Chapter-V

THE MARTYRS OF KISAN STRUGGLES AGAINST THE ZAMINDARS OF MUNAGALA AND CHALLAPALLI
British imperialism had established their colony in India in 17th century and ruled the country. Indians were influenced by National Movement and fought against the foreign rulers by uniting all sections of our country. There was no place for confrontation among various sections. In fact, National Movement had produced great leaders to the Nation. Soon after Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa in 1915, he had tried to rectify the defects and injustice with the weapon of ‘Truth and Non-violence’ in political, economic fields. Mahatma Gandhi inspired the people to take part in National Movement with National fervor. There were so many revolts during the National Movement like Farmers Movement, Anti-Zamindary Movement, Tribal Movements etc. All these movements finally helped to attain Independence on August 15, 1947. Mahatma Gandhi led the farmers Satyagraha at Champaran in Bihar State during 1917 and kaira farmers’ movements in Gujarat State during 1918. By leading Satyagraha movements he could able to solve the problems of farmers.¹

In Andhra State, Rythu Sangam (Farmers Organisation) was established. In 1928, State Conference was held at Guntur which was presided by Bikkina Venkataratnam Chowdary. In this conference, State organising committee was elected. Bikkina Venkataratnam Chowdary as President, N.G. Ranga, Maganti Bapineedu, Narasimha Devara Satyanarayana as its Secretaries. It can be said that in Andhra State farmers movement has became a source for National Movement.²

In Munagala Estate, in order to protect from the atrocities and exploitation of Zamindar, elders like Venidenda Ranga Rao, Kodati Venkata Narasimha Rao, Kollu

Achaiah, Kondapalli Ramachandra Rao, Gelli Konaiah, Immadi Papaiah, Kollu Kotaiah had established Zameen Rytu Sangham. First public meeting was convened at Munagala in 1930. B. Viswanath, MLA of Madras state legislature and Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu were invited for the meeting. Viswanath who addressed the meeting had given a call to the farmers to fight against Zamindar with unity. Prakasam did not attend the meeting. He came after ten days and gave a message. In this meeting, Immadi Papaiah and Gelli Konaiah were elected as President and General Secretary for ‘Zameen Rytu’ Association respectively. Zamindar had tried to scuttle the Rythu sangam by beating its leaders with his henchmen. Their agricultural activities were stopped and collected huge amount from them in the form of tax. Some of the farmers houses were also dismantled and they were expelled from estate. The farmers were prevented not to reach their houses by using various methods and collected further penalty from them. He used all the communities as the bonded labourers. Farmers’ association was completely disrupted due to the atrocities of Zamindar.3

Nalluri Venkatarama Naidu, Andhra State ‘Zameen Rytu’ leader and Editor of ‘Zameen Rytu’ travelled to Munagala on September 22, 23 in 1933. He reported to the State Farmers Association about the deplorable conditions in the Munagala area. The same conditions were also published in his paper ‘Zameen Rytu’. Under the dictatorial rule of the Zamindar, the farmers had under gone serious troubles. He wrote in his paper, that tears came from his eyes when he heard the dreadful conditions, expressed by the farmers. Farmers who failed to pay the taxes in time were asked to stand in the hot Sun

and also tied them to the Motor Engines, big stones were kept on their shoulders. Farmers and other artisans had to come and work in groups as bonded labourers. If anybody asked the wages they were hanged to the branch of a tamarind tree with their hair.⁴

In this way, farmers sacrificed their lives by protesting against the atrocities of Zamindar. There were about 42 martyrs in the Munagala area. The village wise details are furnished hereunder:

**Villagewise details of martyrs**

1. Jagannadhapuram - 13
2. Rayasamudhram - 6
3. Narasimhulagudem - 4
4. Karivirala - 4
5. Kokkireni - 2
6. Siripuram - 2
7. Munagala - 1
8. Kalukova - 1
9. Neelamarri - 1
10. Vijaya Raghavapuram - 1
11. Nallabandagudem - 4
12. Sarvaram - 1
13. Anjalipuram - 2

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Total                42
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In Paragana area, there were 42 Martyrs who lost their valuable lives during 1947 to 1951. A close look into examine the heroic sacrifices made by the martyrs who played a key role in this struggle reveal many of the miserable truths.⁵

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⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 60
1. Vuppala Ramaiah - Munagala Paragana Leader

Vuppala Ramaiah was born in a middle class farmer’s family in Munagala village. He had studied upto 5th class. He was one of the farmers who worked under Zamindar as bonded labour by driving his cart. He joined in ‘Zameen Rytu’ sangham in the year 1938 and tried for farmers movement. He was one of the leaders who signed in favour of the ‘Brahmaiah award’ between farmers and Zamindar in the year 1939. Since the ‘Brahmaiah Award’ could not be implemented, Satyagraha movement was started. Uppala Ramaiah led the first Satyagraha movement. He was arrested in this agitation and imprisoned for six months and he spent in Rajahmundry Central Jail.6

He was released from Jail after three months. He was the first person to join in Communist Party in Munagala Paragana. Ramaiah had contested for Krishna District Board from Jaggaiahpet Constituency in 1940 as a congress candidate. Out of the votes polled in the elections, Ramaiah secured three-fourths whereas his opponent Justice Party candidate secured one-fourth votes. He was the member in various sub-committees appointed by District Board.

