CHAPTER 6
NILAMANGALAM KALAKAM
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6.1 Introduction

Nilamangalam Kalakam is located at Nellika Thuruthi, near Chervathur in Kasaragod district. The office bearers of the kalakam are as follows:

1. Kshethreshanmar (8 Karnavars)

2. Officials of Sub shrines

The officials belonging to the following sub shrines are also considered as the officials of Nilamangalam Kalakam:

Kolangattumala Kshethram

Thalakkattu Kshethram

Kottappuram Vishnumoorthi Kshethram

Kariyil Alinkeezhilil Vishnumoorthi Kshetham

Ori Sri Vishnumoorthi Kshethram

Oriyarakavu Kshethram

The titles of the officials of the above shrines are as follows:

Kottappuram Sri Vaikunta Kshethram

Kodambalath Anthithiriyan

Kodambalath Anthithiriyan represents Kodambalath Tharavadu. He is selected by the family members.
Oracle of Vishnumoorthi

This oracle belongs to Puthiyaveedu Tharavadu and acts as the Velichappad of Vishnumoorthi.

Oracle of Rakthachamundeshwari

This Velichappad represents Koyambaram Puthiyillath Tharavadu.

Kodakkaran

He is selected from the tharawad members who live in the jurisdiction of Kottapuram Vaikunta Kshethram.

Kalashakkaran

Kalashakkaran represents Olavara Kovval Veedu Tharavadu and belongs to Kattilevalappu.

Muttushanthi (sub-priest)

He represents Kunhiveedu Tharavadu and belongs to Parakkottu Veedu.

Adichuthalikkari (Sweeper)

She represents Purathemad Thazhath Tharavadu and works as the Sweeper of Vishnumoorthi Kshethram of Kottapuram.

Anthithirianmar

a. One Anthithiriyan represents the tharavads of Thalakkatkoor and Karepaththavala tharavad. He is called Karepath Anthithiriyan.

b. Puthiyapurayil Anthithiriyan represents Olavara Tiya and Puthiyapurahil Tharavad. Their term of office is for life.
Kootayikar

There are four Kootayikars in which two represents south and two represents north divisions. They are elected from the public on Puthari day of Thulavam month.

Velichappadanmar

a. Velichappadan of Thamburatti: This Velichappadan represents Puthiyapura veedu and belongs to Thamburanvalappu. Thamburatti means nilamangalath Bhagavathi.

b. Velichappadan of Poomala: This Velichappadan represents Mayicha Mundyanveedu Tharavadu.

c. Daivathinde Velichappadan: He represents Thayamthodu Thavazhi Tharavadu.

All the above officers are life term.

Sathyakudakkaran

Sathyakudakkaran represents Munthikkode Thavazhi Tharavad and he holds the umbrella of Nilamangalath Bhagavathi.

Kodakkaran (Umbrella bearer)

He represents the Kunhi veedu of Kanhangad Panchayat.

Vedikkaran (Gun man)

a. One gun man is elected from the Vadakkeveedu Thavazhi Tharavadu which represents Oorkalam Tharavad.
b. The other gunman is elected from the Kovval Thavazhi Tharavadu.

Verakan (Cook)

This office belongs to Mozhakkeel Tharavadu which represents Eyakkat Dayarande Tharavad.

Urulikkaran (Brass vessel bearer)

Urulikkaran belongs to Purathemad Kunhiveedu Tharavadu.

Kaliyan (Cowherd)

Kaliyan belongs to Puthiyapurayil Tharavadu of Thuruthi.

Adichuthelikkari (Sweeper)

Sweeper belongs to Puthiyapura Tharavad and represents Puthiyapura Tharavad.

In addition to the above traditional offices, other rights also exist. These rights can be classified as general (avakashikal) right holders on sub-shrines (avakashikals of upadavalayam) and right holders on kalakam land (Jenmavaka shikkal and cherujenmavakashikal).

