, The post turned into the focal meeting place for the main locals of Madras. Their own advantage were nearly interwined with those of the Company.

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12. A promise on the part of a superior, especially a document granted to the holder of land, specifying special terms of tenure.

13. Firman means a mandate or charter.

14. Letters from Fort St. George, 1711, Madras, 1931, p.43.

15. Maclean, C.D., op. cit., p.272.

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17. Triplicane Bridge was the predecessor of the Willingdon Bridge, at present called Periyar Bridge.

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20. Letters from Fort St.George, 1711, Madras, 1931, p.40, Sallabad means Sannad or royal edict issued by the Muslim rulers.

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41. It was equivalent to 8,000 pagodas or 32,000 rupees. Pagoda, a gold coin in circulation, was equal to rupees three or three and a half at a given time. The pagoda was in use till 1818.

42. Srinivasachari, C.S., op. cit., p.279.

43. Chakram is an ancient silver coin once generally current in south India.

44. Srinivasachari, C.S., op. cit., pp. 280-85.

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