

CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES

IN THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

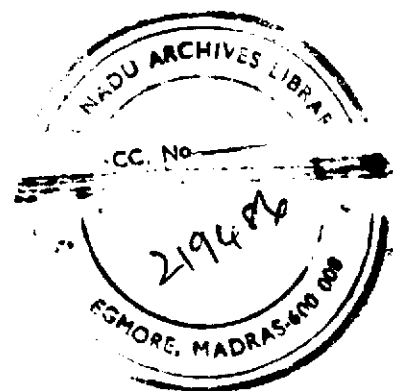
SECOND EDITION.



MADRAS
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS

1923

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CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

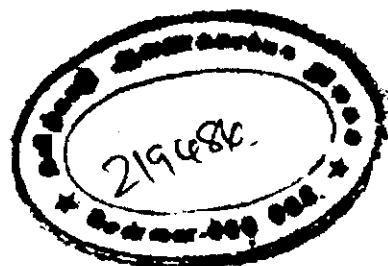
TRAVANCORE.

The Country.—Travancore, the largest of the States in political relationship with the Government of Madras, lies in the extreme south-west of the Indian Peninsula, Cape Comorin lying just within the south-eastern limits of the State. It forms a narrow strip of country 174 miles at its greatest length and from 75 to 40 miles wide, bounded on the east by the lofty range of the Western Ghats which run down through forests and fertile country to a chain of backwaters fringing the Indian Ocean. Its population in 1921 was 4,006,062 and the total revenue of the State for 1920-21 was Rs. 1,92,40,700.

History.—Originally included in the ancient West Coast Kingdom of Kērala, Travancore is claimed to have had an uninterrupted succession of Hindu sovereigns from remote antiquity. Reclaimed, according to tradition, from the sea by Parasurama, an avatar of Vishnu, the whole of the West Coast is said to have been colonised by Brahmans and to have been ruled by them until, on the failure of various governmental systems, rulers called Perumals were brought in from outside to hold sway for periods of twelve years each.

About the first half of the ninth century A.D. Cheraman Perumāl, the last of these chiefs, is said to have divided the country among his relations and to have proceeded to Mecca. Doubt has been thrown on this tradition and indeed all that can be said for the next two centuries is that Travancore, with other West Coast States, came under direct Chola influence and was later successively invaded first by the Pandyas of Madura in the thirteenth century and then in 1534 and 1544 by two kings of Vijayanagar. Up to the tenth century at least Travancore was merely part of the larger organization of Kērala. Below the suzerain power were a number of chieftains, or princes, of *nads*, among whom were the well-known families of Venad (Travancore), Ernad, Valluvanad and Nēdūmparaiyanad (Palghat). But nothing can be stated definitely about the princes of Venad till the twelfth century A.D. Traces exist towards the close of that century of "eighteen districts" as comprising Venad and it is possible that the eighteen "Valanjiyars" in charge of them formed a class analogous to feudal barons. In any case there is little doubt that Venad itself was subdivided into a number of small chieftainships and inscriptions suggest that two or more kings of the same dynasty ruled simultaneously.

After the battle of Talikota on the Kistna river in 1565, in which the Vijayanagar dynasty was completely crushed, Travancore became feudatory to the Naik kings of Madura. It was at this time a congeries of petty chieftainships, the central power having been seriously weakened by the encroachments of the notorious Ettuvittil Pillamārs, a caste of usurping landlords. Confusion reigned till the accession of Mārtanda Varma (1729 A.D.), who, with his successor Rāma Varma (1758 A.D.), was the founder of the modern Travancore State. He conquered and annexed three principalities and set himself to put down with a strong hand the disloyal elements in the State, a conspiracy of the Ettuvittil Pillamārs being discovered and their power broken. His successor, Rāma Varma, completed the subjugation of the remaining chiefs and Travancore

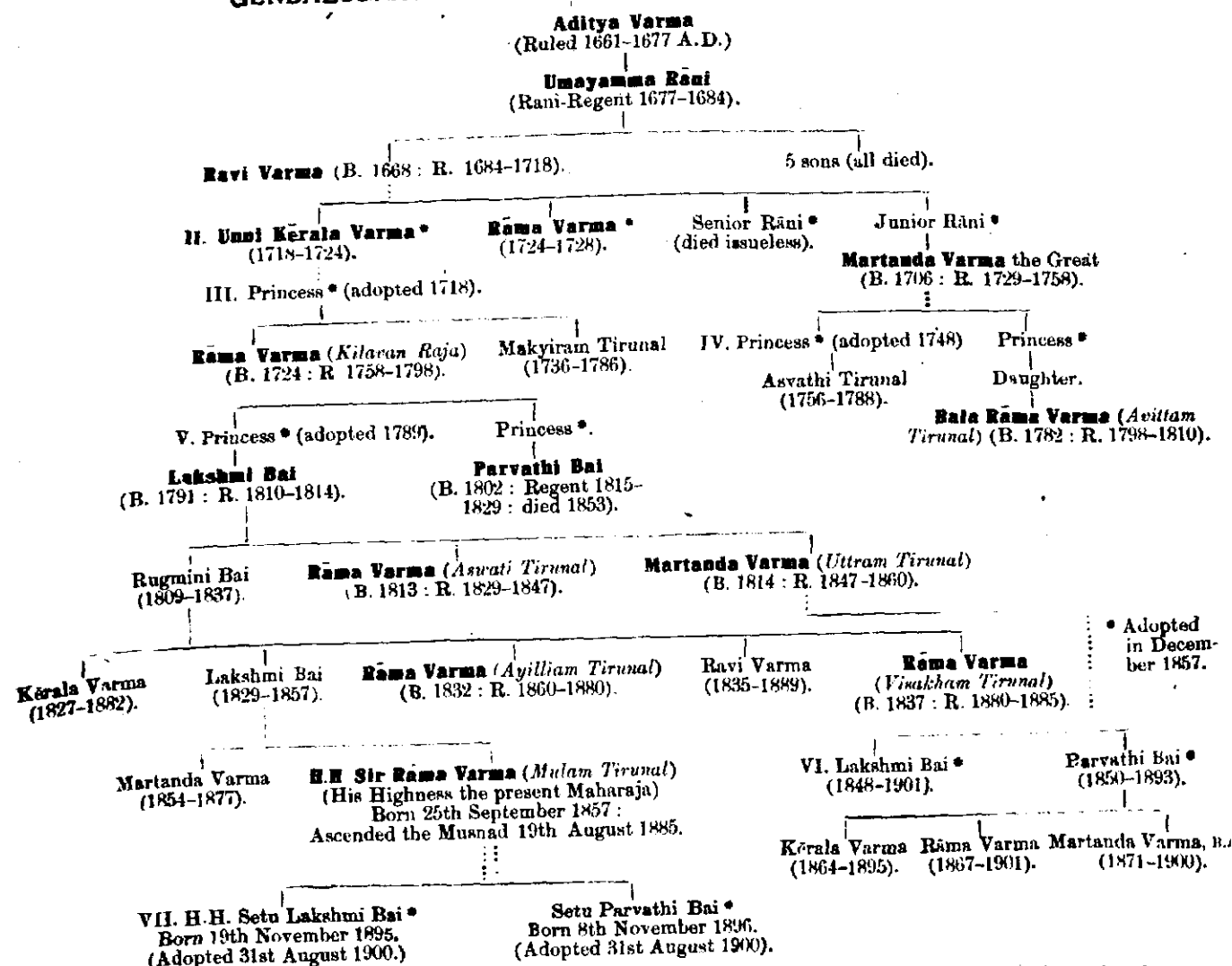


became sufficiently consolidated to offer resistance to the threats of Haidar Ali. In 1778 free passage was granted to British Troops on their way to attack Haidar's base at Mahé and the connexion of Travancore with the British began. A treaty with them in 1788 was followed by another in 1795 by which the Rāja engaged to pay an annual subsidy adequate to maintain a force of sepoys with guns, receiving in return protection against all aggressors by sea or land. An insurrection was raised in 1808 with the object of subverting British influence, but it was easily suppressed and in the following year a new treaty was concluded. By it the subsidy was increased and the Rāja bound himself to allow the British Government to assume the direct management of the State in case of failure to pay the subsidy; to pay at all times the utmost attention to the advice of the British Government; to hold no communication with any foreign State; and to permit no foreigner to remain within his territories without the previous sanction of the British Government.

