A HISTORY OF THE TRAVANCORE THIRUNELVELI
RELATION OF THE 18TH CENTURY

ABSTRACT

On the eve of the eighteenth century the erstwhile princely state of Travancore was almost like a political kaleidoscope which was greatly disturbed by internal and external dissensions. Anarchy, lawlessness and disorder became the order of the day. The internal feuds coupled with machinations of the European powers rather confounded the situation. The chaos and confusion came to an end through the establishment of a sound system of administration which ultimately opened an era of progress. Both the neighbouring princely state Tinnevelly and Travancore, must necessarily have stood at different times in different relations to one another. Generally, however, those relations seem to have been peaceable. During the early Pandya an Chola period the Southern Tamil-Speaking district of Travancore, Called Nanjilnadu, together with Purathaya Nadu, the district in which cape Comorian is included, appear to have belonged to the Pandya Kingdom. At a later period during the decay of the Pandyas. This state of things was reversed and the and the Southern portion of Tinnevelly seems to have been included in what is now called the kingdom of Travancore, but which was then generally called the Tinnevelly mercily Kuda Nadu, the western kingdom, Malayalam in general. Each of these changes rests on the evidence of inscriptions, but in neither case is there any trace or tradition of the change having been effected by force of arms. In this juncture the present study revealed the Travancore Tinnevelly relations in the 18th century.

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