

International Multidisciplinary
Research Journal

Golden Research
Thoughts

Chief Editor
Dr.Tukaram Narayan Shinde

Publisher
Mrs.Laxmi Ashok Yakkaldevi

Associate Editor
Dr.Rajani Dalvi

Honorary
Mr.Ashok Yakkaldevi

Golden Research Thoughts Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

Regional Editor

Manichander Thammishetty

Ph.d Research Scholar, Faculty of Education IASE, Osmania University, Hyderabad

International Advisory Board

Kamani Perera Regional Center For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Mohammad Hailat Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, University of South Carolina Aiken	Hasan Bakfir English Language and Literature Department, Kayseri
Janaki Sinnasamy Librarian, University of Malaya	Abdullah Sabbagh Engineering Studies, Sydney	Ghayoor Abbas Chotana Dept of Chemistry, Lahore University of Management Sciences[PK]
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania
Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ilie Pinteau, Spiru Haret University, Romania
Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Xiaohua Yang PhD, USA
Titus PopPhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea,Romania	George - Calin SERITAN Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences Al. I. Cuza University, IasiMore

Editorial Board

Pratap Vyamktrao Naikwade ASP College Devrukh,Ratnagiri,MS India Ex - VC. Solapur University, Solapur	Iresh Swami S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur
R. R. Patil Head Geology Department Solapur University,Solapur	N.S. Dhaygude Ex. Prin. Dayanand College, Solapur	R. R. Yalikal Director Managment Institute, Solapur
Rama Bhosale Prin. and Jt. Director Higher Education, Panvel	Narendra Kadu Jt. Director Higher Education, Pune	Umesh Rajderkar Head Humanities & Social Science YCMOU,Nashik
Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University,Kolhapur	K. M. Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	S. R. Pandya Head Education Dept. Mumbai University, Mumbai
Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain	Alka Darshan Shrivastava Shaskiya Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Dhar
Chakane Sanjay Dnyaneshwar Arts, Science & Commerce College, Indapur, Pune	G. P. Patankar S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Rahul Shriram Sudke Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore
Awadhesh Kumar Shirotriya Secretary,Play India Play,Meerut(U.P.)	Maj. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director,Hyderabad AP India.	S.KANNAN Annamalai University,TN
	S.Parvathi Devi Ph.D.-University of Allahabad	Satish Kumar Kalhotra Maulana Azad National Urdu University
	Sonal Singh, Vikram University, Ujjain	



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE PLACE NAMES IN MANAVIL KOTTAM



S. Loganathan

Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Historical Studies
Bharathi Women's College [Autonomous], Chennai.

INTRODUCTION:

The northern part of the Tamil country was named as *Tondaimandalam*, during the Pallava and *Jayangondasolamandalam* under the Imperial Chola period. It was divided into 24 *kottams*. Manavil Kottam was one among them. It consists of 12 *Nadus*, 92 *Villages*, 10 *Chaturvedimangalams*, 18 *Ur Sabhas* and 5 *Nagara Sabhas*. The region is studded with nearly thirty temples, and yield 270 inscriptions. From the epigraphs 92 villages have been enlisted. Therefore, an attempt is made to classify and study, based on their etymology, the place names in Manavil Kottam.

The 92 villages have been classified under the following categories:-

1. Places Names After Geographical And Physical Features.
2. Names Affiliated To Religion
3. Places Associated With Caste Name
4. Place Names Of Historical Significance
5. Places Associated With Settlements And Forts
6. Places Related To Folklore And Finearts And
7. Miscellaneous Place Names



However, this article focuses the place names of Manavil Kottam related Water Resources. Nearly fifteen village names are related to this title. A detailed analysis has been made hereunder.

PLACES DENOTING WATER RESOURCES KAYATTUR

The Urar of Kayattur agreed to measure out paddy to the Tiruvural Mahadevar temple at Takkolam as per the record of Parantaka I (928 A. D.).¹ The place could not be identified today. However, the term Kayattur could be divided into Kayam Ur, the prefix denotes the tank, lake, sea, or other water resources. As such the place is supposed to have located near water resources and this hypothesis remains tentative till the place is identified and located.

SIRRIYARRUR

A place called Sirriyarrur is known from the epigraphs of Tirumalpuram (972 A.D.) incorporated with Manavil Kottam,² whereas the terms occurring in certain inscriptions pose a puzzle pertaining to the identification of two places viz., Govindapadi³ and Sirriyarrur⁴.

