CHAPTER I
Karnataka in the Historical Perspective:

The Karnataka region is situated in the heart of the Deccan plateau. It is one of the oldest spots in India possessing remains of great antiquity indicating the life of the most ancient men, long before civilization had introduced the means of advanced social and scientific contacts. The modern Karnataka which is situated between the rivers Krishna in the north and the Cauvery in the south is bound by the State of Maharashtra in the north and Goa in the north-west, Andhra Pradesh in the east, Tamilnadu in the South-East and South and Kerala in the South-West.

The history of South India begins with the advent of Aryans into this area. Till about 600 B.C., the Southern India was unknown to Aryan inhabitants of the North. Gradually Aryans migrated into the region beyond the Vindhyas. Sage Agasthya is supposed to have Aryanised South India. Karnataka occupies a significant place in the political and cultural history of ancient India. The Great forest region of Bandakaranya, is attributed to this area in the South. The earliest reference to Karnataka as a domain can be seen in the
Great Epic MARABHARATA. Historians infer that between 4th Century B.C. and 4th Century A.D., Karnataka must have emerged as a well established principality with people speaking Kannada language. Political history of Karnataka, based on the study of sources available, refers to the relation of the two great Mauryan Emperors, Chandragupta and Ashoka with Karnataka. Chandragupta Maurya, the founder of the Mauryan empire spent his last days at Sravanabelagola as a devoted Jaina Rishi, along with Bhadrabahu. There is still more evidence to prove that during the period of Ashoka, the Great, Karnataka was an integral part of Mauryan empire. E. Lewis Rice says ‘that the North of Mysore may even at that period have been a part of the Mauryan empire is not beyond probability’. The Rock edicts of Ashoka found in Mallakalmonur taluk of Chitradurga District and in Koppal and Mokli in Raichur districts, amply testify to this.

The area around Brahmagiri and Siddapura was under an Officer called Ashamantra appointed by a Mauryan King to govern over this region. Ashoka despatched Buddhist monks to Mahishamandala (Mysore). What happened to Daccau provinces after the death of Ashoka was not clearly known even to tradition on the disruption of

1. Rangaswamy S. Nagar, The Heritage of Karnataka, p.3.
2. Rice E. Lewis - Mysore and Coorg From Inscriptions, p.9.
the Mauryan empire, the first notable power which came into prominence in the region of Karnataka, inheriting the Mauryan Provinces South of Vindhyas was Satavahana, who reigned from about 200 B.C. to 300 A.D. Their kingdom extended over a large part of the Deccan extending from the rivers Kandva and Godavari to Krishna and Tungabhadra and even projecting into the northern parts of Mysore State. A good number of their coins and inscriptions are found in Karnataka region. Simuka was the founder of this dynasty. Cautamiputra Sathakarni, a distinguished ruler of this family, consolidated the empire and extended its boundaries from Krishna in the South to Malwa and Kathiawar in the North and from Berar in the east to Konkan in the West. He was called by the celebrated name 'The Lord of the Vindhyas'. His son Pulamayi II ruled from 96 A.D. to 119 A.D. Satavahana Kingdom reached its zenith under him when he enjoyed political sway over large portions of Southern India. His army stretched its arms to the three oceans of the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. At the heights of his rule, Pulamayi assumed the title of 'Dakshinpathi.' But after him, the empire began to decline and the main line of the Satavahanas disappeared from the political scene. But certain feudatories of Satavahanas held sway in the southern parts of India.
Some of the smaller kingdoms which kept up the Satavahana tradition were the Cutus ruling at Banavasi who served as link between Satavahanas and the Kadambas of later period; the Banas ruling in the east of Mysore and parts of Tamilnad; Alupas in the West coast; Sendrakas in Negarakhanda; Palas in Bellary and Kurnul districts and Punnada kings in the South of Mysore. By the middle of 6th century A.D. the Kadambas ruled over the northern parts of Karnataka while Ggngas held sway in the southern parts. By this time, the Satavahana had lost their supremacy by giving way to the Pallavas. Kadamba dynasty was founded by Mayurasarma. The name Kadamba was ascribed to the Kadamba tree which grew near the ancestral home of Mayurasarma. Mayurasarma made some breaches in the Pallava frontiers and then captured the area extending up to Srírajam. Pallavas ultimately were forced to recognize the supremacy of Mayurasarma over the territory extending from the Indian ocean to the Mahāprabha river.

After establishing his position, Mayurasarma embarked on a series of wars defeating the Traikutcas, Abhiras, Pallavas, Pariyatrakas, Sendrakas, and king of Punnata. According to Chandravalli record, he seemed to have gained a victory over the Aukhariś of Rajasthan
and the Sakas of Ujjaini. His great grand son Kakusthavarman became so prominent as to induce the imperial Guptas of the North and Vakataka of Central India to enter into matrimonial alliance with his family. Skandagupta, son of Kumaragupta, married a daughter of this king and another Kadamba Princess, Ajjita Bhattarika was given in marriage to Narandrasana of Vakataka Dynasty. On the basis of these alliances, the famous poet Kalidasa appeared to have been sent to the Court of the Kadamba King as an envoy of the Guptas. Another daughter of Kakusthavarman was given in marriage to Madhava-III, a king of the Ganga dynasty in South. The expansionist policy of the succeeding Kadamba kings brought them into conflict with the Pallavas and Ganges in the South. His grandson Krishnevarma II suffered a great defeat at the hands of Pulakesi I of the Chalukya family, while the Kadambas ruled over Karnataka above Tungabhadra from 6th to 5th centuries, during the same period, the Ganges, established their kingdom on the banks of river Cauvery and continued to rule till the end of 10th century when they lost their kingdom to the Pashtrakutas.

The turn of 6th century witnessed a new era of political paramountcy opened by the Chalukya of Badami.

The founder of this Dynasty was Pulakesi I who defeated the last of the Kadamba kings Krishnawarma-II. Pulakesi became the political successor of the Kadambas. His capital was Badami in the Bijapur district. He performed ASWAMBEDA Yaga to commemorate his victories in the South as well as in the North. He subdued the Kadambas, the Ganges, and the Alupas. He captured Puri, the capital of the Maurya kings of Konkana. The Latas, Malavas and Gurjars of North bowed before his might. He humbled the king Harsa, the illustrious suzerain of the North. To commemorate this event, Pulakesi assumed the title 'Parameswara' which means Paramount Sovereign. His next move was towards East and further South which runs over the Kosala and Kalinga. After subduing Pishnapura, he attacked the Pallava King Mahendravarma who took shelter behind the ramparts of Kanchi. He next crossed the Cauvery and entered into friendly relations with the Cholas, Keralas and Pandyas. These conquests spread Pulakesi's reputation not only over the length and breadth of India but even beyond the boundaries of India. Envoys were exchanged between the Chalukya emperor and the king of Persia, Khushru-II. Pulakesi ranked among the foremost monarchs not only of Karnataka but also of India.\(^4\) He ruled for 33 years. At the end of his

reign Pulakesi suffered a setback when he was defeated by the Pallava king Narasimhevarma. But after a short eclipse of 13 years Vikramadithya-I son of Pulikesi-II, recovered all the Chalukya territories. Vinayadithya, son of Vikramaditya-I, launched a campaign towards the north and defeated Yashovarman of Hmanuj on the banks of Ganga and Yamuna. Vikramadithya-II, grand son of Vinayadithya, undertook three expeditions to south and routed the Pallava king with vengeance but acted with exemplary generosity, by bestowing gifts to the poor and needy and also returned heaps of gold to Rajasimhevarma temple. The Arabs, who threatened his kingdom in the north, were driven back by his subordinate Avanijana Shraya Pulakesi who governed the Gujarat region.5

Rashtrakutas who replaced the Chalukyas of Badami ruled over Karnataka region for two centuries (757 - 973 A.D.). Malkhed in Gulbarga district was their capital. Danthidurga was the founder of the Rashtra- kuta dynasty. To begin with, he was a subordinate of Chalukya king Vikramaditya-II after whose death he grew in power and finally overthrew the Chalukya king Kirthivarma-II, con and successor of Vikramaditya-II. Krishna-I, uncle of Danthidurga, subdued the Ganga king

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Sriparvasha and placed his kingdom on secure foundations. He encouraged art and religion. The Marvellous Bhulesh-

muth Temple at Ellora was carved out at his instance.

Dhruva, son of Krishna, was considered as one of the foremost among the kings of Peshtrakuta dynasty. He overpowered the rebellions of the Ganges and the Pallavas in the south and extended his territory to the banks of Cauvery. He defeated the Chalukyas of Vengi in the east and also launched a campaign of conquest in the North. When the Pallas of Dorgal and Prathiharas of Gurjaradesa were trying to capture Kanauj, Dhruva entered the arena as third contender, and by his strategy and maneuverability routed his rivals one after the other and emerged victorious as a master of the region between Ganga and Yamuna without annexing these areas to his realm. Govinda-Iili son of Dhruva made another expedition to north and completed his father's task by defeating the king of Kanauj and moving up to Himalayas, gained an unprecedented success and glory both in the north and the south.

While Govinda was an illustrious conqueror, his son and successor Amoghavanaha who is also known in the

Kannada literary world as Nripatunga was a great scholar and a peace loving ruler. He devoted himself for the
welfare of the people and he was rightly called a philosopher king. He was the author of the earliest known work on Kannada poetics, *Kevirajagupta* and also another work *Praasottaramala*.

Another great ruler of this dynasty was Krishna-III, who subdued the territories of Malava, Gurjara and Parthiharas in the north and crushed the might of Cholas and Pallavas in the South. His empire was extended in the south up to Penancevaran. Krishna built the temples of Krishnawara and Ganderathandra near Penancevaran and also set up a pillar of victory to mark his glory in the entire south. From the point of view of war and politics the Rashtrakuta empire was the most brilliant chapter in the history of Karnataka. The rivers Cauvery in the South and Karmada in the North were the boundaries of this empire. By virtue of their astounding military exploits the Rashtrakutas attained paramountcy among the contemporary crowned heads of India. Their reputation travelled far and wide. According to the testimony of the Arab chronicler Sulaiman Soudagar, the Rashtrakuta empire was reckoned as one of the four great empires of the world, the other three being Arabia, Rome and China.

As the Rashtrakuta empire began to decline, the

Ghalukyas by 973 A.D., re-established their ascendancy under Telia-II who was a vassal of Krishna-I. Telia had to fight many battles to consolidate and stabilise his position. He faced boldly the menace from the Punnas of the north and Cholas in the south. Though war was his major occupation he promoted religion and patronised the literary men. Ranna, the celebrated Sanskrit poet adored his court. The conflict between Chalukyas and Cholas was prolonged for about a century over the affairs of the eastern Chalukya Kings of Vengi. Chalukya king Jayasimha who came to throne in 1015 A.D. faced boldly and frustrated the combined attack against him by Parmara, Kalachuri and Chola kings. Someswara-II succeeded his father Jayasimha. He successfully thwarted all the attempts of the Cholas to cross the river Thungabhadra on the one hand and to occupy Vengi on the other. He also deputed his son Vikramadithya-VI to go to north to establish his influence there. Kalyan in the Bidar district of present Karnataka State, was made the capital of the Chalukyas.