The Chief.—The present Chief is His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rāma Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapathi Manney Sultan Mahārāja Rāja Rāma Rāja Bahadur Shamsheer Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., who was born on the 25th September 1857 and succeeded his uncle in 1885. He is highly educated and is a man of great ability as a statesman.

The appended genealogical tree shows his descent from the Rāja Aditya Varmā :—

GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE TRAVANCORE RULING HOUSE.



N.B.—The star mark denotes adoptions into the Ruling House; the Roman numerals indicate the order of adoptions; vertical single-dotted lines show nieces, and double-dotted lines, grandnieces.

The family follows the *Marumakkatayam* law common on the Malabar Coast, that is to say, the succession is in the female line and the children of the Chief are not in the line of succession. So long as there are any males in the line of succession (through females) from the person regarded as the common ancestress, they succeed, in order of age, before females; and if there are no females in the line, it becomes necessary to adopt, in order to continue the succession. It is usual in these circumstances to adopt two females, but one occasion is on record on which two females and two males were adopted. Adoptions have become necessary on three occasions in more or less recent times. In 1789, besides the ruling Mahārāja and the heir-apparent (who ascended the *musnad* in 1798 as His Highness the Mahārāja Bāla Rāma Varma) there were no representatives, male or female, to carry on the family, and two rānis were adopted, the senior of whom had two daughters. The elder of these gave birth to a daughter (Rugmini Bāi) in 1809, the year in which the Mahārāja Bāla Rāma Varma died, but from that year until 1813, when the same Rāni gave birth to a son, there was no Mahārāja and the *musnad* was occupied by the Rāni. Her two sons, Rāma Varma and Martanda Varma, occupied it from 1813 till 1846 and from 1846 till 1860, and the last named was succeeded in turn by Ayilliam Tirunāl Rāma Varma, and Visākham Tirunāl Rāma Varma, two of the four sons of his sister Rugmini Bāi; and Rugmini Bāi had also a daughter Lakshmi Bāi, whose son, His Highness the present Mahārāja, succeeded his uncle in 1885. Lakshmi Bāi died soon after His Highness's birth in 1857 and on her death there were again no female members in the family to carry on the succession and two rānis were adopted. The senior of these had no issue and the junior, though she had four sons (all of whom died at a comparatively early age) had no daughters and it became necessary again in 1900 to adopt two rānis, who are the present Senior and Junior Rānis.

So far as is known, all the rānis adopted have been taken from one family, known as the Kōlathunād or Kolāttiri family, whose original seat was in British Malabar; but five branches of the family, called respectively the Māvēlikara, Ennakād, Prāyikara, Mariapalli and Aranmula families, have settled in Travancore, and the last two adoptions have been from the Māvēlikara branch.

The Mahārāja of Travancore is supposed to take his consort from one of four recognized Nayar families, which are distinguished by the title "Amma Vidu." They are the Vadassēri Amma Vidu, the Arumana Amma Vidu, the Nagercoil Amma Vidu and the Thiruvattār Amma Vidu. It occasionally happens that a Mahārāja wishes to take as his consort a lady from some other family but she is then generally adopted into one of these four.

Consorts for the female members or rānis of the ruling family are selected from the two families of Kōil Tampurāns of Kilimānūr and Changanācherry, the latter of which is sub-divided into Changanācherry, Anantapuram, Chemprōl, Cherukol, Grāmam, Karanama, Paliyakara, Pallam and Vadakkēmatom branches. Their original settlement was at Beypore in British Malabar and they are still regarded as belonging to Kōvilakams in Malabar (Thattāri and Aliyakōttu). The consort of Her Highness the present Senior Rāni belongs to the Anantapuram branch of the Changanācherry family and the consort of the Junior Rāni to the Kilimānūr family. These families and the four from which the consorts of the Mahārājas are taken are regarded as the chief aristocracy of the State.

The present Senior Rāni is Her Highness Rāni Sethu Lakshmi Bai. She and the present Junior Rāni Rāni Sethu Parvathi Bai belong to the Māvēlikara family and were adopted by Her Highness the late Senior Rāni, His Highness's sister, with the consent of the Mahārāja into the ruling family in 1900. They were born in 1895 and 1896 respectively. They are both married, the Senior Rāni to Rāma Varma, Kōil Tampurān

and the Junior to Ravi Varma, B.A., Cochu Kōil Tampurān. The Junior Rāni gave birth on the 7th November 1912 to a son **Rāma Varma** who is the heir-apparent to the Mahārājā. A second son was born to the Junior Rāni on 22nd March 1922.

The Mahārāja's eldest son is **Sri Narayanan Tampl** by the first wife. He has also a son, **Sri Velayudhan Tampl** by his present wife.

Leading families.—Although, as has been seen, the consolidation of Travancore was effected at the expense of the power of the smaller chiefs, there still remain three families whose status approximates to that of a hereditary zamindar in the Madras Presidency.

The Kōil Tampurāns of Kilimānūr have been closely connected with the ruling family for more than two centuries. The estate, which comprises an area of 17 square miles, with a population of 3,000, was originally forfeited to Travancore during the troubles with the Ettuvittil Pillamārs. The Kilimānūr Kōil Tampurāns came south from Parappanād in Malabar and the great Mārtānda Varma and his successor were the issue of an alliance of the Travancore family with their house. From Unni Kērala Varma (1718–1724 A.D.) to the Rāni-Regent, Pārvati Bāi (1815–1829 A.D.), all the Travancore rulers are connected with this house. The present "Chief" is the Ravi Varma Kōil Tampurān, born on 4th June 1850.

The Poonjat "chief" belongs, according to tradition, to an ancient offshoot of the Pandya dynasty of kings who left Madura, their capital, and sought refuge in the Western Ghats some five or six centuries ago. They purchased a tract of land, called Poonjar from a Rāja of Thekkumkūr and, on the annexation to Travancore by Mārtānda Varma of the territories of Thekkumkūr, the Poonjar Rāja, who had rendered valuable assistance, came to be considered a subject ally of the Mahārāja. But the exact relation was never very clear and it became necessary to appoint a commission to inquire into the history of the family's possessions. The present head of the family is the **Pururattati Nal Goda Varma Rāja**, born in 1851.

Edapally is a petty principality belonging to a Nambūdiri Brahman of rank who exercises wide spiritual, but limited temporal, power. The estate is divided into two parts and is situated close to the Travancore frontier between Alwāye and Tripunnithura. The "chief" is regarded as the family priest of the Travancore ruling family and is at present the **Attam Nal Subrahmanya Rāja**, born in 1881.

COCHIN.

The Country.—Cochin State is bounded on the north and east by the British districts of Malabar and Coimbatore, on the south by Travancore and on the west by the Arabian sea. The total area of the Cochin State is 1,417½ square miles, of which 605 square miles are covered by forests. The population, according to the census of 1921, is 979,019.

History.—The early history of Cochin is legendary, but it can be said with certainty that the State now known by that name formed part of the ancient kingdom of Kērala, to which also belonged the neighbouring State of Travancore.

