

CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES

IN THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

FIRST EDITION.



MADRAS.
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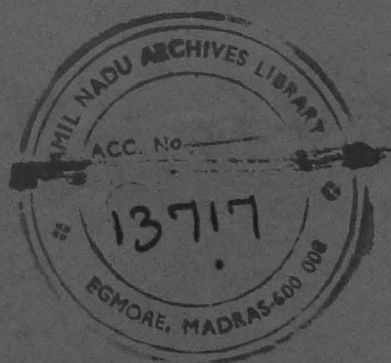


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INDEX.

TRAVANCORE.

	PAGE
THE CHIEF	2
Bala Rama Varma, Maharaja	3
Cheraman Perumal	1
Edapally, Attam Nal Subramanya Raja of	4
Genealogical Tree	2
Kilimanur, Koil Tampurans of	4
Lakshmi Bai (the mother of the Chief)	4
Martanda Varma, the Great	3
Narayanan Tampi, Sri	1
Parvati Bai, Rani Regent	4
Poonjat, Pururattati Nal Godavarma Raja of	4
Rama Varma, Ayilliam Tirunal	4
Rama Varma, Koil Tampuran	3
Rama Varma, the successor of Martanda Varma the Great	3
Rama Varma, Visakham Tirunal	1
Ravi Varma, B.A., Cochu Koil Tampuran	3
Rukmini Bai	4
Sethu Lakshmi Bai, Her Highness, the Senior Rani	3
Sethu Parvathi Bai, the Junior Rani	3
Unni Kerala Varma	4
Velayudhan Tampi, Sri	4
Visakham Tirunal Raja Raja Varma of	4

COCHIN.

THE CHIEF	6
Changanankota, Krishnan Kunjunni Kartha of	7
Cheranallur, Raman Kunjunni Kartha of	7
Cochin, Cranganur, feudatory of	7
Genealogical Tree	10
Godavarma Koil Tirumulpad	8
Govindan Valia Achan, Paliyat, <i>alias</i> Raman Koni	7
Manckulam, Kunjunni Raja of	7
Paliyat Achans	7
Rajas of Cochin, List of	8-9
Rama Varma, Chief of Cranganore	7
Rama Varma, Elaya Raja	7
Talapilli, Kunjan Raja of	7

PUDUKKOTTAL.

THE CHIEF	12
Ayyaswami Pannikondar	13
Balasubramanya Raghunatha Ramachandra Tondaiman Sahib	13
Balasubramanya Raghunatha Tirumalai Tondaiman Sahib	13
Balasubramanya Raghunatha Tondaiman	12
Bhairava Ramachandra Dorai Raja	13
Dakshinamurthi Dorai Raja	13
Genealogical Tree	14
Krishnaswami Dorai Raja	13
Radhakrishna Tondaiman	12
Raghunatha Tondaiman	12
Rajagopala Tondaiman Sahib	13
Ramachandra Tondaiman	12
Sankaranarayana Dorai Raja	13
Tirumala Rai Tondaiman	12
Vijaya Raghunatha Dorai Raja	12
Vijaya Raghunatha Rai Tondaiman	12

BANGANAPALLE.

	PAGE
THE CHIEF	16
'Asad 'Ali Khān	15
Fath-i-'Ali Khan	16
Fazl-i-'Ali Khan	16
Genealogical Tree	17
Ghulam Ali Khan	15
Ghulam Muhammad Ali	15, 16
Mihr 'Asad 'Ali Khān Bahadur, the Hon'ble	16
Mihr Husain 'Ali Khān	16
Mihr Zawar 'Ali Khān	16
Muhammad 'Ali Khān, Saiyid	16
Saiyid Husain 'Ali Khān	16

SANDUR.

THE CHIEF	19
Daulat Rao	18
Genealogical Tree	20
Ghorpades	18
Maloji Rao Bala Sahib, Srimant	19
Morari Rao	18
Ramachandra Vitthala Rao, C.I.E.	19
Siddoji Rao	18
Sivashanmukha Rao	19
Siva Rao... ..	18, 19
Tara Raje	19
Venkata Rao	19

CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

TRAVANCORE.

The Country.—Travancore, the largest of the States in political relationship with the Government of Madras, lies in the extreme south-west of the Indian Peninsula, Cape Comorin lying just within the south-eastern limits of the State. It forms a narrow strip of country 174 miles at its greatest length and from 7 to 40 miles wide, bounded on the east by the lofty range of the Western Ghats which run down through forests and fertile country to a chain of backwaters fringing the Indian Ocean. Its population in 1911 was 3,428,975 and the total revenue of the State for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,54,74,665.

History.—Originally included in the ancient West Coast Kingdom of Kerala, Travancore is claimed to have had an uninterrupted succession of Hindu sovereigns from remote antiquity. Reclaimed, according to tradition, from the sea by Parasurama, an avatar of Vishnu, the whole of the West Coast is said to have been colonised by Brahmans and to have been ruled by them until, on the failure of various governmental systems, rulers called Perumals were brought in from outside to hold sway for periods of twelve years each.

About the first half of the ninth century A.D. Cheraman Perumal, the last of these chiefs, is said to have divided the country among his relations and to have proceeded to Mecca. Doubt has been thrown on this tradition and indeed all that can be said for the next two centuries is that Travancore, with other West Coast States, came under direct Chola influence and was later successively invaded first by the Pandyas of Madura in the thirteenth century and then in 1534 and 1544 by two kings of Vijayanagar. Up to the tenth century at least Travancore was merely part of the larger organisation of Kerala. Below the suzerain power were a number of chieftains, or princes, of *nads*, among whom were the well-known families of Venad (Travancore), Ernad, Valluvanad and Nedumparaiyanad (Palghat). But nothing can be stated definitely about the princes of Venad till the twelfth century A.D. Traces exist towards the close of that century of "eighteen districts" as comprising Venad and it is possible that the eighteen "Valanjiyars" in charge of them formed a class analogous to feudal barons. In any case there is little doubt that Venad itself was sub-divided into a number of small chieftainships and inscriptions suggest that two or more kings of the same dynasty ruled simultaneously.