Comparatively the rule of Vikramadithya for a period of fifty years, was one of tranquility and peace. For about almost a century, the Chalukyas and the Cholas opposed each other without any tangible results. Hence
the two families turned their attention to the welfare of their subjects. Vikramaditya was a liberal patron of learning. Distinguished scholars from different parts of the country visited his court. Notable among them were Bilaesa from Kashmir, and Vijnaneswara, the author of Masikasabha, a code of laws based on the Smritis, flourished in the Court of Vikramaditya. This period was an age of prosperity and plenty. Vikramaditya immortalised himself by starting a calendar after his own name known as the Chalukya-Vikrama era. This era commenced on the 26th February 1077 A.D. Towards the end of his rule, Vikramaditya realised his long cherished desire by invading Vangal in the eastern part and thereby established his supremacy from the east coast to west coast. The reign of Soneswara-III, son of Vikramaditya, was quiet as he was a scholar king. He wrote the famous work ABHILASHITHA-RATHACHINTHAMANI. By the closing years of his rule the forces of disintegration were set in owing to the weakness of central authority and disloyalty among the subordinates. In 1162 A.D. Bijjala of Kalachuri family, a vassal of Chalukyas usurped the throne from the last king Taile-III. The Kalachuri rule lasted only for a brief period of twenty years. Thereafter, the Chalukya rule was restored by Soneswara-IV, but the disintegrating forces which had already set in, had badly damaged the strength and
influence of the Chalukyas. By 1195 A.D., with the
downfall of the Chalukyas the glorious era of a great
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empire came to a close. On the ruins of this great empire
there emerged three dynasties which formed the nucleus of
modern States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
These three dynasties were the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra
(Kalochi), Kakatiyus of Warangal and the Yadavas of
Devagiri.

The Yadavas of Devagiri who are also known as
Seunus emerged out of the wreckage of Chalukyas, established
themselves in the Nasik region of the present Maharashtra,
by declaring their independence about 1182 A.D. during the
rule of Singhana-II the Seunus reached the zenith of power.
The boundaries of the kingdom extended up to the Harada
in the north, the Tungabhadra in the south, Arabian sea
to the west and Anantapur and Kurnool area in the Andhra
region in the east. A series of threats came on the Seunus
from the north. Alauddin Khalji fell on Devagiri in
1275 A.D. and took away a large slice of wealth. Again
in 1307 A.D. Balbji Sultan sent his General Mallikafar
who invaded Devagiri after defeating the king of Devagiri.
While Seunus were ruling above Tungabhadra, the Hoysala
dynasty held sway over southern region of Karnataka
below Tungabhadra. Sala was the founder of the Hoysala
dynasty. Hoysalas were the feudatories of Chalukya Kings. When Chalukya's reign began to decline, Hoysalas asserted their independence and ruled over Karnataka region over two and a half centuries, with Lavarasamdr (Halebidu) as their capital. Vishnuvardhana (1111-1141 A.D.) was perhaps the greatest among the Hoysala kings, who defeated the Chalukya army and threw off the Chalukya suzerainty. He also defeated the Chola intruders and extended his kingdom to the whole of Gangavadi region comprising Kolar, Tumkur, Bangalore and Mysore districts. In the west, he subdued the Chengalvas and Kongalvas. His kingdom extended up to Mangli on the east, to Salum and Coimbatore in the south, on the west to South Kanara and on the north as far as river Krishna. The King was a Jain under the name Bittideva. After conversion to Vaishnavism by the great teacher Namanujacharya, the King changed his name as Vishnuvardhana. Vishnuvardhana gave great encouragement to religion, culture and architecture. The great temples of Keshava and Chennigaraya at Belur, the Keshava and Siddesvara temples at Harala, the Kirthi-narayana temple at Talkad are a testimony to the architectural glory of his reign. Nagachandra, Pushadithya, Vishnuvedanashipa and poetess Kasthi were the Literary luminaries of this period.

Vishnuvardhana was succeeded by his son Narasimha who constructed a number of temples in the newly developed Hoysala style. The most notable among them were the Hoysaleswara temple at Dwarasamudra (Halebidu), the Brahmaeswara temple at Kikkeri. During the time of his son Ballala-II (1173-1220) Hoysala dynasty came into prominence. Most of his life was devoted to the battle field. His army marched first on Kalachuries and then against Chalukyas and finally over the Saumors. Thereafter he annexed the Velvola and Puligera territories. In the North Lakkundi became a part of his territorial possession. In the south he also interfered in the affairs of the Cholas who were on the decline. Ballala by his exploits both in the north and the south assumed the title of Giridurga Malla. His monumental constructions include many temples like Anrimeswara temple at Amrithapura, and Veerabhadra temple at Dwarasamudra and Jaina bastis at Shravanabelagola and Nandaliyana. Ballala's Queen, Unadevi evinced active interest not only in the affairs of the State but even exhibited her valour in leading Hoysala army in its attacks against the intruders.

Ballala-II was succeeded by his son Narasimha-III in 1220 and ruled for fifteen years. During his time, Kalottunga-III who had been driven away by Narasimha
Sundara Pandya, was reinstated on the Chola throne. For this graceful act, Narasimha obtained a good chunk of territory around Kannanur to keep a reserve force of his army under his son Someswara, to protect Chola king. Again when the Pandyas attacked Chola king, Raja-Raja end imprisoned him, once again Narasimha had to go to his rescue and defeated the Pandya King Jara Varun Sundara Pandya. For this act Narasimha was hailed as the saviour of Chola throne and Hoysala prestige and influence in the Chola country increased. Kannanur region became a part of their kingdom. Then on the Hoysala interest in the Tamilnadu grew more and more end in fact Someswara made Kannanur his permanent headquarters. This resulted in Someswara's visits to Hoysala capital Dwarasamudra occasional and formal.

With the succession of Rajendra-ill to the Chola throne the attitude of the Cholas towards the Hoysalas changed. As a result Hoysalas had to change their policy towards Cholas. Someswara, who all along sided the Cholas became an ally of Pandyas. This shift in the balance made Chola king to compose his differences with Someswara. By now, the Hoysalas firmly established themselves in Tamil area and Kannanur as their eastern capital. During his last days, Someswara unable to attend to the affairs
of his large end unwieldy kingdom decided to divide his kingdom into two portions. The northern territory of his kingdom was placed under his elder son Narasimha-III, with Iwarasamudra as capital and the southern region was placed under his younger son Ramanatha with Kannanur as his capital. But the two brothers did not rule in peace as they were always inimical to one another. This infighting among the brothers weakened their own power. Taking advantage of this situation, the Pandyas in the south invaded the chola and Hoysala territories. Ramanatha lost his capital Kannanur in Tamil territory and shifted his headquarters to Kundani, a place to the north of Kannanur and from where he conducted his state affairs till his death in 1295 A.D. However, Ballala-III son of Narasimha-I succeeded his father in 1291 A.D. was able to unite the Hoysala kingdom. While Ballala was engaged himself to consolidate his dominions, the Seunas in the north were encountering the Muslim assaults. The Seunas kings instead of combining themselves with Hindu kings persisted in unfriendly activities with them which was disastrous to them and their neighbours. Allauddin Khilji invaded the Seunas kingdom in 1295 A.D. and plundered Devagiri and returned to Delhi after amassing huge wealth. In the process, Saunas not only lost their

independence but were forced to pay annual tributes to the Delhi Sultan. The Muslims after making themselves masters of northern India were casting eyes on the South.

The rich booty that Alluddin had acquired from Devagiri further rounded his thirst for wealth, and planned another invasion to far south. This time Iwara-samudra and Coromandal coast were the targets of his attack. In February, 1311 All-Ud-Din's army under his General, Mallik Effer reached the outskirts of Iwara-samudra. Ballala fought with all his might against the attack of the Muslims, but he had to submit finally to the superior prowess of the enemy. The Hoyasala capital was sacked and its treasures were taken away by the invader. And added to this, Mallikafer obtained the help of Ballala to march against the Coromandal coast, the kingdom of Pandyas. Here also the invaders destroyed the temples, plundered the cities seized enormous wealth. But Ballala considered these invasions by the Muslims as a passing phase and again reverted back to interfere in the affairs of the Pandya kingdom which resulted in some territorial gains around the area of the present Thiruvannamalai which became Ballala's southern headquarters. Seuna kingdom, by 1318, was completely subjected to the Muslim rule, with a Muslim Governor stationed at Devagiri.
There was a second invasion in 1227 and once again<br>
Devarasamudra was attacked by Muhammad-Bin-Thugeluk.<br>
Hoysala fled to Thiruvannamalai and Hoysala capital was<br>ruthlessly sacked and completely ravaged and demolished.<br>In the course of next three years of this attack, all the<br>Hindu dynasties succumbed to the Muslim sword and only<br>Hoysala Ballala-III and Kempalidava of Kannada region,<br>were the two States which enjoyed independent status.<br>Further, the Muslim army marched against Madurai, the<br>capital of Pandyas kingdom and placed a Governor in charge<br>of the territory. Thus by 1330 A.D. Devagiri, Tanangal<br>and Madurai all the three capitals acknowledged the<br>Suzerainty of the Delhi Sultanate. In 1327 A.D.<br>Bahauddin Garshap, a nephew of the Delhi Sultan, was<br>the Governor of Sagar in the region of present Sulbarga.<br>He rebelled against his uncle and went to take refuge<br>under the generous hearted Kempalidava. The enraged<br>sultan came to south to punish him and Kempalidava who<br>gave him shelter. In the conflict both Kempalidava and<br>his son laid down their lives in the battle field, but<br>in the process of their great act they had despatched<br>safely Bahauddin to the capital of Ballala-III. The<br>disappointed Sultan marched to Hoysala capital, Ballala,<br>who was in a precarious position did not take risks.
The Sultan's army pursued and captured the rebel and spared the Hoysala capital. With Hampi coming under the Sultan's rule, the only kingdom which retained its existence was that of the Hoysales. Although the Hoysala kingdom was subdued more than once by the Muslim invaders, its ruler Ballala was allowed to govern his territory. Muslims caused great destruction, and cruelty during their invasion of the south and by these atrocities and violence, the Muslim rulers soon alienated themselves from the Hindus of the South, whose only thought was the liberation from Muslims and their constant threat.