The early history of the two States is the history of the kingdom of Kērala, and Cochin is supposed to have come into existence as a separate kingdom only in the ninth century, shortly after the abdication of the last Perumal of Malabar. Between the ninth and fourteenth centuries the kingdom of Kērala was subjected to constant invasion and Calicut and Cochin gradually emerged from the number of smaller Malabar States as the two most important States on the West Coast, waging frequent war with each other. They had become the respective heads of two of the circles into which the Brahman colonists divided their 64 villages and the antagonism, the origin of which is now forgotten, continued for centuries through the period of the Portuguese and Dutch influence up to the time when British supremacy asserted itself in Southern India.

At the time of the landing of the Portuguese at Calicut in 1498 the Zāmorin of Calicut had succeeded in establishing a suzerainty over Cochin, with the result that, when the Portuguese landed at Cochin, they were welcomed by the Rāja as a means by which he might throw off the Zāmorin's suzerainty. The inevitable result followed: for the first 50 years after the advent of the Portuguese the history of Cochin and Calicut is a record of incessant war between Cochin aided by the Portuguese and the Zāmorin aided by the Moors. In the course of these wars Cochin regained her independence.

The Dutch East India Company meanwhile had begun trading with India and having come into conflict with the Portuguese had obtained a footing in India and in Ceylon. In 1658 they had captured all the Portuguese possessions in Ceylon and in 1661 set out to capture their Indian possessions. Aided by the Zāmorin, the Rāja of Crānganur and some of the Cochin Rāja's family, they seized Ayacōtta and the fort at Pallipuram. Crānganur fort and Muttānchērri fell into their hands in the following year and after several desperate attempts the town of Cochin was taken by storm in 1663 and became henceforth the head-quarters of the Dutch on the Malabar coast. By a treaty concluded in March 1663 the Dutch in return for certain trade privileges undertook to protect Cochin State from foreign aggression. The rise to power of the neighbouring State of Travancore during the first half of the eighteenth century introduced a new factor into Cochin politics and the success of the Travancore arms under DeLannoy in the subjection of petty chiefs right up to the Cochin frontier seriously alarmed the ruler of that State. In response to a prayer for help by some of the Chiefs who were being overrun by Travancore, Cochin furnished an army which was defeated with great loss at Ambalapuzha. By the treaty concluded in 1757, Cochin agreed to cede the territories conquered and occupied by Travancore and to sell to her all but a fraction of the pepper grown in the country. Meanwhile Cochin was being so hard pressed by the Zāmorin's forces on

the north that she lost all her territory with the exception of portions of the Kanayanur-Cochin and Trichur taluks. Her systematic oppression of her chiefs had alienated their sympathies and with the exception of the Paliyat Achan and a handful of others all her nobles had thrown in their lot with the Zamorin. In her extremity Cochin appealed to Travancore for help and a short and decisive campaign conducted by DeLannoy ended in the expulsion of the Zamorin's troops.

The rapid rise of Travancore to power in the middle of the eighteenth century under Raja Martanda Varma proved an object lesson to Cochin, who now realized that her weakness was due to the diffusion of power among a number of hereditary chiefs. In the treaty of 1761 a condition was inserted by which Travancore agreed to assist Cochin to put down the power of the chiefs in general and to punish the traitorous among them in particular. All administrative powers were first taken away from the chiefs and vested in officers appointed by the king and the recalcitrant chiefs were then dealt with one by one, some being deprived of all their possessions and reduced to beggary, others being compelled to relinquish portions of their estates. A new system now replaced the feudal system: the State was divided into ten taluks administered by the Raja's officers and a standing army was organized.

The Raja of Cochin agreed in 1776 to secure immunity from invasion by the payment to Haidar 'Ali of a nuzzer of 100,000 pagodas and a yearly tribute of 30,000 pagodas and 4 elephants. Tipu, Haidar 'Ali's successor, had long harboured designs on Travancore and seized on the sale of Cochin, Ayacotta and Cranganur by the Dutch to Travancore as a pretext for putting his schemes into execution. At the head of a large army he marched through Cochin and after a resistance which extended over three months occupied several points in Travancore territory. He was then hastily recalled by the news that the English had declared war against him and were marching on Seringapatam. The Raja of Cochin then openly joined the English and by a treaty signed in 1791 agreed to become tributary to the Honourable East India Company. He was placed in possession in 1790 of the districts which had been wrongfully wrested from him by Tipu and undertook to pay tribute from that date on the following scale: for the first year Rs. 70,000; the second year Rs. 80,000; the third year Rs. 90,000; the fourth year and ever after Rs. 1,00,000. In return for his acknowledgment of English sovereignty the Company undertook to afford him "that protection which it always gave to their faithful tributaries and allies."

In 1808 an attempt was made to murder the British Resident and simultaneously an attack was made on the subsidiary force stationed at Quilon. Both enterprises proved unsuccessful and, while it was recognized that the Raja himself was not implicated, it was deemed advisable to modify the treaty of 1791. A new treaty was accordingly concluded in 1809 by which the Raja agreed to pay an additional annual subsidy of Rs. 1,76,037, being the estimated cost of a battalion of Indian infantry.

He also agreed to pay at all times the utmost attention to such advice as the English Government might think it necessary to offer in matters connected with the internal administration of the State. In 1818 the amount of subsidy was reduced to 2 lakhs, at which figure it still stands.

Succession in the ruling family follows the ordinary *Marumakkatayam* system. The essential features of this system, which is common to Malabar, Cochin and Travancore, are that inheritance is through the female line and that the family, or tarwad, consists of all the descendants of a common ancestress in the female line. A man's heirs are his sister's children; his own wife and children have no legal claim to his property.

The Chief.—The title of "Maharaja" was conferred on the chief on the 1st January 1921 and the present ruler is His Highness Maharaja Sri Sir Rama Varma, G.C.I.E. He was born on the 6th October 1858 and ascended the musnad on the abdication of his cousin on the

7th December 1914. As Maharaja of Cochin he is entitled to a salute of 17 guns. The heir-apparent is Elaya Raja Rama Varma. He was born in 1862 and is the son of Manku Tampuran, who was a sister of the maternal grandmother of the present Maharaja. His title is Elaya Raja. The statements appended give the names of the predecessors of the present ruler and his immediate relations.

Leading Families.—The principality of Cranganur is subject to Cochin and pays a yearly tribute of Rs. 6,900. Area 17½ square miles. Population 34,808. It is financially autonomous, but in all other respects it is administered as an integral part of the State. The Chiefs of Cranganur have been feudatory sometimes to the Zamorin of Calicut and sometimes to the Raja of Cochin. Prior to the advent of the Portuguese it was subject to Cochin, but at the time of their arrival it had come under the Zamorin. In 1534 it came under the protection of the Portuguese and it so continued till 1662 when it was captured by the Dutch, assisted by the Zamorin and the Raja of Cranganur. During the greater part of the Dutch period it remained under the protection of the Netherlands East India Company. Haidar treated it as a feudatory of Cochin and levied tribute from it through the latter. The Malabar Joint Commission appointed after the treaty of 1791 adjudged the principality to be feudatory to Cochin and it has so remained ever since. The present Chief, Rama Varma, is a Kshatriya and was born in 1834.

The Paliyat Achans are Nayars. In olden days the Paliyat Achans were vassals of the Villarvattat Raja who was a feudatory of Cochin. From early in the seventeenth century until 1808 the Paliyat Achans were the hereditary Prime Ministers of the State. They are now merely very high land-owners and live at Chennamangalam, Cochin-Kanayanur taluk. The present head of the family is Paliyat Rama Vallia Achan *alias* Raman Koni, born in 1861, who became head of the family in April 1915.