A) Avakashikal

1. The karnavar holding Nandakam
2. Thalakkatte Kootttil Karnavar
3. Parambathe Kootttil Karnavar
4. Pulukku Kootttil Karnavar
5. Nilamangalath Kootttil Karnavar
6. Thazhathehalakatte Kootttil Karnavar
7. Manakkatte Kootttil Karnavar
8. Olavara Tiyyarude Karnavar
9. Karappath Anthithiriyan
10. Olavara Thiyyarude Anthithiriyan
11. Nilamangalath Bhagavathiyyude Velichappadan
12. Poomala Bhagavahiyude Velichappadan
13. Daivathinde Belichappadan
14. Sathyakkudakkaran
15. Kudakkaran
16. Vedikkaran
17. Urulikkaran
18. Virakon
19. Kaliyan
20. Adichithelikari
21. Thekkarude Koottayikkar 2
22. Vadakkarude Koottayikkar 2
23. Olavara Thiyyarude Koottayikkar 2
24. Vadakke Alingelil Koottayikkar 4
25. Pookkaran
26. Thirikkaran

B) Avakashikkal of Upadevalayam

1. Kodambalath Anthithiriyan
2. Paradevatheyude Velichappadan
3. Rakthachamundeshwariyude Velichappadan
4. Kudakkaran
5. Kalashakkaran
6. Muttushanthi
7. Adhichithelikkari

8. Kottepurath Koottayikar 2

9. Thalakkat Koottayikkar 2


11. Koottayikkar of Ori Vishnumurthi Temple, Workers

12. Koottayikkar of Oriyarakavu, Workers

C) Jenmavakashikkal

1. Tharananallur Thanthri (Brahmin)

2. Koyma – Cheroottaveettukkar

3. Kundakudiyan (Maniyani)

4. Jenmakanisan

5. Ashari – Edathil Ashari

6. Kushavan – Pilicode

7. Kollan – Moolapalli

8. Pulayan – Nellikkal
D) Cherujanmavakashikkal

1. Puliyannoor Nenikkam
2. Pallikkare Karnamoorthi
3. Chervathur Nenikkam
4. Thekkumkare Karnamoorthi
5. Manakkdan
6. Karivelloor Pilicode
7. Alanthatta Kavvan Mulakkom
8. Palapalliyon – Malayan

6.2 Myth

It is believed that this was an abode of Bhramhins in olden times as it was an Island and there were only two houses belong to Bhramin – Orkalam Bhramin and one Muslim – Velapur Muslim. One day a lotus was seen blossomed in the sea, and found the sea was retreated back and a tank was found near to the Bhrahmin. When he consulted an astrologer, it was revealed that there was a presence of a deity called Nilamangalath Bhagavathi and asked the Bhramin to worship her. He worshipped her in the same place where the Kalakam situates.

But due to the impurities of the nearby Muslim family forced the Bhramin to leave the place. Thus he handed over the key of the temple to a
Tiya (Nellikka Tiyan) and asked him to worship the goddess. But he could not open the door using the key. But he carried his son on his shoulder and asked him to open using the same key. The boy could open the door of the shrine. Now the right of the Kalakam divided into two Tiyan one is Nellikka Tiyan and the other belong to his son who was an Oloda Tiyan.

But there was a presence of Poomala Bhagavathi near Kolangattu mala, which is 3 km South East of Nilamayalam Kalakam. After realizing the presence of Poomala Bhagavathi, she was also invited to Nilamangalam Kalakam and a Prime place was given to her. Among the festivals of the Kalakam, Pooram and Pattu (song festival) were given to her. Permakaliyattan was accorded to Nilamangalathu Bhagavathi. Deities like Vishnumoorthi, Chamundi, Poomaruttin etc. were also given seats in the Kalakam.

It is a typical myth connected to the roots of the deity to a Bhramin family. Vegetarian, the Nalukettu (Bhramin house) is also seen in the Kalakam. The migration of Poomala Bhagavathi throws the light on the migration of Tiyan from a distant place to Cheruvathur. Matrilineal lineage is also seen here as the father and son belonged to two different illams.

6.3 Festivals of Nilamangalam Kalakam

The following festivals are celebrated by the members of Nilamangalam Klakam:

1. Pattulsavam
It is celebrated for 11 days, commencing on Karthika Star of Vrishika Month.

2. Pooram Festival

This festival is celebrated for 7 days commencing on Makayiram Star of Meenam Month.

3. Kaliyatta Maholsavam

This is conducted any time after 12 years.

