



Uthukuli Zamindars

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The Impossible Made Possible The Construction of Kalingarayan Canal

King Sathandhai Kalingarayar (Kalingan) wished to propose his daughter to his brother-in law, Pannai Kulathan 's son and went to Karur to meet Kulathan where an incident happened which vexed King Kalingan alot.

The cook asked his master Kulathan about what type of rice to serve for the bride's family -coarse or fine grains- for which he replied, "What matters if you cook coarse or fine rice for the people who live in dry land" which displeased not only Kalingarayar but also the people of the kingdom and thus he immediately left the place and with a dejected heart prayed to his tutelary deity, God Subramaniam (also known as Kartikeya) for a way to enrich his kingdom with fresh, green land. God Subramaniam pleased with his prayers appeared in his visions and instructed him to follow the path where the trail of a peacock chasing the snake was evident near Bhavani riverbed and to construct a canal. He woke up and with prudence began to construct the dam first and then the canal. This is also the tale behind how the peacock was deemed to be the emblem of the Kalingarayars.

The Sign About Kalingarayan Canal in Tamil

The Kalingarayan Canal in Erode

During the construction of canal, Sathandai Kalingarayar faced problems from the Landlord Vellai Vettu Poligar , whose land was under the construction of the canal . Kalingarayar overcame such obstacles and constructed the canal at enormous cost till Kodumudi which took him twelve long years of hardwork and resources .The people with delight named the canal as Kalingarayan Canal and erected his statue along with a Serpent's statue. His kingdom thus was no longer a dry land; it was fresh and full of life.

It was also believed that his mother aided him during times of financial difficulties by selling the buttermilks she made, because his entire asset and property were sold in order to erect the canal for the betterment of the people.

Even today the Kalingarayan canal still flows and relishes several acres of land and the life of millions of people who depend on it.





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After the construction of Canal the Kalingarayar's fame spread to great lengths. The Pattagars of Kongu Nadu a very high family like the Kalingarayar got jealous and turned the people of his Kingdom against him and bad-mouthed that the reason the King constructed the canal was for his own benefit and not for his subjects which ignited the fire. Kalingarayar sickened by such false claims, left the kingdom and the Kalingarayar Canal in the hands of his people vowing that he or his generations will never drink a mouth of water from the canal. He then built some huts and lived with his family in the dense thicket of Anaimalai Hills.

The Kalingarayan Canal

The sand-vent proppert used to build the Canal

