

Janapadapadanam

The important aspect of JANAPADAPADANAM is that it will help us to understand the identity of MALAYALI PEOPLE in all factors. Everything related to Malayali Life or the indigenous situations of MALAYAALARAAJYAM Will become Crystal clear in this way of Village analysis.

vi. The major problem in India in general and Kerala in particular is the heavy urbanization

which is damaging all indigenous Skill, Products, Agricultural techniques, and the human relations existed in the villages. The globalization Forces are transforming the Habitat in total enabling to intrude these Colonization forces in micro village segments of KERALA.

vii. In the Medieval period, Kerala had a CATALYST for mobilization of indigenous products and its trade-Inland trade as well as Maritime Trade. The system was Known as MAMANKAM introduced by Zamorins of Calicut. It was a twelve-year Trade Fair.

Yearly

trade fair known as Zamorins of Calicut also conducted TAIPOOYAMS. The place of Mamankam was Tirunavaya , the port at Ponnani. This place is almost the central place of Kerala as a whole thousands of Kaavu thattakams were linked to this place: many of them were under the patronization of Zamorins. These Kaavu thattakam was a trade network as evidenced by Micro Market system existed in these places during Pooram, Thaalappoli and other temple festival occasions. The system of promoting Indigenous productions is to be reestablished in Kerala to drive away the damaging factors of Globalization. Thus we will be equipped with our own identity. This is thus a Social activism to be attained from *JANAPADAPADANAM*.

(See Maamaanka rekhakal A study of the earliest record)

9. TOPONYMY and Village history study

This Author in the STUDY OF PLACE NAMES IN THE CALICUT DISTRICT does earliest toponymical STUDY OF VILLAGE HISTORY. This work analyses more than 200villages in grassroot level.The detailed index and maps clearly reveals this. Reports on the above PhD Thesis also establishes this fact. See the contents of the thesis.

[See Reports of Dr. K.V. Ramesh, Dr Subbarayalu and Dr. Ramachandramoorthy in the Bio- Data.]

10. Research papers: Toponymy and village history: Pioneering studies

Papers of SL Nos1 to 31 and other papers where toponymical data is used in various ways reveal the Evolution of study of village history in kerala.Serial Nos 3-1976 April,4-1976

April, 5-1981,6-1982,7-1982,8-1982,9-1985,10-1985,11-1987,12-1980,13-1984,14-1985,15-

1983,16-1985,17-1979,18-1985,19-1992,20-1986,21-1990,22-1989,23-1994,24-1990,25-1989,26-1990,27-mapingEtc ,along with later studies like Araamprom, poottuur kaavu, Vaaniyam kulam and Legacy of Nila project under UGC completed in 2001 are pioneering works in village history.

No 1-1979 [1st paper on Indian Toponymy in ONOMA](#), Belgium, No:2-1985 Indian

Toponymy PLANS Trivandrum --- with BIBLIOGRAPHY 1st attempt in Kerala

11. Village Level Analysis

Arambram Village analysis shows how Micro Toponymy can be helpful in the study of various factors of the village. Micro fields are identified from settlement records Names are given by people who live there. The Revenue SRds ,Cheerikkal Rcds or Paimashi Rcds never give these type of micro fields or their names .For the 1st time this type relations of the naming practices were brought out This MICROTOPONOMY is the basic principle for the study of village history. Various DISTRIBUTION MAPS are given with observations Talappally Taluk study is directed to use toponomical data to analyze the problem related to Water Recourses. This also is a 1st attempt.

[See MAPS and study of Araambrom and Talappally]

Various Urban factors were set apart and distribution maps for each item was prepared. These Maps along with various kinds of frequency tables were used to analyze

Urbanisation

and other situations of each Village. Various concepts like Complexes, Groups, Clusters, isolated units, etc. were used for studying Larger areas. Correlating and corroborating various aspects from various studies an inter disciplinary Approach has been brought out. Thus a WORKING MODEL FOR ORGANIC STUDY OF CULTURAL HISTORY OF KERALA is conceived. Based on micro toponomy micro fields are studied first. This is the starting point of SEGMENTAL STUDY.FIELDS with a single name is generally one segment. In many cases, first part of a name of the field with several small units is the same But second part changes depending on the nature of the soil or some natural factor. Thus the smallest unit is decided based on suffixes of names. These segments form micro –cultural units. Each unit contains various factors of cultural evolution. Segments with same factor are to be taken together and distribution maps are to be drawn. Thus segments are combined together which will reflect a large cultural SEGMENT.