The important rituals observed by the members of Nilamangalam Kalakam are given below:

6.4 Rituals

1. Puthari (Thulavam)
2. Vyputhari
3. Mariyoot
4. Vrishikam Sankramanam
5. Cutting of tender tassels and coconuts
6. Visit to Payyannur Temple
7. Bringing lamp
8. Pattulsavam for ten days.
9. Sweeping the dust
10. Ottekkolam at Vadakkenada
11. Dhanu Sankramam
12. Makaram Sankramam
13. Kumbham Sankramam
14. Ethirppuvili
15. Shivarathri vilakku
16. Meenam Sankramam
17. Pooram festival – 7 days  
18. Pooravilakku  
19. Sweeping of flowers  
20. Chovva vilakku  
21. Medam Sankaramam  
22. Vishu Vilakku  
23. Medam 10th  
24. Mithunam Sankramam  
25. Karkitaka Sankramam  
26. Fixing of Niram  
27. Nira  
28. Chingam Sankramam  
29. Thiruvonam  
30. Kanni Sankramam  
31. Thula Sankramam  
32. Fixing of Puthari

The officials and their rights in various rituals of the Kalakam are as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Ritual</th>
<th>By whom it is conducted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Puthari</td>
<td>Kareppath Anthithiriyavan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Vyiputhari</td>
<td>Areyamththurthikarnavar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Mariyoot</td>
<td>1. Kandath Valappil Tharavadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Oorkalam Tharavadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Vrischikam Sankramam</td>
<td>Thayath Thakkat Koottil Karnavar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Cutting of tender leaves of coconut tree</td>
<td>Thalakkat Veettil Tharavad for southern side and Arayanthuruthi for northern side.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Decoration with leaves of</td>
<td>Koottaikkar of southern side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coconut Tree</td>
<td>coconut tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kalathilari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kariadichivaral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Alinkeelil Ottekolam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dhanu Sankramam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kottapuram Mariyoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Makaram Sankramam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kumbham Sankramam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Edirpuvili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shivarathri Vilakku and Mariyoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mariyoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Meena Sankarama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6.4.1 Pattulsavam

Pattulsavam and pooram are the two major festivals of Tiyas. Hence, elaborate preparation is required to carry out these festivals. The rights of conducting the various activities of these festivals are distributed among members belonging to various tharawads as shown below:

1<sup>st</sup> song festival - Thalakkattu Koottil Karnvar
2\textsuperscript{nd} song festival - Nandakam holding Karnavar and Karepath veettil Anthithiriyan and Thayath Thalakkat koottil karnavar.

3\textsuperscript{rd} song festival - Palangai Tharavad, Kizhakkeveettil tharavad and Pathravalappil tharavad.

4\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Arayanthurthi Parambath Kootttil karnavar

5\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Pulukku Kootttil karnvar

6\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Koottayikar of Olavara Thiyyan

7\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Karapath Anthithiriyan

8\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Thekkarude Koottayikkar

9\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Vadakkarude Koottayikkar

10\textsuperscript{th} song festival – Manakkattu Kootttil karnavar

6.4.2 Pooram festival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1\textsuperscript{st} day of Pooram to 7\textsuperscript{th} day of Pooram</th>
<th>Thalakkat Kootttil karnavar, Nandaka bearing karnavar and Karapath Anthithiriyan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uthravilakku (lighting the lamp)</td>
<td>Velichappad of Daivam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweeping of flowers</td>
<td>Koottayikkar of southern side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medam Sankrama</td>
<td>Vellimadu Tharavadu and Velichappad of Poomala, Adichithelikkar and Karipat Anthithiri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mariyoot | Kavu thiyyan  
Chovva vilakku | Angittakariyil Tharavadu  
Edavam Sankramam | Oorkala Veettil Tharavadu  
Mithunam Sankramam | Verakan  
Karkitakam Sankraman | Thalakkattu koottil karnavarm, Nandakam Bearing karnavar and Karapath Anthithiriyan.  
Fixing of niram | Karippath Anthithiriyan  
Nira festival | Nandakam bearing karnavar  
Chingam Sankramam | Karepath  
Thirvonam Ritual | Urulikkaran  
Kanni Sankramam | Aranyanthuruthi Karnavar  
Thulavam Sankramam | Pulukku Koottil Karnavar  
Fixing of Puthari | Kareppath Anthithiri

6.5 Administrative system of the Kalakam

The registered bye-law of the Kalakam vide is (No.198/1964) dated 10th September 1964. According to this, there shall be two committees such as Thekkar and Vadakkar consisting of 5 persons from each side. There shall be a central committee consisting of 11 members from the two local committees such as Thekkar and Vadakkar.
There shall be a President, Vice President, General Secretary and two Secretaries for the Kalakam Central committee. The election of the central committee is from the General body members of 27 local committees. There shall be 54 council members elected from the 27 local committees and 11 central committee members. Out of the 11 central committee members, President, Vice President, General Secretary, and two Secretaries are elected.

