

Early Revolts against British Rule in Tamil Nadu



Exercise

I. Choose the Correct Answer:

1. Who was the first Palayakkarars to resist the East India Company's policy of territorial aggrandizement?

- a) Marudhu brothers
- b) Puli Thevar
- c) Velunachiyar
- d) Veerapandya Kattabomman

Ans: b) Puli Thevar

2. Who had established close relationship with the three agents of Chanda Sahib?

- a) Velunachiyar
- b) Kattabomman
- c) Puli Thevar
- d) Oomai thurai

Ans: c) Puli Thevar

3. Where was Sivasubramanian executed?

- a) Kayathar
- b) Nagalapuram
- c) Virupachi
- d) Panchalamkurichi

Ans: b) Nagalapuram

4. Who issued the Tiruchirappalli proclamation of Independence?

- a) Marudhu brothers
- b) Puli Thevar
- c) Veerapandya Kattabomman
- d) Gopala Nayak

Ans: a) Marudhu brothers

5. When did the Vellore Revolt breakout?

- a) 24 May 1805
- b) 10 July 1805
- c) 10 July 1806
- d) 10 September 1806

Ans: c) 10 July 1806

6. Who was the Commander-in-Chief responsible for the new military regulations in Vellore fort?

- a) Col. Fancourt
- b) Major Armstrong
- c) Sir John Cradock
- d) Colonel Agnew

Ans: c) Sir John Cradock

7. Where were the sons of Tipu Sultan sent after the Vellore Revolt?

- a) Calcutta
- b) Mumbai
- c) Delhi
- d) Mysore

Ans: a) Calcutta

II. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Palayakkarars system was put in place in Tamil Nadu by _____.
Ans: Viswanatha Nayaka
2. Velunachiyar and her daughter were under the protection of _____ for eight years.
Ans: Gopala Nayakar
3. Bennerman deputed _____ to convey his message, asking Kattabomman to surrender.
Ans: Ramalinganar
4. Kattabomman was hanged to death at _____.
Ans: Kayathar
5. The Rebellion of Marudhu Brothers was categorized in the British records as the _____.
Ans: Second Palayakkarar War
6. _____ was declared the new Sultan by the rebels in Vellore Fort.

Ans: Fateh Hyder

III. Choose the Correct Statement

1. i) The Palayakkarars system was in practice in the Kakatiya Kingdom. (T)
ii) Puli Thevar recaptured Nerkattumseval in 1764 after the death of Khan Sahib. (T)
iii) Yusuf Khan who was negotiating with the Palayakkarars, without informing the Company administration was charged with treachery and hanged in 1764. (T)
iv) Ondiveeran led one of the army units of Kattabomman. (F)
a) (i), (ii) and (iv) are correct b) (i), (ii) and (iii) are correct
c) (iii) and (iv) are correct d) (i) and (iv) are correct
Ans: b) i), ii) and iii) are correct
2. i) Under Colonel Campbell, the English Army went along with Mahfuzkhan's army. (F)
ii) After Muthu Vadugar's death in Kalaiyar Kovil battle, Marudhu Brothers assisted Velunachiyar in restoring the throne to her. (T)
iii) Gopala Nayak spearheaded the famous Dindigul League. (T)
iv) In May 1799 Cornwallis ordered the advance of Company armies to Tirunelveli. (F)
a) (i) and (ii) are correct b) (ii) and (iii) are correct
c) (ii), (iii) and (iv) are correct d) (i) and (iv) are correct
Ans: b) ii) and iii) are correct
3. **Assertion (A) :** Puli Thevar tried to get the support of Hyder Ali and the French.
Reason (R) : Hyder Ali could not help Puli Thevar as he was already in a serious conflict with the Marathas.
a) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

- b) Both (A) and (R) are wrong
- c) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- d) (A) is wrong and (R) is correct

Ans: a) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

IV. Match the following:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. Theerthagiri | – | a) Vellore Revolt |
| 2. Gopala Nayak | – | b) Ramalinganar |
| 3. Bannerman | – | c) Dindigul |
| 4. Subedar Sheik Adam | – | d) Vellore Fort |
| 5. Col. Fancourt | – | e) Odanilai |
- Ans: 1. e, 2. d, 3. b, 4. a, 5. c**

V. Answer briefly:

1. What were the duties of the Palayakkarars?

The duties of the palayakkarars were-

- to collect revenue
- to administer the territory
- to settle disputes and
- to maintain law and order

Their police duties were known as Arasu Kaval.