Repeating the process Large Segments are again combined to form AREA SEGMENTS. Ultimately the study becomes an ORGANIC STUDY of KERALA Culture. Kerala villages are dispersed type. But in each village we see centralized settlements. This is identified with clusters of the factors (1) Prehistoric evidences (2) Tribal/aboriginal settlements (3)uuR (4)Signifier of a worshipping center. This Clusters are distributed in all villages .It is to be assumed that in later times the settlements became dispersed. However each village is to be taken as a unit and Cultural Registers are to be made. The people of VANIYAMKULAM on the banks of NILA RIVER prepare these Cultural Registers for the 1st time in Kerala. [See Vaaniyamkulam Panchayath Gazeteer Model And LEGACY OF NILA,1st Report submitted to the State Editor, Gazetteers Of KERALA, Govt of Kerala. Details of Preamble of Legacy of NILA SNGS College Pattambi ORC .Vijnana Chinthamoney, Published under UGC NILA Project, Minutes of meetings of ORC 1995,Mediareports Questionnaire named Malayalante Vazhiyatayalanga etc.)

12. Urbanization Studies

Apart from the studies of urban factors and their patterns in villages, groups ,complexes Etc Port Geography ,Planning of Capital city Etc are studied in micro level based on CALICUT PORTandCAPITALCITYofZamorins of CALICUT.Indian Silpa Texts Or VASTUSASTRA Principles are applied along with modern Urban Principles for studying the planning of CALICUT PORT and FORT. This is the 1st study of its kind in INDIA.

The urban situation in hinterland areas are analyzed identifying urban signifiers like streets **angaadiis**(markets) **paantiyaalas**(storages) etc. **TEMPLE COMPLEXES** (KSHETRA MISRAM) and **MARKET COMPLEXES** (**ANGADI MISRAM**), **piitika** centers, etc are patterns of settlements used to analyses in the study. (SeeDtails of Thesis Legacyof NILA Study, MAPS, Research Papers,Books on Zamorins records ,and Books on Keralaculture-Keralasamskaram Akavum puravum ,the synopsis of the thesis Etc.)

13. Nediyruppu Swaruupam and Kottakkal Branch of Nediyruppu Swaroopam

The village where Zamorins family existed is Nediyruppuppu ,near Kondotty in Malappuram district.The cultural history of the village was analysed using toponyms, folk lore ,field work data,zamorinsrecords and Village Settlements records.The palace site , temple sites Etc were identified and the planning of the palace area under vaastu saastra is identified for the 1st time.Planning of the Kottakkal Kizhekke Kovilakam also was verified and vastu planning identified.

14. KULASEHARA CAPITAL And Pattanam at Cranganore.

The port at Cranganur is supposed to be the Early capital city of a branch of Cherasof SANGHAM Period.It is said to be the MUCIRI PATHANAM or the port MUZIRIS of Foreign maritime traders. Recent investigations by archaeologists at PATTANAM, a place on the south bank of River periyar brought out some significant evidences probably helpful in identifying the MUZIRIS. Investigations conducted by NMN in 1996 and later, based on some Dutch Maps of 16th c AD ,brought by Dutch investigators , identified various Locations off oreign forts of medieval period.

Later toponomycal and geographical investigations proved that CAPITAL of Kulasekharas by name MAHODAYAPURAM existed on the Right hand side of river mouth was also a planned city on the vasthu satra basis. The PATTANAM is thus a major market nodal area .The capital was a temple centred city –KSHETRA MISRAM. Pattanam was a central point a of foreign MARKET NODAL POINT of maritime angadi misram-MARKET COMPLEX. After enquiries in 1996, it was suggested by NMN to propose a Master plan to the Govt :of KERALA It was presented in the State Assembly by the then Hon: M.L.A. Prof: Meenaakshi Thampan in 1996.Historical studies thus become JANAPADA PADANAM and Social activism in Kerala. MAP STUDY has thus attained a new dimension when foreign maps are scientifically used to locate places and geographical studies.