Raman Kunju Kartha of Cheranallur, also known as the Cheranallur Kaimal, is a Nayar and was born in 1850. The family consisted of petty chieftains. It has no political importance now, but is still one of the richest families in the State.

Narayana Kartha of Changarankota is a Nayar and was born in 1857. He is well read in Malayalam. He is now a large land-holder, paying an assessment of Rs. 3,000 to the State, but possesses no political importance.

Kunjan Raja, a Nambidi by caste, was born in 1844. The head of the family was one of the three chiefs who in former days ruled the Talapilli taluk and were known collectively as the Talapilli Rajas. The family has now no political importance, but pays Rs. 7,000 assessment to Cochin and Rs. 3,000 to the British Government.

Aryan Sreekandam Raja, born in 1861, is a Nambidi and the head of an old family of ruling chiefs known in former times as the Manckulam Rajas (Talapilli taluk). He pays an assessment of Rs. 6,000 to the Cochin State and Rs. 4,000 to the British Government. The family receives an allowance of Rs. 457 a year from the latter through the Zamorin of Calicut.

LIST OF RĀJAS OF COCHIN.

Vēerakērala Varma, son of a sister of Cheraman Perumāl by Perim-padappu Nambūdiri, is supposed to have been the first ruler of Cochin.

His successors are unknown till 1500 A.D. at the end of which year (24th December 1500), the Portuguese Admiral Alvarez Cabral arrived in Cochin. When Cabral arrived, Gōda Varma Kōil Tirumalpād, called Tirumumpava by the Portuguese, was the Rāja of Cochin. At some period not known, the family became divided into five Tāvazhis or branches, the Mutta, the Elaya, the Palluruthi, the Madathumkil or Muringūr and the Chāzhur Tāvazhis. By the right of succession to the musnad which is common to all, the eldest male member in the female line of all the branches taken together becomes the ruling Rāja.

Name.	Date of death.		Remarks.
	Malayalam.	English.	
Unni Rāma Kōil Tirumalpād <i>alias</i> Rāma Varma, nephew of Gōda Varma of the Elaya Tāvazhi.	712 M.E.	1537 A.D.	He was appointed regent at first in 1505, and was installed as Rāja of Cochin by Don Francisco Almeida in 1505, though his uncle lived up to the year 1510 A.D.
Vēerakērala Varma Elaya Tāvazhi.	736 "	1561 "	
Gōda Varma Elaya Tāvazhi.	740 "	1565 "	
Unknown—Elaya Tāvazhi.	740 "	1565 "	
Unknown—do.	776 "	1601 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	790 "	1615 "	
Ravi Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	800 "	1624 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	810 "	1635 "	Early in his rule the heir-apparent of the Elaya Tāvazhi branch is said to have been recognized as heir of the Muringūr branch on the request of the aged chief of that branch as the family was about to become extinct.
Gōda Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	820 "	1645 "	During his administration some princes were adopted from all the surviving collateral branches, Palluruthi, Chāzhur and Mutta Tāvazhis, the Muringūr Tāvazhi having, as said above, got merged in the Elaya Tāvazhi.
Unknown—Elaya Tāvazhi.	821 "	1646 "	
Vēera Rayira Palluruthi Tāvazhi.	825 "	1650 "	He was an adoptee from the Palluruthi branch, and the Portuguese placed him on the <i>gadi</i> in preference to the Mutta Tāvazhi Princes.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	831 "	1656 "	He was adopted from the Chāzhur branch.
Rāni Gangadhara Mahā Lakshmi (Elaya Tāvazhi).	833 "	1658 "	Adopted four Tampurāns from the family of Tanur or Vettat Rāja in 1658. She was the last surviving member of the Elaya Tāvazhi branch.

Name.	Date of death.		Remarks.
	Malayalam.	English.	
Rāma Varma (Vettat) ...	837 M.E.	1662 A.D.	He was the eldest of the adoptees from Vettat. He and his two immediate brothers died at Mattancherri in the battle with the Dutch.
Gōda Varma ...	838 "	1663 "	He was the last surviving member of the adoptees from Vettat. He was ousted by the Dutch in favour of the Mutta Tāvazhi Rāja.
Vēerakērala Varma (Mutta Tāvazhi).	862 "	1687 "	This Tampurān accompanied the Mutta Tāvazhi Rāja, when the latter went over to Colombo to induce the Dutch to resume their attack of the Portuguese in Cochin. But the Mutta Tāvazhi Rāja died on board the ship on her way to Cochin, bequeathing the State to Vēerakērala Varma.
Rāma Varma (nephew of the above).	868 "	1693 "	
Rāma Varma (Mutta Tāvazhi).	873 "	1698 "	This Rāma Varma of the Mutta Tāvazhi being now the only surviving member of the ruling family some (six) males and (four) females were adopted from the Chāzhur branch in 1689.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	897 "	1722 "	An adoptee from the Chāzhur branch.
Ravi Varma (nephew of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	906 "	1731 "	
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	921 "	1746 "	During his administration Cochin for the first time fought against Travancore as an ally of the Dutch.
Vēerakērala Varma (brother of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	925 "	1750 "	
Rāma Varma (nephew of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	935 "	1760 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	951 "	1775 "	During his administration, the terms of friendship and alliance between Travancore and Cochin provisionally agreed to in the previous administration were finally accepted at the end of 1761 (937 M.E.).
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	965 "	1790 "	During his administration, Cochin became tributary to Haidar (1776).
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	981 "	1805 "	Popularly known as Saktan (Powerful) Tampurān. During his administration the first treaty with the English was concluded in 1791.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	984 "	1809 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	1003 "	1828 "	
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	1013 "	1838 "	
Rāma Varma ...	1019 "	1844 "	The relationship of the following Rājas is exhibited in the appended genealogical tree.
Rāma Varma ...	1026 "	1851 "	
Vēerakērala Varma ...	1028 "	1853 "	
Ravi Varma ...	1039 "	1864 "	
Sir Rāma Varma ...	1063 "	1888 "	
Rāja Sir Vēera Kērala Varma.	1070 "	1895 "	
His Highness Rāja Sir Rāma Varma, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	...	...	Abdicated on 7th December 1914.
His Highness Mahārāja Sri Sir Rāma Varma, G.C.I.E.	...	...	Present Ruler.

Ikkavu Tampurān (died as senior Rāni in M)

Manku Tampurān (died as senior Rāni in 1065 M.E.).
1896 A.D.

Kunjipilla Tampurān (died as junior Rāni).

R. S. Rāma Varma
(died as Rāja in 1063 M.E.).
1898 A.D.

Kunjipilla
Tampurān
(present
senior Rāni).

Valiakavu
Tampurān.

M. S. Vēera Kerala Varma
(died as Rāja in 1071 M.E.).
1895 A.D.

Rāma
Varma
(died).

Kerala
Varma
(died).

Ravi Varma
(died).

Rāma Varma
(died).

Valia Ikkavu Tampurān
(the present junior Rāni).

Ikku
Tampurān.

Rāma Varma (the present
Ruler ascended the Musnad,
7th Dec. 1914).

Kerala
Varma (4th
Tampurān)

Ravi Varma
(5th
Tampurān).

Kunjipilla
Tampurān
(died).

Kunjikavu
Tampurān.

Kerala
Varma (14th
Tampurān).

Manku
Tampurān

Ikkavu
Tampurān.

Kavu
Tampurān.

Kunjipilla
Tampurān.

Rāma Varma
(died).

Kerala
Varma
(8th
Tampurān).

Rāma
Varma
(died).

Kerala
Varma (20th
Tampurān).

One more
daughter
died.

Rāma
Varma
(died).

Kerala
Varma, B.A.
(9th
Tampurān).

Ravi Varma,
B.A., B.L.
(15th
Tampurān).