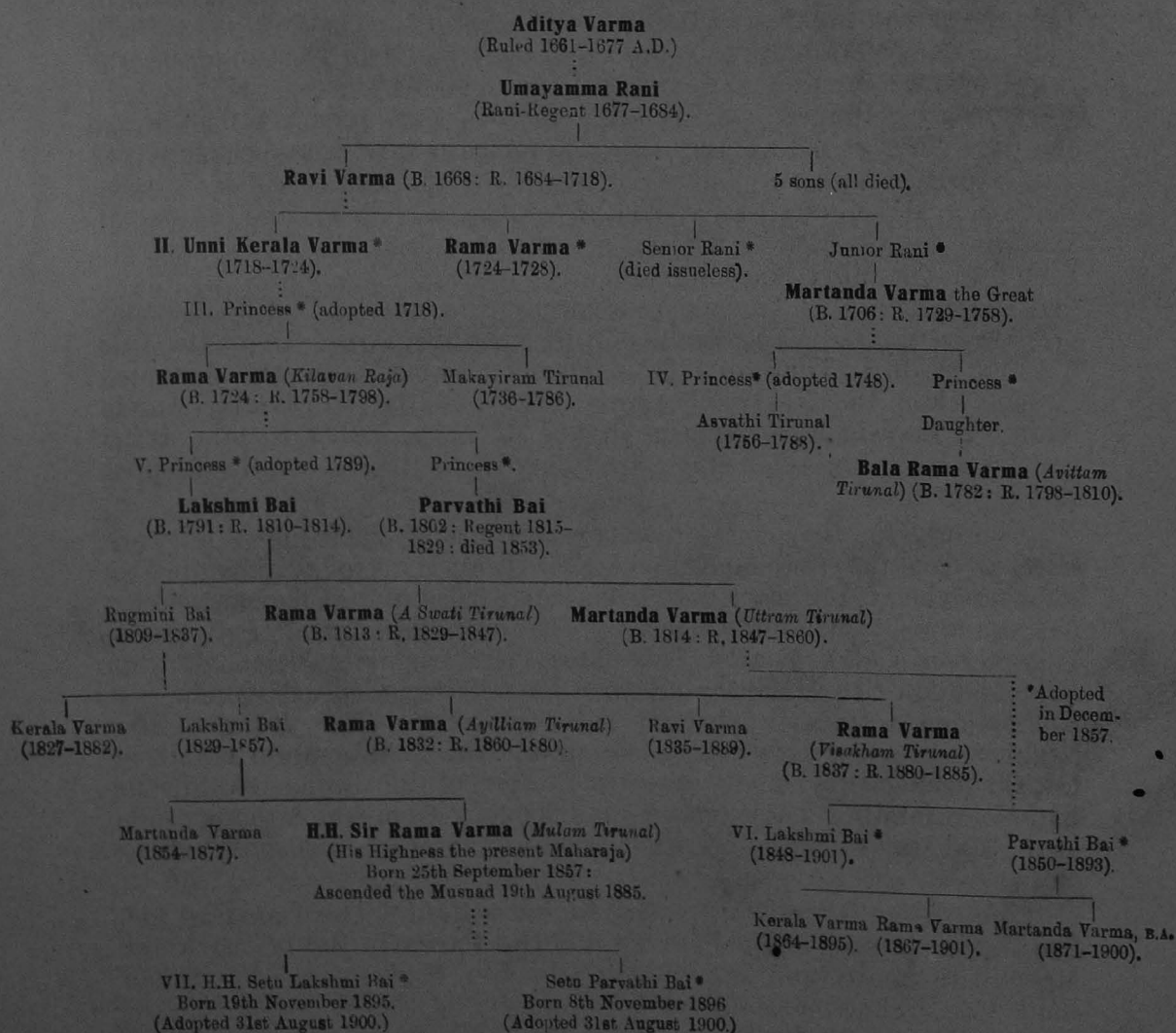
After the battle of Talikota on the Kistna river in 1565, in which the Vijayanagar dynasty was completely crushed, Travancore became feudatory to the Naik kings of Madura. It was at this time a congeries of petty chieftainships, the central power having been seriously weakened by the encroachments of the notorious Ettuvittil Pillamars, a caste of usurping landlords. Confusion reigned till the accession of Martanda Varma (1729 A.D.), who, with his successor Rama Varma (1758 A.D.), was the founder of the modern Travancore State. He conquered and annexed three principalities and set himself to put down with a strong hand the disloyal elements in the State, a conspiracy of the Ettuvittil Pillamars being discovered and their power broken. His successor, Rāma Varma,

completed the subjugation of the remaining chiefs and Travancore became sufficiently consolidated to offer resistance to the threats of Haidar Ali. In 1778 free passage was granted to British Troops on their way to attack Haidar's base at Mahe and the connection of Travancore with the British began. A treaty with them in 1788 was followed by another in 1795 by which the Raja engaged to pay an annual subsidy adequate to maintain a force of sepoys with guns, receiving in return protection against all aggressors by sea or land. An insurrection was raised in 1808 with the object of subverting British influence, but it was easily suppressed and in the following year a new treaty was concluded. By it the subsidy was increased and the Raja bound himself to allow the British Government to assume the direct management of the State in case of failure to pay the subsidy; to pay at all times the utmost attention to the advice of the British Government; to hold no communication with any foreign State; and to permit no foreigner to remain within his territories without the previous sanction of the British Government.

The Chief.—The present Chief is His Highness **Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapathi Manney Sultan Maharaja Raja Rama Raja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.**, who was born on the 25th September 1857 and succeeded his uncle in 1885. He is highly educated and is a man of great ability as a statesman.

The appended genealogical tree shows his descent from the Raja Aditya Varmā :—

GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE TRAVANCORE RULING HOUSE.



N.B.—The star mark denotes *adoptions* into the Ruling House; the roman numerals indicate the *order* of adoptions; vertical single-dotted lines show *nieces*, and double-dotted lines, *grandnieces*.

The family follows the *Marumakkatayam* law common on the Malabar Coast, that is to say, the succession is in the female line and the children of the Chief are not in the line of succession. So long as there are any males in the line of succession (through females) from the person regarded as the common ancestress, they succeed, in order of age, before females; and if there are no females in the line, it becomes necessary to adopt, in order to continue the succession. It is usual in these circumstances to adopt two females, but one occasion is on record on which two females and two males were adopted. Adoptions have become necessary on three occasions in more or less recent times. In 1789, besides the ruling Mahārāja and the heir-apparent (who ascended the *musnad* in 1798 as His Highness the Maharaja Bala Rama Varma) there were no representatives, male or female, to carry on the family, and two rānis were adopted, the senior of whom had two daughters. The elder of these gave birth to a daughter (Rugmini Bāi) in 1809, the year in which the Mahārāja Bala Rāma Varma died, but from that year until 1813, when the same Rani gave birth to a son, there was no Mahārāja and the *musnad* was occupied by the Rani. Her two sons, Rāma Varma and Mārtanda Varma, occupied it from 1813 till 1846 and from 1846 till 1860, and the last named was succeeded in turn by Ayilliam Tirunāl Rāma Varma, and Visākham Tirunāl Rāma Varma, two of the four sons of his sister Rugmini Bāi; and Rugmini Bāi had also a daughter Lakshmi Bāi, whose son, His Highness the present Mahārāja, succeeded his uncle in 1885. Lakshmi Bāi died soon after His Highness's birth in 1857 and on her death there were again no female members in the family to carry on the succession and two rānis were adopted. The senior of these had no issue and the junior, though she had four sons (all of whom died at a comparatively early age) had no daughters and it became necessary again in 1900 to adopt two rānis, who are the present Senior and Junior Rānis.

So far as is known, all the rānis adopted have been taken from one family, known as the Kōlathunād or Kolāttiri family, whose original seat was in British Malabar; but five branches of the family, called respectively the Māvēlikara, Ennakād, Prāyikara, Mariapalli and Aranmula families, have settled in Travancore, and the last two adoptions have been from the Māvēlikara branch.

The Mahārāja of Travancore is supposed to take his consort from one of four recognised Nayar families, which are distinguished by the title "Amma Vidu." They are the Vadassēri Amma Vidu, the Arumana Amma Vidu, the Nagercoil Amma Vidu and the Thiruvattār Amma Vidu. It occasionally happens that a Mahārāja wishes to take as his consort a lady from some other family but she is then generally adopted into one of these four.

Consorts for the female members or rānis of the ruling family are selected from the two families of Kōil Tampurāns of Kilimānūr and Changanāchērry, the latter of which is sub-divided in the Changanāchērry, Anantapuram, Chemprōl, Cherukol, Grāmam, Karanma, Paliyakara, Pallam and Vadakkēmatom branches. Their original settlement was at Beypore in British Malabar and they are still regarded as belonging to Kōvilakams in Malabar (Thattāri and Aliyakōttu). The consort of Her Highness the present Senior Rāni belongs to the Anantapuram branch of the Changanāchērry family and the consort of the Junior Rāni to the Kilimānūr family. These families and the four from which the consorts of the Mahārājas are taken are regarded as the chief aristocracy of the State.

The present Senior Rāni is Her Highness **Rani Sethu Lakshmi Bai**. She and the present junior Rāni **Rani Sethu Parvathi Bai** belong to the Māvēlikara family and were adopted by Her Highness the late Senior Rāni, His Highness's sister, with the consent of the Mahārāja into the ruling family in 1900. They were born in 1895 and 1896 respectively. They are both married, the Senior Rāni to Rama Varma, Kōil Tampurān,

and the junior to Ravi Varma, B.A., Cochu Kōil Tampurān. The Junior Rāni gave birth on the 7th November 1912 to a son **Rama Varma** who is the heir-apparent to the Mahārāja.

The Mahārāja's eldest son is **Sri Narayanan Tampi** by the first wife. He has also a son, **Sri Velayudhan Tampi** by his present wife.