2. Identify the Palayams based on the division of East and West.

- There were two blocs namely the prominent Eastern and the Western Palayams.
- The Eastern Palayams were Sattur, Nagalapuram, Ettayapuram and Panchalamkurichi.
- The Western Palayams were Uthumalai, Thalavankottai, Naduvakurichi, Singampatti and Seithur.

3. What was the significance of the Battle of Kalakadu?

- Chanda Sahib, the Nawab sent an additional contingent of sepoys to Mahfuzkhan and the reinforced army proceeded to Tirunelvel.
- Besides the 1000 sepoys of the Company, he received 600 more sent by the Nawab.
- He also had the support of cavalry and infantry from the Carnatic.
- In the mean time, 2000 soldiers from Travancore joined the forces of Puli Thevar.
- In the battle of Kalakadu (1765), Mahfuzkhan's troops were routed.

4. What was the bone of contention between the Company and Kottabomman?

- The Company had gained the right to collect taxes from Panchalamkurichi from the Nawab of Carnatic.
- The Company appointed its Collectors to collect taxes from all the palayams.

- The Collectors humiliated the Palayakkarars and adopted force to collect the taxes.
- This was the bone of contention between the English and Kattabomman

5. Highlight the essence of the Tiruchirappalli Proclamation of 1801.

- In Feb. 1801, Oomathurai and Sevathaiah, brothers of Kattabomman escaped from Palaymkottai prison.
- Chinna Marudhu took them to Siruvayal, his capital. The English demanded that the Marudhu Pandiyars had over the fugitives.
- In the mean time, Marudhu Pandyas issued a proclamation of Independence which is called Tiruchirappalli Proclamation in June 1801.
- It was an early call to the Indians to unite against the British. Many palayakkars of Tamil Country rallied together to fight against the English.

VI. Answer the following in detail:

1. Attempt an essay of the heroic fight Veerapandya Kattabomman conducted against the East India Company.

- Veerapandya Kattabomman became the Palayakkarar of Panchalamkurichi at the age of 30 on the death of his father, Jagavira Pandya Kattabomman.
- The Nawab of Carnatic signed a treaty in 1781 with British. As per the treaty, the Company gained the right to collect taxes from Panchalamkurichi.
- To collect the taxes, Collectors were appointed. The Collectors humiliated the Palayakkarars and adopted force to collect the taxes.
- This was the bone of contention between the English and Kattabomman.
- To collect the revenue arrear, Collector Jackson ordered Kattabomman to meet him in Ramanathapuram. But Jackson refused to give him audience.
- After a month, an interview was granted and Kattabommon met Jackson. It that meeting, Kattabomman was insulted by the British.
- Sensing danger, Kattabomman tried to escape with the minister Sivasubramanianar. At the gate of the Ramanathapuram fort, there was a clash. In that, Sivasubramanianar was taken prisoner.
- On his return to Panchalamkurichi, Kattabomman represented to the Madras Council about the attitude of Collector Jackson. The Council found fault on the Collector Jackson and dismissed him from the service.
- In the meantime, Kattabomman was interested in the South Indian Confederacy formed by Marudhu Pandiyar of Sivagangai. British tried to prevent Kattabomman from meeting Marudhu bothers.
- Kattabommon tried to influence Sivagiri Palayakkarars who refused to join. So, Kattabomman advanced to Sivagiri. The Palayakkarars of Sivagiri was a tributary to

the Company. The company considered it as a challenge to their authority.

- Lord Wellesley sent the British forces from Madras under Major Bannerman. On 1 Sep. 1799, an ultimatum was served on Kattabomman to surrender.
- When Kattabomman refused, Bannerman moved his entire army to Panchalamkurichi on 5th Sep. 1799. They cut off all the communications to the fort.
- In a clash at Kallarpatti, Sivasubramanianar was taken a prisoner and Kattabomman escaped to Pudukkottai.
- Finally, Kattabomman was captured; mockery trial was conducted and hanged at Kayathar on 16 Oct. 1799.