Ramaiah had maintained good relations in the district with the various leftist prominent political leaders like Vallabhaneni Ramabrahmam, Vallabhaneni Seeta Mahalakshmamma, Anumarlapudi Seetarama Rao and Duggirala Gopalakrishnaiah. He tried his best to improve the conditions in Krishna District and in Jaggaiahpet area with the co-operation of above leaders.7

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6 Interview with Vallepureddy Venkata Reddy & Ibid., p. 1.
7 Ibid.
Munagala Paragana and Jaggaiahpet were very backward areas. Farmers from this area were getting money from the land-lords at higher rate of interests. Farmers were exploited by rich landlords. In order to protect the farmers from the exploitation, Ramaiah with his supporters established co-operative societies and strengthened the existing societies. The continuous efforts made by Ramaiah in this area were observed by Vijayawada Co-operative bank executive body and appointed him as executive member of Co-operative Central Bank and Member of a committee which disbursed loans. He worked very hard to do justice to the post which he held. Since Ramaiah joined in Communist Party in 1940, he made relentless efforts for the development of Communist Party. He could attain the affection and honour from the members of party in the Paragana area. Ramaiah handled the disputes between the villagers without any partiality.  

Ramaiah was elected as the President of Munagala Zameen Rytu Organisation in 1946. After he assumed the office of the President, he extensively toured the villages of Paragana and tried to make them dynamic in order to fight against the Zamindar. Ramaiah stayed in unknown place in 1947 and led a movement against Zamindar. He played a key role in the Brahmaiah enquiry committee held at Munagala and Vijayawada.

Ramaiah was arrested in the second week of April 1948 near Karivirala and was kept as a detenue at Rajahmundry and Nellore Central Jails. In 1947, he was taken to Jaggaiahpet sub-jail for enquiry of cases which were filed against him in the agitation

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9 Ibid. p. 2.
against Zamindar. He was kept in a room where 25 prisoners were there. But this room supposed to be only for two prisoners. Because of this condition his health deteriorated. When prisoners agitated he was taken to the hospital with chains, the doctors in hospital delayed in providing medical assistance, then he lost his life at the age of 42 leaving behind wife three sons and two daughters. The death of Ramaiah was a shocking news to the farmers organisation of Munagala Paragana and people as a whole. They were further shocked when they did not have an opportunity to pay tributes to the departed soul. Family members of late Ramaiah and nearest relatives, students of Jaggaiapet and Paragana, Devaram Peda Appireddy, Mahakasi Badradri, Kollu Satyanarayana, Mannem Veera Reddy, V. S. R. Anjaneyulu, Kandibanda Pitchaiah paid tributes and performed funeral. People of Paragana had wept for losing their beloved leader.10

2. Ghattu Gopalakrishnaiah - Man of Humility and sacrifice

Ghattu Gopalakrishnaiah was born in Karivirala village in a middle class farmer’s family. He had studied upto 5th class. Though he was born in orthodox family, he inculcated the best human values. The occupation of his family was supplying plates made out of leaves to Zamindar and providing food to the employees of Zamindar who happens to visit village at times. He was inspired by “Zameen Rytu” movement against Zamindar in Munagala area in 1938 and joined it. He tried to organise farmers organisation in the villages of Kesavapuram, Karivirala, Ramachandrapuram, Kodipunjulagudem and Siripuram villages. In 1939, he made several efforts to organise Satyagraha movement by staying in unknown place. He joined Communist Party in the

10 Ibid., p. 3.
year 1940. He distributed secretly the literature of Communist Party in the villages. He was elected as President of Munagala Zameen Rytu Association in 1942. He toured all the villages to strengthen the Zameen Rytu association. He continued to be the President upto 1946.\textsuperscript{11}

He had shown love and affection to his villagers besides discharging responsibilities in this Paragana. Whenever he came to his village even in mid-night he used to go round the village and enquiring about the conditions of the village. He tried to provide accommodation to the innumerable people in the Paragana villages who came from Telangana villages during the struggle against Nizam Nawab.

Gopala Krishnaiah had led the movement against Zamindar by staying in an unknown place in May 1947. In this area, thousands of tenant lands were occupied by Zamindar from Kesavapuram to Siripuram. Gopalakrishnaiah concentrated on this area and motivated the people of this area to fight against Zamindar. A good number of people took part in the struggle. Gopala Krishnaiah led the movement constructively with the co-operation of local leaders. Police terror had reached its peak in this area. In Karivirala village police had resorted to lathi charge and tortured the public right from morning to evening. Due to the lathi charge, Garlapati Gopaih had lost his life and his mother Smt. Garlapati Kanakamma was seriously injured in the lathi charge.\textsuperscript{12}

In 1948, Congress Government had resorted to repression on Communist Party and people’s movements. Gopalakrishnaiah had taken measures to build the party and

\begin{notes}
\item \textit{Ibid.}, p. 4
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farmers organisation. Due to the arrest of various party leaders and farmers association activists, the whole responsibility fell on him. Even then, he had discharged the responsibilities with self-confidence. Huge money was required to protect the people’s movements. The government tried to curb the activities of Communist Party and People’s movements. Party leaders and activists tried to collect the funds by staying in secret place. Gopalakrishnaiah accompanied by his colleagues had toured the Munagala area and collected huge funds for party. The party commended the efforts made by Gopalakrishnaiah in collecting funds.\textsuperscript{13}