Leading families.—Although, as has been seen, the consolidation of Travancore was effected at the expense of the power of the smaller chiefs, there still remain three families whose status approximates to that of a hereditary zamindar in the Madras Presidency.

The Kōil Tampurāns of Kilimānūr have been closely connected with the ruling family for more than two centuries. The estate, which comprises an area of 17 square miles, with a population of 3,000, was originally forfeited to Travancore during the troubles with the Ettuvittil Pillamārs. The Kilimānūr Kōil Tampurāns came south from Parappanād in Malabar and the great Mārtānda Varma and his successor were the issue of an alliance of the Travancore family with their house. From Unni Kērala Varma (1718–1724 A.D.) to the Rāni Regent, Pārvati Bāi (1815–1829 A.D.), all the Travancore rulers are connected with this house. The present “chief” is the **Visakham Tirunal Raja Raja Varma**, born in 1850.

The Poonjat “chief” belongs, according to tradition, to an ancient offshoot of the Pandya dynasty of kings who left Madura, their capital, and sought refuge in the Western Ghats some five or six centuries ago. They purchased a tract of land, called Poonjar, from a Rāja of Thekkumkūr and, on the annexation to Travancore by Mārtānda Varma of the territories of Thekkumkūr, the Poonjar Rāja, who had rendered valuable assistance, came to be considered a subject ally of the Mahārāja. But the exact relation was never very clear and it became necessary to appoint a commission to inquire into the history of the family's possessions. The present head of the family is the **Pururattati Nal Goda Varma Raja**, born in 1851.

Edapally is a petty principality belonging to a Nambūdiri Brahman of rank who exercises wide spiritual, but limited temporal, power. The estate is divided into two parts and is situated close to the Travancore frontier between Alwāye and Tripūnnithura. The “chief” is regarded as the family priest of the Travancore ruling family and is at present the **Attam Nal Subramanya Raja**, born in 1881.

COCHIN.

The Country.—Cochin State is bounded on the north and east by the British districts of Malabar and Coimbatore, on the south by Travancore and on the west by the Arabian sea. The total area of the Cochin State is $1,417\frac{3}{4}$ square miles, of which 605 square miles are covered by forests. The population, according to the census of 1911, is 918,110 ; Hindus contribute 67·06 per cent. of the total, Christians 25·38 per cent. and Muhammadans 6·95.

History.—The early history of Cochin is legendary, but it can be said with certainty that the State now known by that name formed part of the ancient kingdom of Kērala, to which also belonged the neighbouring State of Travancore.

The early history of the two States is the history of the kingdom of Kērala, and Cochin is supposed to have come into existence as a separate kingdom only in the ninth century, shortly after the abdication of the last Perumal of Malabar. Between the ninth and fourteenth centuries the kingdom of Kērala was subjected to constant invasion and Calicut and Cochin gradually emerged from the number of smaller Malabar States as the two most important States on the West Coast, waging frequent war with each other. They had become the respective heads of two of the circles into which the Brahman colonists divided their 64 villages and the antagonism, the origin of which is now forgotten, continued for centuries through the period of the Portuguese and Dutch influence up to the time when British supremacy asserted itself in Southern India.

At the time of the landing of the Portuguese at Calicut in 1498 the Zāmorin of Calicut had succeeded in establishing a suzerainty over Cochin, with the result that, when the Portuguese landed at Cochin, they were welcomed by the Rāja as a means by which he might throw off the Zāmorin's suzerainty. The inevitable result followed: for the first 50 years after the advent of the Portuguese the history of Cochin and Calicut is a record of incessant war between Cochin aided by the Portuguese and the Zāmorin aided by the Moors. In the course of these wars Cochin regained her independence.

The Dutch East India Company meanwhile had begun trading with India and having come into conflict with the Portuguese had obtained a footing in India and in Ceylon. In 1658 they had captured all the Portuguese possessions in Ceylon and in 1661 set out to capture their Indian possessions. Aided by the Zāmorin, the Rāja of Crānganur and some of the Cochin Rāja's family, they seized Ayacōtta and the fort at Pallipuram. Crānganur fort and Muttānchērri fell into their hands in the following year and after several desperate attempts the town of Cochin was taken by storm in 1663 and became henceforth the head-quarters of the Dutch on the Malabar coast. By a treaty concluded in March 1663 the Dutch in return for certain trade privileges undertook to protect Cochin State from foreign aggression. The rise to power of the neighbouring State of Travancore during the first half of the eighteenth century introduced a new factor into Cochin politics and the success of the Travancore arms under DeLannoy in the subjection of petty chiefs right up to the Cochin frontier seriously alarmed the ruler of that State. In response to a prayer for help by some of the Chiefs who were being overrun by Travancore, Cochin furnished an army which was defeated with great loss at Ambalapuzha. By the treaty concluded in 1757, Cochin agreed to cede the territories conquered and occupied by Travancore and to sell to her all but a fraction of the pepper grown in the

country. Meanwhile Cochin was being so hard pressed by the Zāmorin's forces on the north that she lost all her territory with the exception of portions of the Kanayanur-Cochin and Trichur taluks. Her systematic oppression of her chiefs had alienated their sympathies and with the exception of the Pāliyat Achan and a handful of others all her nobles had thrown in their lot with the Zāmorin. In her extremity Cochin appealed to Travancore for help and a short and decisive campaign conducted by DeLannoy ended in the expulsion of the Zamorin's troops.

The rapid rise of Travancore to power in the middle of the eighteenth century under Rāja Mārtānda Varma proved an object lesson to Cochin, who now realised that her weakness was due to the diffusion of power among a number of hereditary chiefs. In the treaty of 1761 a condition was inserted by which Travancore agreed to assist Cochin to put down the power of the chiefs in general and to punish the traitorous among them in particular. All administrative powers were first taken away from the chiefs and vested in officers appointed by the king and the recalcitrant chiefs were then dealt with one by one, some being deprived of all their possessions and reduced to beggary, others being compelled to relinquish portions of their estates. A new system now replaced the feudal system ; the State was divided into ten taluks administered by the Rāja's officers and a standing army was organised.

The Rāja of Cochin agreed in 1776 to secure immunity from invasion by the payment to Haidar Ali of a nuzzer of 100,000 pagodas and a yearly tribute of 30,000 pagodas and 4 elephants. Tipu, Haidar Ali's successor, had long harboured designs on Travancore and seized on the sale of Cochin, Ayacōtta and Crānganur by the Dutch to Travancore as a pretext for putting his schemes into execution. At the head of a large army he marched through Cochin and after a resistance which extended over three months occupied several points in Travancore territory. He was then hastily recalled by the news that the English had declared war against him and were marching on Seringapatam. The Rāja of Cochin then openly joined the English and by a treaty signed in 1791 agreed to become tributary to the Honourable East India Company. He was placed in possession in 1790 of the districts which had been wrongfully wrested from him by Tipu and undertook to pay tribute from that date on the following scale ; for the first year Rs. 70,000 ; the second year Rs. 80,000 ; the third year Rs. 90,000 ; the fourth year and ever after Rs. 1,00,000. In return for his acknowledgment of English sovereignty the Company undertook to afford him "that protection which it always gave to their faithful tributaries and allies."

In 1808 an attempt was made to murder the British Resident and simultaneously an attack was made on the subsidiary force stationed at Quilon. Both enterprises proved unsuccessful and, while it was recognised that the Rāja himself was not implicated, it was deemed advisable to modify the treaty of 1791. A new treaty was accordingly concluded in 1809 by which the Rāja agreed to pay an additional annual subsidy of Rs. 1,76,037, being the estimated cost of a battalion of Indian infantry.

He also agreed to pay at all times the utmost attention to such advice as the English Government might think it necessary to offer in matters connected with the internal administration of the State. In 1818 the amount of subsidy was reduced to 2 lakhs, at which figure it still stands.

Succession in the ruling family follows the ordinary *Marumakkatayam* system. The essential features of this system, which is common to Malabar, Cochin and Travancore, are that inheritance is through the female line and that the family, or tarwad, consists of all the descendants of a common ancestress in the female line. A man's heirs are his sister's children ; his own wife and children have no legal claim to his property.