Subhadra
Tampurān. Ts

Manku
Tampurān.

Kavu
Tampurān.

Ikkavu
Tampurān.

Rāma Varma
(died).

Kerala
Varma, B.A.
(16th
Tampurān).

Kunjipilla
Tampurān.
Three sons.

Two sons and
one daughter.
One daughter.

Five sons and
one daughter.

Three sons and
two daughters.

Three sons
and three
daughters.

Rāma Varma
(died).

Ikkavu
Tampurān.

Kerala
Varma
(19th
Tampurān).

Ammini
Tampurān.

Rāma Varma
(30th
Tampurān).

Rāma Varma and two more sons and
two daughters (36th Tampurān).

One son and
one daughter.

Rāma
Varma, B.A.
(13th
Tampurān).

Kerala
Varma (17th
Tampurān).

Kunjipilla
Tampurān.

Kunjikavu
Tampurān
(died).

Rāma Varma
(25th
Tampurān).

Ammini
Tampurān.

Thamkkam
Tampurān.

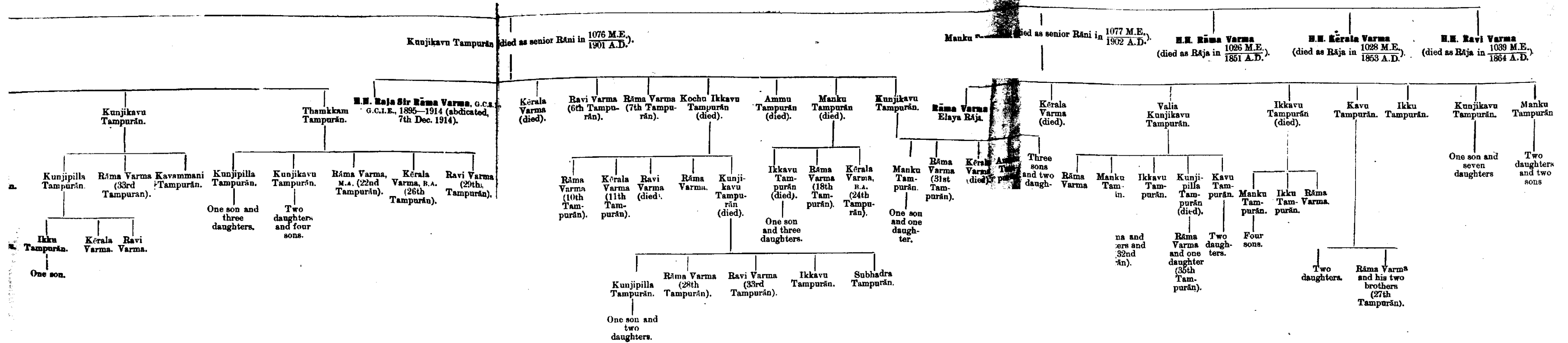
Four sons and
three daughters.

Three daughters
and one son.

One son and
one daughter.

PART II.

A.D.)

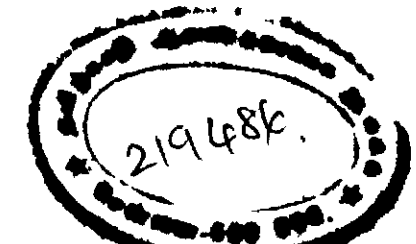


PUDUKKÖTTAI

The Country.—The Pudukkōttai State lies on the eastern side of the Madras Presidency, between 10° 7' and 10° 44' N. and 78° 25' and 79° 12' E. and is bounded on the north and west by Trichinopoly district, on the south by Rāmnād and Madura, and on the east by Tanjore. It comprises an area of 1,178 square miles. Pudukkōttai resembles in its physical aspects the upland parts of the east coast of the Presidency, and consists for the most part of a plain of somewhat sparsely cultivated dry lands interspersed with a multitude of rainfed tanks. Variety is given by a few small rocky hills most of which are crowned by ancient temples. Four small rivers drain the country from west to east. The climate resembles that of the surrounding districts and is fairly healthy. The annual rainfall averages 35 inches.

History.—Nothing certain is known about the local history of the Pudukkōttai country prior to the seventeenth century. Ancient remains abound in it, but they throw no light upon its fortunes. Like the surrounding tracts, the territory which now makes up the State would seem to have passed at various times from the control of the Cholas to that of the Pandyas and vice versa. In the account given in the Singhalese annals of the war of the Pandya succession in the twelfth century, it is said that the Pandya king Kulasēkhara fled into the hills of "Tondaman" and this is the earliest occasion on which this part of the country can be said to be referred to as a separate entity. At the end of the sixteenth century the direct control of the present Pudukkōttai country seems to have been divided between the Nayakan kings of Madura and Tanjore, the Setupatis of Rāmnād, the zamindars of Marungapuri and Manapparai, and a line of chieftains called the Pallava Rāyas of Pudukkōttai. It was the territory of the last named which formed the real nucleus of the present Pudukkōttai State.

The present ruling family of Pudukkōttai does not come into prominence till the middle of the seventeenth century. There is some doubt about the origin of its power. Tradition has it that Tirumalai Tondaiman was the founder of the family and emigrated from Tirupati or Tirumalai, settling near Pudukkōttai seventeen generations before the middle of the seventeenth century and, by conquest of the Pallava Rāyas in 1639, laying the foundations of the present Pudukkōttai State. The account given in Mr. Nelson's *Madura Country* is perhaps more likely. It relates that "Pallava Rāyan" (evidently the last of the stock) attempted to throw off his allegiance to Rāmnād and to place himself under the protection of Tanjore; and that he was in consequence removed by the Setupati. The latter then placed on the throne Raghunatha Tondaiman, whose sister he had married. About 1686 the king of Madura attacked Rāmnād and the latter obtained the assistance of the Tanjore king, one of the conditions being that Pudukkōttai should be surrendered to Tanjore for twelve years. The allies were successful in repelling the invasion of the Madura troops; but in 1698 the king of Tanjore broke his promise to return the ceded country and war accordingly broke out between the former allies. Much of the ceded country was recovered by Rāmnād, but Pudukkōttai remained untaken, and from this time forth seems no longer to have formed a part of the Setupati's dominions. Indeed, about 1730 the Tondaiman inflicted a crushing defeat upon his former overlord at Kavinadu. Nor did Pudukkōttai remain subject to Tanjore, for in 1725 the Tondaiman was allied with Madura against Tanjore in the war of



the Rāmnād succession, and again in 1750 with Tanjore against Rāmnād. Thus the Tondaiman appears to have become an independent chieftain about the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The relations of the Madras Government with the State commenced during the Carnatic wars of the eighteenth century. As early as 1752 the Tondaiman had declared for the Nawab and continued for fifty years loyally to assist him and the English, not only in their wars with Chanda Sahib and the French, but also in their later struggles against Mysore, Tanjore, the Maravans and the poligars of Madura and Tinnevely. Clive, Lawrence and other representatives of the Company repeatedly and emphatically expressed their gratitude for the active and unswerving loyalty of the Tondaiman family in the disturbances of those times.

There exists no formal agreement between the British Government and the State. In 1806, a yearly tribute of one elephant was stipulated for; but this was never insisted upon and was formally remitted in 1836 on the Tondaiman's representing that his family had long been exempt from the payment of tribute to any one. A sanad was granted in 1862 permitting the Rāja and his successors to adopt heirs in accordance with Hindu law and the customs of the race. About 1800 a Political Agent for Pudukkōttai was appointed, who was first the Resident of Tanjore; then from 1841 to 1865, the Collector of Madura; from 1865 to 1874 the Collector of Tanjore; and from 1874 onwards the Collector of Trichinopoly.