Gopalakrishnaiah travelled secretly in the villages of Paragana and Telangana area and had relations with people. He also tried to make the party strong on one hand, on other hand he collected the funds. As a part of his campaign, he came to Karivirala near Kothagudem along with his colleague Sarvavaram Ramaiah and took shelter in the field of jowar. They asked the landowner to bring food for them. After accepting their request, she went to house and sent food for them. Meanwhile, police encircled and shot at Gopalakrishnaiah and Ramaiah on 22-1-1949 and they died on the spot. The beloved leader for Paragana and who fought against Zamindar had died at the age of 45 years leaving the old parents, wife, one son and one daughter. Government did not satisfy with the killing of Gopala Krishnaiah, they tied the dead body on jeep for demonstration in Khammam town. Later they buried the body in a secret place. Paragana and nearby Telangana people felt deep sorrow over the death of Gopalakrishnaiah.\textsuperscript{14}


\textsuperscript{14} \textit{Ibid.}, p. 7.
3. Kesaboyina Mottaiah – An Young Dynamic Person

Kesaboyina Mottaiah was born in Jagannathapuram in an ordinary farmer’s family. He participated in the struggle against Zamindar from childhood. He established students organisation at Jaggaiahpet high school and led so many movements in order to find out solutions for the students problems. In all movements led by him were successful thereby he won the affection of students.

Mottaiah started Model School at Jagannathapuram soon after he completed the student life. In this model school, he taught the students a new model which made the students to follow discipline. Parents and children had expressed their gratitude for this type of ideal efforts. He began to run a school in night time for youth who hails from Agriculture labour to make them literates. Political conditions, history of communist Party, Farmers and labourers’ struggles, struggle against Zamindar and anti-Nizam struggle were also taught at Night school by Mottaiah and made the youth more dynamic. The ideal efforts of Mottaiah in making the youth as dynamic soldiers were never forgotten by the people of Paragana.15

He attracted the youth from Jagannathapuram and also Paragana area to join them into communist Party by teaching politics. He gave training to new members so as to participate in people struggles. Mottaiah was a good revolutionary writer and actor. His writings through short-stories, Dramas, songs influenced the people to participate in

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15 Interview with Vallepureddy Venkata Reddy.
people’s movements. He provided accommodation to the Communist Party leaders who were fighting against Zamindar in these villages. Thus Mottaiah got respect and affection from the people of this area. Mottaiah stood in frontline in the struggles against Zamindar during 1938 and 1949 and farmers struggle during 1947 to 1951. His enemies were afraid to his courageous nature. On February 12, 1951, he was murdered by the police near Darmapuram. In this raid, colleagues of Mottaiah Kollu Nandiah, Gurram Narisireddy (Timmapuram, Suryapetta Taluk) were also murdered. It was a great shock to the people of Paragana.16

4. Yangali Papaiah - Leader of the toiling masses

Yangali Papaiah born in a poor farmer’s family in Nelamarri village. He had studied upto V Class. He joined teaching profession with his individual efforts. In 1938, he left the teaching profession and joined struggle against Zamindar who cruelly ruled over 42 villages and in the same way he also ruled in Nelamarri village. Papaiah led movement in his village and hamlets. He joined Communist Party in the year 1940. Papaiah made relentless struggle against the Raja of Munagala not only at his village but also at estate villages. He was the life term member for ‘Zameen Rytu’ Association. Since Papaiah worked amidst the villagers of Nelamarri and hamlet villages, he was respected by all the people. Papaiah was caught by police when he was staying secretly in Madhavaram village and shot dead. At the time of Papaiah’s death, he had an aged mother, wife, son and daughter. With his death, a leader with 10 years experience had

been lost by Paragana people. The villagers of Nelamarri and Sivangudem wept over the
death of Papaiah who could able to solve the problems among the villagers judiciously.17

5. Kollu Nandiah

Kollu Nandiah was born in a middle class family in Jagannathapuram village. He
had studied upto 5th class. He joined in struggle against Zamindar at his young age. He
could not tolerate the exploitation of rich people and landlords. He fought, against the
higher interest rates that were imposed, along with his brother Kollu Kotaiah and his
friend Kesaboyina Mottaiah.18

He rigorously canvassed for the Communist Party candidate during the Madras
Assembly elections in 1946. He also played active role in the struggle against Zamindar
in 1946. In February 1948, when he was participating in sympathisers meeting policemen
arrested and took him to jail by filing a case stating that he had attacked the police.
Congress Government had imposed restrictions on Nandaiah after he was released from
jail. Then he joined armed squads and stayed in secret place. He played a heroic role in
the struggle organised by the party. Nandaiah along with his colleagues Kesaboyina
Mottaiah, Narasaiah dead in police firing.19

17 Mahojwala Telangana Rytanga Sayudha Poratam, 50 Varshikostavam: Communist Uthama Viluvalu,
Tayagalu Samunnathanuga Nilipina Krishna Zilla Amavaveerlu, (Sept. 1997), published by CPI
(ML), Janasakthi, Krishna Zilla Committee, Vijayawada, p. 56.
Publishers, Kodad, p. 11.
6. Mudigonda Veeraiah

Mudigonda Veeraiah was born in an ordinary farmer’s family in Kalukova. He joined the movement against Zamindar in 1938. He also took part in Satyagraha against Zamindar in 1939.

