



DIWAN BAHADUR

Muthuramaswami Kalingarayar Avergal

POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

AND

Sri A. M. Krishnaswami Kalingarayar

KUMARA POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI



A re-print from "The Ruling Chiefs,  
Nobles and Zamindars of India"

by

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THE POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

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### MUTHURAMASWAMI KALINGARAYAR AVERGAL

#### POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI (COIMBATORE DISTRICT)

The old records connected with the history of Kalingarayar's family were some how or other lost during the troublous times of Tippu Sultan of Mysore. What little we have was gathered from old writings and traditions, and Olugu accounts by Muthu Ramaswami Kalingarayar, the thirteenth Poligar of Uttukuli, written on cadjan leaves as *Vamsavali Kyfeit* on the 25th Panguni in the year Visu, and still preserved by his successors.

During the time of Authondai Chakravarthi, one of the Chola kings, Kalingan of Sathanthai Gothram (a very ancient family), was the ruler of Perianadu Nadumandalam, which was occupied by the Vellalars, a powerful community in those days. Authondai Chakravarthi, with the help of the Chera and the Pandya Kings, took possession of Nadumandalam, and with a view to disperse these Vellalars from their stronghold, he sent some of them with Chera, and some with Pandya, when Sathanthai Kalingan accompanied Chera to Konganadu.

Another tradition is that they were sent as presents to the Chera King who married the Chola Princess, named Rishabadri. Whatever it was, it is certain that they once migrated to Konganadu. At that time this country was mostly covered with dense forests and was divided into twenty-four portions.

Pundurai, one of the divisions, consisting of thirty-two villages, was bestowed on Sathanthai Kalinga Rayar. He was made Chief of that place, with Vellodu as his capital. He constructed a temple there and dedicated it to Padagavalli Nachiar. He went to his brother-in-law, Pannai-kulathan, at Karur and proposed his daughter for his own son. The betrothal was made, but a slight incident occurred which caused the postponement of the marriage. During his stay, the cook of the bride's party asked his master whether coarse or fine rice should be cooked for the guests. He replied in jest, "What matters it if you cook coarse or fine rice for the people living in dry lands? Cook anything." Being offended at this remark, Sathanthai Kalinga Rayar, with his party, left the place immediately, saying that he would marry his daughter after he could raise wet crops in his lands. On his return to his capital, with a dejected heart, he prayed to his tutelary deity, God Subramanya, for the grant of wet



lands and retired to bed. He vowed a life of penance till his prayer was granted, and left his beard to grow in token of his vow. God Subramanya, in the form of an old sage, appeared to his vision, while he was asleep, and said, "Why art thou dejected? do not be disheartened; construct an anicut at Bhavani and dig a channel; thy object will be realised." He asked "Oh! Swami! I am perplexed. I do not know where to construct the anicut and in what course to dig the channel." The sage replied, "A peacock has run chasing a snake from a certain point at the bed of the river Bhavani. There are the traces left. Take that course." He woke up and straightway went to the point indicated and to his great joy and surprise saw traces of a serpent having been chased by a peacock. Accordingly he began to dig a channel there and construct a dam with stones brought from the Urachi Hills. But it was obstructed by Vellai Vettu Poligar on the ground that the land in question was his own. His objection was overcome and an anicut and a channel as far as Kodumudi were built at an enormous cost. They were named after the serpent *Kalingan Channel and Anicut*. All the dry lands of Pundurai division were then converted into wet lands. As he was the founder of the Kalingan Channel and Anicut, he added to his name the appellation of *Kalingan* and called the paddy that was grown in his fields as *Kalingan Paddy*. As his object was fulfilled, he went again to Karur and celebrated his son's marriage according to his promise. He then came back to his country and lived with his family in peace and plenty. Since then peacock has become the emblem of the family.

