APPENDIX II.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The epigraphs of Tirukkōyilūr refer to some weights and measures used by the local population. மா, வேலி and குடி are the three units of land measure mentioned. We do not come across such terms in Pallava, epigraphs found at Tirukkōyilūr eventhough we are aware that வேலி and குடி were the most common land measures during the Pallava period. This may be due to the fact that all the Tirukkkeyilur inscriptions of the Pallava period refer to the gift of gold rather than land.

The epigraphs from Tirukkōyilūr do not define the area covered by these land units. The earliest reference to land measure is noticed in an epigraph of Kṛishṇa III dated A.D. 960. However it is not possible to state whether it refers to மா or வேலி since that particular portion is damaged. A clear reference to மா is noticed in an inscription of Rājarāja I.
dated A.D. 1003. Cheni mentioned in the same epigraph may refer to a plot of land. Veil is mentioned for the first time in an epigraph of Kulottunga dated A.D. 1101. Kuli is mentioned in a record of Vikrama Chola dated A.D. 1130. The absence of reference to the land measures prior to this date need not necessarily mean that they were not in use in this part of the country.

For measuring lands Vennai kutten tadi and Kovakkani tadi were used. Perilamai, Ulagalandan marakkal, annalikkal and kalan are the grain measures mentioned in the Tirukkovilur epigraphs. The exact meaning of the words perilamai and annalikkal are not clear. The grain measure ulagalandan marakkal was evidently, named after the deity Trivikrama called Ulagalandan in Tamil. The difference between perilamai and annalikkal measures is indicated by an undated epigraph of Krishna III which mentions an agreement by which the sabhās of Nennali and Chirrin-gur had to measure out 60 kalan of paddy by the measure called perilamai, which amount came to 65 kalan when measured by the annalikkal.
FOOTNOTES

1. G. Hanocka, Administration and Social Life under the Pudayas (University of Madras, Madras, Revised edition, 1977) p.108. It is said that one velli is equal to 2000 bull. For further details see also A. Appadurai, Economic conditions in South India. (AD 1000 - 1500). (University of Madras, Madras, 1936) v.1 p.406.

2. B.I., VII, no.720(C).

3. B.I., VII, no.578.

4. Id., no.154.

5. B.I., 1921, no.348.


7. B.I., VII, nos.139, 140.


9. Id., no.143.

10. Id., no.142.

11. B.I., 1902, no.236.

12. B.I., VII, no.320 (H).