At this critical juncture there came forth a new dynasty which held forth hopes for Hindu survival, when the two brothers Harihara and Bukka appeared on the scene and laid the foundations of Vijayanagara kingdom. When the ruthless hordes of the Muslim rulers of the north wrought havoc in the south, it was taken as a challenge by the traditionally heroic Karnataka warriors. Karnataka became the venue; men of stature appeared and founded magnificent Vijayanagara, the empire which saved India and south India in particular, from the holocaust of iconoclastic fury and revived all that was precious and sublime, in the Hindu way of culture and life. 9

The credit of the foundation of the Vijayanagara empire goes to the two brothers, Bukka and Bukka among the five sons of Sangama, a chieftain claiming descent from Yadava lineage. These two brothers had been taken away to Delhi as captives and employed in the sultan’s service. When there was a rebellion in Hampi, the sultan sent these brothers to South to put down the rebellion. When they were in the south on this mission, Sage Vidyaranya inspired them to come under his influence for an exalted sense of patriotism in defence of the unity of their heritage and solidarity and preservation of their culture. Hoysala king Ballala who was the only Hindu king to rule over his territory in the entire south, was waiting to help a liberation movement, helped the five sons of Sangama to save the country and the people from the foreign domination. Ballala, even at the age of eighty, did not rest and struggled against the Sultans of Madhuravadi. Ballala lost his life in 1342 on the battle field, but before his death there had taken place the birth of a new kingdom in the Lempata region, pledged to the task of protecting Hindu religion, culture and society. Ballala’s successor Virupaksha Ballala-IV was an insignificant ruler and he died in 1346 A.D., i.e., within three years of his coronation.
Thus came to an end the rule of the Hoysalas which terminated the mastership of the Hoysalas influence and power on the vast area between the Thungabhadra and the Cauvery for over three centuries.

By the end of Hoysala dynasty, the sangama brothers had established the new kingdom of Vijayanagar in the Hoysala territory. Ballala-III who cherished the idea of freeing the country from the clutches of the aliens, had blessed Bukka or Harihara, grew from strength to strength and to expand in all directions, was coming true. Thus emerged the new Vijayanagara empire with Humpe as its capital on the banks of the river Thungabhadra.

The first ruler of the Vijayanagar kingdom was Harihara of Sangama dynasty. He ruled the kingdom with the able assistance of his other four brothers—Bukka, Kampana, Manappa and Madappa. Usually, Bukka and Bukka were the two brothers who associated with the founding of the Vijayanagara kingdom because of the conspicuous part played by them. Bukka or Harihara was crowned as king and the coronation of Harihara took place in April 1336. Bukka was installed as viceroy and he administered the central region near Raasamudra.
Kampana managed the Udayagiri Rajya (Eastern coast region of Andhra). Heerappa controlled the coastal region in the west with Chandragiri as his headquarters. Heerappa governed from Malabagel. Within a short period of ten years most of the territories of the south of the Thunga-bhadra came under Harihara and he became the sovereign of the south except for the fact that his period saw the establishment of the Bahamani kingdom at Gulberga which had a far reaching consequence upon the new kingdom of Vijayanagar. Harihara not only laid the foundation of a new State but set up good governments in dominions. He was a great warrior and a capable military leader. He divided the kingdom into provinces and appointed members of royal family as Viceroy to the provinces.

Bukka succeeded his brother in 1336 A.D. and engaged in consolidating his empire. Bukka's reign is known for the exploits of his Kampana who marched against Arcot and then upon Madurai and subdued them thereby bringing the entire south peninsula under Vijayanagara empire. After this conquest, Kampana was the Viceroy in Tamil area. These conquests of Kampana have been immortalised by his wife Gangadevi in her Sanskrit poetic work kṣuṣuṣu viṣyaṇa or Vira Kamparaya Charithra. During this period of his reign began the constant and continuous hostilities
between Vijayanagara and Bahamani Sulthans for the possession of the Doab region between the rivers Krishna and Thungabhadra.

At the end of Sangama dynasty, Saluvas came into prominence. Saluva Narasimha was an important leader of this family which was serving the Vijayanagara rulers. During the reign of Sangama ruler, Mallikarjuna Narasimha was a Governor of Chandragiri. When the Vijayanagara kingdom was exposed to danger by the weak rule, Narasimha, a loyal and faithful officer, had to shoulder the responsibility of saving Vijayanagara from distress. Narasimha valiantly pushed back the Orissa king Gajapati and captured Udayagiri in 1463 A.D. He also overpowered Konchi and re-established the Vijayanagara sway in the south. He drove back the Bahamani Sulthans from telugu region and captured the fort, Kondaveedu and port, Basaliapatna. Narasimha died in 1491 A.D. As his son was a minor, Narasimha’s general, Tuluva Narasa Nayaka was put as regent and protector of the minor ruler. Narasa Nayaka took advantage of the circumstances and usurped all authority and ruled as Vijayanagara’s sovereign. Narasa Nayaka put down the Kumamur Chieftain by subjugating the Island fort of Srirangapatna. He also wrested back Tanjavur and Madga from the nobles of the former Bahamani
Sultanate. Gajapathi Prataparudra of Orissa who had made inroads into Vijayanagara territory was driven back and all the old boundaries of the kingdom were restored, but Saluva rule soon came to an end. Narsa, son of Veera Narasimha ruled over Vijayanagara kingdom from 1505 to 1509 A.D. After the death of Veera Narasimha, his able and eminent brother Krishnadevaraya, a benevolent and farsighted ruler came to the throne of Vijayanagara in 1509 A.D. When Krishnadevaraya assumed power, he found Vijayanagara kingdom much weakened and self-administered. Internal dissensions and external stresses and strains exposed the state to distress. He had to initiate several measures to integrate and consolidate his empire. By tax relief measures he restored confidence and instilled hope among his subjects. He improved military administration to meet the gigantic task ahead by fixing responsibility on the provincial governors to supply a fixed number of soldiers to the army.

He quelled the rebellious Ganga and annexed Srirangapatna and Shivamogga. The responsibility of local administration was entrusted to Kempe Gowda, after appointing a viceroy to supervise over the area. After consolidating his position in the kingdom, he launched upon a series of expeditions against the enemies of
Vijayanagara empire, who had encroached upon its territory. His war against Kalinga extended over six years and his troops traversed their way upto Katakpur by capturing Udayagiri, Kundaveedu and Prajnahendra. Prataparuwa of Crissa not only surrendered himself but gave his daughter Jagamachini in marriage to Krishnadevaraya, to save his over run territory. In a series of battles, he drove out the Golconda troops. In 1520, he won another victory in the battle of Paichur against Laisail Adilshah of Bijapur. Then, Raya led his army in 1523 A.D. to Golconda and captured it. Thus Krishnadevaraya had clearly established his firm hold over the Bahamani Powers. He had a great desire to take back Goa from Portuguese but restrained himself as he did not want to antagonise Portuguese with whom he had trade relations for supplying war horses to Vijayanagara army.

It is true Krishnadevaraya waged many wars but his ultimate objective was security, peace and happiness of the people. His reign was known for many constructive and welfare activities. He erected the shrine of Prisnmasi to install the image of Krishna brought as a trophy after his conquest of Udayagiri. He improved, with the help of Portuguese engineers from Goa, the irrigation system around Vijayanagara and also the city water supply.
He built two beautiful suburbs to the capital called Nagalapura in honour of his mother Nagaladevi and another in memory of his queen Thirumalamba.

He was not only a great patron of literature but himself a scholar and poet. Telugu poetic work *Amukthamalvada* which is ascribed to him contains fine exposition of the principles of political administration, practised by the monarch. His court was adorned with many illustrious poets and literary men. Pre-eminent among them were Telugu poet Alasani Peddana, and Kannada poet Thimmarnakavi. His love for literature, his solicitude for the welfare of his people and above all the most fabulous wealth that he conferred as endowments on temples and brahmans mark him out indeed as the greatest of the south Indian monarchs.10

In the words of Neelakanta Shastry, 'Pre-eminent as warrior Krishnadevaraya was equally great as a statesman, administrator, and patron of the arts. The grandeur of his court excited the warm admiration of many foreign visitors and their description of the great wealth of Vijayanagara, its festivals, its military strength and its heroic king make eloquent reading. All South India

was under Krishnaddevaraya's sway. 11

He respected all sects of Hindu religion alike, though his personal leanings were in favour of Vaishnavism.

It was most unfortunate that he died prematurely at the age of about forty years. At the time of his demise the empire of Vijayanagara was mightier than ever. The twenty years of Krishnaddevaraya's rule from 1509 to 1529 A.D. was a remarkable epoch in the history of India in general and Karnataka in particular. After Krishnaddevaraya, internal dissensions on account of Palace intrigues for succession and external danger from enemies began to set in. Adilshah of Bijapur in the north, Gajapathi of Orissa in the east and the Portuguese activities in the west became menacing. The manoeuvres and manipulations in the royal family brought to the forefront, Ramaraya, son-in-law of Krishnaddevaraya who placed on the throne in 1542 A.D., Sadashiva, a nephew of Krishnaddevaraya and carried on the administration as his regent and assuming all authority by himself. Ramaraya, ambitious as he was, gradually rose to power and ascendancy and ruled for fifteen years from 1551 to 1565 A.D., establishing peace and security in the Kingdom. Immediately after coming to power, Ramaraya embarked on a policy of aggrandizement.

For the first time Vijayanagara ruler found himself entangled in the inter-state affairs of the Sultans of Ahmednagar, Bidar, Bijapur and Golkonda. Skilful Basaraya succeeded in setting them one against the other which weakened the power, position and strength of Bahamani Sultans and increased the power of the Vijayanagar rulers. Basaraya recovered the entire territory lost after Krishna-devaraya and expanded the empire beyond river Krishna. Strategically important forts like Kalyana, Kovilakonda, Gangapura, Pengal and Yadgiri in the northern Deccan came under Vijayanagara control. This achievement was a great tribute to Basaraya's military genius and great diplomacy. However, it was a dangerous game that Basaraya played. The Bahamani Sultans began to realise soon their folly in pursuing their internecine hostilities and united themselves by social and marriage alliances after knowing that individually they could not withstand the Vijayanagara forces. Thus finally they entered into a military confederacy to march against Vijayanagara at appropriate time. To begin with, Basaraya was indifferent to the activities of the belligerent Sultans but soon realised the impending danger and mustered all available military might for a final trial of strength. Things came to ahead when Bahamani Sultans gathered a large
army and moved southward. Ramaraya prepared himself with available troops. A decisive engagement took place between the two armies on 23rd January, 1565 at Bakkasa Thengadi near Talikota for about four hours. Ramaraya, though aged about eighty years, decided to conduct the war operations by himself. The battle was furious and devastating. Ramaraya was able to organise the disposition of his army in time and initial success was in favour of the Vijayanagara forces but at this crucial hour two Muslim commanders of the Vijayanagara army with their battalions, each in charge of seventy to eighty thousand men, treacherously deserted their camp and joined the enemy. This desertion by the army chiefs created confusion in the rank and file and had a disastrous effect on the Vijayanagara army. Ramaraya was captured in the battle field and was beheaded. The severed head was raised up and was exhibited to the Hindu army. There was dismay among Vijayanagara troops and were routed by the Muslim army. This was one of the fiercest and decisive battles in the annals of Indian History.