One day Sathanthai Kalinga Rayar fell fast asleep in fatigue, when a barber came and shaved him while in deep slumber. When he awoke, he was very much pleased with the barber and asked him what he wanted. He replied that something should be done to commemorate his name. According to his request Sathanthai Kalingan founded a village near Kalingan Anicut, and called it after him as *Navithapalayam*, and granted it to him as a freehold. The Kalingan Channel and Anicut are said to have been constructed about 2,000 years of Kaliyuga Sakaptam and stone statues of Kalinga Rayar and the serpent were placed near the anicut, and festivals and *pujas* were performed by his descendants and other ryots.

The name of Kalinga Rayar became famous in these parts and he grew in power as time went on. But the Pattagars of the other twenty-three divisions of Konganadu became jealous of him and declined to bestow equal honours on and grant equal seats to him, on the score that only Kavalikkanadu was given to him and not Pundurai division; so he became disgusted with them, went to his place, Kavalikkanadu, near

the Anaimalai hills, built some huts and lived there with his family and cattle.

Pundurair was said to have been in the possession of Kalingan's family till the time of the twenty-third Poligar. At that time Mysore had sway over these parts and money tribute was levied. An army from Mysore stationed itself at Satyamangalam and began to worry the Poligar for its maintenance. As their demands were not met, they annexed all the places near the Bhavani river.

The Poligar went to the Rayar Samasthanam to recover all his lost honours and waited there for twelve years without being able to see him. He became very much disheartened and went to a Kali temple situated to the south of the path leading to Penukondapattanam. He prayed to the goddess to relieve him from his distress and then fell asleep. The goddess appeared in his dream and said "Rayar's son became insane twelve days ago; take some sacred ashes from the temple and sprinkle them on the insane prince and he will at once recover from his malady. Rayar will then send for you and gratify your wishes". He did so, and the prince recovered his lost faculty and went to the palace free from his malady.

Devarayar, who was then the ruler of Penukonda Vijianagar, at once sent for the man who cured his son of his distemper, and granted him the title of *Rayar* in perpetuity, made him the Chief of Kavali-kanadu, and granted him a sannad, with all the honours and insignia of royalty, to rule over that part of the country. He returned to the place where he had left his family and cattle near Anaimalai side, cleared the forests, formed a village and called it *Uttukuli*. It took its name from water pits or springs sunk by his shepherds for his cattle (Uttu—spring and Kuli—pit). There he built his palace and began to rule the country as the *Poligar of Uttukuli*.

Another version of the origin of Uttukuli Palayam is also mentioned. After Vellai Vettu Poligar was driven away from his country by Sathanthai Kalingan, he went with his followers and settled near the Anaimalai Hills. His descendants began to harass the people of the adjacent countries, when an enquiry was made by Devarayar, then ruler of Penukondapattanam, as to the person that subdued Vellai Vetturan. When Nanjia Kalinga Rayar, the younger son of Kalinga Rayar, went and saw Devarayar at his Court, the latter commanded him to go to Anaimalai side, subdue Vellai Vetturan's descendants, take possession of all the places occupied by them, convert the forests into villages and become the Poligar of that place. Accordingly he drove them away, cleared the forests, founded a village called Uttukuli and established himself as the Poligar of Uttukuli.



The first Poligar of Uttukuli, Kalingarayar, made a pilgrimage to all the sacred places in the South and distributed gifts. He built a temple and consecrated it to the goddess Agathuramman. He reclaimed all the lands in his Palayam, dug up wells and channels for irrigation purposes, and ruled over his country with glory and happiness. The country at that time extended forty miles from east to west and twenty miles from north to south and was bounded on the north by Ellaipallam, on the east by Thalakkaraipallam of Ponkulikkinadu, on the south by Nallurkkanadu Palar and on the west by the Kampalaturai Manali river.

Little or nothing of importance is mentioned about the Poligars from the second to the eighth in the line as they ruled peacefully under the authority of the Rayars.