He participated in the struggle organised by the communist party even after 1947 while staying in an unknown place. He joined the guerrilla troops formed by Communist Party and executed plan of action. Mudigonda Veeraiah played a key role in the attack on police camp in 1949. Mudigonda Veeraiah had lost the life in the encounter by police at the age of 35 years. He was an inspiration to the youth.20

7. Taduri – Janardhanachari

Taduri Janardhanachari was born in Siripuram village in a rich family. His main occupation was agriculture and manufacturing gold and silver ornaments. Janardhanachari’s father Ramaiah joined the Rytu Sangham struggle against Zamindar. Zamindar became angry for joining the struggle against him and acquired the land belonged to Ramaiah forcibly. Janardhanachari, Shanmukhachari and Jitendrachari sons of Ramaiah had joined Rytu Sangham. Janardhanachari joined Communist Party and tried to organise the party activities in Siripuram area. He attained good confidence among the party leaders. He actively took part in Nadiudem Panchayati court elections in 1942 and assembly elections in 1946. After the elections in 1946, Janardhanachari stayed in Siripuram to participate in the struggle against Zamindar.21

Government started attacks on communist party and people’s movement in 1948 from then onwards Janardhanachary stayed in secret place and continued the activities. At that time, his health was deteriorated. When he went to Visakhapatnam on the advice of the party for treatment, he was arrested and kept in police camps at Munagala, Chennakesavapuram, Nelamarri. He was tortured by the police and one day in the evening he was taken in police jeep shot him to death near Medikunta. He was buried in a secret place. The murder of Janardhanachari came to the notice of people at the end of 1950. By the time of his death, he was 40 years old and having wife, daughter, two brothers. Shanmukhachari brother of Janardhanachari sent an application to the Prime Minister of India, Central Home Minister, President of India and Governor of Madras State requesting them to trace out and hand over his brother who was arrested and kept in police camps. But Shanmukhachari did not receive any reply and then he filed Habeas Corpus petition in Supreme Court to hand over his brother who was arrested by police. A.S.R. Chari advocate attended and argued on behalf of petitioner in the court.\(^{22}\)

Hyderabad and Madras police did not co-operate the supreme court to trace out Janardhanachari. Both of them wanted to shake off the responsibilities. Supreme Court Judge, Mahajan expressed doubt that one of the police might have killed Janardhana Chary when he was a detenue. Supreme Court took long time to enquire and pronounce judgement. Hence, the facts did not come out. Court gave judgement that Hyderabad Government and Madras Government had to pay Rs.500/- each to the petitioner. “Justice

\(^{22}\) *Ibid.* , p.14
was not done to janardhanachari even at Supreme Court which is a highest judicial institution in the country. Government did not reveal the facts even now”.23

8. Martyr – Vempati Kanakaiah

Vempati Kanakaiah was born in Siripuram village. ‘Zameen Rytu’ Sangham was established in 1930 to protect from the atrocities and exploitation of Zamindar. Kanakaiah along with his close friend Velidenda Ranga Rao made efforts in organising ‘Zameen Rytu Sangham’. They were writing poetry. Zamindar had acquired lands and houses belong to Kanakaiah, since Kanakaiah was working for Rytu Sangham. Kanakaiah was arrested in the struggle against Zamindar during 1939 and 1947. In 1947, while Rangiah was coming to Siripuram after performing his youngest son’s marriage, he was arrested along with his elder son Rama Kotaiah and second son Kotaiah. All the three were sent to Nellore central jail as detenues with the instigation of Zamindar. In 1949, armed squads attacked Ramachandrapuram police camp. In retaliation to this, police attacked in a large scale on Siripuram village and took the hundreds of persons to Ramachandrapuram road, Kanakaiah due to old age, unable to bear this and lost the life within two days. At the age of 70 years old, Kanakaiah died leaving behind three sons and one daughter. The death of Vempati Kanakaiah was loss to the Paragana struggle which could not be possible to fill up the place of Vempati Kanakaiah.24

9. Garlapati Gopaiah

Garlapati Gopaiah was born in Karivirala village in a middle class farmer’s


family. He died in June 1947 due to the police brutal lathi charge at the age of 30 years. He got aged parents wife and a son.

10. Pusapati Lalaiah

Pusapati Lalaiah was born in Karivirala village in a poor family. He joined struggle against Zamindar at an young age. He actively participated in farmers’ movement in 1947.