Thirumala, brother of Ramaraya, who survived the catastrophe hurried in haste, to save as much as he could of the capital, collected all the available wealth of

the emperor—gold jewels and jewelled throne, accompanied by the king Sadasiva and women members of the royal family proceeded to Chadraguttu. In the meanwhile, the enemy reached the undefended capital and stayed there for about five months plundering, causing destruction to the property and committing vandalism relentlessly. Soon Vijayanagara became a mass of ruins and it has remained so till now. With fire and sword, with crow-bars and axes, they carried on day after day their work of destruction. Never perhaps in the history of the world has so much havoc been wrought suddenly, on so splendid a city, teeming with a wealthy and industrious population in the full plenitude of prosperity one day, and on the next, seized, pillaged and reduced to ruins amid scenes of savage, massacre and horrors beggaring description. The battle of Talikote was a supreme tragedy and an irretrievable catastrophe. The Imperial Vijayanagara which embraced all philosophy, all scholarship, all art, and all refinement and exaltation an inexhaustible reservoir of wealth and intellect one day, was a heap of ruins the next day on the banks of river Thunga. Vijayanagara never recovered after the battle of Talikote. After this blow, diminished in strength and magnitude, it

continued its precarious existence for a few decades. The attempts made by Thirumala to revive and rebuild the city met with no success. After six years of anarchy and confusion, despondency and frustration, Thirumala took up his abode in penugonda and began to rule. In the meanwhile, the feudatories and provincial chiefs of Vijayanagara came to prominence in different parts of the empire acknowledging formally the suzerainty of the emperor. But the immediate inheritors of the Vijayanagara throne were the rulers of the Aravidu family in the Andhra region. After the Talikota tragedy, the northern provinces of the empire were seized by the Sultans and the Southern territory was retained by Thirumala. By 1570, the nominal emperor, Sadasiva was removed and Thirumala took over the reigns of administration. He divided the territory into three parts on the basis of language and appointed his three sons as Viceroy's in each region. Sriranga, the eldest son was in charge of Andhra region, with Chandragiri as his headquarters. His second son, Ramaraya governed the Kannada region from Srirangapatna, and the third son, Venkatapathi administered the Tamil region from Chandragiri.

The truncated State of Vijayanagar lingered on for about a century and gradually disintegrated. A large
slice of its northern territory finally fell into the hands of the Sultans of Bijapur and Golconda. In other parts, the feudatory chiefs declared their independence. The last ruler, Sriranga ran away to Mysore in 1646 A.D., after the defeat at the hands of the forces of Bijapur and Golconda. Thereafter he lived in oblivion for about three decades and died in 1681 A.D. Thus came the end of Vijayanagara and the rule of Aravidu kings who tried hard to maintain its traditions against overwhelming odds of the times.

During the Vijayanagara period some vassal chiefs were recognised in the Mysore region. The main chieftains in the northern part of Mysore, who came directly under the control of Vijayanagara, were Nayaka of Bidar, Bagavapatna, and Chitradurga; Gowdes of Kelabanka in the central region and in the south Wadiyars of Mysore. At the time of the disintegration of the empire a few of the local chiefs gathered strength and came into prominence in the region of Karnataka. The precious heritage of Vijayanagara in the form of princely tradition and culture was inherited by chieftains of Keladi, the Stately Wadiyars of Mysore.

In the Vijayanagara days, Keladi Nayaks were
powerful feudatories. Sadasiva Nayak rendered military service to Narasayya. Sivappa Nayak was the most noteworthy ruler who pushed his boundary southwards in to Mysore region. He introduced a new land revenue system called Shist and reformed the administration. Keladi lost its importance after Sivappa Nayak. The northern parts of the Keladi territory were conquered by Bijapur and later it was taken over by the Marathas. The shrunken territory of Keladi lingered on till 1763 when Hyder Ali of Mysore invaded it.

The Gowdas of Keladi:

The Gowdas occupied high positions and authority in the affairs of Karnataka. They were generals, chieftains and vassal kings under Hoysalas, Kadambas, Ganges and other ruling dynasties of Karnataka region in the south. Many of the kings under Vijayanagara Empire were Gowdas. Prominent among them were Avathri Nada Prabhu, Hanbyire Gowda, Hanpe Gowda, the founder of Bangalore the beautiful city at present in the entire South, Hanbyire Gowda founder of Bevarehalli and Moodaboudry, Thanjavara Gowda of Sugutur, a General in the Vijayanagara Imperial Army. Yelahanka Prabhu (rulers) who founded Yelahanka Nadu by 1418 A.D., ruled over the
entire central region of erstwhile Mysore State, and also known for valiant exploits and beneficent acts of charity, came under the good grace of Vijayanagara Emperors. Thamne Gowda at the instance of Vijayanagara Emperor attacked and subdued an invading Moghal army and earned a coveted title, CHIKARAJU. His territory extended from Hoskote to Punganur. He built the temple of Avinukthasagara at Hoskote in dravidian style.

Jaya Gowda, youngest son of Rambyro Gowda, founded the kingdom of Yelahanka, gained the confidence of Vijayanagara Emperor Froudh Deva, and was recognised as Yelahanka Chief. One of the Yelahanka rulers, Kempe Gowda built the town of Bangalore in 1537 A.D. and transferred his capital from Yelahanka to Bangalore. The town he built had nine gates, nine tanks, several temples and four towers in the four quarters of the town indicating the future extension of the town as monuments of Bangalore boundaries. The energy and enterprise with which Kempe Gowda improved his kingdom and the humanity and justice with which he exercised his sway over the subjects, made Vijayanagara rulers to bestow some more adjoining areas to his rule.

15. Rice D. Lewis - op. cit., p.166.
Kempe Gowda's rule was one of peace and plenty. The prosperity in the country enabled him to set up his own mint and struck his own coins known as Byredeva coins. He built temples at Bangalore and Shivaganga. Kempe Gowda-II followed in the good tradition of his father and the country was prospering in all directions.

Jealous of the prosperity in Kempe Gowda territory, the Chief of Sunathi Bagar planned to weaken the Gowda's strength. In the pursuit of this end, he sought the help of the Nawab of Bijapur. General Pandulla Khan of Bijapur invaded Bangalore with a mighty army. Seeing the adverse situation, Kempe Gowda negotiated with Pandulla Khan and extricated himself from situation by paying a large sum of money, and changed his capital from Bangalore to Magadi in 1636 expecting further threat on prosperous Bangalore. By 1705 Kempe Gowda-III came to power and continued the good work of his predecessors in administration of the country. By this time Vijayanagara empire had disintegrated and many Vassal kings declared their independence and ravaging the neighbouring territories. Ursus of Mysore, who declared their independence were on the move to extend their territory. Nawab of Siru who represented the Moghuls in the south and the adjoining Marattas were
casting their evil eyes on Kempe Gowda's kingdom.
Unlike his predecessors, Kempe Gowda was not tolerant
to other religions and began to show a marked preference
to the Shaivites which was due to his favourite concubine
Bengawathi who was a lingayet. This attitude of Kempe
Gowda resulted in creating ill-will between himself and
his nobles. Mysore ruler who was waiting for a favoura-
ble chance took advantage of the situation and sent his
army secretly and sieged Magadi and Kempe Gowda was
taken prisoner to Srirangapatna. The Magadi country
was annexed to Mysore. Thus ended the rule of Magadi
Chiefs who held sway for about 300 years. 16

By 1640 Bijapur Sultan in series of attacks
subdued some of the territories adjoining to Bangalore
and formed a province under the designation of Karnatak
Bijapur Salaghat, out of the districts of Bangalore,
Hosakote, Kolar, Doddaballapur and Sira. Shahji, father
of the famous Shivaji, who was a second in command to
Sanjibha Khan, was made Governor of this new province
with Bangalore as headquarters. After Shahji's death
his son Venkoji continued to govern Bangalore from
Srirangapatna where he was a Governor. Venkoji who found it

difficult to hold Bangalore amidst contending armies around and also expensive and perilous to govern it from a distance, expressed his desire to sell Bangalore to the highest bidder. Chickadevaraja of Mysore, who was extending his territory, showed his inclination to buy and began to bargain it for three lakhs of rupees.

Scanting the deal between Chikkake Navaraya and Venkataji and realising the importance and advantage of having Bangalore, the Maratha commander-in-chief of Aurangzeb sent a detachment of the army and besieged Bangalore almost without any opposition. In 1667 the capture of Bijapur by Aurangzeb and also the conquest of Marathia districts, a southern province of the Moghuls was created Sira as capital. Adil Khan who became Governor of Sira sold Bangalore to Chickadevaraja Wadiyar of Mysore in 1687 for three lakhs of rupees. From then on till 1799 it was under Wadiyars of Mysore when Lord Cornwallis captured it from Tippu. On the fall of Tippu in 1799, Bangalore was included in the territory of Mysore State.

Wadiyars of Mysore:

About the origin of the former reigning family of
Mysore, tradition has it that about the year 1399 A.D. two young brothers Yaduraya and Krishnareya, of Atreya Gotra, scions of Yadava dynasty went in quest of adventure from Dwarka in the west of the Indian Peninsula of Kathiswar and after a sojourn at Vijayanagar proceeded southwards. On the way they paid a visit to the shrine of Vishnu at Melkote and passed on to Mysore where a fortunate trial of prowess awaited them. A descendent of King Ehoja of Gouthama gotra by name Suryadavaraya, had emigrated to this place some time previously from Mysore and had founded a dynasty. Chamaraja, a linear descendant of his had just then died leaving an only daughter by name Lavajamuni.

A petty Chief-captain of the army (Senapathi) by name Karamayaka was trying to coerce her marry him and was planning usurpation of the throne. This gave Yaduraya an opportunity for displaying his chivalry and courage. He fought and slew Karamayaka and carrying the princess whom he had rescued, founded the royal family of Mysore.

The rule of next seven Rajas who succeeded Yaduraya was one of long and continuous struggle with petty local chieftains called Pallagars. The ninth ruler Raja Wadiyar reduced the Pallagars to submission and
supplemented the Viceroy of Vijayanagar by capturing Srirangapatna in 1610 A.D. The real history of Mysore may be said to have commenced with the reign of Raja Wadiyar (1578-1612). Under Raja Wadiyar the territorial limits of Mysore were enlarged and Mysore rose to dignity of an important State with a number of chieftains under its sway. The rule of Raja Wadiyar was remarkable for rigour and severity which he exercised towards the subordinate Wadiyars and his indulgence to the ryots. It is Raja Wadiyar who initiated the princely ceremonies of Dasara Festival called Navaratri, to continue the tradition of Vijayanagar. 17

The next important ruler was Panadhira Kanteraya Paramaraj Wadiyar (1638-59), a ruler of remarkable abilities who routed the army of Bijapur under Kundulla Khan and extended his territory on all sides. He forced Imaadi Kampe Gowda of Bangalore to pay his tributes. He dealt severely the disloyal subordinates and consolidated his territory. He brought into circulation Kantiraya coins after establishing a mint in 1646 A.D. He granted political asylum to Vijayanagara King Sriranga when the latter sought refuge in Mysore. Laddadevaraja

continued his predecessors' policy and work. He repulsed the Nayak of Madurai, captured Krobe and Dharmapuri. When Keladi Sivappa Nayak threatened the borders of Mysore territory, Doddadavara annexed Hassan, Sakaleshpur, Sakkarepatna and other areas to Mysore. He declared his independence in 1663. It was however during the Chikkadevaraja Wadiyar's reign that the kingdom attained its eminence. He expanded the territory of Mysore and consolidated his kingdom. He acquired Bangalore for three lakhs of rupees from Moghul Viceroy Nana Shan who had wrested it from Marattas. He took advantage of the triangular contest for southern expansion among Moghuls, Marattas and Sultan of Bijapur and extended his boundary from mountain range of Chikkanagalar in the north to Annamali and palini hills in the south and from Salum in the east to Belur and Kodagi in the west. Chikkadevaraja was a contemporary of Aurangzeb who had given him the title of 'Paja Jagadev.' He was an able administrator and an efficient leader. He established eighteen departments in the government for the purpose of administration known as 'ASTHARA CUCHERI.' Till very recently, in Bangalore, the capital city of Mysore, the general Secretariat bore this name.

