BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES
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Appa Rao, G.V. (1861-1915). Poet and playwright; celebrated for his progressive views on life and literature; his play 'Kanyasulkam' (bride-price) mirrored the social conditions of his times; a great 'protagonist' of the use of spoken dialect; forerunner of modern poetry in Andhra through his poems 'Mutyalasaralu'.

Atchamamba, Shandaru (1874-1905). Scholar in Telugu; actively participated in the movements for the uplift of women by contributing articles to the contemporary journals such as 'Hindu Sundari', 'Chintamani' and organising Women's associations; author of 'Abala Saccharitra Ratnamala' (Lives of Noble Women).

Brahmayya Sastry, Kasibhatta (1863-1940). A scholar in Telugu and Sanskrit; orthodox in views; critic of Kandukuri Veeresalingam, his writings and reforms; started 'Aryananda Brindayini Sabha' at Kakinada; edited and published 'Aryamathabodhini'; lectured widely opposing Veeresalingam's reform ideas.

Gavarraju Basavaraju (died in 1888). Teacher at Rajahmundry; secretary, Rajahmundry Provincial School Club; close friend and follower of Veeresalingam; member of the Rajahmundry Reform Association; died prematurely leaving Veeresalingam grief-stricken.

Lakshminarasamamamba, Pulugurtha (b. early half of the 19th century). A close follower of Veeresalingam; participated and organised of the movements for the enlightenment of women in Andhra; edited and published 'Savitri', the journal in Telugu devoted exclusively for women; author of a tract on women's education, 'Mahila Kala Bodhini' and started a women students' Association, 'Stri Vidyarthini Samajam' at Kakinada; presided over the all-Andhra Women's Conference held at Guntur in 1910.
Lakshminarasimham, Atmuri (1845–1906). A school teacher at Machilipatnam and later at Rajahmundry where Veeresalingam was his student; a Brahmo by faith; influenced Veeresalingam and a few of his co-students to form a society to discuss social issues; later extended support to Veeresalingam in his efforts in social reform; filed a law suit in the Madras High Court against the Sankaracharya of Virupaksha Matham who excommunicated him from his caste as he extended his support to widow remarriage and got the Acharya fined Rs.200.

Lakshminarasimham, Chilakamarthi (1867–1945). Popular orator, composed many stage-plays and wrote several prose works; an inspiring comrade of Veeresalingam; founder of Ram Mohun School for 'untouchables' and an active participant in several reform movements; his autobiography, 'Sweeyacharitraram' holds a mirror to his times.

Lakshminarayana, Unnava (1877–1958). Barrister; personally came into contact with Irish nationalist leader, De Valera and was inspired by him; performed widow-remarriages at Guntur; established Widows' Home in 1902; managed along with his wife Lakshmibayamma, for some time, the institutions of Veeresalingam at Rajahmundry; described as "Veeresalingam of Guntur"; his novel, 'Malapalli', (Harijan Hamlet) depicted the contemporary political, social and economic conditions of Andhra; later became a prominent figure in the Palnad satyagraha against forest loans; led the Non-Cooperation Movement in Guntur in 1921; imprisoned in 1922, 1930 and 1942–43; started Shri Sarada Niketan in 1922 imparting vocational education for women.

Peda Bapaiah, Desiraju (1881–1908). Student of Raghupati Venkataratnam; champion of 'social purity' movement; 'amushtanic' Brahmo whose example inspired Veeresalingam to become an 'amushtanic'; widely-read scholar in Western and Oriental philosophy and Theism; assisted Veeresalingam in his work and managed his institutions at Rajahmundry; died prematurely of consumption.
Rajagopala Rao, Tekumalla (1876-1938). Came into contact with Veeresalingam early in his life when his widowed aunt was remarried; became an 'anuashtanic' Brahma but later broke away from it and started 'Arsha Samaj' in 1916; conducted a social reform conference at Vijayawada, presided over by Mahadev Govind Ranade in 1902; started South Indian Literary Research Institute at Madras in 1911 and edited a monthly journal called 'South Indian Research'; edited for some time Veeresalingam's 'Satyasamvadhani'; of his books mention should be made of 'A History of Indian Social Reform in the Nineteenth Century' and 'Early Marriages'.