The Chief.—The title of the ruler is Rāja, and the present ruler is His Highness **Raja Sri Rama Varma**. He was born on the 6th October 1858 and ascended the musnad on the abdication of his cousin on the

7th December 1914. As Raja of Cochin he is entitled to a salute of 17 guns. The heir-apparent is **Elaya Raja Rama Varma**. He was born in 1862 and is the son of the late senior Rani, Manku Tampuran, who was a sister of the maternal grandmother of the present Rāja. His title is Elaya Raja. The statements appended give the names of the predecessors of the present ruler and his immediate relations.

Leading Families.—The principality of Crānganur is subject to Cochin and pays a yearly tribute of Rs. 6,900. Area $17\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. Population 29,140. It is financially autonomous, but in all other respects it is administered as an integral part of the State. The Chiefs of Crānganur have been feudatory sometimes to the Zāmorin of Calicut and sometimes to the Rāja of Cochin. Prior to the advent of the Portuguese it was subject to Cochin but at the time of their arrival it had come under the Zāmorin. In 1534 it came under the protection of the Portuguese and it so continued till 1662 when it was captured by the Dutch, assisted by the Zāmorin and the Rāja of Crānganur. During the greater part of the Dutch period it remained under the protection of the Netherlands East India Company. Haidar treated it as a feudatory of Cochin and levied tribute from it through the latter. The Malabar Joint Commission appointed after the treaty of 1791 adjudged the principality to be feudatory to Cochin and it has so remained ever since. The present Chief, **Rama Varma**, is a Kshatriya and was born in 1834.

Crānganur. The Paliyat Achans are Nayars. In olden days the Pāliyat Achans were vassals of the Villarvattat Rāja who was a feudatory of Cochin. From early in the seventeenth century until 1808 the Pāliyat Achans were the hereditary Prime Ministers of the State. They are now merely very high land-owners and live at Chennamangalam, Cochin-Kanayanur taluk. The present head of the family is **Paliyat Govindan Valia Achan** *alias* **Raman Koni**, born in 1851, who became head of the family in 1911.

Paliyat Achan. **Raman Kunju Kartha** of Chēranallur, also known as the Chēranallur Kaimal, is a Nayar and was born in 1850. The family were petty chieftains. They have no political importance now but are still one of the richest families in the State.

Chēranallur. **Krishnan Kunjunni Kartha** of Changarankōta was born in 1838. He is a Nayar and well read in Sanskrit and Malayālam. The family were petty chiefs and frequently sided with the Zāmorin against Cochin. They are now large land-holders, paying an assessment of Rs. 3,000 to the State, but they possess no political importance.

Changarankōta. **Kunjan Raja**, a Nambidi by caste, was born in 1844. The head of the family was one of the three chiefs who in former days ruled the Talapilli taluk and were known collectively as the Talapilli Rājas. The family has now no political importance, but pays Rs. 7,000 assessment to Cochin and Rs. 3,000 to the British Government.

Talapilli. **Kunjunni Raja**, born in 1859, is a Nambidi and the head of an old family of ruling chiefs known in former times as the Manckulam Rājas (Talapilli taluk). He pays an assessment of Rs. 6,000 to the Cochin State and Rs. 4,000 to the British Government. The family receives an allowance of Rs. 457 a year from the latter through the Zāmorin of Calicut.

Manckulam.

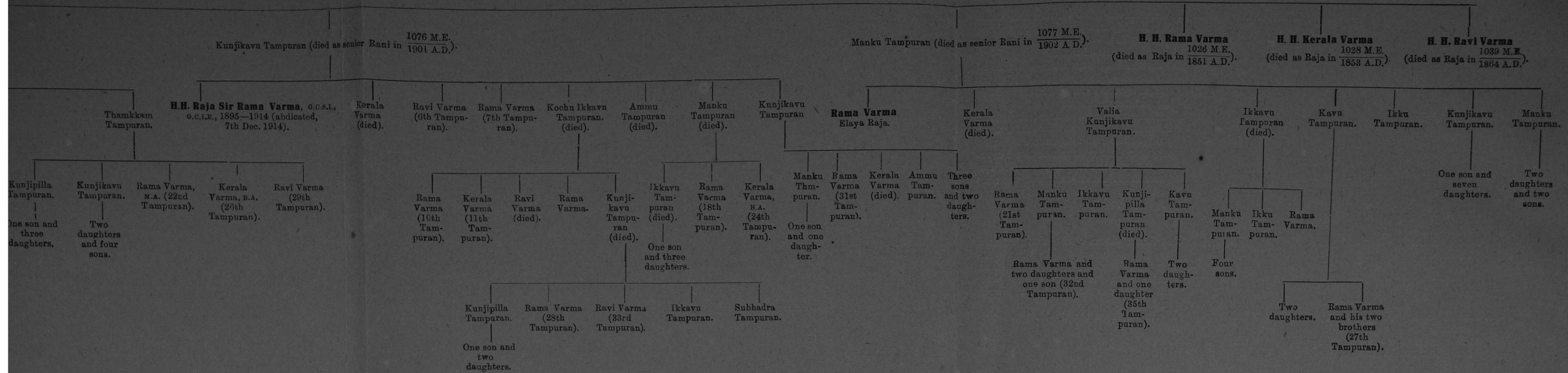
LIST OF RĀJAS OF COCHIN.

Vēerakērala Varma, son of a sister of Cheraman Perumāl by Perim-padappu Nambūdiri, is supposed to have been the first ruler of Cochin.

His successors are unknown till 1500 A.D. at the end of which year (24th December 1500), the Portuguese Admiral Alvarez Cabral arrived in Cochin. When Cabral arrived, Gōda Varma Kōil Tirumalpād, called Tirumumpava by the Portuguese, was the Rāja of Cochin. At some period not known, the family became divided into five Tāvazhis or branches, the Mutta, the Elaya, the Palluruthi, the Madathumkil or Muringūr and the Chāzhur Tāvazhis. By the right of succession to the musnad which is common to all, the eldest male member in the female line of all the branches taken together becomes the ruling Rāja.

Name.	DATE OF DEATH.		REMARKS.
	Mal.	Eng.	
Unni Rāma Kōil Tirumalpād <i>alias</i> Rāma Varma, nephew of Gōda Varma of the Elaya Tāvazhi.	712 M.E.	1537 A.D.	He was appointed regent at first in 1505, and was installed as Rāja of Cochin by Don Francisco Almeida in 1505, though his uncle lived up to the year 1510 A.D.
Vēerakērala Varma Elaya Tāvazhi.	736 "	1561 "	
Gōda Varma Elaya Tāvazhi.	740 "	1565 "	
Unknown—Elaya Tāvazhi.	740 "	1565 "	
Unknown—do.	776 "	1601 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	790 "	1615 "	
Ravi Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	800 "	1624 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi).	810 "	1635 "	Early in his rule the heir-apparent of the Elaya Tāvazhi branch is said to have been recognised as heir of the Muringūr branch on the request of the aged chief of that branch as the family was about to become extinct.
Gōda Varma (Elaya Tāvazhi.)	820 "	1645 "	During his administration some princes were adopted from all the surviving collateral branches, Palluruthi, Chāzhur and Mutta Tāvazhis, the Muringūr Tāvazhi having, as said above, got merged in the Elaya Tāvazhi.
Unknown—Elaya Tāvazhi.	821 "	1646 "	
Vēera Rāyira Palluruthi Tāvazhi.	825 "	1650 "	He was an adoptee from the Palluruthi branch, and the Portuguese placed him on the <i>gadi</i> in preference to the Mutta Tāvazhi Princes.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	831 "	1656 "	He was adopted from the Chāzhur branch.
Rāni Gangādhara Mahā Lakshmi (Elaya Tāvazhi).	833 "	1658 "	Adopted four Tampurāns from the family of Tanur or Vettat Rāja in 1658. She was the last surviving member of the Elaya Tāvazhi branch.