2. Highlight the tragic fall of Sivagangai and its outcome.

- Periya Marudhu (Vella Marudhu) and his younger brother Chinna Marudhu were able Generals of Muthu Vadugar of Sivagangai. After Muthuvadugar, they assisted Velunachiyar in restoring the throne.
- In Feb. 1801, Oomathurai and Sevathaiah, brothers of Kattabomman escaped from the Palayamkottai prison. Chinna Marudu took them to Siruvayal, his capital. The British troops under Colin Macaulay retook the fort Siruvayal and the Marudhu brothers sought shelter in Sivagangai.
- The English demanded that the Marudu Pandiyars hand over the fugitives - Oomathurai and Sevathaiah. When they refused. Colonel Agnew and Colonel Innes marched on Sivagangai.
- In June 1801, Marudu Pandiyars issued a Proclamation of Independence which is called Tiruchirappalli Proclamation in history. As per the Proclamation, many palayakkars of Tamil country rallied together to fight against the English.
- In May 1801, the English attacked the rebels in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli. The rebels went to Piranmalai and Kalayarkoil. They were again defeated by the forces of the English.
- The rebellion failed and Sivagangai was annexed in 1801. On 24 October 1801, the Marudhu brothers were executed in the Fort of Tirupathur near Ramanathapuram.
- Thus, the rebellion of Marudhu brothers which is called South Indian Rebellion is a landmark event in the history of Tamil Nadu.

3. Account for the outbreak of Vellore Revolt in 1806.

The sepoys in the British Indian army nursed a strong sense of resentment over low salary and poor prospects of promotion. The Officers of British army scant respect for the social and religious sentiments of the Indian sepoys. The trigger for the revolt came in the form of new military regulation. Its outcome was the Vellore Revolt of 1806.

New Regulations in army:

- According to the new regulations, the Indian soldiers were asked not to wear caste

marks or ear rings when in uniform.

- They were to be cleanly shaven on the chin and maintain uniformity how their moustache looked.
- The new turban added fuel to fire. The most objectionable addition in the new turban was the leather cockade made of animal skin.

Outbreak of the Revolt:

- On 10 July 1806, in the early hours, guns were booming and the Indian sepoy had raised their standard of revolt.
- Colonel Fancourt, Commander the garrison, was the first victim. Colonel McKerras of the 23rd regiment was killed next.
- Major Armstrong who was passing the Fort heard the sound of firing. When he stopped to enquire he was showered by bullets to which he succumbed. About a dozen other officers were killed within an hour.
- In the meantime, the rebels proclaimed Fateh Hyder, Tipu's eldest son, as their new ruler. They hoisted the tiger flag of Mysore sultans in the Fort. But the uprising was swiftly crushed.

Consequences of Revolt:

- Six of the rebels convicted by the Court of Enquiry were blown from guns; five were shot dead; eight hanged.
- Sons of Tipu Sultan were ordered to be sent to Calcutta.
- The officers and men engaged in the suppression of the revolt were rewarded
- The commander-in chief Sir John Cradock, the Adjutant General Agnew and Governor William Bentinck were held responsible for the revolt, removed from their office and recalled to England. The military regulations were treated as withdrawn.
- The Revolt of 1806 had its echoes in Bellary, Walajabad, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Sankaridurg.

VII. Activities

1. **Teacher can ask the students to prepare an album of patriotic leaders of early revolts against the British rule in Tamil Nadu. Using their imagination they can also draw pictures of different battles in which they attained martyrdom**

STUDENTS SELF ACTIVITY

2. **Stage play visualising the conversation between Jackson and Kattabomman be attempted by students with the help of teachers.**

STUDENTS SELF ACTIVITY



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

I. Choose the Correct Answer:

1. After the _____, the East India Company began to consolidate and extend its power and influence.

a) Mysore Wars

b) Carnatic Wars

c) Kalinga Wars

d) Maratha Wars

Ans: b) Carnatic Wars

2. Traditionally, there were supposed to be _____ palakkarars in Tamil Nadu.

a) 72

b) 62

c) 52

d) 75

Ans: a) 72

3. The Palayakarars system was in practice during the rule of Pratapa Rudra of _____.

a) Vijayanagar

b) Warrangal

c) Kurnool

d) Ahmednagar

Ans: b) Warrangal

4. The Palayakarars helped the _____ rulers on many occasions to restore their kingdoms.

a) Cholas

b) Pallavas

c) Nayaks

d) Cheras

Ans: c) Nayaks

5. In the battle of _____, the troops of Mahfuzkhan were routed by Puli Thevar.

a) Arcot

b) Kalakadu

c) Malabar

d) Vellore

Ans: b) Kalakadu

6. On 16 May 1761, Puli Thevar's three major forts came under the control of _____.

a) Mahfuzkhan

b) Hyder Ali

c) Yusuf Khan

d) Chanda Sahib

Ans: c) Yusuf Khan

7. _____ was born in 1730 to Raja Sellamuthu Sethupathy of Ramanathapuram.