Ramakrishnaiah, Pyda (died in 1886). A native of Kakinada; 'Dubashee' and a banker; a friend of Veeresalingam and supporter of his movements; founder of the Widow Remarriage Association at Kakinada; donated ₹30,000 towards the widow-remarriage movement; one of the founders of the Native Student's Association, Kakinada in 1887 which became Kakinada Literary Association to discuss and initiate reform activities.

Ramamurthy, G.V. (1863-1940). Champion of the use of spoken dialect; friend of reform movements; author of a number of scholarly works on language; prominent among which are, 'A Memorandum on Modern Telugu', 'Andhra Pandita Bhishakkula Bhasha Bhashajamu' and 'Gadya Chintamani'.

Seethamma, Kotikalapudi (1872-1934). Disciple of Veeresalingam; supported and actively participated in movements for the uplift of women; writer of many books, notably biography of Veeresalingam, 'Sri Kandukuri Veeresalingam Charitram', in verse; presided over the ladies section of the first Andhra Conference at Baptla, 1913.

Soobrow (Subba Rao), Vennelacounty (1784-1839). A 'Dubashee' in the Sadr Supreme Court at Madras; member of the Madras School Book Society in which capacity he submitted a report on the then existing system of education; pleaded for the introduction of English education and the inclusion of basic sciences as part of school curriculum; his autobiographical account, 'Life of Vennelacounty Soobrow', in English, provides useful glimpses of 'Andhra Desa' of his times.
Subba Rao, Nyapatla (1856-1941). Lawyer at Rajahmundry; Chairman of Rajahmundry Municipality; member of Madras Legislature in 1892; elected to the Imperial Legislative Council in 1910; member of the Rajahmundry Reform Association; co-worker of Veerasalingam at Rajahmundry till 1907; later started 'Hindu Samaj' (Sabha) and pleaded for social reform on 'national lines'; General Secretary of the A.I.C.C. in 1914; published Journals such as 'Chintamani' and 'Indian Progress'; one of the founders of 'The Hindu', English daily, published from Madras.

Surya Rao, Bahaddur, R.V.K.M. (1865-1965). Rajah of Pithapur; patron of letters and promoter of good causes; close friend and associate of Raghupati Venkataratnam; great benefactor of Brahmo movement in Andhra; liberally donated great sums of money towards its spread; established orphanage, 'Karunalayam', 'lodges' for Harijans at Kakinada and Pithapur; founder of the Kakinada College in 1884.

Veeraswamaiah, Emugula (1780-1836). A 'dubashee' at Sadr Supreme Court at Madras; professed modern ideas such as condemning caste system, criticising the ill-treatment of the 'lower' castes, elaborate rituals in the name of religion; one of the founders of the Hindu Literary Society in Madras, a forerunner of Madras Native Association (1852); his travelogue, 'Kasiyatra Charitra', is a source book reflecting the conditions of his times in Andhra and compared to Heber's Journal.

Venkataratnam, Kokkonda (1842-1915). A distinguished but conservative scholar in Telugu and Sanskrit; leader of orthodox sections opposing reforms in literature and society; lecturer in Telugu in Presidency College, Madras; editor and publisher of 'Andhra Bhasha Sanjivan'; founder of 'Andhra Bhashabhivardhini Samajam'; honoured by the British with the title 'Mahanabhopa-dhyaya'.
Venkatarama Sastry, Vedam (1853-1929). A great scholar in Telugu and Sanskrit; author of many works in Telugu which include his popular play (Prataparudriyam); though a boyhood friend of Veeresalingam, later became a prominent member of orthodox camp; wrote the tract, 'Stripunar-vivaha Durvadannirvapanamu', in Telugu, opposing widow remarriages.

Venkatasimhulu, Rayasam (1870-1952). Follower and co-worker of Veeresalingam in his reform and literary activities; edited 'Telugu Zenana' a journal meant for women, and 'Satyasamvardhini'; prominent among his writings are his autobiography ('Atmaccharitramu') and 'Veeresalinga Samsmruti' (Memoirs of Veeresalingam); closely associated with the Prarthana Samaj movement in Andhra.