At the time of the ninth Poligar, Nanjia Kalingarayar, Viswanatha Naick was reigning as the king of the Pandiyan country. All the Poligars attended his Court and paid homage to him. But five Rajahs built five forts in Tinnevelly and defied his authority. At the command of the Naick, Nanjia Kalingarayar went against them, besieged their forts, and brought their heads as a sign of his victory and placed them before the Naick. He was much pleased with his valour and bravery and called him as the valiant (Parakrama) Nanjiya Kalingarayar, appointed him as the commander of the fifty-first Kothalam or fort, and assigned the palayam as a free Jaghir. This state of affairs continued till the eighteenth Poligar.

The Poligars from the nineteenth to the twenty-third were obliged to guard the country below the ghats, which was under the sway of both Madura and Mysore Samasthanams. When it was entirely brought under the control of the Mysore Samasthanam, the twenty-third Poligar, Nanjiya Kalingarayar, paid a visit to Immudi Raja Wadiyar, its Ruler. As Coorg (Kudagu) was then opposing Mysore, he commanded the Mysore army and subdued the Ruler of Coorg. Raja Wadiyar was delighted with his heroism, gave him a gold gilt palanquin and other presents, and fixed a peishcush of 750 pons for the nine villages of the Palayam. The Poligars had then under them 5,000 footmen and 5,000 horsemen and one Kadagam of elephants. They stationed themselves at Anaimalai, captured elephants and supplied them to the palace and were also guarding Anaimalai and Marchinaickenpaliem. In consideration of these services, the Poligars were allowed to levy tolls on goods passing through their country. Changes in the Samasthanams brought on troubles to the Poligars, when the twenty-sixth Chief was deprived of half of his Kaval or guard. He was also defeated in a battle

with the Rajah of Kallikota (Calicut) at Ellapalli, but the toll was levied till the time of the twenty-eighth Poligar.

It is an open secret that oppression and harassment became the order of the day during the time of Tippu Sultan. The twenty-ninth Poligar who assumed charge of the estate on the 4th Masi of the year Virodikrudu, Kaliyuga 4891, was much harassed by Tippu Sultan and his army, when he sent away all the members of his family to Bombay, and remained alone in Uttukuli anxiously waiting for the East India Company's rule. In the year Sitharthi, Major Commander Samusam Ali Sahib of the Palghat fort, Sitai Ottu Sahib Durai, the head of the Bombay Fouzdars, and General Otley Sahib were very kind to him on account of his loyalty to the British Government, and on the assumption of the rule over that country by the East India Company he was granted a sannad as the Poligar of Uttukuli on payment of seven-tenths of the revenue to the Company. Since then the Poligars have been in peaceful possession of their Palayam.

Muthukrishnaswami Kalingarayar, the thirty-first Poligar, who was born in 1832, directed his attention towards the improvement of his estate. He acquired large tracts of land in Anaimalai and Marchinaickenpalayam villages, and bought two villages in the Cochin territory, *viz.*, Thaniapadam and Meenatchipuram, and made some additions to the palace. When he was young, his mother, Nanjia Ammal, had a large terraced building constructed in Ambarampalayam out of her pocket money and made it a chattram for the weary travellers. He died when he was forty-two years old, on the 23rd April 1874, leaving behind him two sons. The elder son, Sivasubramanya Thirumurthi Kalingarayar, was born in 1852. He picked up some English under private tutors, but was a good scholar in Tamil. He succeeded his father in 1874 and remained in charge of the estate for only seven years, as his life was cut short early in 1881. He added another village by purchase to what his father had acquired in Cochin, and took special interest in the management of his Devastanam, as he was much inclined towards religion and philosophy. He had always an assembly of learned Pandits and Vedantins about him and was investigating the highest truths of life. As he was engaged in Vedantic study, he was called "Vedanta Durai". He left no heirs.

The present Poligar of Uttukuli is the thirty-third in descent and is the second son of the thirty-first Poligar. He was born on the 24th January 1864 and had a very narrow escape from the attack of small-pox in his childhood.