He was the first ruler to establish a postal system in his dominions. Chikkadevaraja was known as 'Novakoti Narayana' on account of the wealth he accumulated by carefully husbanding and harnessing the resources of the country. He was a patron of learning and his court was adorned by many literary personages like Thirumallaraya, Chikkupadhyaya, Sanchi Hinnamma and others.

After Chikkadevaraja, his successors were not able to follow his rule, and consequently the power passed into the hands of the army Commanders known as Dalwaiyasya, who took full advantage of the weak kings to become powerful. This new development has brought in its own problems. Feuds among the subordinate chiefs and officials became a common feature. The treasury was dwindling and anarchy began to set in creating internal insecurity. The political situation outside Mysore was also in a state of turmoil. In the north, Bahmani kingdom disappeared giving way to Moghul rule. Nizam of Hyderabad who was deemed to be the Viceroy of the Moghuls in the south, made himself virtually an independent ruler. The Moghul territory in the south-carnatic as it was called, was divided into two provinces, each under a Nawab having headquarters at Sira and Arcot respectively.
Marattas contending for supremacy in the south indulged in plundering expeditions to Mysore and other parts of the south. After two Carnatic wars in the Arcot region, the English emerged victorious against their powerful French rivals. All these powers were casting their evil and greedy eyes on the resourceful Mysore territory. The confusion and anarchy in Mysore under Dalavoys presented a fine opportunity for outsiders to seize the situation. The masabs of Cira, Savenur, Madapa, Karnool and Arcot all in combination came down with an army and laid a siege to Srisangapatna. Unable to face the formidable army, a crore of rupees had to be paid from Mysore treasury to induce the enemy to return. Soon after this, Maratta incursions into the Mysore territories became frequent and Mysore was passing through perilous time. Mysore army attempted in vain to hold the Marattas in check. Marattas who invaded Mysore demanded heavy payments in the form of Chouth. By all these payments there was a drain on the treasury. The king became sick of Dalavoys and with a view to get rid of them, the ruler sought the help of Hyder Ali who was then rising in influence as Fouladar (Military Governor) of Lindigal.
Hyder Ali was a son of Fateh Mahomed who was a soldier in the military service of Naik of Kolar. When the Mysore army invested Devanahalli in 1749, Hyder Ali was first noticed. In this encounter Hyder Ali exhibited his gallantry and daring while assisting his brother who was commanding a small unit of the army. Salvo Nanjarajaiah appointed Hyder Ali to be in charge of a small unit of the troops as reward for his services in Devanahalli. Thereafter Hyder Ali participated in many military operations in Carnatic region and rose from rank to rank by sheer ability and finally he was appointed as military Governor of Sindigal, where he collected and trained a small army of Bedars, and with the aid of skilled artificers organized a regular artillery, arsenal and laboratory. When the Mysore territory was vexed with the raids of Maratta troops and most of the northern territory was threatened in 1757, Hyder Ali was sent for to overcome the crisis. Hyder Ali came from Sindigal with his army and routed the Maratta army and recovered the territory back, and got over the difficulties. In honour of this victory a magnificent durbar was arranged to confer the title of 'Fateh Hyder Bahadur.' Hyder Ali induced Salvo Nanjarajaiah to retire and become the Commander of
the army. Then on, the state passed under the control of Hyder Ali. When Hyder Ali took up the reigns of administration Mysore was passing through a critical time. Hyder Ali, a man of consummate genius, a born soldier, a wily schemer and a diplomat of a very high order, faced boldly the challenges posed to Mysore. The Marattas being frustrated after the battle of Panipat in 1761 in the north, turned out to be a menace to every kingdom in the south. In the north of Mysore territory, Nawabs formed their own ring in the principalities of Savenur, Gatti, Kadapa and Murnool. The Nizam was also a potential threat as he was changing sides. And above all, the British were a growing power with great ambitions. Hyder Ali, an unlettered soldier of fortune had the shrewdness and insight to see much more clearly than any other of his contemporaries, that the real danger to the country would come from the British. He knew also that it would be difficult to break their power. Hyder Ali in a meeting with his political advisers, is believed to have said with a remarkable political insight 'that it would not be difficult for him to ruin the resources of British on land, but he could not dry up the seas.'

resolve mind and qualities of a general embarked on itinerary of conquest. He captured Hosakote, Dodda-ballepur, Chikkaballapur, and Sira and marched upon Harapanchalli, Penugonda and Rayadurga and Bidanur. A treasure worth twelve crores of rupees came to his possession in Bidanur. Nawab of Savanur paid a tribute of two lakhs of rupees to Hyder. The conquest of Mangalore and Hoseinver gave him the control of west coast. Bhatwar was annexed next. After these gains he marched into Kerala subdued Pelghat and Cochin.

By 1767, the British alarmed by the growing power of Hyder Ali and of his pro-French policy, made alliance with Marattas and Nizam, embarked on the first Mysore War. Hyder Ali skilfully separated Marattas from British by paying money, and went ahead with war. He launched a well-planned campaign and in quick succession over-run Erdo, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tanjore by outwitting the British. When he came near the outskirts and was about to enter Andras, the Governor of Andras sued for peace. The First Mysore War ended on each party restoring the conquered territory and with an understanding to help each other in times of war. An opportunity to test the friendship of British came to Hyder Ali. When Marattas threatened Mysore, Hyder Ali
realised that Britishers were unwilling to help. Ryder Ali was enraged by the British perfidy. Very soon after this the Second Mysore War commenced and Mysore army held upper hand and in the midst of the war Ryder Ali passed away by cancer in his back in December 1762 near Chittoor.

Ryder Ali entered Mysore army as a soldier and rose to the position of Supreme master of the kingdom by his talent, ability and valour. He ruled over Greater Mysore for over two decades. He put down the rebellious chiefs and waged war with powerful and mighty neighbours like Nizam, Marattas and the British. He contributed greatly to the improvement of kingdom and its people by establishing order, administration and internal security. When Ryder Ali took over the reins of administration in 1761 the revenue of the State was about forty three lakhs of varahas, i.e., 210 lakhs of rupees. By 1781 it rose to three crores and fifty lakhs of rupees. He extended the frontiers of Mysore and consolidated the territory. The extent of Mysore territory under Ryder Ali approximated to about eighty thousand square miles. He elevated the State of Mysore to be the foremost power in the entire south. Inspite
of his unfettered political power and pre-eminent position in the State, Hyder Ali never made any attempt to assume the insignia of royalty, nor did he at any time deny the claim of the royal family to the sovereignty of Mysore. A self-made man, a great General, a fearless conqueror, and an able administrator and Statesman, Hyder Ali occupies a unique position in the annals of Karnataka and deserves an honoured place as one of the great, if not greatest personalities in the history of India. 20

On the death of Hyder Ali, Tippu assumed the reigns of administration and continued the second Mysore War with English. After overcoming the initial difficulties, Tippu captured Mangalore. The British came to terms with Tippu and peace was concluded on the basis of treaty of Mangalore which stipulated the mutual restitution of the conquests. In the meanwhile, taking advantage of Tippu's pre-occupation with English, the Nizam and the Marattas invaded the Mysore territory from the North. Along with this external danger Tippu had to face some internal dissension also. Tippu after assuming the reigns of administration, kept the royal family virtually in captive. Queen Lakshamanni

along with some high officers of the Palace, was in league with the British at Madras for help to put down the power of Tippu. Realizing the unfavourable situation allround, Tippu came to terms with the Micas and Marattas by sending places like Adony, Nittoor and Badami, in addition paid forty five lakhs of rupees as indemnity. Now Tippu became very angry with the British who were in league with the royal family to conspire against him and determined to put down the menace of the British and began to correspondence with France and Turkey seeking their help against British. Alarmed by this move British were waiting to attack Tippu. In 1789, when Tippu attacked Travencore, Lord Cornwallis on the pretext of defending the Raja of Travencore who was an ally of the British, declared war which led to third Mysore War. The Marattas and the Micas in alliance with English, moved their army from the north, while the English army advanced from the south. Lord Cornwallis, Governor-General, himself came to supervise the operations of the campaign and captured Bangalore and moved towards Srirangapatna. Tippu who was placed in a triangular tight contest, hemmed in on all sides, had to accept humiliating terms. He was made to give up half of his kingdom, and pay
rupees three crores as war indemnity. In fulfilment of the payment, he had to send his two sons as hostages. The humiliation suffered at the hands of the British in 1792 was too severe for Tippu to bear. Enraged under indignities of his defeat and to wreak his vengeance on the British, he started correspondence with Napoleon of France and sent emissaries to east Asian countries seeking military aid against the British. This news reached the British who in turn decided to take immediate action. British army was mobilised together with the Marathas and the Nizam, to launch a simultaneous attack on Tippu of Mysore. Tippu could not face the combined army of the enemy advancing from all directions and decided to move to Sivagangapet to defend the capital with a solid hope of the French help. The promised French help did not arrive and traitors at home were busy aiding the advancing British. All the three armies of the enemy converged on the capital Sivagangapet and laid siege. Tippu put up a stiff resistance with all his might in defence of his capital but succumbed gallantly fighting to the last of his breath on 4th May 1799. Thus ended the house of Hyder after a brief rule of about forty years during

which period the Mysore kingdom reached the zenith of its glory and fell to the deepest depth of degradation almost touching the verge of extinction.

A fearless fighter, an impulsive soldier and a capable general, Tippu started his rule with fighting and so it ended. His lack of political insight and tactlessness created enemies both inside and outside the State and brought ruin to him and his kingdom. He was an enlightened ruler and endeavoured to improve the State. Being a born fighter, organised his army on European lines and improved the administrative efficiency by adopting western methods. He promoted trade and commerce by sending missions to Oman, Persia and Turkey. Both Syed Ali and Tippu tried to advance the glory of their kingdom with a sense of national spirit, at a time when the Britichers were slowly and steadily working to subjugate the country, and when the Marattas and the Muzan considered it quite proper and moral to help the foreigner against their own neighbour. Both father and son relentlessly fought against the enemies of the country and died at last as heroes of their mother-land.