The Chief.—The Chief of the Pudukkōttai State is His Highness Sri Brihadambal Das Raja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur, G.C.I.E., born on the 25th November 1875. He is a Sudra of the Kallar tribe—the “Colleries” of the eighteenth century—a freebooting clan, employed as fighting men and also much dreaded by its richer neighbours in adjoining districts. He is the eighth in succession from Raghunātha Tondaiman, the founder of the State, and by birth the grandson of Rāmachandra Tondaiman (the seventh Rāja) by his eldest daughter, but by adoption as heir his son. On 10th August 1915 His Highness was married at Melbourne in Australia to Miss E. M. S. Fink, daughter of Wolfe Fink, Esq., M.A., LL.B., of Melbourne, Victoria, and on 22nd July 1916, a son (Martanda Sydney) was born to them at Sydney, New South Wales. The Rāja was entrusted with the powers of administration in November 1894. He visited England first in 1898 and has since then been a frequent visitor of Europe. As it was considered necessary on account of his health that the Rāja should, for some years to come, spend the greater part of each year in Europe he arranged in March 1909 in consultation with, and with the advice of, Government that the administration should be carried on by a council consisting of an officer of the Indian Civil Service, a Diwan and a Councillor. In 1922, His Highness finally decided to reside permanently out of India and in a proclamation issued on the 23rd October of that year announced that the administration would thenceforward be carried on by a Regent assisted by a Diwan, and that his brother who had until then held the office of Diwan, would be the Regent. The services of the officer of the Indian Civil Service were therefore withdrawn and the Council dissolved.

He enjoys a salute of eleven guns and the style of “Highness.”

Relatives and important families.—The near relations of the Rāja are his natural brothers and sisters and the members of the late Chinna Aranmanai and the “Western Palace” families who became his agnates by the adoption. In 1730, Vijaya Raghunātha Rai Tondaiman, the second ruler of the Tondaiman line, granted jagirs to each of his two brothers, that allotted to Tirumal Rai Tondaiman being called the Chinna Aranmanai Jagir, and that allotted to Rajagopala Tondaiman, the Mel Aranmanai or “Western Palace” Jagir. In 1835, on the death of the second holder, the Chinna Aranmanai Jagir ceased to exist, but in 1849 the late Rāja Rāmachandra Tondaiman regranted the jagir to his brother

Tirumalai Tondaiman. The latter's son, Bālasubrahmanya Raghunātha Tondaiman, succeeded him, but, subsequently to his death, the jagir was again resumed in the year 1904, pensions being granted to the members of the family.

The Mel Aranmanai or “Western Palace” Jagir descended by hereditary succession to the late jagirdar Rādhākṛishna Tondaiman, who fell seriously into debt and heavily encumbered the jagir. It was resumed in consequence in the year 1881, and a pension was granted instead to the ex-jagirdar and his heirs in the male line.

The Rāja's close male relatives are—

Vijaya Raghunātha Dorai Rāja, his eldest brother; at present the Regent of the State.

Bhairava Rāmachandra Dorai Rāja, his second, elder brother; Aid-de-Camp and military Secretary to the Rāja.

Sankaranārāyana Dorai Rāja, a younger brother.

Dakshinamurthi Dorai Rāja, the fourth brother. He is High Court vakil practising at Madura.

Krishnaswāmi Dorai Rāja, the fifth brother.

Bālasubrahmanya Raghunātha Rāmachandra Tondaiman Sahib, eldest son of the late Chinna Aranmanai Jagirdar (who was the first cousin of the present Rāja) by his third wife, the Rāja's eldest sister. He was born about 1886. He married Subbammal Ayi of Sillathoor Zamin, who died on 12th May 1920. He again married Ry. B. K. Ammani Rajayee Avargal, the only sister of the Zamindar of Gandarvakōttai. A daughter was born to him on 2nd December 1921.

Bālasubrahmanya Raghunātha Tirumalai Tondaiman Sahib, Rāmachandra Tondaiman's younger brother. He is unmarried.

Rāmachandra Tondaiman Sahib, grandson of the late Western Palace Jagirdar and a nephew of the present Rāja. He married Mathurambal Ayi (died 17th February 1920); again married Janaki Ayi on 5th September 1920. A daughter was born to him on 5th August 1921 and a son on the 23rd June 1922.

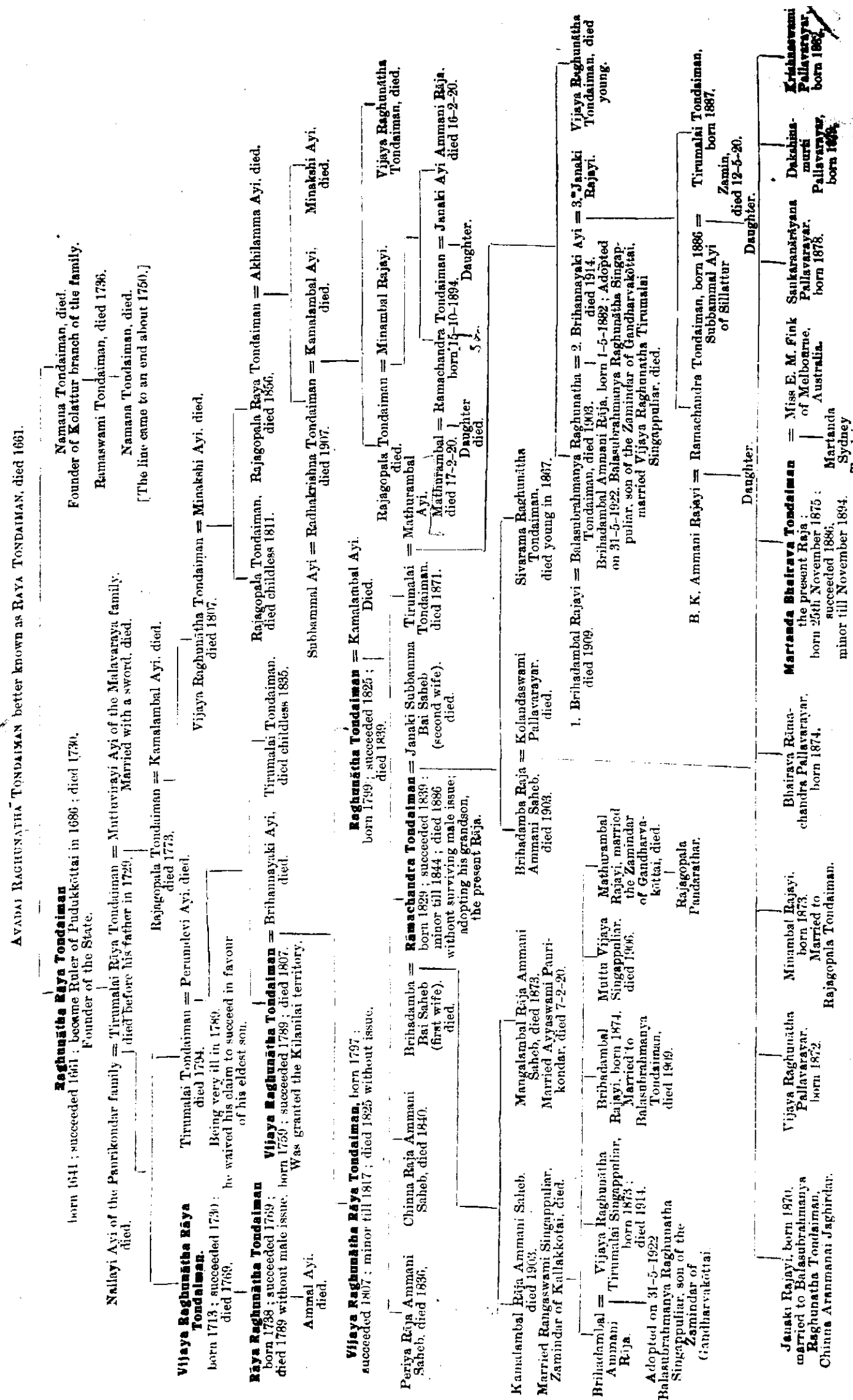
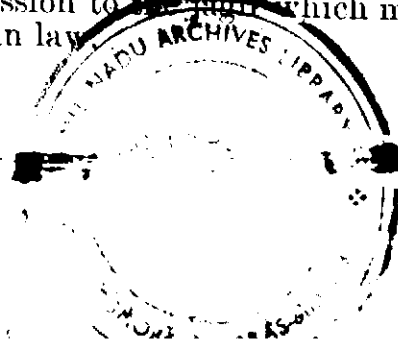
BANGANAPALLE.