During his boyhood he was placed under various private tutors, but he paid very little attention to study and was always bent upon play and games. He had a great love for horses and dogs and maintained a number of them. He spent his time in hunting, wrestling and gymnastic exercises, and was also an intrepid rider. He was a great lover of music. He not only learnt music himself but also sent for the best musicians from other places and encouraged them with liberal presents.

His elder brother died in his twenty-second year and left no heirs, and so he succeeded him in his eighteenth year (1881), when he began to realise his position and responsibilities. He lost no time in placing himself under the tuition of Mr. Wright, a retired European Inspector of Police, who was once a School Master, and diligently set himself to work hard. By constant association with him and his family he learnt to talk and write English well and became conversant with the etiquette of high circles, both English and Indian. He formed the acquaintance of many European and Indian gentlemen and freely mixed in their society. He made large additions to his ancestral palace which was of antique design, formed a well laid-out garden and a small menagerie, and built a bungalow with play grounds and a billiard room and called it "The Golden Grove". In making these improvements he was much assisted by one of his employees, Mr. Manu Pillai of Trivandram. This building is more or less reserved for the distinguished visitors and friends going to Uttukuli. The birth of a son and heir to his estate took place on the 12th April 1894, in response to the wishes and prayers of his devout tenantry, and it proved a turning point in the career of his life. He then took personal interest in the management of the estate, regularly set apart hours for his office work, systematised the accounts and brought everything into working order. By his tact and skill he showed an increase of revenue in his estate to the extent of Rs. 2,000. In 1894 Samatur Palayam was encumbered to the extent of thirty thousand rupees, and the then Poligar being the nearest relation of the Poligar of Uttukuli, entrusted the management of his estate and the care of his minor son to the latter. He removed himself to Uttukuli with his family and was entirely under the support and protection of the Uttukuli Poligar. It was also his express wish that his minor son should marry the Poligar's daughter. At this stage the Poligar of Samatur died on the 14th November 1895. Mr. Bradley, Collector of Coimbatore, recommended to the Government that the management of the estate of the late Poligar of Samatur and Kottampatti should continue in the hands of the Uttukuli Poligar. The Government approved it and the encumbered estate was entrusted to the Poligar. By his prudent management he was able to augment the income of the estate



of Samatur by Rs. 5,000 per annum, discharged the whole debt in the course of about eight years and left a surplus after spending Rs. 3,000 for repairing irrigation works, Rs. 5,000 for improving the Poligar's palace, and Rs. 8,000 for the minor's marriage with his daughter on the 17th November 1901. The estate was formally handed over to him in 1902.

After the demise of the former Zamindar of Mywadi, the estate was placed under the guardianship of the District Judge; and at his request the Poligar of Uttukuli took up its management on the 4th February 1898. The Poligar served for sometime in the District and Taluk Boards and took keen interest in their affairs. He has been an honorary visitor to the Agricultural College and Research Institute at Coimbatore for the last twelve years. His able management of his estate and his interest in public matters procured him the awards of certificates of honour from the Government of Madras on two occasions.

Among his donations and contributions to movements of public utility may be mentioned his subscriptions of Rs. 500 towards the construction of the new hospital at Coimbatore in 1910, Rs. 1,000 for constructing an operation shed in the Veterinary Hospital at Coimbatore, Rs. 300 towards the Edward VII Memorial Fund, and Rs. 250 towards the construction of a building for the Y. M. C. A. at Coimbatore. For the last ten years he has been paying contribution for awarding one gold medal in his name and two silver medals in the name of his eldest son to the successful students of the Veterinary College at Madras. As a patron of learning and literature, he opened in 1912 an elementary School at Uttukuli for the benefit of the children of his estate and gave a donation of Rs. 3,000 for the construction of a School building, and a monthly contribution of Rs. 20 for the maintenance of the school. In the same year, he presented the Municipal Hospital, Coimbatore, with an X-ray apparatus costing about six hundred rupees; in 1913 he contributed Rs. 1,000 towards the Funds of the Coimbatore College, and paid Rs. 1,000 from his own pocket and collected Rs. 3,000 from his community towards the opening of the Public Park at Coimbatore.