The Sirriyarrur could be split up into Siru + Aru + Ur (or) Sirri + Arrur, undoubtedly the suffix denotes the place lying by the side of the river and prefix 'Siru' or 'Sirri' denotes the nature of the river as small thereby the place which lies by the side of the small river or stream came to be called as Sirriyarrur. The latest reference to this place name Sirriyarrur is found in the record of Vikrama Chola (1125 A.D.) from Tirumalpuram,⁵ the text of which states that the natives of this Sirriyarrur, a devadana of Purisai Nadu signed a land sale agreement.

ANAIAKATTAPUTTUR

Anaikkattaputtur is located four kms. to the south-west of Manavur and can be approached through Urodagammadevimangalam, from where one has to walk a distance of about 2 kms. Four epigraphs, one each of Parantaka I (942 A.D.) from Takkolam and Kulottunga II (1147 A.D.) from Mamallapuram, of Parthivendravarman from the very site, on a slab stone and that of Rajaraja II (1156 A.D.) from Perumpakkam, refer to this place respectively as Anaikkaraippudur,⁶

Anaikkaraippudur⁷ and Anaikkattaputtur,⁸ the last name is retained till date. Divided etymologically, the name Anaikkaraippudur into Anai + Karai + Pudur, the three terms denote respectively, 'Dam built across any river or stream', 'the bund' 'the newly created settlement or region'. On the whole it can be complied with a new settlement created by the side of the dam bund. Subsequently, the name seems to have changed- as Anai + Akkarai + Pudur. As per the version of the local people, a reservoir or dam was constructed across

the river of Kuvam and Korttalaiyar, (today it is called Kesavaram Anai). Since the dam lies on the northern bank of the R. Kuvam, it seems to have been referred to as Akkarai (opposite bank) by the local people and hence called as Anai + Akkarai + Pudur. The Adityesvara temple mentioned in the inscription of Parthivendravarman could not be traced today. What now stands here is called Isvara temple, which is built of brick and mortar. The village is irrigated by Pudukkesavaram tank, lying one km. to its south.

TANDALAM

The term Tandalam have been used both separately and suffixed with other terms. It denotes the place which is cool due to the presence of water resources, plants and trees.⁹ An epigraph of Satti, (10th Century A.D.) a feudatory of Pallava, engraved on the rock near Tandalam, mentions the construction of Kalingu in the Tandalam eri.¹⁰

SANTHER TANDALAM

An epigraph of Rajaraja I (1001 A.D.) from Srottriyam Tandalam¹¹ refers to the name as Santher Tandalam situated to the north of R. Kuvam. The term Santher probably derived from the Sanskrit word Srottriyam means a land or village assigned to the brahmin or other learned persons at a favourable rate of assessment as a reward for their services.¹² It leads to the surmise that this Tandalam might have been endowed to someone, the details about which have not come forth.

MAPPUDI TANDALAM

An epigraph from Takkolam 1354 A.D. refers to Mappudi Tandalam.¹³ Literally, the prefix Mappudi means as affluence and wealth¹⁴ asserting the fertility of the region, thereby coined the name Mappudi Tandalam. However, the place could not be identified and located today. Thus, these three Tandalam seems to have been named by virtue of its natural environment.

ATTUR

Melmalai Arrur is referred to in the epigraph of Rajendra I (1036 A.D.) and Kulottunga I (1073 A.D.).¹⁵ This name could have been coined as Melmalai+ Arrur, the prefix denoting the western or higher strata of the hill or mountain. The very term Arrur indicates a village or a place perched on the side of the river. It lies to the north of the R. Kallar, but there is no prominent hill or mountain in its vicinity. However, at present the name stands as Attur devoid of its prefix Melmalai.

IRULANJERI

Situated 6½ kms. south east of Manavur, the village Irulanjeri can be approached from Kuvam, which lies 3 kms to its south east. The Irunganur Kaliyanjeesvaramudaiyar temple bears eight lithic records, of which one remains unreported.¹⁶ The temple synchronises with the Chola architectural features and to its west is found the Valittunaippillaiyar temple, devoid of any inscription. The division of the name Irunganur as Iru + Kan (Kan conveys Kanmai) + Ur connotes irrigation through two kanmais or sluices. It became apparent during the field investigations by this writer that Irunganur eri at present has sluices of which two irrigate this village lands. Thus, the meaning of Irunganuras stated above stands well authenticated.