The Country.—The Banganapalle State, originally a jagir, lies between 15° 3' and 15° 29' N. and 77° 59' and 78° 22' E. on the tableland of the Southern Deccan within Kurnool district, at a height of about 800 feet above sea-level. It is bounded on the north by the Dhone and Nandyāl taluks of that district, on the east and south by Nandyāl and Koilkuntla, and on the west by Pattikonda and Koilkuntla. The total area is 255 square miles with a population, in 1921, of 36,692. The State consists of two detached portions. The main part is a straggling area beginning at the Rāmpur pass over the Erramala hills on the west and extending eastwards to Banganapalle town, and thence southwards almost parallel to the Kunderu river through a tract of rich black cotton soil. The detached portion consists of three hill villages, comprising an area of about 20 square miles surrounded by part of the Koilkuntla taluk. The country is generally flat and bare. The climate is hot, but healthier than the surrounding portions of the Kurnool district, the annual rainfall averaging about 30 inches.

History.—Banganapalle was originally under the territorial limits of Chola and after that, the Vizianagar Kingdoms.

It fell a prey in turn to the Kings of Bijapur, and to Aurangzeb. Towards the end of the eighteenth century the country fell under the dominion of Mysore and on the death of the Killadar, Husain 'Ali Khān, Tipu conferred the jagir of Banganapalle on the son Ghulam 'Ali Khān. It would appear that, notwithstanding this grant, Tipu immediately afterwards resumed the jagir and expelled Ghulam 'Ali Khān. According to the traditions of the family, Tipu's deputy was defeated in a pitched battle by Ghulam 'Ali Khān and his uncle, Asad 'Ali Khān, about seven years after Ghulam 'Ali Khān's expulsion. In any case, the present family traces its descent from this Ghulam 'Ali Khān who survived his uncle. In 1800, when the Nizām handed over Kurnool and the other Ceded districts to the East India Company in exchange for a subsidiary force to be stationed in his territories, he transferred to the Madras Government his control over Banganapalle, stipulating that the jagir should be continued to Asad 'Ali Khān and Ghulam 'Ali Khān.

At first the British neither levied tribute nor exercised any authority over the jagirdars. The internal Government of the jagir was bad and at times disorder prevailed, the jagirdar being finally driven out. These disturbances induced the British Government to resume the jagir in 1832. At the time they did not consider that they were pledged to the continuance of the jagir, and a proclamation notifying the resumption was issued in 1835, the State being administered by the Madras Government from 1835 to 1848. The stipulation of the Nizām for the continuance of the jagir was, however, brought to notice in 1837, and the Court of Directors decided in the following year that the Nizām's stipulation entitled the holder of the estate to be treated as an hereditary jagirdar. Accordingly in 1848 the jagir was restored to the head of the family, Ghulam Muhammad 'Ali, grandson of Ghulam 'Ali Khān; and, as had been the case before 1831, he was permitted to enjoy the jagir without payment of tribute and to administer its civil and criminal justice within certain restrictions. A sanad conferring these powers was issued in 1849. In 1862 another sanad was granted to him, guaranteeing that the British Government would permit any succession to the jagir which might be legitimate according to the Muhammadan law.



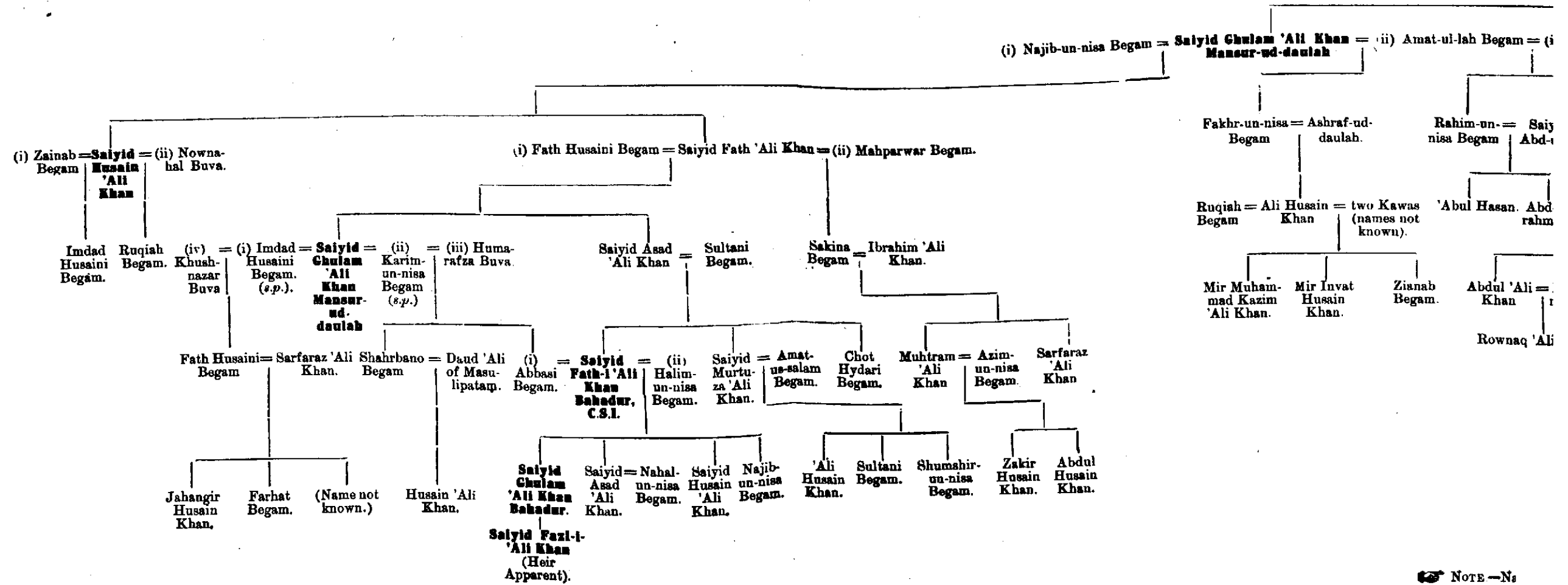
Ghulam Muhammad 'Ali died in 1868, and was succeeded by his nephew Fath-i-'Ali Khān, who received the hereditary title of Nawab in 1876. In consequence of his misgovernment, he was removed in January 1905 from the direct administration of the State, which was placed under the management of an officer of the Indian Civil Service. Fath-i-'Ali Khān died three months later, and was succeeded by his son Saiyid Ghulam 'Ali Khān Bahadur.

The Chief.—Saiyid Ghulam 'Ali Khān Bahadur died on 22nd January 1922 and was succeeded by his eldest son Saiyid Fazle 'Ali Khān Bahadur aged 21 years. Saiyid Fazle 'Ali Khān Bahadur received his education first at Newington, Madras, and then at Mayo College, Ajmere, and there passed the Diploma examination in the year 1921. He was continuing his studies at Mayo College, but, owing to the sudden demise of his father, he had to give up his studies to assume charge of the administration.