The Poligar is unassuming and simple in his manners. He is known to be a cultured and enlightened gentleman of his community. He is very kind and is easily accessible to all. He always sympathises with his tenants and helps them as far as possible. The poor and the needy find a patron in him. During the outbreak of plague in and around Uttukuli in August 1910, the Poligar assisted his tenants with money and grain as well as building materials. This and similar acts of generosity have made him popular with the ryots and other classes of



people with whom he comes in contact. He is a loyal subject of the British Government and commemorates the political events in a tangible form so as to benefit his tenants at the same time.

Among the conferees of the birthday honours in 1913, the Poligar of Uttukuli was the recipient of the well-merited distinction of *Diwan Bahadur*. At the public durbar held at Coimbatore on the 21st September 1913, the Collector of the District, presenting the sanad, observed ;—

“I need hardly say much about our friend, Mr. Ramaswami Kalinga Rayar, the Zamindar of Uttukuli. He stands out typical of what we would like the great landholders of this country to be. Though educated, he does not despise agriculture. He is a shrewd and hard-working administrator of his vast estate and has developed its possibilities to a very high degree ; at the same time he is a great friend of his tenants. He has a leading part in all public movements. His public benefactions are many and useful and I need not weary you with a list of them. At the same time, the Zamindar is most modest and retiring. He represented this district at the Delhi Durbar at considerable expense to himself.”



He took an active part in the Non-Brahmin Conference that was held at Coimbatore on the 19th and 20th August 1917, the first of its kind in Southern India, and was the Chairman of the Reception Committee.

He was one of the Vice-Presidents of the (now defunct) Madras Zamindars' and Landholders' Association. He is a member of the South Indian Liberal Federation. He was one of the prominent members that were selected to represent the Zamindars and the Non-Brahmins of the Madras Presidency in the respective deputations that waited upon the Right Honourable E. S. Montague, Secretary of State for India, and His Excellency Lord Chelmsford, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, on the occasion of their visit to Madras in 1917 in connection with the new Reforms Scheme.

His purse is always open to public charities. His philanthropy is so widely known that it has attracted the attention of no less a person than the Rajah of Anagondi in the Nizam's Dominions. It gave the Poligar great pleasure to donate liberally towards Sri Vivekavarthany Sabha at the instance of the Rajah.

Among the numerous contributions made by him for the public benefit, a few are mentioned below:—(1) Rs. 100 to the first Non-Brahmin Conference; (2) Rs. 100 to the third Non-Brahmin Conference; (3) Rs. 100 to the fourth Non-Brahmin Conference; (4) Rs. 500 to the Non-Brahmin deputation to England; (5) Rs. 250 to the Zamindars' deputation to England; (6) Rs. 200 to the Silver Wedding of Their Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress; (7) Rs. 3,000 as donation to the formation of a Rajkumar College at Madras; (8) Rs. 500 to Doctor Nair's Memorial Fund; (9) Rs. 500 to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales' Reception Fund; (10) Rs. 100 to the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor; and (11) Rs. 100 to the Lawley Hospital, Coonoor.

In connection with the Poligar's munificent donation of Rs. 3,000 to the Rajkumar College, it will be interesting to quote a few lines from the letter of acknowledgment sent by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras:—

I am.....to express to you His Excellency's warm appreciation of the welcome manner in which you have responded to his appeal on behalf of an institution which is intended to provide the sons and relatives of zamindars and landholders of the Presidency with an education adapted to fit them in an increasing manner to discharge their privileges and responsibilities.