Name.	DATE OF DEATH.		REMARKS.
	Mal.	Eng.	
Rāma Varma (Vettat) ...	837 M.E.	1662 A.D.	He was the eldest of the adoptees from Vettat. He and his two immediate brothers died at Mattāncherri in the battle with the Dutch.
Gōda Varma ...	838 "	1663 "	He was the last surviving member of the adoptees from Vettat. He was ousted by the Dutch in favour of the Mutta Tāvazhi Raja.
Vēerakērala Varma (Mutta Tāvazhi).	862 "	1687 "	This Tampurān accompanied the Mutta Tāvazhi Raja, when the latter went over to Colombo to induce the Dutch to resume their attack of the Portuguese in Cochin. But the Mutta Tāvazhi Raja died on board the ship on her way to Cochin, bequeathing the State to Vēerakērala Varma.
Rāma Varma (nephew of the above).	868 "	1693 "	
Rāma Varma (Mutta Tāvazhi).	873 "	1698 "	This Rāma Varma of the Mutta Tāvazhi being now the only surviving member of the ruling family some (six) males and (four) females were adopted from the Chāzhur branch in 1689.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	897 "	1722 "	An adoptee from the Chāzhur branch.
Ravi Varma (nephew of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	906 "	1731 "	
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	921 "	1746 "	During his administration Cochin for the first time fought against Travancore as an ally of the Dutch.
Vēerakērala Varma (brother of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	925 "	1750 "	
Rāma Varma (nephew of the above) (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	935 "	1760 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	951 "	1775 "	During his administration, the terms of friendship and alliance between Travancore and Cochin provisionally agreed to in the previous administration were finally accepted at the end of 1761 (937 M.E.).
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	965 "	1790 "	During his administration, Cochin became tributary to Haidar (1776).
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	981 "	1805 "	Popularly known as Saktan (Powerful) Tampuran. During his administration the first treaty with the English was concluded in 1791.
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	984 "	1809 "	
Vēerakērala Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	1003 "	1828 "	
Rāma Varma (Chāzhur Tāvazhi).	1013 "	1838 "	
Rāma Varma ...	1019 "	1844 "	The relationship of the following Rajas is exhibited in the appended genealogical tree.
Rāma Varma ...	1026 "	1851 "	
Vēerakērala Varma ...	1028 "	1853 "	
Ravi Varma ...	1039 "	1864 "	
Sir Rāma Varma ...	1063 "	1888 "	
Rāja Sir Vēera Kērala Varma.	1070 "	1895 "	
His Highness Rāja Sir Rāma Varma, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	...	...	Abdicated on 7th December 1914.
Rāja Sri Rāma Varma ...	...	...	Present Ruler.

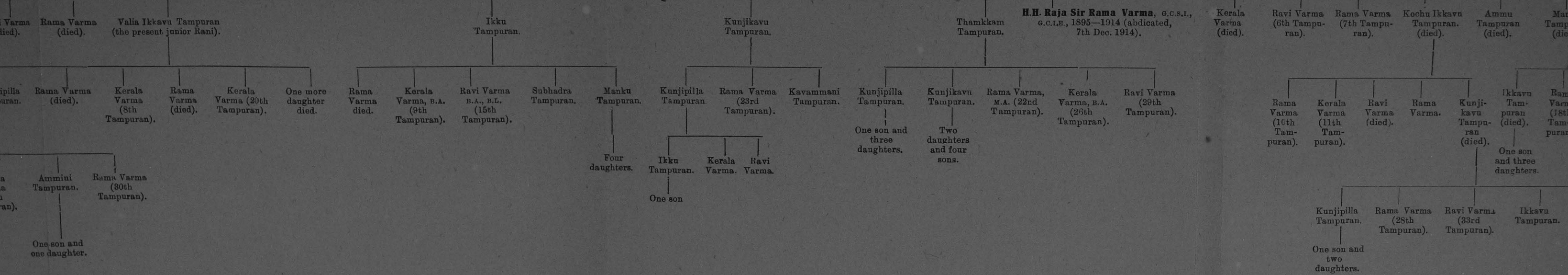


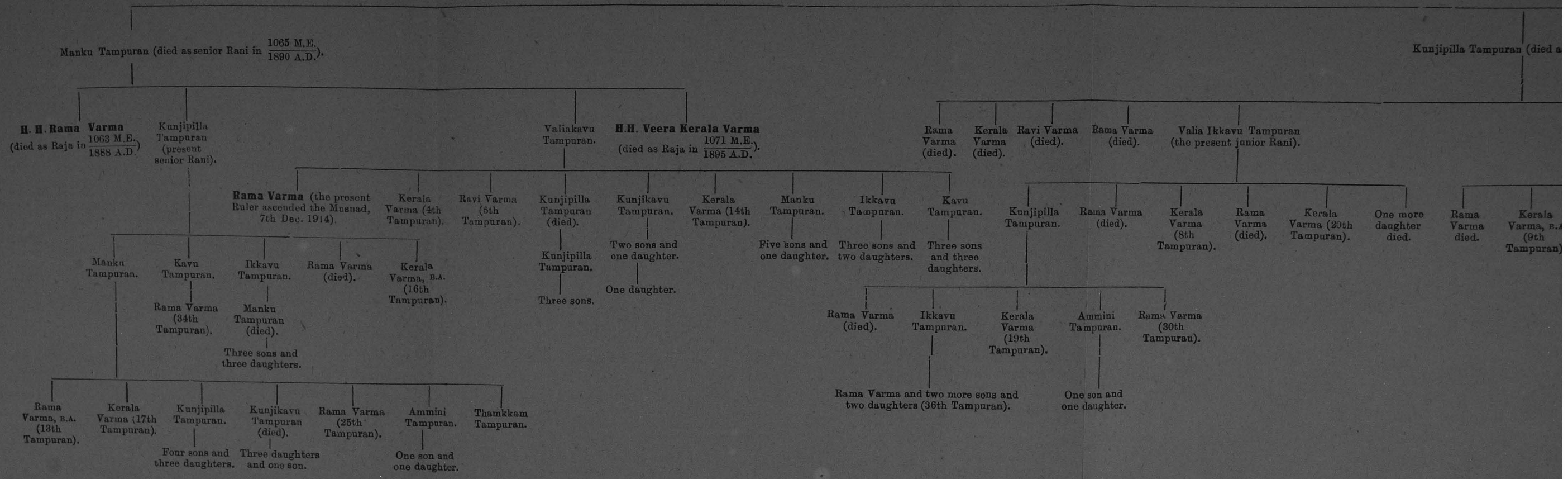
PART II.

Ikkavu Tampuran
(died as senior Rani in May 1861 A.D.).

Kunjipilla Tampuran (died as junior Rani).

Kunjikavu Tampuran (died as senior Rani in 1076 M.E.
1901 A.D.).





PUDUKKÖTTAI.

The Country.—The Pudukkōttai State lies on the eastern side of the Madras Presidency, between 10° 7' and 10° 44' N. and 78° 25' and 79° 12' E. and is bounded on the north and west by Trichinopoly district, on the south by Madura, and on the east by Tanjore. It comprises an area of 1,170 square miles. Pudukkōttai resembles in its physical aspects the upland parts of the east coast of the Presidency, and consists for the most part of a plain of somewhat sparsely cultivated dry lands interspersed with a multitude of rainfed tanks. Variety is given by a few small rocky hills most of which are crowned by ancient temples. Four small rivers drain the country from west to east. The climate resembles that of the surrounding districts and is fairly healthy. The annual rainfall averages 35 inches.

History.—Nothing certain is known about the local history of the Pudukkōttai country prior to the seventeenth century. Ancient remains abound in it, but they throw no light upon its fortunes. Like the surrounding tracts, the territory which now makes up the State would seem to have passed at various times from the control of the Cholas to that of the Pandyas and *vice versâ*. In the account given in the Singhalese annals of the war of the Pandya succession in the twelfth century, it is said that the Pandya king Kulasēkhara fled into the hills of 'Tondaiman' and this is the earliest occasion on which this part of the country can be said to be referred to as a separate entity. At the end of the sixteenth century the direct control of the present Pudukkōttai country seems to have been divided between the Nāyakan kings of Madura and Tanjore, the Setupatis of Rāmnād, the zamindars of Marungāpuri and Manappārai, and a line of chieftains called the Pallava Rāyas of Pudukkōttai. It was the territory of the last-named which formed the real nucleus of the present Pudukkōttai State.