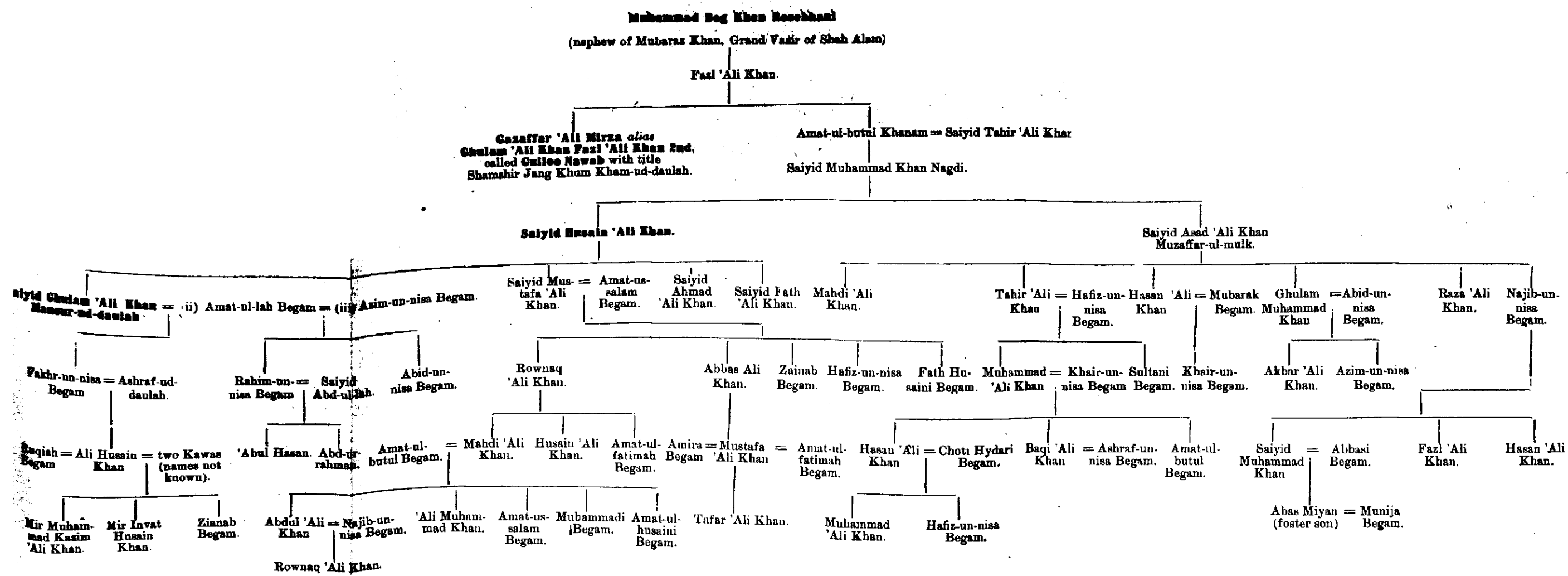
The young Nawab is the first member of the ruling family who has attained some distinction in his educational career. He was formally installed on the gadi of his ancestors on the 6th July 1922 by His Excellency Lord Willingdon, Governor of Madras.

The Nawab has a permanent salute of 9 guns and is a member of the Chamber of Princes at Delhi. The genealogical tree of the Banganapalle family is attached.

Relatives.—Brothers of the Nawab. Mir Inayeth 'Ali Khān and Mir Feteḥ 'Ali Khān are both studying in the Mayo College, Ajmere. Khān Bahadur Mir Asad 'Ali Khān Bahadur, member of the Indian Legislative Assembly, is the uncle of the present Nawab. His other uncle is Mir Hussain 'Ali Khān who resides at Banganapalle.



NOTE — N:



NOTE.—Nawabs are shown in **thick type**.

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SĀNDŪR.

The Country.—Sāndūr is the smallest and least populous of the five Native States in direct political relations with the Government of Madras. It is surrounded by the district of Bellary and lies between 14°58' and 15°14' N. and 76°25' and 76°42' E. It is 161 square miles in area, contains 20 villages and has a population (1921) of 11,665. It consists of a long, narrow valley, shut in by two nearly parallel enclosing walls of hills covered with long grass and forest. The gross income of the State averages over a lakh of rupees, of which over Rs. 20,000 are derived from mines. Omitting the civil list fixed at Rs. 30,000 the normal expenditure averages Rs. 60,000 per annum.

History.—On the destruction of the Empire of Vijayanagar by the United Muhammadan Kings of the Deccan at the battle of Talikota in 1565 A.D. the country surrounding Vijayanagar fell under the nominal sovereignty of the Sultan of Bijapur, one of the victors. All real authority, however, lay in the hands of a number of semi-independent chiefs. One of these, the poligar of Jaramali, Kudligi taluk, made himself master of Sāndūr about 1700 A.D. but about 1728 A.D. he was turned out by a Mahratta, Siddoji Rāo, whose grandfather had been in the service of the Sultan of Bijapur. Siddoji Rāo belonged to the family of the Ghorapades, a name earned, according to tradition, by one of them scaling a precipitous fort, clinging to an ignana (Ghorapade).

Siddoji Rāo had four sons, of whom Morari Rao, the eldest, followed his father as ruler of Sāndūr and subsequently became famous as the Chief of Gooty; Daulat Rāo, the second, succeeded to a family jagir at Gajendragad in Bijapur district. In the campaign of 1775-76 Haider 'Ali, after seizing Bellary, took Gooty from Morari Rāo and sent him to Mysore where he died soon afterwards. Haider annexed the whole of his territory, including Sāndūr.

Morari Rāo had two sons, but both died in childhood; and he adopted a distant cousin, named Siva Rāo, who, about 1785, fell in a vain attempt to turn Tipu's troops out of Sāndūr. His son Siddoji then two years old, was placed under the guardianship of his uncle Venkata Rāo who in 1790, on his ward's behalf attacked and drove out Tipu's garrison. In 1790 Lord Cornwallis entered into an alliance with the Mahrattas and the Nizām to reduce Tipu to order, and it was agreed that whatever territories should be acquired by them from Tipu should be equally divided between them. Tipu was reduced to submission in 1792 and by the treaty of that year he ceded half his territories to the allies. Sāndūr was allotted to the Mahrattas and a part of the Bellary district to the Nizām. The Ghorapades were allowed to retain Sāndūr as part of the ancient inheritance of the family, but none of them ventured to reside there, as long as Tipu was alive. Siddoji died in 1796, aged 13, and his widow adopted a cousin called Siva Rāo. After the death of Tipu at the fall of Seringapatam in 1799, Siva Rāo lived with Venkata Rāo at Sāndūr and he was Jagirdar of Sāndūr when the Bellary district was ceded in 1800 to the Company. About this time the Peshwa, Baji Rāo, granted the estate to Yeswanta Rao, a distinguished officer in Sindhia's army. But no prominence was given to this grant, and Siva Rāo continued to hold the estate. The Peshwa nevertheless regarded him as a rebellious vassal and in 1815 endeavoured to gain possession of Sāndūr by marching thither with troops under the pretence of making a pilgrimage to the shrine of Kumāraswami in the hills of that State. Siva Rāo blocked the passes and Baji Rāo was only allowed to approach the temple with a few attendants by the foot-paths leading over the hills. But the treaty of Bassein bound the Company to assist the Peshwa in reducing refractory vassals, and Baji Rāo accordingly asked the British to wrest Sāndūr from Siva Rāo. Colonel Munro was therefore despatched from Dharwar with a force to demand