The wars of Tippu had a disastrous effect on the
territorial possessions of Mysore. The three victors, the English, Nizam and Marattas apportioned the major parts of the dominions of Mysore, to their territories. The territorial arrangement made at that time to the Marattas and Nizam changed hands. The north and north-eastern parts of the territories of Mysore comprising Bijapur, Belgaum, North Canara and Sharur, were after the fall of Marattas, incorporated in the Mysore Presidency. In the north-east, the area comprising Bider, Culberga and Balichur were handed over to Nizam.

Southern, South-Eastern and South-Western region formed a part of Madras Presidency. Coorg was retained by the British as a separate Commissioner province. Karnatam, for centuries, which had individuality and distinction of its own culture and tradition, now split arbitrarily and came at least under nineteen different administrative divisions. By this callous act, Kannadigas came under the linguistic and cultural hegemony of Muslims, Jaina, rastrians, Andras, Tamilians and Malayalis except for a small portion of the land of the Kannadigas remained as Mysore to carry on the tradition of Karnatam.

Tippu was the last Indian Sovereign ruler of Mysore to withstand the British Empire. Undoubtedly he was a
great General and Administrator. It is true, that his rule witnessed harshness and tension but it was inevitable under the circumstances in which Tippu was placed. His lack of political ingenuity and his obstinacy made people to forget the great qualities he possessed as a builder of a nation. It would be interesting to note that he had attempted to construct a dam across the river Caurey. When the excavation for the foundation of the modern Dam was in progress, the Engineers discovered an inscribed stone slab dated 1794. The inscription in persian contains 'In the name of God, the compassionate and merciful ........ Hazrath Tippu Sultan, the Lord bestower of gifts, laid the foundation of the ...... dam across the river Caurey to the West of the capital ...... the start is from me, but its completion rests with the God.'

Lord Wellesley's plan, after the fall of Tippu, was to recognise one of Tippu's sons as successor to Mysore throne but he was deterred from such a decision mainly by consideration of British interest and a dread of French influence and partly also by a regard for the Hindu Royal Family's legitimate title which

22. Inscription at K.B. Sagar Dam.
was conceded by the Madras Government early in 1782 in a secret treaty. For the disposal of the conquered territory, Lord Wellesley concluded a treaty between East India Company and the Nizam of Hyderabad on 22nd June, 1791, which provided for a truncated State of Mysore with Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar, III as the head of the Government having under his control the territory area of which corresponded roughly to that of erstwhile Princely State of Mysore. The Company took over the area which gave a continuous territorial possessions from sea to sea across the southern part of the peninsula. The Nizam’s share comprised of the northern districts of Coimy, Guruvkonda and parts of the Chitradurga district.

Since Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar was a minor boy of six years, Purnaiiah, who was made Dewan, was also put as Regent till the Young Ruler came of age and Purnaiiah was to carry on the administration of the state with the advice of the British Resident, Col. Barry Close, and Sir Aurther Wellesley, the commander of the army stationed at Mysore.

The young Prince Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar was put on the throne in a formal ceremony on 30th June, 1799, and the conditions on which he was to rule the territory were specified in a subsidiary treaty which determined the nature of political relation between Mysore and the Company. The Maharaja was obligated to receive a military force for the defence and security of his territory and to pay to the Company an annual sum of rupees twenty four and a half lakhs for the maintenance of the forces stationed at Mysore. The serious implications of this provision of the treaty was Mysore state lost its independence and the Maharaja became a nominal sovereign.

Purnaiah as Dewan, as well as Regent, proved a great success in the discharge of heavy responsibility entrusted to him under a delicate and difficult situation. He acquired a wide reputation for high statesmanship by the ability with which he administered Mysore during the minority of Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar, III.

In the early part of the year 1810, when Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar was sixteen years of age, a serious

difference arose between the Raja and the Dewan. Parties inimical to Purniaiah used the situation to vitiate the mind of the Raja to oust Purniaiah from office. The Raja expressed to the Resident a desire to govern over the state himself and to dispense with the Dewan. British resident in stead of counsellors, allowed a boy of sixteen years to declare himself of his age, to pull the regency down and to seize upon all the power. Purniaiah retired from service in December 1811. The administration of the Raja from 1811-1831 was in the nature of personal autocracy during which time he was handicapped by the absence of capable ministers and honest advisors. The Royal extravagance and lack of governing ability soon brought the affairs of a prosperous country to the verge of ruin. The treasury was dissipated on worthless favourites, the offices of the state were sold to highest bidders and the salaries of the army were in arrears. Added to this, the continued uncertainty of seasons resulted in famine in the year 1823-24. All these factors convulsed to create a wholesale economic crisis which the advisors of the Raja were incapable of diagnosing the causes. The result was the Ryots became impoverished and groaned under every possible oppression which had a
disastrous effect and soon gave rise to agrarian unrest. The supreme government sent a warning on the disorder of the Raja’s affairs which had reached such a situation as would justify the intervention. In spite of the warning, the conditions did not improve and symptoms of open rebellion appeared in the Nager division. The officer who practiced corruption and malversation, fearing that they would be exposed, connived with seditious activities making the matters worse. The revolt soon spread to other divisions also. Strong reinforcement of troops were sent to suppress the insurgents and Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar himself undertook a tour of the affected areas with top officers and considerable force to meet the danger confronting the Government. Several persons involved in the revolt were hanged, others were flogged or punished. All these measures proved futile to quell the disturbances of the insurgents, and these severe measures adopted by the Raja inflamed the emotions of the people and included many of them to join
the insurgents. Madras Governor made a personal visit to the state and seeing the seriousness of the situation permitted the deployment of the full strength of the subsidiary force. After several operations, Nager division was taken under control and the disturbances by and large quelled and the rebellious leaders like Sarja Hanumappa Naik were captured and hanged.

The Ryots were persuaded to return to their fields after offering favourable conditions that the tax would be collected only on the cultivated lands and remission on all waste lands and that no petty (unpaid) work was to be exacted by the officers for their private purpose. Then the anarchy prevailed, the Supreme Government asked the British resident to submit a full report on the state of affairs and the causes of the disorder in the state. On the basis of this report, Governor-General Lord William Bentink acting on the article IV of
subsidiary treaty served a ten days' formal notice on the
Raja to take over the reins of administration by the British.
The letter of notice stated among other things, 'I have in
consequence felt it to be indispensable, as well with
reference to the stipulations of the treaty, as from a regard
to the obligations of the protective character which the
British Government holds towards the state of Mysore, to inter-
fere for its preservation, and to serve the various interests
at stake from further ruin. It has seemed to me that in order
to do this effectively it will be necessary to transfer the
entire administration of the country into the hands of the
British Officers.'

The administration of Mysore was transferred into
the hands of two Commissioners from 19th October, 1831. These
two Commissioners, one senior and another Junior, were under
the control of Madras Government to begin with and after
1832, were made subordinate to the Government of India.

The Raja was granted a private allowance of three and
a half lakhs of rupees in addition to one-fifth of the gross
revenues of the state, though the decision of the Governor-
General turned out to be cruel to Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar.

However, the Company assured to retain the direct management
only as a temporary measure.

25 Evans Pell, Mysore Reversion, p.20.
The Governor General after assuming the territory of Mysore vested the administration of the Government in a board of two Commissioners who often differed in opinion and turned out to be an agency ill-suited for the organisation and working a proper system of Government. Noticing this anomaly, the Court of Directors appointed Col. C.B. Horison as single Commissioner with certain suitable changes in the administration. The six administrative divisions were re-constituted into four divisions i.e., Bangalore, Mysore, Chitradruga and Ashtagrama. Madhugiri was absorbed into Chitradruga and Hanjarabad into Ashtagrama. To begin with, the instruction of the Governor General was to administer the state entirely by means of native agency but soon it became known that the existing machinery of Government was unworkable and several other factors hampered any progress in administration. Each division was placed under a European superintendent who exercised the Revenue and Judicial powers. Under each superintendent there was a principal Sadar Munsiff, but two years later European assistants were added to the staff of the superintendent with detailed instructions as to their duties.
Cubbbon's Administration

Sir Mark Cubbon was the Commissioner from 1834 to 1861. During this period numerous reforms were introduced in the administration. In the official parlance, Mysore, in this period, was called a non-regulation province, that is, a province in which the old regulations and acts in force in the regulation provinces had not been extended, in which, fewer officers were employed and in which, executive and judicial functions were to a great extent exercised by the same persons.

Initially, the aim of the Commission was not to introduce a new system of Government but to reform the flagrant abuses in the old system and to liberate trade and commerce, and to help the agricultural classes against tyranny and extortion and to purify the administration of justice and also to develop the resources of the country.

The Revenue System

The revenue systems in force at that time were the Ryotwari and the Batayi. The Commission rule kept the Ryotwari in a liberalised form as it was organised and left by Dewan Purnaiah. The Batayi system meant an equal division of the crops between the cultivator and the Government.
This was purified of its vexatious characteristics by converting the payment of the revenue into money payment. Under improved Ryotwari system the lands were classified as Rushi (dry), Tari (wet), and Bagyat (garden).

Village was the unit of administration with a fixed boundary and its beriz. The inhabitants of the village preserved their own rules, usages, and manners. Each village had its own agricultural corporation. This establishment which was called Barabaluthi in Marati and Ayangadi in Kannada, comprised of twelve officers of the village Shanbog (registrar of accounts), Gowda (head-man) with limited police powers), Kannara (Black smith), Badagi (Carpenter), Agasa (washer man), Nayinda (Barber), Nadiiga (Meanial labourer), Akkasala (goldsmith), Kumbara (Potter), Thoti (village watchman), Talari (scout of the village), Miraganti (regulator of irrigation water). In most of the cases there were certain fees payable to them in money by the Government or in kind by the ryots. Normally, Shanbog, Thoti and Talari were given either land free of rent or on a light assessment. In some villages the number of complement

Beriz was the amount of revenue fixed to be drawn from the village.
was extended by the school master who taught the children of the village, a Panchayat who calculated their festivals and anniversaries, and the Pujari who worshipped the village deity or God. These individuals were not given any support from the Government but Ryots willingly assisted them substantially. Whenever these village officer enjoyed Government lands, the alienation, mortgage or transfer of any way of these lands was strictly prohibited. According to an estimate of 1950-51 there were 50,709 persons borne on accounts as Darafaluthi who enjoyed land to annual value and received a money allowance together amounting to Rs.1,47,517/-.

In Malnad mainly the Negar division, the institutions were different. The land revenue was known in the Malnad parts as kandayam and in Malnad parts as Chist. Villages were almost unknown. The owner of each estate had big house in a part of it, and his tenants, labourers and workers lived in different allotments. Two or three Ryots acted for the whole taluk. Jeetha system or a kind of bonded labour existed in Malnad. It did not in its original signification imply any notion of servitude. It was of two

26 S.L. Rice, Mysore Gazeteer, p.643.
kinds namely Bomalu and Kannalii of which former might and
the latter might not, be transferred from the land to which
they were attached. Even this was abrogated by the police
regulations during the Commissioner's rule. All land in
Malnad was considered as belonging to Sirkar. The registered
land holders paid the assessment direct to Sheikhdar or
Shanbog as there was no village establishment.