11. Samineni Ramaiah

Samineni Ramaiah, farmers’ leader, native of Jagannathapuram and his family members were tortured, harassed and created troubles to them by the Government. The Government had planned to dismantle the Communist Party and people’s movement. The police and local congress leaders socially boycotted his family. All the agricultural activities of Ramaiah was closed. There was no person even to look after cattle. When Kagitala Butchaiah and Pusapati Lalaiah were taking cattle to the Medapalli, the State Congress volunteers shot him with gun, and he died near Jakkepalli pond.25

12. Vajrapu Ramulu

Vajrapu Ramulu was born in Kokkireni village in a poor family. He was doing small business. He joined as a member of communist party. Telangana struggle against Nizam’s feudalism was started from 1946. Ramulu was helping within his limitations to the participants in the struggle. Businessmen and congress people of Kokkireni were selling articles secretly to the Nizam police and Rajakars. Ramulu opposed the selling of articles to them. The congressmen and businessmen got angry on him. They passed

25 Ibid., p. 15.
on the information about Ramulu. When he was coming from Konaigudem, Nizam Police caught Ramulu and brutally murdered with knives. They put an end to the young life in February 1948 at the age of 30 years. He was a bachelor.26

13. Potu Ramanadam

Potu Ramanadam was born in Kokkireni village in a ordinary farmer’s family. He learned politics from Mottaiah by continuing education in a model school established by Mottaiah. He was inspired by the struggles against Zamindar in 1947 and used to attend communist party meetings held at Jagannadhapuram near by villages. He got inspiration by knowing the stories of heroic Telangana Armed Struggle from the villagers and desired to participate in the struggle.27 Congress Government started to suppress communist party and people’s movements in 1948. Ramanatham joined Communist Party Armed Squads and prepared to execute the action programme in day and night. Ramanatham was caught hold by police when they have raided at Bottalapalem village in Khammam taluk. Police shot him to death. Ramanadam’s life ended in the hands of police. He was a bachelor.28

14. Kollu Bhadraiah

Kollu Bhadraiah was born in Jagannathapuram. He was educated in Mottaiah’s school. This school was ruined in 1948 when the Government’s repressive policy further intensified. Bhadraiah continued student life in Katuru school. Bhadraiah was tortured


27 Ibid., p.57

by Munagala police to reveal the whereabouts of Mottaiah, Nandaiah and Kotaiah. He was tortured like this for many days but bold Bhadraiah did not reveal any secret. At last, police shot Bhadraiah to death. Though Bhadraiah was young in age he maintained secrets more than an elderly person.29

15. Kesaboyina Peda Mottaiah

Kesaboyina Peda Mottaiah was born in Jagannathapuram which was a politically enlightened village. He had joined communist party like other youth and discharging entrusted duties. One day, policemen arrested Peda Mottaiah to know from him where the Mottaiah and Nandaiah were staying. Though the police tortured Peda Mottaiah did not reveal anything. Since the police had failed to know the secrets from him, police shot him to death.

16. Kagitala Butchaiah

Kagitala Butchaiah was born in Jagannathapuram village in a artisan family. He actively participated in the struggle against Zamindar in 1947. Butchaiah had led a secret life and continued party activities after the Government had imposed restrictions in 1948. Samineni Ramaiah’s family was tortured by the police. Police did not allow them to continue his agricultural activity. Under these circumstances, the family members of Ramaiah thought that it was difficult to live in Jagannadhapuram and to provide fodder to their cattle. They approahced Butchaiah to take their cattle to Medepalli village in Khammam district. When Butchaiah was taking cattle in June 1948 congress volunteers caught Butchaiah and Pusapati Lalaiah and fired with gun.30

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29 Ibid., p. 17.
17. Seema Guravaiah

Seema Guravaiah was born in Jagannadhapuram in an agricultural family. He became literate and got political education from a school which was run by Mottaiah. He actively participated in struggle against Zamindar in 1947. When Guravaiah along with the villagers was coming to Kalukova village after sowing the seeds in the lands (Tallagadda) which were acquired by Zamindar, police shot Seema Guravaiah with gun. Paragana villagers had paid tributes to Seema Guravaiah.

18. Vempati Veeramallu

Vempati Veeramallu was born in Jagannadhapuram village in an Agriculture labour family. Veeramallu led the struggle against landlords in the village. He led the underground life and continued party activities, after the Government started its repression on communist party in 1948. While he was sleeping under the tree near Tummalapalli and suffering with fever congress volunteers caught him and fired with gun.31

19. Ganjaluri Pitchaiah

He was the native of Jaganathpuram and he was against cruelties of the Zamindar. In the year 1947, he fought against Zamindar and participated in the struggle against Zamindar policies and was arrested. Police had humiliated him and ultimately he was shot to death.32

20. Ganjaluri Narasaiah

He was the native of Jaganathpuram. He was born in a poor Harijan family. He joined in Communist Party in the year 1945. He participated in Agricultural Labour moment. Police had arrested him as he was against zamindar policies. He was cruelly tortured by the police. He was shot dead at the age of 17.

21. Gaddala Gaddaiah

He was also a native of Jaganathpuram. He was an agricultural labourer and participated in the struggle against zamindar policies. He was the member of agitating group. In 1949, he was shot to death.