The Poligar maintains a number of religious institutions at an annual cost of Rs. 5,000. Every year he celebrates the Dasara Festival



and holds a Durbar, an account of which is extracted below from the 'Madras Mail', dated 23—10—1912:—

The Dasara Festivities at Uttukuli Zamindari commenced on the morning of the 11th October 1912 with installation of the goddess amidst the chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras on one side of the Chandrasala, a tastefully decorated and beautifully illuminated Mandapam, the other portion being reserved for the holding of the Durbar by the Zamindar. The Zamindar with his family and children attended the customary worship and a Durbar was held every night. As soon as the Zamindar took his seat in the Durbar Hall, he was presented with *prasadam*s from all the temples and a number of retainers presented arms in semi-military fashion. Then all the tenants of the zamindari paid their respects to the Zamindar. Afterwards a regular programme of music and nautch was gone through. Every evening there were *kalakshepams* by Bhagavathars and others; and numerous people were daily fed. This was continued for nine days and the tenth day ceremony was a very imposing one. After the worship of the goddess in the morning, the Zamindar held a Durbar and was given a dagger and a sword in commemoration of the fact that his ancestors were military chieftains ruling over that part of the country.

On the declaration of the war the Poligar wired to Their Excellencies the Governor of Madras and the Viceroy of India, expressing his deep attachment and unswerving loyalty to the British Throne and praying for the success of the British Arms. He contributed Rs. 500 to the Madras War Fund and Rs. 500 to His Excellency the Viceroy's Indian Relief Fund. His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Lord Pentland, was pleased to send him a message on 28—8—1914: "Hearty thanks for your generous support. Pentland." The Honorary Secretary, Imperial Relief Fund, wired on 29—8—'14: "I am desired to thank you for your expressions of loyalty and for your generous donation of Rs. 500 which you are paying to the Madras Branch of the Imperial Indian Relief Fund." The Secretary, Madras War Fund, replied as follows:—

Government House, Ootacamund,  
1st September '14.

I beg to acknowledge your letter with very many thanks forwarding your cheque for Rs. 1,000,—Rs. 500 of which to be credited to the Madras War Fund and Rs. 500 to be sent to H. E. Viceroy's Imperial Indian Relief Fund.

At a meeting of the people and of the leading gentlemen of the Pollachi taluq held on the 4th September 1914 to collect subscriptions for the War Fund under the presidency of Mr. Macqueen, then Sub-Collector of Pollachi, the Poligar of Uttukuli was present with his son, the Kumara



Poligar and his son-in-law, the Poligar of Samatur and Kottampatti. The Kumara Poligar and the Poligar of Samatur each subscribed Rs. 500 to the War Fund. The Poligar exerted his personal influence on many of those present and induced them to subscribe liberally to it. He contributed in 1915 Rs. 100 towards Lady Pentland's Ladies' Depot of the Madras War Fund. The Honorary Secretary of the Madras Fund replied as follows :—

Thank you very much for your letter of the 4th Instant. H. E. has asked me to tell you that he is grateful for your assurance to help him in his undertaking. I note that you have remitted Rs. 100 to the Ladies' Depot of the Madras War Fund.

The Poligar subscribed Rs. 100 to the Hospital Ship "Madras" Fund.

The Poligarini of Uttukuli, her daughter, the Poligarini of Samatur, and her daughter-in-law, the Kumara Poligarini of Uttukuli, each subscribed liberally in 1917 to the Ladies' Rupee Fund. The following is the letter from the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, dated the 19th May 1916 :—

I am in receipt of your letter, dated 12th May, enclosing a currency note for Rs. 100 as your second donation in response to my appeal for funds for the maintenance of the Hospital Ship "Madras." I am desired by His Excellency to convey his warm thanks to you for your patriotic assistance.

The Poligar remitted Rs. 150 to the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras towards the Hospital Ship funds on 5-5-1915. The following is the reply received from the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras :—

His Excellency Lord Pentland, President of the Madras War Fund, desires to thank you most warmly for your handsome present to the Hospital Ship "Madras" of Rs. 150. The continued and generous support given by all classes in the Presidency is a proof that they realise how urgently the Ship is needed and that no effort must be spared in keeping her in the highest state of efficiency to carry on her work of mercy.

The Poligar purchased War Bonds for Rs. 15,000 in 1918.