15.PONNANI PORT,PALGHAT GAP AND TIRUNAVAYA-KOLLAMKODE NILA WATER WAY

(i)LINK TO OTHER AREAS OF TAMILAKAM-∩PORT KAVERI PUUMPATTINAM

(ii) CONCENTRIC CIRCLE CIRCLE PATTERN OF HINTERLAND AREAS – CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK OF HINTERLANDS OFKERALA.CLOSE HINTER LAND-∩ DISTANT HITERLANDS-∩FAR AWAY HINTERLANDS-∩ PORT-∩ MARITME SPACE /GAPS IN THE WESTERN GHATS/PALAKKAD GAP-∩TAMILAZHAKAM/MAIN LAND

(iii)NODALPOINTS, MULTI-CENTRAL POINTS etc.

A survey of Ponnani port Vettathunad, Perumpadapp, Tirunavaya ,Tirumirakkod,

Kulamukku Pattanam POTTUURKAAVU Poyilam, Yamkulam, Sreekrishnapuram settlements and moothaar settlements on the banks of NILA under the study of Cultural Geography and Habitat of Nila, points out the nature of hinterlands as noted above. This is the pioneering methodology Formulated by THIS SCHOLAR. Academic in put in this methodology was the OUTCOME OF TOPONOMICAL STUDIES And STUDIES

OF ZAMORINS RECORDS .Thrikkavil Palace was the major administrative NODAL POINT and VAIRANELLUUR PALACE was a secondary Nodal point in the PORT at PONNANI .These palaces are now identified .From the northern bank of river Ponnani a ROYAL PATH is seen connecting Bepore sub PORT Calicut NAGARAM-PORT-FORT

area, PUTHIYANGADI market and sub port, KAPPAD sub port, and PANTALAYINI KOLLAM where Vasco De GAMA disembarked in 1498. PONNANI port is connected to CRANGANUR PORT. On northern part of Panthalayini Kollam in the river mouth of Kottakkal river Kottakkal KUNJALI Family lived. They had a Fort at KOTTAKKAL PUTHUPATTANAM. LOKANAR KAAVU Kaavuthattakam was a little north- east area

of it. All these nodal points are surveyed to study Cultural Evolution. These are various segments. They are to be analysed and inter related . Places mentioned above are all connected

together. Various circles of hinterlands are thus connected as a net work and ports on the coast

and gaps on the western ghat are inter connected to form a NETWORK of TRADE ROUTS. It

is very interesting to note that Ponnani port is connected to PALGHAT GAP by Nila RIVER:

This GAP is opening to Tamilakam .Archaeologists proved that there existed a River in Palghat gap which was branch of River KAVERI. Kaveri river Enter the Bengal Sea at KAVEERI POOMPATTANAM. Thus Bharathappuzha –Kaveri river systems. It Connects

PONNANI PORT to KAVERI POOMPATTANANAM PORT through PALGHAT GAP.

As noted Ponnani was the Temple centered palace complex and PORT .It was the Zamorins

head quarters of important rituals There is no remains of palace complex now .Trikkavil temple ,always mentioned in Zamorins Record since 1558 Cc AD exists. An important palace

existed in VAIRANALLUR, a village 1km south east of Trikkavu Palace. A large compound

with a highly damaged temple in an abandoned state is the only signifiers now exist. Both these palaces were important nodal points in Ponnani. These palaces were the nodal points

related to the large Market Festival at Tirunavay, 5km East of PONNANI. Where MAMAKAM FESTIVAL was conducted once in 12 years by Valluvanad and Nediyruppu