a) Velunachiyar

b) Vella Marudhu

c) Oomathurai

d) Kuyili

Ans: a) Velunachiyar

8. Dalavay Thandavaryanar wrote a letter to Hyder Ali on behalf of _____ asking military help to defeat the British.

a) Kattabomman

b) Periya Marudhu

c) Velunachiyar

d) Oomathurai

Ans: c) Velunachiyar

9. _____ was the first female ruler or queen to resist the British colonial power in India.

- a) Laxhmi Bai of Jhansi
- b) Rani.Mangammal
- c) Velunachiyar
- d) Noorjahan

Ans: c) Velunachiyar

10. Kattabomman was hanged from a _____ tree in the old fort of Kayathar, close to Tirunelveli.

- a) Neem
- b) Tamarind
- c) Mango
- d) Teak

Ans: b) Tamarind

11. Veera Pandya Kattabomman was hanged to death in Oct. _____ at Kayathar, chose to Tirunelveli.

- a) 1798
- b) 1799
- c) 1801
- d) 1806

Ans: b) 1799

12. Marudhu Pandiyar of _____ formed the South Indian Confederacy of rebels against the British.

- a) Madurai
- b) Dindugal
- c) Kalaiyar kovil
- d) Sivagangai

Ans: d) Sivagangai

13. The Proclamation of 1801 was pasted on the walls of Nawab's palace in _____ fort.

- a) Madurai
- b) Dindugal
- c) Tiruchirappalli
- d) Hyderabad

Ans: c) Tiruchirappalli

14. The rebellion of _____ is called South Indian Rebellion which is a landmark in the history of Tamil Nadu.

- a) Marudhu brothers
- b) Kattabomman
- c) Velunachiyar
- d) Puli Thevar

Ans: a) Marudhu brothers

15. The British captured Dheeran Chinnamalai with his brothers and were hanged at the top of the _____ fort on 31st July 1805.

- a) Salem
- b) Coimbatore
- c) Vellore
- d) Sankargiri

Ans: d) Sankagiri

16. Coimbatore was annexed at the end of the _____ in 1799.

- a) Anglo-Mysore War
- b) Carnatic War
- c) Maratha War
- d) Seven Years War

Ans: a) Anglo-Mysore War.

17. On 10th July _____, in the early hours, the revolt at Vellore broke out.

- a) 1799
- b) 1800
- c) 1805
- d) 1806

Ans: d) 1806

18. In 1806, at the time of Vellore Revolt, _____ was the Governor of Madras.

- a) Robert Clive
- b) William Bentinck
- c) Wellesley
- d) Dalhousie

Ans: b) William Bentick

19. Velunachiyar escaped and lived under the protection of Gopala Nayaka at _____.

- a) Manapparai
- b) Kalaiyar Kovil
- c) Virupatchi
- d) Siruvayal

Ans: c) Virupatchi

20. _____ ordered the suspension of the collector Jackson.

- a) Robert Clive
- b) Lushington
- c) Edward Clive
- d) William Brown

Ans: c) Edward Clive

21. _____ is a faithful friend of Velunachaiyar.

- a) Udaiyal
- b) Lakshmi
- c) Veerammal
- d) Kuyili

Ans: d) Kuyili

22. Velunachiyar was the only daughter of Raja _____ Sethupathy of Ramanathapuram.

- a) Marimuthu
- b) Sellamuthu
- c) Nuthu vadugar
- d) Rajamuthu

Ans: b) Sellamuthu

23. Ondiveeran led one of the army units of _____.

- a) Dheeran Chinnamalai
- b) Velunachiyar
- c) Gopala Nayak
- d) Puli Thevar

Ans: d) Puli Thevar.