6.6 Bye-laws of the Nilamangalam Kalakam

1 Name of the kalagam- Sree Nellikkathuruthi KalakamNilamangalam Bagavathi Kshetram, Thuruthi,Post Thuruthi,Cheruvathur,kasargod District,Keralam

2 Name Sree Nellikkathuruthi KalakamNilamangalam Bagavathi Kshetram Bye law

3 Address

Sree Nellikkathuruthi KalakamNilamangalam Bagavathi Kshetram Thuruthi,C.P.ard No 6 Door- PO Thuruthi,Cheruvathiur Kasargod District,Keralam

4 Office As above

5 Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of the Kalakamis earlier known as Northern side and Southern side which includes Padanna, Valaiyaparamba, Cheruvathur, Nileswaram Panchayaths and Kanhangad Munivcipality and those places which have been mentioned in the A and A1 Schedule and also
the individuals and institutions. And the Sub Shrines mentioned in the B Schedule.

A schedule

1 Thuruthikkara
2 Kari
3 Nellikkal-Oriyara Kadappuram
4 Oori
5 Kizhakke muri- orkkalam
6 Purathemadu- Achamthuruthi
7 Kadinhimoola
8 Koyambram-Mundenmadu

Schedule A(1)

Local Committees

1 Thuruthikkara
2 Ullarappath Muzhakki Vanhangamadu
3 Kundantemdu-Pathikkal
4 Kundupadanna, Kuttivayal
5 Anakkarantemetta Meenkadavu
6 Kannankai
7 Polla-Cheruvathur
8 Koyambram-Thavvankandam
9 Nellikkal
10 Kaithakkad
11 Oriyarakadappuram
Aims and Objectives

To regularize the Kalakamadministration and thereby extend the guidance for the overall development of the People.
Membership

25 member consists of the Khetresanmar (Eight Karanavanmar) Two kootayikkar from Thekkar and Two Kootayikkar from Vadakkar, Karappath anthithiriyian, PuTiyapurayil Anthithiriyian and 11 Central Committee members.

Organization Setup

The above referred 25 member committee shall be the Upper council and the whole office bearers and their respective offices will be under their control.

Definition

Sree Nellikka Thuruthi Kalagam

Nellikka Thuruthi Kalakam means the first Kshetram (temple) located at the central part between Valapattanam river in the south and Chandraegiri river in the north and having final powers to decide the disputes of communal in nature and others arise in the shrines and Kalakams referred to in the C schedule.

C Schedule

1 Karivellur vanillam Sthanam
2 Karakka kavu Sthanam
3 Payyanur Kanavath Sthanam
4 Kuniyan parambath Sthanam
5 Mambarath Sthanam, Payyanur
6 Kuttamath Thayathara
7 Puthilottu Sthanam, Mappidicheri
8 Kandoth Sthanam
9 Nileswaram Thattachery Vadayanthur sthanam
10 Nileswaram PuTiyaparambath Kavil Sthanam
11 Kunrinhi Sthanam, Annur, Payyanur
12 Chalakkatt Sthanam
13 Vellur kodakkasthanam
14 kunhimangalam moosarikkovval
15 Kanhangad mathoth sthanam
16 Chembilott Sthanam
17 Sree Ramavilyam kalagam
18 Sree kuruvanthatta Kalagam
19 Sree Kozhummal Sthanam
20 Mathamangalam Sthanam
21 Pallikkara Palere Keezhil Sthanam
22 Puthukkai Thazhathara Sthanam
23 Ravaneswaram Sthanam
24 Kanhnge manniott Sthanam
General Body members of the Kalakam is defined as subscribers or tax paying Valyakar of Kalakam jurisdiction. Valyakar of the Kalakam are the married persons having moderate source of income.

The term of office is two years. A local committee whose jurisdiction is restricted to their locality is also formed.

The functions of the central committee are:

1. Smooth functioning of the Kalakam Administration.
2. Maintenance of Kalakam property
3. Cleansing of Kalakam premises
4. Day-to-day administration of the Kalakam
5. Supervision of local committees
6. Administration of cultural and educational activities

The revenue of the Kalakam is generated as follows:

1. Subscription
2. Offerings, donations
3. Offerings and fines

4. Revenue from the land

5. Share from the Revenue of Koottayikkar

6. Income from the local committees

7. Income from the government.
JURISDICTION OF NILAMANGALAM KALAKAM
Chruvathur - Thuruthi Panchayath
Taluk: Hosdurg

MAP No. 5
12
Settling the disputes at Nilamangalam Kalakam