swaroopam. The earliest record of MAMAKAM (1894 c AD) was put to rigorous study with distribution Maps, in the model of Janapada padhanam under the title MAAMNKA REEKHAKAL. Another Collection of Zamorins records related to Maamaakam, and investiture ceremonies titled STHANAROHANA REKHAKAL ed. is also published. These are discussed in detail in the book "Kerala samskaram akavum Puravum" (2002) and in the Report Submitted to UGC Under the NILA STUDIES in 2001. STHANI families on the banks of Nila are analysed to understand their part in the Political Administration, Land and temple Adm: Management of ECONOMY of CHIEFTAINCIES etc. Thus this study is the rigorous analysis of REGION-Identified as BHARATHAPPULA RIVER VALLEY-in the Janapadapadana model and it is focused to MEDIEVAL HISTORY of Kerala. SEGMENTAL STUDY in this analysis is focussed to bring out the IMPORTANCE of FAMILY STUDIES. ZAMORINS PALACE RECORDS and other MSS are all put to rigorous study for the first time in this direction. As a part of the work a book is published (Total Chpts 32) under the title MALABAR STUDIES- Saamuuthiri Naadu. [See NILA STUDIES, Kaavu Tattaka studies, Vaaniyam kulam Etc. in separate folders]

16. Legacy of Nila, Cultural Geography and Habitat of NILA river Valley.

[PART-II JANAPADA CHARITRA ADHANAM (Dicision 17-3-995 See PREAMBLE OF THE LEGACY OF NILA) Work related to peoples planning programme, Govt. of Kerala :- A Proiect proposed along with UGC proiect.]

A number of Research papers were published on the Zamorins palace records during 1978- 1987 and the collection of them was brought out in 1987 :the name of the book is "Saamuuthiri Charithrathile Kanaappurangal" or "Unseen pages of Zamorins history" .A good number of media reports were also brought out to bring the RE-DISCOVERY OF ZAMORINS ARCHIVAL RECORDS in the notice of PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS OF KERALA .Even though three decades has been elapsed no such people came forward to evaluate them only because of professional jealousy ,Personal interests and reluctance in changing Traditional Way Of Analysis. The analysis of Zamorins record was gradually taken up in 1980 by NMN. A detailed study of Calicut City and Rajadhani was taken up under the TOPONOMICAL studies. The Pattern ,important nodal points ,palace areas Etc were identified toponymically and early streets ,and royal road systems inside the rajadhani were identified with the help of ZAMORINS records and Pymashi records of Mysoreans and British settlement records. later a paper on this was GEOGRAPHY MAPS . prepared with HISTORICAL It is given as the introduction of the Directory of CALICUT CORPORATION in 1980. Another map showing the roads through Vasco De Gama entered the city is also given in the study. The toponymical reconstruction of the Capital and Vastu sastra basis is also given in the map-these are the pioneering efforts.

Based on the studies of Zamorins records it was able to re construct the royal routs from Cranganur to Calicut crossing PONNANI. Another important outcome was the IDENTIFICATION OF ZAMORINS TERRITORY towards south up to CRANGANUR and towards east up to PALGHAT GAP. It is very interesting to note that Zamorin's STHANI families were spread all over the land from PUTHUPATTANAM to CRANGANUR. A survey on Guruvayur and Zamorins relation to that important Temple Complex proves this factor. Zamorins relations to temples, temple yogams, etc are also

seen formulated on the basis of a political strategy. Maamaakam, Pattathanam, Krishnanattom etc. are all have some political strategy as under current.

Analysis of Zamorins records under the category of Cherikal accounts helps us to identify villages under Cerikkals. Corresponding Revenue Villages were thus identified. There are 28 cheerikkals. Major Cherikkals and Powerful STHANIS are seen on the banks of Nila. They are totally ruled by powerful STHANI Families. Their part in the social Dynamism is to be measured .It was the aim to select a study of this river valley in the model already formulated in the Calicut studies based on Toponomy and Zamorins records.

17. Oriental research center and Nila valley studies

Details of the theme and it's dimensions are given the UGC REPORT (submitted through the Principal SNGS College Pattambi dt 28/7/1997 NoA5/1809/97P6-14) Later proposal was submitted to UGC to set up infra structural facilities in the College(ORC) For BHARATHAPPUZHZA RIVER VALLEY STUDIES(27/4/98.) Later a proposal was submitted to the Govt of Kerala to study the Janakiiyasutrana Rekhakal (19/12/1996.) of Peoples Planning Programme .It was approved by the Govt of Kerala and informations were sent to the concerned departments by the director of PANCHAYATHS.(J1- 2212/97/dt5/2/1997)