The name of the deity Irunganur Kaliyanjeesvaramudaiyar as found in the inscription and presently called Irulanjeesvaramudaiyar also attests to the transition of the present name as Irulanjeri. The version of the local people runs otherwise i.e. when Lord Siva came to destroy Tripura asuras, they were found hidden in this village forest, hence darkness pervaded over the country. To wipe out the darkness, Lord Siva presented Himself at this place in the form of 'light', hence the deity and place came to be called as Irulanjeesvaramudaiyar, Irulaharriyasar, Irulaharriya Jyothi and Irulanjeri.¹⁷

KOTTUR

The fact that the place bearing the name Kottur formed part of Kanrurnadu in Manavil Kottam is endorsed by the Sivapuram record of Rajendra I (1028 A.D.)¹⁸ retaining its name till date lying 3 kms. to the south west of Kuvam and 1/2 km. to the north east to Ilambayankottur. It can be approached either from Kuvam or Ilambayankottur. The term Kottur seems to have been derived from Kodu+ Ur, the prefix bears several meanings, of which the most appropriate one is that of place situated on the bank of a river, bund of tank or a well.¹⁹ The name fits in well by virtue of its location very close to the Idayarrupakkam tank. Yet another meaning inferred from the Devaram hymns, sung in praise of the deity at Kottur in Thanjavur District, is that of a place of fertility.²⁰ Kottur under study was also called as Solavichchatira Chaturvedimangalam, perhaps after the title of Rajendra I. The suffix Vichchatira seems to have been the derivation from the word Vidhyadharan connoting a person who is well versed in Vedas, dandaniti and other arts.²¹ Rajendra I was undoubtedly an able administrator, conqueror, and a well versed person, aptly deserving the title Solavichchatiran which should have been affiliated to this place. Both these terms Kottur and Solavichchatira Chaturvedimangalam were in vogue conjointly till the year 1216 A.D.²² after which reverted back to the solitary name Kottur as current till date.

ILAMBAYANKOTTUR

The term Kottur, as explained supra has been used both independently and suffixed with other names. The site Ilambayankottur stands to prove the latter form and is situated on the western bank of the Kuvam reservoir. Manavur lies 8 kms. to its north and Takkolam lies 5 kms. to its north west. The village can be approached by crossing the Kuvam reservoir which covers a distance of 3 kms. (towards south west). Saint Thirugnana Sambandar has mentioned the name of the place as Ilambayankottur

while extolling the deity Arumbisvarar of the temple therein. He graphically describes the fertility of the region. The presiding deity of the temple is Arumbisvarar, also called Deivanayakesvarar and Chandrasekharar.

Kanaka Kujambigai or Kodendumulaiyammal is his consort. But the five reported lithic records ranging from 1178 to 1269 A.D.²³ and an undated record (Rajendra II) from Narasingapuram provide the earliest inscriptional evidence about the place name as Ilambiyankottur²⁴ colloquially called at present as Elimian Kottur.

The name is divisible as Ilambayan or Ilambiyan + Kottur. The word Ilam or Ilambai means poverty and distress²⁵ and what the word Kottur stands for has already been noted as the region of fertility. Curiously, the meaning of the two terms do not synchronise and go contradictory. If the land is fertile then prosperity would have prevailed, but not poverty. Despite the fact that this Ilambayankottur located on the western bund of Kuvam tank, it does not irrigate the village lands. Thus the village as it stands today, does not get any proper irrigation facility, neither from the river nor from any tank. The meaning of Ilambai seems to be more appropriate to the present day context, as the land is so barren, without irrigation and migration of people out of this village is the order of the day.²⁶ This place also has been associated with the legendary version as the Arambayars, the celestial ladies, worshipped Lord Siva at this place, hence called Arambayar Kottur, which in course of time transformed into Ilambayankottur.²⁷

IDAYARRUPAKKAM

Rajadhiraja II's inscription (1174 A.D.)²⁸, the earliest record from the very village, mentions the place name as Idayarrupakkam (a) Rajavichchatira Chaturvedimangalam, though colloquially it is known at present as Idayarpakkam and is located 8 kms. to the south of Manavur and Sriperumpudur lies 16½ kms. to its east. The approach to the village can be had by bus plying from Sriperumpudur and Kanchipuram. Kottur, Gunakarumpakkam, Mahadevimangalam, Akkamapuram are its adjacent villages lying on its north, east, south and west respectively. The Idayarrupakkam eri irrigate the village. The Tiruppathakkadudaiya Mahadevar temple standing on the tank bund, and locally called as Erikoil, bears four lithic records and the Chola architectural style.

Etymologically, its name could be derived as Idai + Aru + Pakkam, which means the flow of river through the village, and a large eri known as Idayarrupakkam eri, is located at the centre of the village on the eastern bund of the tank stands the temple. The combination of the three terms emerges linguistically into Idayarrupakkam. That this place was also known as Rajavichchatira Chaturvedimangalam after the title Rajavichchatiran²⁹ perhaps borne by Rajadhiraja II, consequent to his signal victory over Ceylon ruler, and the suffix Mangalam stands for a brahmin settlement.