The present ruling family of Pudukkōttai does not come into prominence till the middle of the seventeenth century. There is some doubt about the origin of its power. Tradition has it that Tirumalai Tondaiman was the founder of the family and emigrated from Tirupati or Tirumalai, settling near Pudukkōttai seventeen generations before the middle of the seventeenth century and, by conquest of the Pallava Rāyas in 1639, laying the foundations of the present Pudukkōttai State. The account given in Mr. Nelson's *Madura Country* is perhaps more likely. It relates that 'Pallava Rāyan' (evidently the last of the stock) attempted to throw off his allegiance to Rāmnād and to place himself under the protection of Tanjore; and that he was in consequence removed by the Sētopati. The latter then placed on the throne Raghunātha Tondaimān, whose sister he had married. About 1686 the king of Madura attacked Rāmnād and the latter obtained the assistance of the Tanjore king, one of the conditions being that Pudukkōttai should be surrendered to Tanjore for twelve years. The allies were successful in repelling the invasion of the Madura troops; but in 1698 the king of Tanjore broke his promise to return the ceded country and war accordingly broke out between the former allies. Much of the ceded country was recovered by Rāmnād, but Pudukkōttai remained untaken, and from this time forth seems no longer to have formed a part of the Setupati's dominions. Indeed, about 1730 the Tondaiman inflicted a crushing defeat upon his former overlord at Kavinādu. Nor did Pudukkōttai remain subject to Tanjore, for in 1725 Tondaiman was allied with Madura against Tanjore in the war of the Rāmnād succession, and again in 1750 with Tanjore against Rāmnād. Thus the Tondaiman appears to have become an independent chieftain about the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The relations of the Madras Government with the State commenced during the Carnatic wars of the eighteenth century. As early as 1752 the Tondaiman had declared for the Nawāb and continued for fifty years loyally to assist him and the English, not only in their wars with Chanda Sahib and the French, but also in their later struggles against Mysore, Tanjore, the Maravans and the poligars of Madura and Tinnevely. Clive, Lawrence and other representatives of the Company repeatedly and emphatically expressed their gratitude for the active and unswerving loyalty of the Tondaiman family in the disturbances of those times.

There exists no formal agreement between the British Government and the State. In 1806, a yearly tribute of one elephant was stipulated for ; but this was never insisted upon and was formally remitted in 1836 on the Tondaiman's representing that his family had long been exempt from the payment of tribute to any one. A sanad was granted in 1862 permitting the Rāja and his successors to adopt heirs in accordance with Hindu law and the customs of the race. About 1800 a Political Agent for Pudukkōttai was appointed, who was at first the Resident of Tanjore ; then from 1841 to 1865, the Collector of Madura ; from 1865 to 1874 the Collector of Tanjore ; and from 1874 onwards the Collector of Trichinopoly.

The Chief.—The Chief of the Pudukkōttai State is His Highness Sri **Brihadambal Das Rāja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur**, G.C.I.E., born on the 25th November 1875. He is a Sudra of the Kallar tribe—the ‘Colleries’ of the eighteenth century—a freebooting clan, employed as fighting men and also much dreaded by its richer neighbours in adjoining districts. He is the eighth in succession from Raghunatha Tondaiman, the founder of the State, and by birth the grandson of Rāmachandra Tondaiman (the seventh Rāja) by his eldest daughter, but by adoption as heir his son. The Chief is unmarried. He was entrusted with the powers of administration in November 1894. The Rāja visited England first in 1898 and has since then been a frequent visitor to Europe. As it was considered necessary on account of his health that the Rāja should, for some years to come, spend the greater part of each year in Europe, he arranged in March 1909 in consultation with, and with the advice of, Government that the administration should be carried on by a council consisting of an officer of the Indian Civil Service, a Diwan and a Councillor.

He enjoys a salute of eleven guns and the style of “Highness.”

Relatives and important families.—The near relations of the Rāja are his natural brothers and sisters and the members of the late Chinna Aranmanai and the “Western Palace” families who became his agnates by the adoption. In 1730, Vijaya Raghunatha Rai Tondaiman, the second ruler of the Tondaiman line, granted jagirs to each of his two brothers, that allotted to Tirumal Rai Tondaiman being called the Chinna Aranmanai Jagir, and that allotted to Rajagopala Tondaiman, the Mēl Aranmanai or “Western Palace” Jagir. In 1835, on the death of the second holder, the Chinna Aranmanai Jagir ceased to exist, but in 1849 the late Rāja Rāmachandra Tondaiman regranted the jagir to his brother Tirumalai Tondaiman. The latter's son Bālasubrahmanya Raghunātha Tondaiman succeeded him, but, subsequently to his death, the jagir was again resumed in the year 1904, pensions being granted to the members of the family.

The Mēl Aranmanai or “Western Palace” Jagir descended by hereditary succession to the late Jagirdar Rādhākṛishna Tondaiman who fell seriously into debt and heavily encumbered the jagir. It was resumed in consequence in the year 1881, and a pension was granted instead to the ex-jagirdar and his heirs in the male line.

The Rāja's close male relatives are—

Vijaya Raghunātha Dorai Rāja—His eldest brotner : at present the Diwan of the State.

Bhairava Ramachandra Dorai Rāja—His second elder brother : Aide-de-Camp and Military Secretary to the Rāja.

Sankara Narayana Dorai Rāja—A younger brother.

Dakshinamurthi Dorai Rāja—The fourth brother. He is a High Court vakil practising at Madura.

Krishnaswami Dorai Rāja—The fifth brother. He is the District Registrar of the State.

Balasubrahmanya Raghunatha Ramachandra Tondaiman Sahib—Eldest son of the late Chinna Aranmanai Jagirdar (who was the first cousin of the present Rāja) by his third wife, the Rāja's eldest sister. He was born about 1886, and is heir presumptive to the Rāja.

Balasubrahmanya Raghunatha Tiramalai Tondaiman Sahib—Ramachandra Tondiman's younger brother.

Rajagopala Tondaiman Sahib—Eldest son of the late " Western Palace " Jagirdar. He has married the Rāja's second sister, Minambal Rajayyi Sahiba.

Ayyaswami Pannikondar—Son-in-law of the last Rāja.

The following genealogical tree of the ruling family shows the descent of the present Ruler from the founder of the State :—

BANGANAPALLE.

The Country.—The Banganapalle State, originally a jagir, lies between $15^{\circ} 3'$ and $15^{\circ} 29'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 59'$ and $78^{\circ} 22'$ E. on the tableland of the Southern Deccan within Kurnool district, at a height of about 800 feet above sea-level. It is bounded on the north by the Rāmallakota and Nandyāl tāluks of that district, on the east and south by Nandyāl and Koilkuntla, and on the west by Pattikonda and Koilkuntla. The total area is 255 square miles with a population, in 1911, of 39,356. The State consists of two detached portions. The main part is a straggling area beginning at the Rāmpur pass over the Erramala hills on the west and extending eastwards to Banganapalle town, and thence southwards almost parallel to the Kunderu river through a tract of rich black cotton soil. The detached portion consists of three hill villages, comprising an area of about 20 square miles surrounded by part of the Koilkuntla taluk. The country is generally flat and bare. The climate is hot, but healthier than the surrounding portions of the Kurnool district, the annual rainfall averaging about 30 inches.

History.—Banganapalle was originally under the territorial limits of Chola and after that, the Vizianagar Kingdoms.