It is the FIRST ATTEMPT TO STUDY a River valley to understand the potential of it in the cultural evolution of Kerala. Bharatha puzha is the main Artery of Culture in Kerala. Even from the beginning of Christian Era this river played its role as a catalyst in modulating Kerala Culture as a whole. It is very important to understand this VITALIZER of KERALA Culture Hence the Theme LEGACY OF NILA/BHARATHAPPUZHZA /PEERAR put forward attained the status of a PIONEERING attempt .As the H/Dof the PG dept and Oriental Research Center(Malayalam),SNGS college Pattambi, Palghat District Kerala state ,it was the responsibility of this researcher to impliment it through the SNGS COLLEGE ,an institution of Great Tradition, Established by PUNNASSEERI SRI NEELAKANTA SARMA IN1888.He started research works in this institution and was the 1st Supervisor of Research of this Institution under the Govt. of Madras. He started the publication of an inter disciplinary RESEARCH JOURNAL in 1888 .In this context it was the right place to begin a TREND SETTER RESEARCH PROJECT. The project and theme placed were before the department for approval. It was approved by ORIENTAL RESEARCH CENTER as its MAJOR investigation theme on 5/1/1995.On 27/1/95 the department approved the proposal to conduct Endowments lectures on the contribution of renowned old students of the department. It is titled as KUTTIKRISHNA MARAR LECTURE, which will be an awareness programmed to focus the attention of people in the region of Nila river valley. It started on16/3/1995.The 1st Lecture was delivered by Prof: Thomas Mathew .On 17/3/1995,the1st Conference of THE PROJECT LEGACY OF NILA was conducted the theme was presented to the institution by well known poet of Kerala Prof: O.N V. Kurup. On 22/8/1995 a working pattern for the PROJECT is formulated and approved by the department. The synopsis of the theme was put forward by NMN under the title The preamble of the legacy of Nila(Prepared on 15/2/1995). An important decision to promote local participation and awareness in the region about the degeneration of the river system was to conduct a poets meet and Environment seminar

once in every year under the title NILA KAVYOTSAVAM .The 1st NILA KAVYOTSAVAM was conducted on 22/3/96 and Kerala Sahitya Academy extended all helps in conducting it.

LEGACY OF NILA

1.Infra structural planning 2.Accademic Planning 3. Seminars, questionnaires, Man power training. 5.Publication 6.Study of habitat, Habitat protection and Sand Mining.

1. Infra structural planning.

(i) RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC COUNCIL:RAC: The cmmittee which consists of all H/D”s of Post Graduate departments BY Name RAC WAS for monitoring the RESEARCHES in the ORC.

(ii) Allthe 16 faculties were apart of the RAC and their presence is for monitoring Interdisciplinary studies

2 Academic Planning

(i) Major intention was to analyze the cultural Evolution of the river valley. Toponymical studies, folklore studies, Archaeological and anthropological investigations survey of manuscripts, Village history analysis Etc were also important aims. In this venture all kinds of help were offered by University of Calicut Dept of Archaelogy and UGC

(ii) The traditional way of research was to be Re-structured to study the cultural segments .MSS study and toponymical study proved that village history is a major area avoided by all scholars. Thus a programmed to prepare an exhaustive historiography also was included in the Project. Only the sharing of local knowledge can effectively do this. The interaction between LITTLE CULTURE and GREAT CULTURE is to be analyzed on segmental basis FIELDS, FAMILIES, TATTAKAMS, TARA, KARA, VILLAGE etc. are such segments. History and culture etc are to be viewed as some resultant force related to Centripetal and Centrifugal forces of various factors.

(iii) FOR SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE it was necessary to avoid the existing under evaluation of local knowledge shared by common villagers .As noted earlier the scientific understanding of habitat, fertility and nature of soil, knowledge about seasons ,and such enormous field of areas of knowledge related to LIFE is seen highly neglected by the UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS .Only thing done by ACCADEMISIANS is that they usually accept villagers as INFORMENTS. This is not the way of sharing knowledge. The local people are to be given space to participate in discussions with the academicians and they are to be given proper training in fieldwork systematically .The are to be given proper input to understand details of cultural factors in