22. Gaddala Pullaiah

He was born in Jaganathpuram as a agricultural labourer. He participated in agricultural labour movement. At the age of 18, he was arrested and killed by the police in 1948.33

23. Gaddala Narasaiah

Gaddala Narasaiah born in Jagannadhapuram village in an agriculture family. Narasaiah led the struggle against landlords in the village. All the above persons were educated and entered politics with the inspiration of Mottaiah and joined Communist Party. They fought against the exploitation of Jagannadhapuram landlords. Government had imposed severe restrictions on communist party and people’s struggles in 1948. All the youth decided to join armed squads and prepared to protect party. All these youth were caught by police in different places and fired to death. They lost their lives during 1941-51. Jagannadhapuram village had contributed 12 valiant fighters and contributed

for heroic struggle. All these revolutionary soldiers were followed footsteps of revolutionary fighter, Kesaboyina Mottaiah.

24. Bandaru Venkaiah

Bandaru Venkaiah was born in an agricultural family in Narasimhulagudem. In 1946, he became the member of Communist Party and fought against Zamindar politics. In 1948, he joined in ‘Armed Struggle’. He participated in many fights and at last he was killed by the police near the boarder of Telangana.

25. Somireddy Jaggaiah

He was a farmer in Narasimhagudem. In 1946, he joined the Communist Party. In 1947, he participated in the anti-Zamindary struggle. In 1948, he joined in (Sayudha dalam). In 1948, he was killed by union army.


The two members belong to Narasimhagudem. They led a secret life as revolutionist. They were caught by the police. Police insisted them to tell the secrets of their party and humiliated them and at last they were shot dead by the police.34

28. Gundu Ramulu

He was born in a farmer’s family in Vijaya Raghavapuram. He joined in the party in 1946. He fought against zamindar policies and in 1948, he had himself in unknown places. In April 1951, police arrested him with the help of congress. He was humiliated and ultimately murdered.

29. Sunkara Venkaiah

He was a farmer living in Rayasamudram. In 1946, he joined the party and fought against Zamindar policies. In 1948, September he dead as a martyr in Telangana boarder by the attack of union army. He got wife and old parents.

30. Sunkara Venkatappaiah

He was a farmer living in Rayaamudram. He was the son of Sunkara Moggaiah who worked for ‘Zameen Rytu Sangham’. Venkatappaiah joined the communist party’s armed squads in the end of 1948 and worked for party activities. He was killed in firing in 1949 near Madhavaram village.35

31. Vengala Menaiah

He was born in Agriculture Labour family in Rayasamudram. He joined communist party in 1948. He participated in struggle against Zamindar and did relentless efforts. He was caught and killed by Nizam Rajakars cruelly near Ganjalur in May 1948.

Died persons in Rajahmundry Central Jail:

32. Gokani Guru Lingayya

He belongs to Rayasamudram village.

33. Vaddi Ramaiah

He also belongs to Rayasamudram village.

34. Remidala Maisaiah

He also belongs to Rayasamudram village.36

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Kollu Kotaiah, Kesaboyina Mottaiah tried to attract youth of Rayasamudram towards communist party by giving political training. Gundu Ramulu, Sunkara Venkaiah, Sunkara Venkatappaiah, Vongala Menaiah and others joined communist party with the efforts of Kollu Kotaiah.37

35. Guddam Muthyalu

Guddam Muthyalu was in Nalabandagudem and police shot him death.

36. Pusapati Ramulu

He belonged to Karivirala village. In 1948, he was murdered.

Gaddem Muthalu, Gulla Amaraiah pandiri Narasimhaiah, Tode Ramulu, these members were shot to death when they were hoisting the communist flag.

37. Gulla Amaraiah

38. Pandiri Narasimhaiah

39. Thota Ramulu

These three members belongs to Nalabandagudem.

40. Thumu Ramaiah

Belongs to Sarvaram. Killed by military police.

41. N. Punnaiah

His native place is Angalipuram. When he was working for the party he was killed by Military police.

42. Jagannadha chari

He was taken from the jail and shot to death. He belongs to Angalipuram.38

37 Ibid., p.20.
38 Ibid., p.21.
CHALLAPALLI MARTYRS

The following great personalities made immense sacrifice. They led the kisan and student movements and were shot dead by the police during 1948 and 1951 when. They were fought for the abolition of Zamindary system and they demanded that the surplus lands of Challapalli zamindar should be distributed to the poor farmers and labours. During the ban period, the police fired and killed very cruelly many communist leaders and many tender aged high school students those who fought unarmed in those struggles.

1. Challapalli Narayana Rao

He was born in Challapalli and participated in the National Movement in 1930 and imprisoned for many years. In the year 1939 he joined Communist Party member and first time he started “Agricultural Labour Movement” in the district. In the year 1942, he participated in Mangalapuram Mudiraju labours Anti Challapalli Zamindary fight and was sent to jail along with Chandra Rajeswara Rao, Guntur Bapanaiah. He was imprisoned for six months. After that from 1946 he led secret life four 4 years. While leading his life secretly he supported and led many struggles. Again he was arrested on 12th May 1950. Finally, he was shot dead by the Police in the village Talagada Deevi Kottapalem. First the police shot on his lower thigh. Then he challenged the police inspector to fire on his heart explaining him that the life of man was not in the thighs, but in the heart and darely invited him to shoot on his heart but he requested the Police Inspector not to shoot Tatayya who was arrested
along with him, because he recently got married. For these reasons, it can be said that he is a great hero and very generous person. He was loved by the people of Diviseema.