II. Fill in the blanks:

1. The word _____ means a domain, a military camp or a little kingdom.

Ans: Palayam

2. The police duties of Palayakkarars were known as Padikaval or _____.

Ans: Arasu Kaval

3. The Palayakkarars system was put in place in Tamil Nadu by _____.

Ans: Viswanatha Nayak

4. Viswanatha Nayam, ruler of Madurai introduced the Palayakkarar system with the support his minister _____.

Ans: Ariyanathar

5. Among the 72 Palayakkarars, created by the Nayak rulers, there were _____ blocs.

Ans: Two

6. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the Palayakkarars denominated the _____ of Tamil country.

Ans: Politics

7. Mahfuzkhan, brother of the _____ was sent with a contingent of the Company army

under Colonel Heron to Tirunelveli.

Ans: Nawab of Arcot

8. Three Pathan officers of Nawab Chanda Sahib supported the Tamil Palayakkararas against _____, Nawab of Arcot.

Ans: Mohamed Ali

9. Yusuf Khan was known as _____ before his conversion to Islam.

Ans: Marudhanayagam.

10. Yusuf Khan who was negotiating with the Palayakkararas without informing the Company charged with treachery and hanged in _____.

Ans: 1764

11. Velunachiyar was married to _____, the Raja of Sivagangai at the age of 16.

Ans: Muthu Vadugar

12. Velunachiyar was under the protection of Gopala Nayaker at Virupatchi near Dindigul for _____ years.

Ans: Eight

13. Hyder Ali ordered his commandant Syed in Dindigul fort to provide the required military assistant to _____.

Ans: Velunachiyar

14. _____ was the first female ruler or queen to resist the British colonial power in India.

Ans: Velunachiyar

15. After the fall of Panchalamkurichi in Sep. 1799, Kattabomman escaped to _____.

Ans: Pudukkottai

16. Periya Marudhu and Chinna Marudhu were the able Generals of _____ of Sivagangai.

Ans: Muthu Vadugar.

17. In 1801, _____ were executed in the Fort of Tirupathur near Ramanathapuram.

Ans: Marudhu Brothers

18. Oomathurai and Sevathaiah, brothers of Kattabomman were beheaded at _____ on 16th Nov. 1801.

Ans: Panchalamkurichi

19. The British assumed direct control over Tamilagam as per the _____ of 31 July 1801.

Ans: Carnatic Treaty

20. In the Kongu region, tax was collected by _____, Diwan of Tipu Sultan.

Ans: Mohammed Ali

21. On 10 July 1806, the rebels proclaimed _____, Tipu's eldest son as their new ruler at Vellore fort.

Ans: Fateh Hyder.

22. The first victim of the Vellore Revolt was _____, Commander of garrison.

Ans: Colonel Fancourt

23. The rebels of Vellore Fort hoisted the _____ flag of Mysore Sultans in the Fort.

Ans: Tiger

24. Vellore Revolt had all the forebodings of the _____ 1857.

Ans: Great Rebellion

III. Choose the Correct Statement

1. **Assertion (A) :** Apart from the new military regulations, the most objectionable was the addition of a leather cockade in the turban.

Reason (R) : The leather cockade was made of animal skin.

- a) Both (A) and (R) are right
- b) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- c) Both (A) and (R) are wrong
- d) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Ans: b) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

2. i) Among the 72 palayakkarars, there were two blocs. (T)
ii) Two blocs were eastern and western palayams. (T)
iii) The Palayakkarars functioned as independent, sovereign authorities within their respective Palayams. (T)
iv) Many Palayakkarars accepted to pay taxes to the Company officials. (F)
- a) i), ii) and iv) are correct
 - b) i), ii) and iii) are correct
 - c) iii) and iv) are correct
 - d) i) and iv) are correct

Ans: b) i), ii) and iii) are correct

3. i) Velunachiyar had training in martial arts like valari, stick fighting and to wield weapons. (F)
ii) She learnt and became master in Sanskrit, Hindi, Telegu and Malayalam. (T)
iii) She had a daughter by name Vellachinachiar. (T)
iv) Velunachiyar accepted the paramount power the British. (F)
- a) i), ii) and iv) are correct
 - b) i), ii) and iii) are correct
 - c) iii) and iv) are correct
 - d) i) and iii) are correct