MICRO level. A Common forum for such discussions was also envisaged in the FUNCTIONING OF ORC. Monthly or weekly discussions were planned .All those who

are ready to do collection of data through field work were supplied with model Questionnaire and they were given work shop training in collecting source materials for studying cultural factors. The questionnaire was "MALAYALANTE VAZHIYATAYALANGAL". This was released and more than 50 delegates were given the training to prepare CULTURAL REGISTERS OF THEIR NATIVE VILLAGE . Questionnaire was a book let. This was also submitted to The State gazetteers for publication in 2002. AS already pointed out "A working model System for village study -"was also submitted to The State gazetteers on 20/10/1999. A model summary Questionnaire was also included in it. STATE GAZETTEERS was re- structured as KERALA COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH and they conducted a Work shop to prepare PANCHAYATH GAZETTEERS on 8th and 9th of FEB:2000 and this researcher was also participated in the workshop .However KCHR Presented this type of village history investigation as their own intellectual innovation .Later when they published VANIYAMKULAM VIJNANIYAM they failed to acknowledge the work conducted as a part of LEGACY OF NILA (1995-2001) or TOPONOMICAL STUDY OF VILLAGES in CALICUT .As noted earlier the work on CALICUT is the pioneering one and trendsetter in the study of local history. It brought out micro cultural study of more than 200 villages in the taluk. (1975-1988) The preparation of Vaaniyam kulam Vijnaniyam was a project of the Vaaniyam kulam Panchayath. The work was monitored by the NMN in the lines of Legacy of NILA and CALICUT Studies The work was headed in the Academic side by UGC NILA PROJECT. The infra structural modulation was done by P.K.Sivadas. All assistance and support was given by the Panchayat. VANIYAMKULAM PANCHAYAT Started the work in 1997. The major impact of NILA RIVER VALLEY STUDIES was reflected at Vaniyamkulam. The Panchayath Started their work on 9/8/97. KCHR planned the Panchayath Gazetteer only on 20/10/99 when this researcher presented a proposal. They conducted a workshop only on 8/2/2000. The seminars, distribution of questionnaire for field work and man power training, NILA poets meet, Endowment lectures Etc produced great DYNAMISM in Focusing studies based on VILLAGES. KCHR was the publisher of VANIYAMKULAM VIJNANIYAM. The details of methodology in cultural studies of villages with special reference to Vaniyamkulam given in the MSS as the introductory to the volume was not included in it by KCHR. At any rate KCHR was bound to give the reason for eliminating such an introduction . They were bound to intimate the matter to the Panchayath or to the Co-Ordinator or to the Chief Investigator. No intimation was given .

3. Seminars, Questionnaires, Manpower training

It was necessary to evaluate earlier works done to make further investigations. Thus a National seminar on various aspects was conducted with the Financial assistance of Govt. of Kerala was conducted in FEB 1997. The seminar and the Oriental Research Center was inaugurated by sri K.R.Narayanan, Hon'ble Vice President of India. More than 80 research papers were presented .The details are given in NILA Studies.

This seminar generated POPULAR AWARENESS. Thus it was able to do the river valley studies with the PEOPLES PARTICIPATION. An exhaustive Questionnaire was published and libraries, etc conducted Seminars/workshops Etc. The Unique outcome was VAANIYAMKULAM PANCHAYATH GAZETTEERS and RESEARCH

Training attained by VILLAGERS. Thus it is proved beyond doubt that CULTURAL RESEARCH is a kind of SOCIAL ACTIVISM.

4.Habitat study-Impact of habitat on cultural Evolution-Protection of habitat- Sand Mining. Habitat and Culture are inter-related. Thus CULTURAL STUDY IS to BE STARTED FROM A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING of HABITAT. This principle is clearly proved in the study of Calicut .The Equation
TOPOGRAPHY/GEOGRAPHY∝RESOURCES-
∝EVOLUTION OF SETTLEMENTS∝ URBANISATION is the basic nature observed.

The habitat of a river valley is thus studied for the 1st time based on cultural evolution. The study was conducted with the help of a professional Hydrologist Sri.K.K.NAIR. A Project for SAND MINING IS also prepared to protect the River System. This is the 1st of it's kind in India. It is eco friendly and will never damage the natural situations of the River System.