2. Chalasani Jagannadha Rao

He belongs to Bhatla Penumarru village. He participated in the National Movement and was sent to jail in the year 1932. He made his efforts to organise the youth movement. He was a member of the district Secretariate of CPI. He along with four members was shot dead in police firing at Nagayatippa.  

3. Dasari Nageswara Rao

He belongs to Bhatla Penumarru. He was born in 1924. He worked in Youth and Kisan Movement. He started his underground life in the year 1948. He was arrested at Mumbai in 1950 and was shot dead at the Nizam Border in the month of September.

4. Chalasani Srinivasa Rao

He studied at Challapalli High School worked as the AISF (All India Students Federation) district leader. He was also arrested and shot dead in 1948. He too belongs to Bhatla Penumarru Village.

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5. Keerti Subba Rao

Worked in agricultural labour movement arrested two times due to conspiracy of landlords. The police severely beat him and tortured. Because of police torture he died in police station. He also belonged to Bhatla Penumarru village.40

6. Chalasani Rattaiah

He also belonged to Bhatla Penumarru village. In the year 1948, he faced many police attacks, arrested and was tortured, his health damaged and his body was severely injured. He died of ill-health.

7. Dasari Nagabhushanam

He was born in 1922 May 6th at Bhatla Penumarru village. He worked in Youth Agricultural Labour Wing. He sold away his little property outright and donated it to the party. He led his life in underground from the year 1949. At last he was arrested at Yellamadu in Tenali Taluk. The Police tortured him nearly 30 days and shot him on 17th August 1950 in Velivoru village.

8. Chalasani Kanchana Rao

He belongs to Bhatla Penumarru village. He was a student in SRR College in 1950. After examinations while he was going to his own village Bhatla Penumarru, the police arrested him. The police blamed him that he was playing an important role in the labour movements. For that cause, he was taken to the police camps and was tortured by the police. At the age of 19, he was murdered cruelly.

9. Dasari Lakshmaiah

He is the native of China Muttevi of Divi Taluk. In 1949 by the support of Peda Muttevi village landlords, the police arrested him and tortured him. The second time in 1950 he was arrested again. The police encountered him at Kapileswarapuram village. \(^{41}\)

10. Kurapati Bhiragi

He belonged to the village Chinna Muttevi. His family was Agriculture labour family. He was also arrested in 1949 along with Dasari Lakshmaiah and was tortured by the police. The police shot him also in April, 1950 at Kapileswarapuram village.

11. Raavi Bhima Rao

He belongs to Pagolu village in Divi Taluk. He worked in a student movement. He was also arrested though he was a minor boy. The police tortured him to spell out the secrets but he did not open, so he was killed by the police.

12. Garikapati Siva Ramaiah
13. Garikapati Anjaiah
14. Garikapati Sriramulu

These three members are own brothers. Native of Nagaya Tippa. These three members led the Agriculture labour strike. But the three brothers were encountered at Amudala Lanka on May 11\(^{\text{th}}\), 1950.

15. Chebrolu Adam

He belonged to Movva Village. His family was agricultural labour family. He was joined in the Communist Party in 1946. He was also arrested and encountered by the police at Kapileswarapuram in April, 1950.  

16. Meka Subba Rao

He belonged to Mekavari palem. In 1946, he had joined in the communist party. He worked in the Youth movement. He was also arrested and encountered by the police in 1949.

17. Mandava Venkateswara Rao

His Native village was Movva. He had joined communist party in 1947. While he was in underground life, the agents of village Munasab secretly attacked him and handed over him to the police. Due to police and landlords torture he died on 30th October, 1949.

18. Kodali Sarabhaiah

He belonged to Vemulapalli Village. He was born in an agricultural labour family. He was also encountered on 11th May 1950 at Amudala Lanka.

19. Tatineni Chennaiah

He belonged to Movva village. The police arrested him in April 1950 and took him away from his village and shot him at the outskirts.

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20. Vasireddy Viswanadham

He belonged to Vemulapalli village. He was arrested in Challapalli on 11th May 1950. He was encountered by the police at Amudalalanka.44

21. Kodali Balaiah

He was born in an agricultural labour family at Vemulapalli. He was arrested by the police in Chinnakallepalli on 11th May 1950 and was also encountered at Amudala Lanka Village on the same day.

22. Meka Nageswara Rao

He belonged to Mekavaripalem. He participated in every mass agitation public movement. He was also arrested and encountered by the police in 1949.45

23. Raavi Subba Rao

He was born in Daliparru village. He was arrested in May 1950 and encountered at Amudala Lanka.

24. Nadakuduti Lakshmipathi

He belonged to Uttara Chiruvollanka village. He established “Bala Sangam” and organised a daily newspaper named “Bala Kesari”. He was arrested in 1949 while studying in Bandar college. After releasing from the jail he led secret life for a while. When he was in underground life, the police traced him out and encountered.

44 Ibid., pp. 14, 15, 16.
45 Ibid., p.16.
25. Gogineni Tataiah

He belonged to Krapa Village, Tenali Taluk but he established his family in Swatantrapuram, Divi Taluk. In the year 1947, he was unnecessarily implicated in local cases and was sent to jail. When he was in exile life on 12th May 1950, he was shot by the police at Kottapalem village along with Challapalli Narayana Rao.