It fell a prey in turn to the Kings of Bijapur, and to Aurangazeb. Towards the end of the eighteenth century the country fell under the dominion of Mysore and on the death of the Killadar, Husain 'Ali Khān, Tipu conferred the jagir of Banganapalle on the son Ghulam 'Ali Khān. It would appear that, notwithstanding this grant, Tipu immediately afterwards resumed the jagir and expelled Ghulam 'Ali Khān. According to the traditions of the family, Tipu's deputy was defeated in a pitched battle by Ghulam 'Ali Khān and his uncle, Asad 'Ali Khān, about seven years after Ghulam 'Ali Khān's expulsion. In any case, the present family traces its descent from this Ghulam 'Ali Khān who survived his uncle. In 1800, when the Nizam handed over Kurnool and the other Ceded districts to the East India Company in exchange for a subsidiary force to be stationed in his territories, he transferred to the Madras Government his control over Banganapalle, stipulating that the jagir should be continued to Asad 'Ali Khān and Ghulam 'Ali Khān.

At first the British neither levied tribute nor exercised any authority over the jagirdars. The internal Government of the jagir was bad and at times disorder prevailed, the jagirdar being finally driven out. These disturbances induced the British Government to resume the jagir in 1832. At the time they did not consider that they were pledged to the continuance of the jagir, and a proclamation notifying the resumption was issued in 1835, the State being administered by the Madras Government from 1835 to 1848. The stipulation of the Nizām for the continuance of the jagir was, however, brought to notice in 1837, and the Court of Directors decided in the following year that the Nizām's stipulation entitled the holder of the estate to be treated as an hereditary jagirdar. Accordingly in 1848 the jagir was restored to the head of the family, Ghulam Muhammad 'Ali, grandson of Ghulam 'Ali Khān; and, as had been the case before 1831, he was permitted to enjoy the jagir without payment of tribute and to administer its civil and criminal justice within certain restrictions. A sanad conferring these powers was issued in 1849. In 1862 another sanad was granted to him, guaranteeing that the British Government would permit any succession to the jagir which might be legitimate according to the Muhammadan law.



Ghulam Muhammad 'Ali died in 1868, and was succeeded by his nephew Fath-i-'Ali Khan, who received the hereditary title of Nawab in 1876. In consequence of his misgovernment, he was removed in January 1905 from the direct administration of the State, which was placed under the management of an officer of the Indian Civil Service. Fath-i-'Ali Khan died three months later, and was succeeded by his son the present Nawab.

The Chief.—The present Nawab of Banganapalle is **Saiyid Ghulam 'Ali Khan Bahadur**. He is a Muhammadan of the Shiah sect. He was born on the 17th November 1874 and succeeded his father in 1905 but he was formally invested with ruling powers only in December 1908. He was educated privately at Banganapalle and Kurnool and received his training in administrative work under Mr. J. C. Molony, I.C.S., who, as Assistant Political Agent, was in charge of the administration of the State after its temporary assumption by the Government of Madras in 1905. The Nawab is a good horseman and shot. The eldest of his sons, **Fazl-i-'Ali' Khan**, is about eleven years of age and is now receiving his education in Madras.

The Nawab has no salute and no English style. He is entitled by position to be received by the Viceroy.

The Nawab was granted a private audience by the Prince of Wales when His Royal Highness visited Madras in January 1906, and was present at the Coronation Darbar at Delhi in 1911, to which he was invited by the Government of Madras.

The genealogical tree of the Banganapalle family is attached.

Relatives.—The Hon'ble **Mihr 'Asad 'Ali Khan Bahadur**, Member of the Imperial Legislative Council, is a brother of the present Nawab. His other brother, **Mihr Husain 'Ali Khan**, resides in Hyderabad. The other near relations are **Saiyid Husain 'Ali Khan**, uncle of the Nawab and ex-jagirdar, **Mihr Zawar 'Ali Khan**, cousin of the Nawab and ex-jagirdar, and **Saiyid Muhammad 'Ali Khan**, nephew of the Nawab.

Bassein bound the Company to assist the Peshwa in reducing refractory vassals, and Baji Rāo accordingly asked the British to wrest Sandūr from Siva Rāo. Colonel Munro was therefore despatched from Dharwar with a force to demand the surrender of the valley. Siva Rāo resigned possession without opposition and with dignity, and obtained in exchange an estate in Bellary district. Almost immediately afterwards, however, the Peshwa threw off pretensions of friendship with the British and provoked the war which ended in 1818 in the downfall of his power. Munro then recommended that Sandūr should be restored to Siva Rāo, the Government agreeing, and on 1st July 1818 he was reinstated.

In 1826 a formal *sanad* for the State was granted to Siva Rāo by the Madras Government. It conferred upon him and his heirs for ever the lands of Sandūr in jagir, free of peshkash and pecuniary demands, and delegated to him the entire management of revenue, police and civil justice, subject to the conditions that he should at all times maintain faith and allegiance to the British Government treating their enemies as his enemies and their friends as his friends, and assisting them to the utmost of his power against foreign and domestic foes; that he should maintain a strict watch over the public peace of the jagir and afford no asylum to offenders from British territory, but either deliver them up or assist in their arrest; and that he should render justice to British subjects and others who might have pecuniary claims against inhabitants of Sandūr. The *sanad* finally stipulated that he should be answerable for the good government of his jagir and provided for the interposition of the Company should mismanagement occur.

Siva Rāo died on the 2nd May 1840 without male issue and was succeeded by Venkata Rāo, the son of his brother Bhujanga Rāo, whom he had adopted. Venkata Rāo was granted in 1841 a *sanad* renewing that previously given to Siva Rāo but containing two additional stipulations prohibiting punishment of criminals by mutilation and restricting the passing, or execution, of capital sentences to cases in which the previous sanction of the Madras Government had been obtained. It is on these terms that the State is now held. Venkata Rāo died in 1861 and was succeeded by his minor son, Sivashanmukha Rāo. On the latter's coming of age in 1863 the *sanad* granted to his father was renewed in his favour, and in 1876 he received the title of 'Rāja' as an hereditary distinction. A *sanad* granting the Chiefs of Sandūr the privilege of adoption had been granted in 1862.

Sivashanmukha Rāo died in 1878. He had no sons and was succeeded by his brother, Ramachandra Vitthala Rāo, who was formally designated Rāja on the 5th February 1879, the *sanad* being again renewed in his favour. Rāmachandra Viithala Rāo was made a C.I.E. in July 1892, but died in the same year. His only son Venkata Rāo is the present Rāja.

The Chief.—**Raja Srimant Venkata Rāo, Rao Sahib Hindu Rao Ghorapade Mamlukatmadar Senapati**, was born on 10th July 1892 and was recognised as Rāja in 1893. He was married on the 7th June 1908 to Tara Raje, sister of the Chief of Akalkot in the Bombay Presidency, and was installed on the *gadi* by the Political Agent on the 19th July 1913.

For some years after Venkata Rāo's succession to Sandūr, his uncle, Srimant Māloji Rāo Bāla Sāhib, his father's only surviving brother, managed the estate under the designation of Administrator. In 1901, under the orders of Government, Srimant Bāla Sāhib relinquished his control. From that year until the minor Rāja was formally invested with ruling powers in 1913, the administration was in the hands of the late Diwan (M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. Kodandarama Nayudu Avargal), subject to the general authority of the Collector of Bellary who is *ex-officio* Political Agent for the State.

Relatives.—There are no important male relatives of the Rāja.

A genealogical tree of the Ruling family is appended.

Muhammad Beg Khan Rosebhani
(nephew of Mubarak Khan, Grand Vazir of Shah Alam).

Fazl Ali Khan.

Gazaffar 'Ali Mirza *alias*
Ghulam 'Ali Khan Fazl 'Ali Khan 2nd,
called **Gulloo Nawab** with title
Shamshir Jang Khum Kham-ud-daulah.

Amat-ul-butul Khanam = Saiyid Tahir Ali Khan.

Saiyid Muhammad Khan Nagdi.

Saiyid Husain 'Ali Khan.

Saiyid Asad 'Ali Khan
Muzaffar-ul-mulk.

ii) Azim-un-nisa Begam.

Saiyid Mus-
tafa Ali
Khan

= Amat-us-
salam
Begam.

Saiyid
Ahmad
Ali Khan.