The Poligar has now practically retired from public life. He has purchased two properties, one at Kodaikanal and another at Coonoor, and is spending most of his time in these two sanatoria, leading a quiet and pious life. He attends regularly to the study and investigation of divine truths. He is fond of meditation and longs for the attainment of supreme bliss.

## THE KUMARA POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

Sri Agathur Muthu Krishnaswami Kalingarayar, the eldest son and heir, is now actually managing the affairs of the Poliem after the retirement of his revered father. He took a leading part in the year 1919 in the recruitment of men for Field Service in Mesopotamia. He was appointed Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer for the Pollachi taluq. He recruited the largest number of men from Coimbatore district, especially in the Pollachi taluk. He was awarded a certificate of merit and a medal for the valuable services rendered in the recruitment of men for field service. The following is a copy of the badge and sannad presented :—

Recruiting badge awarded to M. R. Ry. Agathur Muthu Krishnaswami Kalinga Rayar Avergal, Kumara Zamindar of Uttukuli and member of the District Board, Coimbatore, for services rendered in connection with recruiting during the Great War.

(Sd.) A. H. Bingley,

Major-General,

Secretary to the Government of India,

10th. December 1919.

Army Dept.

The Sannad is presented to M.R.Ry. Agathur Muthu Krishnaswami Kalinga Rayar Avergal, Kumara Zamindar of Uttukuli, by order of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in recognition of services rendered to the Indian Army during the Great War and as a mark of approbation.

(Sd.) A. H. Bingley,

Major-General,

Simla,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Dated, 3rd. Aug. 1920.

Army Dept.

His Excellency the Governor of Madras was so much impressed by the zeal and enthusiasm which the Kumara Poligar evinced in the cause of recruitment during the war that His Excellency was pleased to offer him a temporary commission. But unfortunately the Kumara Poligar could not





POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

KUMARA POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

M. R. N. KALINGARAYAR



SRI A. MUTHUKRISHNASWAMI KALINGARAYAR, KUMARA POLIGAR OF UTTUKULI

ஸ்ரீ அ. முத்துகிருஷ்ணசாமி காளிங்கராயர், குமாரபாளையக்காரர் — ஊத்துகுளி.





SRI M. R. NATARAJA KALINGARAYAR

avail himself of the offer in view of his revered father's retirement from public life and of the burden which he had therefore to bear in the efficient administration of the Poliem.

The Kumara Poligar is taking a leading part in public affairs. He has been appointed an Honorary Magistrate of the Coimbatore Bench and has been elected as a member of the Coimbatore District Board. As a further recognition of his public services he has been appointed the first Non-Official President of the Taluk Board of Pollachi from the 22nd August 1920.

He is a Free Mason of the "Mount Lodge." He has subscribed Rs. 300 towards its building fund. In November 1919 he was present on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency Lord Chelmsford to Madras and attended all the public functions held in honour of his visit. He also attended the reception held at the Banqueting Hall to meet Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Vicerine and was presented to them. On the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught in January 1921, he was present and attended all the various ceremonies and functions that were held in honour of His Royal Highness's visit. He was one of those present at the Senate House on the occasion of the entertainment given to his Royal Highness by the Zamindars of the Madras Presidency, and also one of those presented to His Royal Highness as a member of the Madras Zamindars' Association. He attended the Masonic Function at the Banqueting Hall held in honour of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.

In January 1922 the Kumara Poligar of Uttukuli was present at Madras during the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and took part in all the functions connected therewith.

The Kumara Poligar is taking a keen interest in the Non-Brahmin movement. He attended all the Non-Brahmin Conferences held at Madras and was one of the members of the Reception Committee.

Sri M. R. Nataraja Kalingarayar is the younger son of the Poligar of Uttukuli. From the magazine of the Stanes' European High School, "Then and now", we extract the following:—

The younger son of the Zamindar of Uttukuli, another boy, we lose with deep regret. He was exceedingly popular and a perfect gentleman. Except for a short break of six months, when he left us to prepare for the Senior Cambridge, he was with us almost ten years. The progress he made in his studies was



remarkable. He returned to us after a six months' absence and worked for both the High School and Senior Cambridge.