26. Koganti Venkateswara Rao

He belonged to Veluvolu village. He was hacked and stabbed by landlords groups in a Veluvolu incident.

27. Merugu Sriramulu

He was born in Kondavaram village. The police arrested him in the year 1949 tortured him and encountered him.46

28. Nadella Venkata Krishnaiah

He was born in the village Nadella vari palem. While he was leading his secret life the police attacked him and encountered at Ramagundam in Kurnool district.

29. Mandava Srinivasa Rao

He belonged to Pedaprolu village. The police arrested him in May 1950 and on 11th of the same month they encountered him at Amudala lanka.

30. **Tottempudi Narayana Rao**

He belonged to Peyyeru. He put his efforts in the establishment of Chitturpu village party unit and participated in students movement. He was also encountered on 4th December, 1950 at Nagayatippa.47

31. **Bavireddy Viyyamma**

Belonged to Gajullanka

32. **Sanaka Subba Rao**

Belonged to Gajullanka

33. **Matti Subba Rao**

Belonged to Gajullanka

34. **Tadisetti Venkateswarlu**

Belonged to Gajullanka. The above said four members were encountered on 10th April 1947 in the fight against Zamindar.

35. **Nadella Venkata Krishnaiah**

He belonged to Nadella vari palem was also encountered in 1950 at Eluru.

36. **Mandava Koteswara Rao**

He was born at Amudala Lanka in Divi Taluk. He was accused as a defaulter because of his leadership for the labours in Juvvalapalem Anti Zamindar Movement. He was arrested in 1948 and was sent to Bandar Jail. He was released on bail after a few

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days. One day while he was going to attend the court adjournment on 27th, the zamindar agents attacked and murdered him.48

37.Paruchuru Raja Gopala Rao

He was born in Mopidevi. He played very important role in revolutionary movement while leading the secret life. He was also encountered at Nagayatippa on 4th December 1950.

38.Peeta Ankineedu

He was born in Chiruvollanka. He was in a tender age. He was arrested in 1950 and was encountered very cruelly.

39.Yalamanchili Venkateswara Rao

He was born in Krishna Puram of Gannavaram Taluk. When he became major, he stayed at Penumarru Veluvolu villages in Divi Taluk. He worked as organiser of Taluk and participated in Anti Zamindary Movement. The police arrested him in Madras and brought him to Velavolu to encounter him. He was shot by the police at a tender age.

40.Malempati Bala Bhaskara Rao

He belonged to Nimmagadda village in Divi Taluk. He worked as Munasab of that village and attracted to revolutionary politics and joined in communist party. Even he was in the post of Munusab, he participated in Anti Zamindary Movement in 1947. So

he was suspected by the Government and arrested. He was sent to Selam jail in Tamilnadu and released on August 15th. He lead his secret life from 1948 to 1951. He served as the Secretary of CPI Krishna District since September, 1973. But the Anti Social elements murdered him very cruelly.49

41. Kodali Sambaiah

He was born in a agricultural labour family. Landlords and their agents forced the police to arrest him. He was arrested in 1950, May 11th. He was shot to death near Amudaldonka by the police.

42. Nadella Venkata Krishnaiah

He was born in 1920. He belonged Nadellavaripalem village. He belonged to farmer’s family. From 1940 onwards, he started tobacco business. He was attracted by he revolution that was held on behalf of poor people. During the years 1948-50, there was an attack on communist party by the police and opponents. In those attacks his shop was smashed and he was severely humiliated. It was impossible for him to hide himself to safety places. Anyhow, he lead a secret life, but in 1950 he was arrested in Ramagundam, Kurnool district and later shot to death.

49 Ibid.
43. Kakarla Chandrasekhara Rao

His native village was Peddamuthevi. He participated in National Movement in 1933. From 1937, he was the member of farmer’s organisation. In 1939, he was elected as the President for farmer’s organisation. Inspite of his heart disease he worked tirelessly for the warfare of the farmers. In 1949, he was imprisoned in Kadaluru Jail, but in 1950, he was released. Due to severe ill-health and he died.\(^{50}\)

44. Mandava Venkata Rangaiah

He belonged to Muvva village, near Pedda Mothevi. He worked in National Congress Movement. In 1945, he joined in Congress Farmer’s Association and fought against the policies of Communist Party. Later he understood with the party policies and worked for the party. In 1947, he was detained. He was arrested in Veliolu case. He died of some ill-health.

45. Dovari Naraiah

He was born in Gurijepalli. He was unable to bear the torture by the Government. Because of serious ill-health, he died in 1952.

46. Guddam Venkateswara Rao

He was born in Akumarru village. He belonged to poor farmer’s family. He is the supporter of Communist Party. He gave shelter to Challapalli Narayana Rao. The police attacked the village and in such situation, he died because of lathi charge.

47. Kakarla Rama Kotaiah

He belonged to Peddamuthevi village. The workers of the party used his house as their ‘Den’. With the pretext that he was giving shelter to the workers of the party, he was arrested in 1950 and kept in Salem jail. He was released. Later, he fell sick seriously and died. He encouraged his son Kakuteswara Rao to work as an organiser for the party.\textsuperscript{51}

\textsuperscript{51} Ibid., pp. 19, 20.