At the cultivation season the sheikdar made a
tour of the villages in his circle and advised and directed
the Shanbogs in their duties. Shanbog assisted Sheikhdar in
all Governmental work. Whenever the Amildar visited the
Hobali, the Sheikhdar was his main assistant in settling
Jamabandi.

Amildar made a tour of the Hobali in the month of
September to ascertain the conditions and the prospects of the
season and to see that the Shanbogs and Sheikhdars were exerted
themselves to bring the land under cultivation. After jama-
bandi of villages, Amildar forwarded to the Superintendents
an estimate of his work and turnout. Amildar was the key
figure in the administrative hierarchy and this was the highest
executive post, then, open to a Mysorean. The Amildar in Mysore possessed greater discretion in revenue and magisterial functions than his counter-part in Madras province.

Superintendent was a collector, magistrate and judge. He was in-charge of a very vast area of a division. He proceeded on his jamahandi circuit as soon as Amildars concluded the settlement of their taluks. He distributed the pattas of each cultivator prepared by Amildars of each which contained the description of the land held by the Ryot, assessment of revenue and other taxes. Each patta was read out to the Ryot and any error or mistake was verified and corrected then and there on the spot. This system of issuing pattas brought every tax payer in personal contact with the superintendents and provided an opportunity to every one to seek redress of any grievance. This also served as a check against any oppression of ryots. This was the main advantage of the Ryotwari system which prevailed in Mysore. On these circuits superintendents caused examination of village accounts, disputes of various description and works of irrigation in the division and every other thing possible.
Judicial system

During the twenty seven years of Cobbon's rule, the judicial system in Mysore changed both in form and spirit, and he endeavoured to make law and courts popular and useful. The principles enunciated in the administration of criminal justice were undoubtedly to the benefit of the public, though the students of legal doctrine would not accept all of them. The recognised courts were: Taluk courts 85, Town Municipal courts 2, Principal Sadar Munsiff's courts 8, Superintendents courts 4, Huzur Adalt Court 1, Court of the Commissioner 1. The principles prescribed by the Madras code of 1816 and Satara Rules together with what was found to be best in the practices of the state, were drawn up as code for Mysore for the guidance these courts. The language of all judicial proceedings and decisions was Kannada, but in case, the language of the judicial officer of the court was other than Kannada he would write his decision in his own language and it was translated into Kannada. A copy of both original and the translation were placed on record. If any judicial officer was sufficiently conversant with Kannada to use it instead of his own language he was at liberty to do so.

For all civil and criminal investigations, Panchayats were summoned and the prisoner had the permission to challenge as defendant. No criminal investigation was permitted to be carried out without a Panchayat but it was optional in civil cases.

Villagers were authorised and encouraged to use arms of every description in defending themselves and their property whenever exposed to danger. Valiant defenders were bestowed with valuable presents by the Government.

Problems

When the Company took over the administration, the political claims of the Pallegars had not been settled and this problem caused considerable amount of strain on the administration which was busy in establishing law and order in the country. Cubbon gradually settled the affairs of the Pallegars by three fold policy of i) weaning away their followers from Pallegars and encouraging them to take to cultivation; ii) and compelling the representatives of the Pallegar families to reside in Bangalore; iii) and by pensing of all those who had valid claims on the sympathy of the Government.

The pressing problem for the administration was the Muslim poverty as some of the leading families among them were not prepared to take up any office under the Government or enter into any business enterprise. They still cherished the days of Hyder and Tippu, and were hankering for pension for their maintenance on their so-called right to public support. This attitude had lamentable effect of destroying initiative and exertion among a section of this community. Cubbon succeeded in persuading the younger members of these families to join the service to find suitable work. He discouraged a race of idle pensioners by reducing progressively the stipends.

The administration faced some communal problems which were not between Hindus and Muslims who inhabited the territory but they were the internal affairs of each community. These problems were solved in judicious manner by the fair stand taken by Cubbon on each issue, to the satisfaction of the parties concerned. In 1832, Sepoy Osman boig threw a dead swine into the Idiga at Bangalore to bring the Government to disrepute for which he was tried and executed. On the eve of Sepoy Mutiny, the Muslims

in Mysore formed conspiracy against the Government. In 1860, Gulam Muhammad, son of Tipu, in pursuance of a political motive wanted to visit Srinagapalna under false protest of alleged mismanagement of the funds of his family tehsil. Cubbon, backed by the Maharaja, refused permission to visit Srinagapatna. During Cubbon's period, there was no serious inter-communal clash except one which arose out a proposal of the Lingayats to go in a procession before a mosque of Sult Musalamans of Mysore Town, which was conciliated by the Superintendent of the division.

Sir Mark Cubbon's statesman-like policy along with the exertions of his select body of able administrative officers, achieved results beyond all praise. Lord Dalhousie in a panegyric of Cubbon's administration wrote "During the period of twenty-five years which was elapsed since Mysore came under the administration of British officers, every department has felt the hands of reform. An enormous number of distinct taxes have been abolished relieving people in direct payment to the extent of 10½ lakhs of rupees a year and doubtless the indirect relief given by this measure has exceeded even the direct relief, excepting
a low tax upon, new tax appears to have been imposed, 
and no old tax appears to have been increased. Nevertheless, 
the public revenue has risen from forty-four lakhs to eighty-
two lakhs of rupees per annum.

In the administration of civil and criminal justice, 
regularity, order, and purity have been introduced, where 
under native rule, caprice, uncertainty and corruption 
prevailed. Substantive justice was promptly dispensed, and 
the people themselves were taught to aid in this branch of 
administration by means of a system of Panchayat which was 
wholesome and efficient. In brief, the system of administra-
tion which was established, whether in fiscal or judicial 
department although it may be, no doubt was capable of 
matterl improvement, was infinitely superior to that which 
it superseded; and had within itself, the elements of 
constant progress.

Codes of instruction

As a few laws were required, there was no 
legislature in the state. However, there were five codes

of instructions prepared in 1834 for the use of officers. They were the judicial regulations, the police Hukumnama, the Marana rules, the General letter of instructions, and the old Hukumnama to the Amildars. Most of the Governmental work was regulated by circular instructions. In theory, the orders of the Governor-General either in person or in Council, were the laws. But rarely did he exercise this power against the wishes of the Commissioner. To begin with, there was little inclination to introduce legislative enactments. After some time the Governor-General permitted the Commissioner to introduce certain laws in Mysore as an experiment. The legislation against institution fees, and vexatious litigation were typical examples of this policy. In 1859, the Government of India asked the Commissioner to introduce the Punjab Limitation Act and the Indian Penal Code and Procedure Codes. A simple but complete code of rules for the guidance of Amildars, compiled partly from Punjab rules and partly from the provisions of Act VIII of 1859, was drawn up. The translation of which was distributed to Taluk courts.

Education

The period of Cubbon was the age of Macaulay’s minute on western education and of Wood’s despatch on the
The year of 1040 was the starting point of English education in Mysore. A free English school was founded in Mysore under the supervision of a Wesleyan missionary, Rev. T. Hudson. Another Wesleyan mission school was started in Bangalore in 1842 to which the Commissioner granted a monthly allowance of Rs. 50/- Mrs. Sewell of the London Mission started the first girls school at Bangalore in 1840. In 1852 the Government appointed a committee of education in the state. From 1857 onwards the state controlled education directly in accordance with the general Indian Educational policy by creating a department of education.

**Army**

When the Commission took over the administration, the police and the Army were hopelessly inefficient. Their organization was in confusion and their strength was unknown. The army was demoralised both by inefficient commanders and by worthless regulations. Mutinies were common in the army in the early days of the Commission. A thorough reform was needed to put them on the satisfactory basis. The Mysore

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forces which were divided into the BARR (infantry) and Silledar (horses) was improved under European supervision. Cubbon himself was fond of horses and he suggested a plan to improve the local breed and to oust the Arab horses from the Deccan market and to make Government less dependent on foreign aid for replenishing the native Cavalry. The pay of these forces were increased and usefully employed in police duties, guarding treasury and escorting prisoners.

Police

Before 1834, there was no organised police force in Mysore whatever functioning, that was organised on the remains of the old KANDACHAR or armed militia which was closely identified with agricultural population, and was devoid of discipline and training. The police code issued in 1834 defined the duties of the KANDACHAR. The Kandachar and the police were made supplementary to one another but not interchangable. The regular police in each taluk was placed under the Amildar, who had a Kiledar, a Maib Killedar or Duffedar and Naib Hbalidars, to assist
him in his police duties. The superintendents were empowered to appoint, promote and to remove Killledars. The people were enjoined to co-operate with anildars in maintaining nightly watches, detecting robbers, and suppressing gagg and torch robbery. At the close of the Cubbon's administration the system was well organised to suit the needs of the state, and special establishments of trained and organised police were stationed at Tumkur, Mysore, Shimoga and Bangalore.

Authority of the Commissioner

The year 1861 marked the close of the era of benevolent personal rule in Mysore, when Cubbon left Mysore. More than twenty seven years, Cubbon had strived hard to modernise the administration without sacrificing the native elements, consistent with policy declared by the Court of Directors. According to the terms of the subsidiary treaty, the Chief Executive authority was vested in the Governor-General in Council. Every department of administration was under his control. He was answerable only to the Court of Directors. But he ruled the state through the Commissioner whose powers were most extensive. Even the Supreme Government
was guided by his views and his conduct was seldom questioned. The authority of the Commissioner could not be questioned by any body within the state. His administrative responsibilities were further increased when the charge of the Coorg was added to Mysore from 1836 and the charge of Residency was abolished in 1843 as separate office. Despite the increased work and responsibility the exact status of the Commissioner was never defined, nor was his salary increased, and his tentage allowance remained at £5½ per day while on tour. The Commissioner had four European assistant upto 1856 but afterwards only two. The duties of the Commissioner were both civil and military. From 1856 the judicial functions were transferred when a separate Judicial Commissioner was appointed.

Reorganisation of Divisions

The entire state was reorganised into three divisions of Mandidurga, Asthagrama, and Nagar in the place of four divisions existed previously. Mandidurga was divided into three districts of Bangalore, Molar and Tumkur; Asthagrama was divided into Mysore and Hassan districts; and the
Nagar division was reorganised into Shimoga, Kadur and Chitradurga districts. In the administrative work the Divisional superintendents were assisted by the deputy superintendents of the districts.