Ans: d) ii) and iii) are correct

4. i) The land revenue arrear from Kattabomman was 3310 pagoda in 1798. (T)
ii) Collector Jackson wanted to send an army to collect the revenue dues. (T)
iii) Sensing danger, Kattabomman surrendered to the British along with his minister Sivasubramanianar. (F)
iv) Kattabomman was shot dead at Panchalamkurichi in 1799. (F)
- a) i) and ii) are correct
 - b) i), ii) and iii) are correct
 - c) iii) and iv) are correct
 - d) i) and iv) are correct

Ans: a) i) and ii) are correct

5. **Assertion (A)** : The personal relationship and understanding between the King and the Palayakkarars made the system to last for about two hundred years.

Reason (R) : On many occasions the Palayakarars helped the Nayak rulers to restore the kingdom to them.

- a) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
- b) Both (A) and (R) are wrong
- c) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- d) Both (A) and (R) are correct

Ans: c) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

6. **Assertion (A)** : Puli Thevar failed to get the support of Hyder Ali and the French.

Reason (R) : Hyder Ali could not help Puli Thevar as he was already in a serious conflict with the Marathas.

- a) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
- b) Both (A) and (R) are wrong
- c) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- d) Both (A) and (R) are correct

Ans: c) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

IV. Match the following:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Kuyili | — | a) Nerkattumseval |
| 2. Velunachiyar | — | b) Ruler of Mysore |
| 3. Viswanatha Nayak | — | c) Friend of Velunachiyar |
| 4. Puli Thevar | — | d) Ruler of Sivagangai |
| 5. Krishnappa Nayak | — | e) Ruler of Madurai |

Ans: 1. c, 2. d, 3. e, 4. a, 5. b

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 6. Vella Maruthu | — | a) Son of Tipu Sultan |
| 7. Sevathaiah | — | b) Periya Marudhu |
| 8. Hyder Ali | — | c) Governor of British India |
| 9. Fateh Hyder | — | d) Ruler of Mysore |
| 10. William Bentinck | — | e) Brother of Kattabomman |

Ans: 6. b, 7. e, 8. d, 9. a, 10. c

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 11. Kattabomman | — | a) Kalaiyar kovil |
| 12. Marudhu brothers | — | b) Sankagiri |
| 13. Oomathurai | — | c) Panchalammurichi |
| 14. Dheeran Chinnamalai | — | d) Tirupathur |
| 15. Muthu Vadugar | — | e) Kayathar |

Ans: 11. e, 12. d, 13. c, 14. b, 15. a

V. Answer briefly:

1. Write about 'Palayam' and 'Palayakkarar'.

- The word 'Palayam' means a domain, a military camp or a little kingdom.
- Palayakkarar in Tamil refers to the holder of a little kingdom as a feudatory to a greater sovereign.
- Under this system, palayam was given for valuable military services rendered by any individual.

2. Why did many Palayakkarars refuse to pay taxes to the Company officials?

- The Nawab of Arcot borrowed money from the East India Company to meet the expenses of the Carnatic Wars.
- His debts exceeded his capacity to pay. So, the power of collecting the land revenue dues from the Southern Palaykharars was given to the East Company.
- Claiming that their lands were handed down to them over sixty generation, many palayakkararas refused to pay taxes to the Company officials.

3. Why was Colonel Heron dismissed from service?

- In March 1755, Mahfuzkhan, brother of the Nawab of Arcot was sent with a contingent of the company army under Colonel Heron to Tirunelveli.
- Puli Thevar wielded much influence over the western palayakkarars.
- So, Colonel Heron was urged to deal with Puli Thevar as he continued to defy the authority of the company.
- For want of cannon and of supplies and pay to soldiers, Colonel Heron abandoned the plan and retired to Madurai.
- Heron was recalled and dismissed from service.

4. Write about the bravery of Ondiveeran.

- Ondiveeran led one of the army units of Puli Thevar.
- Fighting by the side of Puli Thevar, he caused much damage to the Company's army.
- According to oral tradition, in one battle, Ondiveeran's hand was chopped off and Puli Thevar was saddened.
- But Ondiveeran said it was a reward for his penetration into enemy's fort causing many heads to roll.

