ABSTRACT

Title of the Thesis : AGRARIAN CHANGES IN TRAVANCORE
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Name and Address of the Candidate : D. Lekha
Reg. No. 2301
Research Scholar
M.S. University
Tirunelveli – 627 012.
Guided by : Dr. B. Maria John, M.A., M.A.,
M. Phil., Ph.D.
Professor & Head,
Department of History
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University
Tirunelveli – 629 012.

Basically Travancore is an agricultural country. The lands were classified into two major categories as pandaravaka land and jenmam land. The term 'land tenure' is conveying the meaning as acknowledging a person's various rights over use of a land. The land tenurial system that prevailed in Travancore in the nineteenth century was a serious constraint to the progress of agriculture of Travancore. In Travancore the system augmented the anarchic and unsettled state of land tenurial affairs in existed as like the early European feudal society.

Various agrarian reforms were took place in the 18th & 19th century. In 1772-73 the first settlement was made and Travancore had regained all the lands included within its present limits. In 1802-03 next settlement was held. It was different from the previous settlement from the assessment were fixed. The next settlement was in 1817-18 and 1836-37 for regulate the terms for the garden and dry lands.

The revenue fixed in Travancore was less than Rs.9 lakhs as against Rs.19 lakhs imposed by the British. The assessment in kind was resolved to be abolished from the settlement of 1886 and money payment was substituted for it. Dry crops occasionally grown on wet land were assessed with a uniform rate of half of the paddy tax are delineated.

The jenmies and the kudiyan generally exercised their respective rights without prejudice to each other. In order to improve the situation, the state intervened and issued a proclamation in 1867. The jenmies difficulties coupled with the kudiyan's grievances an account of the unprincipled levying of renewal fees, prompted the state to appoint a Commission in 1885 to examine the relation between the Jenmies and kudiyans. On the basis of Commission's recommendation an act was passed in 1896.