Regulation system

In 1862, Cubbon was succeeded by Pr. L.B. Bowring as Commissioner of Mysore. There was a marked change in the policy pursued by the Government of India in the administration of Mysore. The policy of adhering the native usage, agency and institutions was given up. The growth of industry, trade and communication necessitated the reorganisation of administration. So, the time had come to modify what was called Patriarchal system. The Government became more scientific, formal and rigid. Rules and regulations became prominent. Power passed from individual to secretariat, from man to machine, and from personal to impersonal.32 As doubt, the change had beneficial effect in some respect. The Government undertook general responsibility for the welfare of the people and their property. But the opportunities which gifted officials like Cubbon at the helm of affairs enjoyed disappeared from over.

With the introduction of regulating system, the administration of Mysore came to be organised on the model of Punjab system. Districts were organised into taluks which became units of administration. The taluks were divided into five classes according to their extent and revenue. Land revenue assessment was fixed for forty years. Further attention was paid for the protection of irrigation works and conservation of forests. Attention was also paid to the public health and organisation of medical relief. The Indian budget system of Audit and Accounts was introduced. Municipal committees were formed, for the first time, as an experimental measure in 1862 at Bangalore and Mysore. By the year 1864-65 every district head quarter had such a committee.

Mysore being a native state no differentiation was made between the legislative and executive functions of the Government. Prior sanction of the Governor-General was required if any legislative enactment was to be extended to the territory of Mysore. As many of eighty two such acts were introduced to Mysore either in full or in part.

The two other important events occurred during Bowering's administration which changed the course of events
in Mysore were the recognition of the adoption of Sri Chamarajendra Wadiyar as successor to the throne of Mysore by the Home Government in England, in 1867, and the death of Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar III, in March 1868.

**Restoration**

The deposition of the Maharaja in 1831 was a hasty measure and there was no sufficient reason for continued exclusion of the Raja from assuming the administration of his state. As such, the Raja continued to press his claim for restoration of the administration to his control. The Supreme Government and the Home authorities never rejected or contested his claim but only postponed their assent to a more convenient season placing before him the prospect of reinstatement as soon as orderly administration for the country had been effectively established. The improvements and progress made under Cubbon's administration and lust for patronage lured the top officials to tighten their hand on Mysore territory. Authorities both at Calcutta and in England postponed the issue on the alleged incompetence of the Raja as an obstacle and a hinderance for immediate reinstatement. By 1847, an indication of simple reluctance to part with the management of so rich and thriving province
was hinted in a despatch. When Lord Dalhousie succeeded Lord Hastings, turned the vague predilections into a pre-determined policy. He indicated his desire and design 'to incorporate Mysore with British Dominions when the decease of the Maharaja shall come to pass, without a son or grand son or legal male heir of any description.' The minute of Lord Dalhousie was one of the legacies left behind for the instruction and guidance of his successor, Lord Canning to annex Mysore territory under the famous doctrine of lapse. In furtherance for this ulterior motive, Lord Canning proposed to the Home Office the transference of the Superintendent of Mysore territory from the Government of India to Madras Government. The Raja foreseeing the danger, protested against the plan which had been arranged by the Home Office in London as a breach of the treaty of 1799. This design was also resented by Sir Mark Cubbon, Commissioner of Mysore and as a protest he tendered his resignation which prevented the transfer of Mysore administration to Madras Presidency. Thus matters restored to their former footing and Cubbon consented to remain in office as Commissioner.

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33 Despatch of Court of Directors, dated 14-7-1847.
34 Dalhousie Minute dated 16-1-1856.
35 Evans Bull., op. cit., p.56.
In 1861, the Maharaja reiterated his request for restoration stating that 'the avowed object for which the Government of Mysore was temporarily assumed, has long been since accomplished, and there is no justifiable pretext for its further retention' for which he received an unfavourable reply. Lord Canning rejected all claims and arguments put forward by the Raja on the basis that the obligations of the British Government to the people of Mysore were as sacred as its self-imposed obligation to the Maharaja. More or less the same view was expressed by the Secretary of State for India Sir Charles Wood.

At this juncture it was interesting to note that L.B. Bowering who was Private Secretary to Lord Canning, had been gazetted as 'Commissioner of Mysore', while Cubbon was always designated as 'the Commissioner for the Government of the territories of the Raja of Mysore.'

Although Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar III, was deeply disappointed by the rejection of his legitimate claim for restoration, he did not lose heart but on the

*Mysore Gazetteer, p. 2925.*
other hand continued his efforts with indomitable will to appeal to the other higher authorities in England.  

At this stage, Sri Laxminarasa Chetty, a prominent member of the Madras Legislative Council and Proprietor of a news paper 'The Crescent' who watched closely the intransigent attitude the British Government and helpless predicament of the Maharaja, visited Mysore and advised the Raja to adopt a son and press for the recognition of the rights of the adopted son by the Government of England.  

The Raja adopted the third son Chikka Krishna Urs of Bettadakote family on 18th June, 1865, as successor to all his rights and privileges, including the sovereignty of Mysore.  

With the adoption of a son by the Maharaja, the Mysore question assumed a double dimension, i.e., the restoration of the Government and the recognition of adoption. The Public opinion in England widely stirred on the intransigent attitude of the Secretary of State and shortly after, many influential

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Mysore Gazetteer, p.2928
Mysore Gazetteer, p.2924.
public spirited men in England took up earnest interest in 
the Mysore question. A deputation comprising of members of 
British Parliament and other public men including Col. Briggs, 
who was the Commissioner of Mysore, headed by Sir Henry 
Rawlinson, member of the House of Commons waited on the 
Secretary of State, and impressed on him for a reconsidera-
tion of the entire case relating to Mysore particularly in 
the light of adoption made by the Raja. The matter was 
also brought before the House of Commons and stoutly support-
ed by John Stuart Mill, a well-known political philosopher, 
for taking steps to ensure with least possible delay the 
re-establishment of native government in the tributary State 
of Mysore. Then the British press took up the Mysore issue 
and wrote editorials on the merits of the case, which 
influenced the British public opinion when the matter was 
on the unveil of the Parliament. Major Evans Bell, a 
powerful political writer argued the case for Mysore in 
his famous book 'The Mysore Reversion' with forensic 
ability. The Home Government gave a favourable response

40 Mysore Gazetteer, p.2926.
41 Ibid., p.2927.
42 Mysore State Papers, sci.91, p.111.
43 Evans Bell, op. cit., p.90.
to recognise the right of the Raja's adopted son to inherit his kingdom but gave no support to the personal restoration to the ageing Raja as he had parted with it thirty years ago and who had become unused to the toils of government. The decision of the Home Government was communicated to the Raja on 16th June, 1867 and it was received by the Raja with mixed feelings of disappointment as well as consolation. He was disappointed because his plan for personal restoration was negatived. However, he consoled himself because the complete extinction of his state was reversed and his adopted son was recognised as his successor and to that extent it gave him satisfaction.

Unfortunately, Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar III, did not live to see the consummation of his long drawn struggle for native rule over his territory. His health began to fail towards the end of February, 1868. He expired on the 27th March, 1868.

The proclamation issued by the Government of India on 30th March, 1868 announced to the people of India in general and to the Chiefs and people of Mysore in particular, the death of Krishna Raja Wadiyar and acknowledged

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46 Mysore State Papers, vol. 93, p.370.
His Highness Chamarajendra Wadiyar, the adopted son of late Maharaja as successor to the Mysore territories. The people of Mysore, under fifty years of British rule, had accustomed to be governed by principles. The administration in Mysore fairly compared with the standard which prevailed in British Indian territory. Thus the Government of India contemplating to take adequate guarantees against any prejudicial changes under its future ruler, and it was considered necessary to determine certain conditions. These conditions were to serve as something of the nature of a constitution for Mysore. The main conditions proposed were that

1) A clear distinction must be drawn between the private fortune of the Maharaja and the public revenues of the state, and a fixed amount should be assigned to the Chief and the rest of the revenue must remain available for the public purpose through appropriation by constitutional authorities; ii) there should be permanent security for the observance of established rules, rights and usages meant for the transaction of public affairs; iii) the assessment and the collection of revenues must be defined and maintained; iv) the civil and criminal justice must dispensed by regularly constituted tribunals and the restrictions upon the prosecution of public
servants for acts done in their public capacity were to be the same as those established in the laws of British India; v) in the interest of good administration and for insulating against mal-administration and inefficiency, it was considered expedient to provide Maharaja with not more than three Councillors and high officials of known ability and experience which would ensure due deliberation under distinct responsibility.

These conditions were to create a constitutional fabric of Government resting on its own foundations and to a great extent independent of the personality of the Ruler. Though the Chief authority and ultimate Government responsibility vests actually as well as nominally with the State's Ruler, all important acts and orders, must necessarily pass through certain departmental formalities and joint consultation before they are issued in the name of the Maharaja and by his will. Embodying these principles and other proposals a draft of a written instrument was submitted to the Secretary of State for India in March 1830 for his approval. This document which contained

45 S. Papers, Parliamentary Blue Book, Part-iv, p.140.
certain conditions on the future political relations of the Raja with the British Government, was called the Instrument of Transfer.

The first seventeen clauses of the instrument comprised all the principal conditions, territorial, financial and military upon which the relations of the Mysore Government with the British were to continue. It was stipulated that the succession to the throne of Mysore required formal confirmation and recognition by the paramount power. The Maharaja and his successors should remain faithful at all times in allegiance and subordinate to the British Government and perform all duties which may be demanded of them.46

The British Government undertook to protect and defend the state from external danger and prevention of political disorder within the state, and in consideration of such undertaking the state undertook to pay to the British Government an annual sum of rupees thirty five lakhs in two half-yearly instalments.47

46 *Instrument of Transfer, Art. 3 & 4.*
47 *Ibid., Art. 5.*
The Maharaja has to assign, free of charge, such land as may be required for maintenance of British Cantonment and renounce all jurisdiction within the land so granted, in perpetual assignment.48.

The Maharaja could have no political relations with any state except through the Governor-General in council and he was not allowed to possess more troops, arms and munitions or military equipment that was not permitted by the Governor-General.49

The Maharaja was hidden at all times, to conform to such advice as the Governor-General may offer him on matters of the state affairs and any other subject connected with the advancement of His Highness's interest, the happiness of his subjects and his relations to the British Government. The Instrument of Transfer prescribed not only internal and external obligations of the Maharaja towards the British Government but also represented the security for the due observance of conditions on which the state administration was vested. Under the protective clauses, the Maharaja ceases to be self-reliant

48 Instrument of Transfer, Art. 9.

49 Ibid., Art. 10.
in terms of military strength. In case of breach of these conditions, the Governor-General in Council was free to resume the possession of the territory and direct the administration as he would deem necessary. The right of interference in state was practically unlimited and could at any time be exercised by virtue of general supremacy and paramount authority vested in him.50

Thus the Instrument of Transfer imposed on the Maharaja a number of obligations, imposed several positive duties and placed a number of disabilities. Added to this, the Instrument released the subsidiary treaty of 1799, making the position of the state more precarious than it was under the previous treaty. These unilaterally imposed conditions were in force till 1913 when the Instrument of Transfer was replaced by a treaty which assured greater autonomy and powers for the internal administration of the state.51

50 Instrument of Transfer, Art. 23.