NAMBARTHANGAL

The record of Rajaraja III (1228 A.D.) noticed by this author at Manavur³⁰ mentions the place by name Nambarthangal. The name could be divided into Nambar + thangal, the suffix denotes the small eri or reservoir, the prefix Nambare eludes definite decipherment. Since the very place is yet to be identified, no final word could be uttered pertaining to its meaning.

PONNANGULAM

Yet another name of a place Pennagadam found in the record cited Supra is identified with the present day Ponnangulam, which lies 2½ miles southwest of Manavur. The meaning of the term Pennagadam eludes definite decipherment. On the other hand, a small pond lying to the north west of

this place is currently known as Ponnangulam, perhaps after the present name of the pond and vice-versa.

GANGANERIPATTU

The name Ganganeripattu mentioned in the Tiruvalangadu plates³¹ has been identified with the present day Karanainizampattu³² lying 9 miles north of Palayanur Tiruvalangadu. When split into Ganganeri + Pattu, it signifies that its name is affiliated with the name of the lake as Ganganeri and the suffix Pattu denotes a tract of low wet land.

PUDUPAKKAM

The existence of a place named as Pudupakkam is revealed by Uttama Chola's inscription (984 A.D) from Tirumalpuram³³ which refers to this place in the context of the default of the sabha. It lies to the extreme south west of Manavur at a distance of about 16

kms. and just 6 kms. north east of Kanchipuram. The village can be approached by bus plying from Kanchipuram to Arakkonam. The Kambakkal Channel flows to its south. Three fragmentary stone inscriptions, engraved on the stone slabs lying inside the Selliamman temple, range from the year 875 to 895 A.D.³⁴ Though the temple has been renovated, still the old sculptures exist therein. Incidentally these inscriptions mention about the Nallimangalam sabha. It is formed of two terms viz. Pudu + Pakkam, the former in Tamil

means 'new' and pakkam denotes the settlement i.e. newly created. Evidently the flourishing of this new settlement might have been earlier than 875 A.D. as attested to the earliest known inscription cited supra. A fairly large number of places in Manavil Kottam are generally named after flowers, plants, trees, forest etc., outnumbering the names of other kinds.

ENDNOTES

1. A.R.E., 12 of 1897 ; S.I.I., V. No. 1375
2. Ibid., 328 of 1906 ; S.I.I., 111 No. 198
3. Ibid.,
4. Ibid., 322 of 1906
5. Ibid., 272 of 1906 ; S.I.I., XXII No. 272
6. Ibid., 254 of 1921
7. Ibid., 288 of 1895
8. Ibid., 75 of 1947-48
9. R.P. Sethupillai, Urum Perum - p. 10
10. A.R.E., 1 of 1892 ; Ep. Ind., Vol. VII. No. 5 ; p. 25
11. Ibid., 71 of 1921
12. Tamil Lexicon (1936), p. 1533
13. A.R.E., 271 of 1921
14. Tamil Lexicon Vol. V. Pt. I. p. 3161 & 2836
15. A.R.E., 256 & 243 of 1921
16. Ibid., 46 to 52 of 1952-53
17. Information provided orally by Thiru Kumaravel of Irulanjeri
18. A.R.E., 227 of 1961-62
19. Tamil Lexicon, Vol. II p. 1180
20. K. Bagavathi, Urum Perum , p. 122

The meaning of the term can also be substantiated by citing an example from the Cholamandalam as the Mikodu and Mikottu nadu lying to the west of the bank of R.Kaveri, thereby called Mikodu.

Y. Subbarayalu, The Political Geography of Chola Country, p.3

21. Monier Williams, Sanskrit English Dictionary p.963

22. A.R.E., 234 of 1910

23. Ibid, 231 of 235 of 1910

24. Ibid., 246 of 1910

25. Tamil Lexicon Vol. VI., p.341

26. Informant, Local Residents

27. Mani & P.M. Jeyasenthilnathan (Ed) - Thirumurai Thalanganal, pp.53

28. A.R.E., 253 of 1910

29. Supra, F.No.49

30. Newly noticed Record from Manavur - Appendix No.11. 14

31. S. 1.1., 111., Pt. III., No. 205

32. S. Rajavelu, History and Culture of Thiruvalangadu, p.60

33. A.R.E., 286 of 1906

34. Ibid., 60-62 of 1923

Publish Research Article

International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

Associated and Indexed, USA

- EBSCO
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database
- Directory Of Research Journal Indexing

Golden Research Thoughts
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com
Website : www.aygrt.isrj.org