Saiyid Fath
Ali Khan.

Mahdi 'Ali
Khan.

Tabir 'Ali =
Khan

= Hafiz-un-
nisa
Begam.

Hasan 'Ali =
Khan

= Mubarak
Begam.

Ghulam =
Muhammad
Khan

= Abid-un-
nisa
Begam.

Raza Ali
Khan.

Najib-un-
nisa
Begam.

Saiyid
dullah.

Abid-un-
nisa Begam.

Rownaq
Ali Khan.

Abbas Ali
Khan.

Zainab
Begam.

Hafiz-un-nisa
Begam.

Fath Hu-
saini Begam.

Muhammad =
Ali Khan

= Khair-un-
nisa Begam.

Sultani
Begam.

Khair-un-
nisa Begam.

Akbar 'Ali
Khan.

Azim-un-nisa
Begam.

d-un-
man.

Amat-ul-
butul Begam

= Mahdi 'Ali
Khan.

Husain 'Ali
Khan.

Amat-ul-
fatimah
Begam.

Amira =
Begam

= Mustafa
'Ali Khan

= Amat-ul-
fatimah
Begam.

Hasan 'Ali =
Khan

= Choti Hydari
Begam.

Baqi 'Ali =
Khan

= Ashraf-un-
nisa Begam.

Amat-ul-
butul
Begam.

Saiyid
Muhammad
Khan

= Abbasi
Begam.

Fazl 'Ali
Khan.

Hasan 'Ali
Khan.

= Najib-un-
nisa Begam.

Ali Muham-
mad Khan.

Amat-us-
salam
Begam.

Muhammadi
Begam.

Amat-ul-
husaini
Begam.

Tafar 'Ali Khan.

Muhammad
Ali Khan.

Hafiz-un-nisa
Begam.

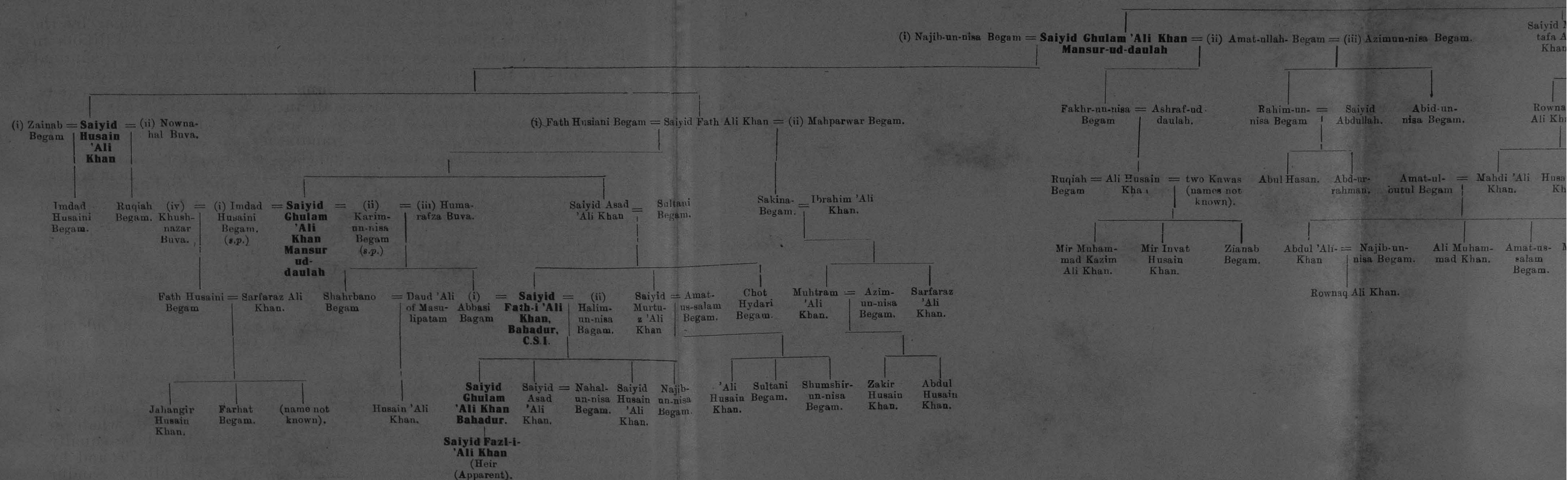
Abas Miyan = Muniya
(foster son) Begam.

q. Ali Khan.

ck type.

Gazaffa
Ghulam 'Ali Khan
 called **Gull**
 Shamshir Jang

Saiyid

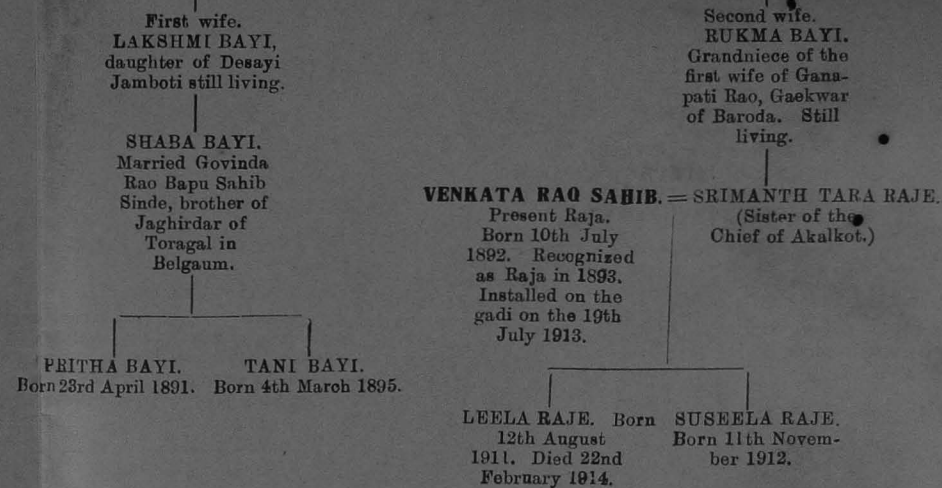
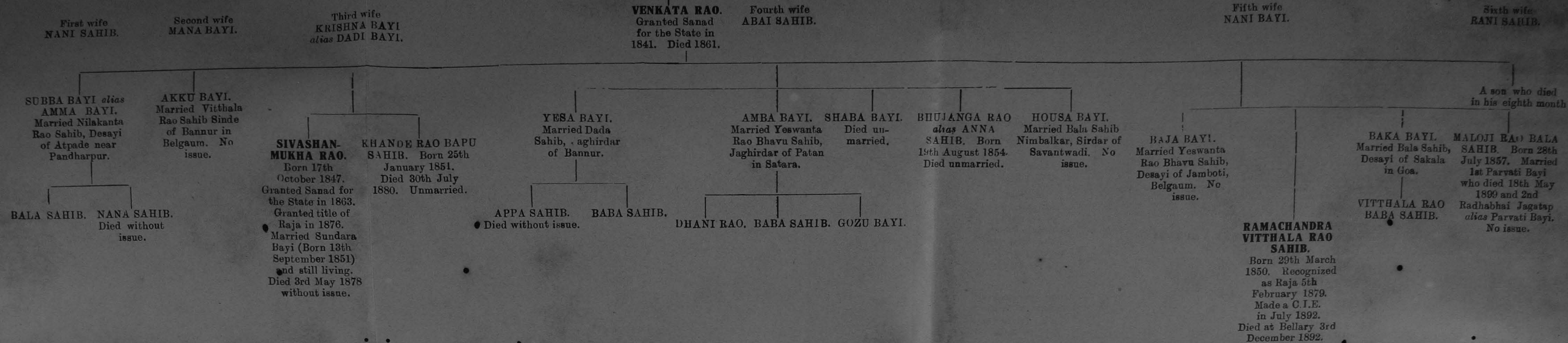


NOTE.—Nawabs are shown in **thick type**.



MALOJI RAO *alias* MAHADAJI OR MAHAJI RAO.

Served under the Sultan of Bijapur.



CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES

IN THE

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FIRST EDITION.



MADRAS.

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