As the Senior Cambridge course was very important to him, he worked at a great strain, especially as he commenced Latin just about eighteen months before his examination. This was probably why he and the school lost a first class in the High School Examination. From his earliest school days he enthusiastically threw himself into all branches of school sports and gained his colours for Football, Hockey, and Cricket. The first record of his success in sport we find in 1911, when he took the second place in a quarter-mile race.

The following year he was first in the 100 yards race. In 1919 he played for the Uttukuli Cricket Tournament. He will always be remembered when this tournament is played and when the Hurdle Race at the Grigg Memorial Sports is run, as the trophies for both these events were presented by his father, the Poligar of Uttukuli [1st February 1911 to 18th July 1919 and 24th January 1920 to 31st December 1920—a Terrific Tiger and a Robite (the different Teams of the play ground)].

He passed the Government High School Examination in 1920 in the second class, being seventh in the Presidency with two distinctions.

He passed the Government Middle School Examination in 1918 in the first class, being sixth in the Presidency with three distinctions.

Football	1st xi	1919-1920
Hockey	1st xi	1919-1920
Cricket	1st xi	1919 only.

On the 15th April 1922 Mr. Nataraja Kalingarayar sailed for England to study for the I. C. S. at the Oxford University and to qualify himself for the Bar. Though born to affluence he is eager after knowledge, which is proof positive that he will return from England with laurels and enhance the reputation of the aristocratic family to which he has the honour to belong.

The Poligar of Uttukuli is undoubtedly fortunate in being blessed with sons who are thorough gentlemen. Sri Krishnaswami Kalingarayar, the next head of the family, has already been very popular with his tenants and with the public at large, and in his time the fair name of the renowned family will, of course, remain untarnished.

The following list, from the earliest founder to the thirty-third Poligar, shows the ancient origin of the family of the Poligar of Uttukuli :—

Serial Order.	Name of Poligar.	Period of rule.
1.	Kalingarayar	50 years.
2.	son Nanjia Kalingarayar	40 „
3.	„ Agathur Kalingarayar	26 „
4.	„ Nanjia Kalingarayar	20 „
5.	„ Kalingarayar	19 „
6.	„ Nanjia Kalingarayar	21 „
7.	brother Agathur Kalingarayar	12 „
8.	son Kalingarayar	23 „
9.	„ Parakrama Nanjia Kalingarayar	27 „
10.	„ Agathur Kalingarayar	16 „
11.	„ Kalingarayar	9 „
12.	„ Nanjia Kalingarayar	28 „
13.	„ Virumanda Kalingarayar	30 „
14.	brother Agathur Kalingarayar	19 „
15.	son Kalingarayar	20 „
16.	„ Iswaramurthi Kalingarayar	6 „
17.	„ Kalingarayar	15 „
18.	„ Agathur Kalingarayar	31 „
19.	„ Virumanda Kalingarayar	23 „
20.	„ Muthu Kalingarayar	13 „
21.	„ Sinnia Kalingarayar	19 „
22.	„ Kalingarayar	20 „
23.	„ Nanjia Kalingarayar	30 „
24.	„ Kalingarayar	26 „
25.	brother Nanjia Kalingarayar	12 „
26.	son Kalingarayar	29 „



27.	son Nanjia Kalingarayar	2	„
28.	brother Agathur Kalingarayar	4	„
29.	„ Kumaraswami Kalingarayar	30	„
30.	son Muthukumaraswami Kalingarayar	19	„
31.	„ Muthukrishnaswami Kalingarayar born 1832, died 23-4-1874.	34	„
32.	„ Sivasubramaniya Tirumurthi Kalin- garayar, born 1857, died 1881.	7	„
33.	brother Muthu Ramaswami Kalingarayar, born 24-1-64, assumed charge of the estate in the year 1881.		







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