5. What were the factors that triggered the revolt at Vellore?

- The sepoys in the British Indian army nursed a strong sense of resentment over low salary and poor prospects of promotion.
- The Officers of British army scant respect for the social and religious sentiments of the Indian sepoys.

- With new experiments in land tenures, many of the families of sepoys were in dire economic straits.
- The trigger for the revolt came in the form of new military regulation notified by the Commander-in-Chief Sir John Cradock.

6. Mention the new regulations introduced in the military by the British?

- According to the new regulations, the Indian soldiers were asked not to wear caste marks or ear rings when in uniform.
- They were to be cleanly shaven on the chin and maintain uniformity how their moustache looked.
- The new turban added fuel to fire. The most objectionable addition in the new turban was the leather cockade made of animal skin.

7. What were the consequences of the Vellore Revolt?

- Six of the rebels convicted by the Court of Enquiry were blown from guns; five were shot dead; eight hanged.
- Tipu's sons were ordered to be sent to Calcutta.
- The officers and men engaged in the suppression of the revolt were rewarded with prize money and promotion.
- The commander-in-chief Sir John Cradock, the Adjutant General Agnew and Governor William Bentinck were held responsible for the revolt, removed from their office and recalled to England. The military regulations were withdrawn.



UNIT TEST – 6

Early Revolts against British Rule in Tamil Nadu

Time : 45 mts.

Marks: 40

I. Choose the correct answer:

7×1=7

1. Who was the first Palayakkarakar to resist the East India Company in Tamil Nadu?

- a) Marudu brothers b) Puli Thevar c) Velunachiyar d) Kattabomman

2. Who had established close relationship with the three agents of Chanda Sahib?

- a) Velunachiyar b) Kattabomman c) Puli Thevar d) Oomaithurai

3. Who issued the Tiruchirappalli proclamation of Independence.

- a) Marudhu brothers b) PuliThevar
c) Kattabomman d) Gopal Nayak

4. When did the Vellore Revolt breakout?

- a) 24 May 1805 b) 10 July 1805 c) 10 July 1806 d) 10 Sep. 1806

5. Who was the Commander in Chief responsible for the new military regulations?

- a) Col. Fancourt b) Major Armstrong c) Sir John Cradock d) Colonel Agnew

6. Where were the sons of Tipu Sultan sent after the Vellore Revolt?

- a) Calcutta b) Mumbai c) Delhi d) Mysore

7. At the age of 16, Velunachiyar was married to Muthu Vadugar, the Raja of _____.

- a) Kalaiyar Kovil b) Sivagangai c) Ramanathapuram d) Dindugal

II. Fill in the blanks:

8×1=8

8. The Palayakkarakars system was put in place in Tamil Nadu by _____.

9. Velunachiyar and her daughter were under the protection of _____ for eight years.

10. Kattabomman was hanged to death at _____

11. The Rebellion of Marudhu Brothers was categorised in the British records as _____.

12. _____ was declared the new Sultan by the rebels in Vellore Fort.

13. Among the 72 Palayakkarakars, created by the Nayak rulers, there were _____ blocs.

14. In 1801, _____ were executed in the Fort of Tirupathur near Ramanathapuram.

15. Yusuf Khan was known as _____ before his conversion to Islam.

III. Match the following:

5×1=5

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 16. Kuyili | – | a) Nerkattumseval |
| 17. Velunachiyar | – | b) Ruler of Mysore |
| 18. Viswanatha Nayak | – | c) Friend of Velunachiyar |
| 19. Puli Thevar | – | d) Ruler of Sivagangai |
| 20. Krishnappa Nayak | – | e) Ruler of Madurai |

IV. Answer in brief:

5×2=10

21. What were the duties of the Palayakkararas?
22. Identify the Palayams based on the division of East and West.
23. What was the significance of the Battle of Kalakadu.
24. What was the bone of contention between the Company and the Kattabomman?
25. Highlight the essence of the Tiruchirappalli Proclamation of 1801.

V. Answer any one in a paragraph:

1×5=5

26. Discuss the circumstances that led to the Reform movement of 19th century.

(OR)

27. Write an essay on the role played by the 19th century reformers towards the cause of women.

VI. Map work:

1×5=5

1. On the outline map of Tamil Nadu, mark the following places-
i) Vellore ii) Tiruchirappalli iii) Panchalamkurichi iv) Kalaiyar kovil
v) Kalakadu

