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RESEARCH ARTICLE

HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF CUDDALORE: A STUDY TOWARDS ARTIFICATES

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Abstract

The purpose of this article is to shed light on Cuddalore's prehistoric significance. When it comes to historical and geographical significance, Cuddalore surpasses other locations in Tamil Nadu. The historical signatures, customs, and antiquated culture were observed with negligence. The geography, particularly the areas around the South Pennar River and Gadilam, has endowed the inhabitants with a long history of habitability. The Cuddalore town developed from the prehistoric to the present era due to its geographic and physiographical advantages. The objects are identified at the Karaikadu location and highlight the importance of trade and commerce flourishing in an area that resembles Arikamedu. The inscriptional documents highlight the significance of Cuddalore, who was revered in the Pallava and Chola regions. With the consent of imperialist monarchs, a few feudatories have ruled or exerted influence over the Cuddalore region. The region's name was altered at some point by the Mussalman rulers who ruled it. Cuddalore served as the second-ranking capital of the British Empire. Unfortunately, Cuddalore's past is lost, particularly Tamil Nadu's prehistoric past. Consequently, in light of the fresh hints found in Tamil Nadu's history, the government has decided to conduct another excavation.

Key words: Arikamedu, Feudatories, Karikadu, Prehistoric memories, and Historical imprtnace

Introduction

When compared to other locations in Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore has significant historical and

geographical significance. The historical signatures, tradition, and old culture were observed with a lack of diligence. Particularly in the Gadilam and South Pennar River regions, geography has endowed the

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inhabitants with the ability to live there from ancient times.¹ The Cuddalore town has located between the two rivers. Also it has the port which developed by the British for trade and commerce. However, the Cuddalore port flourished from ancient period.² The pre-historic remains are identified in the Karaikadu (Kudikadu)³, tells the significance of the region and it was a contemporary to Arikamedu, the ancient town of Pondicherry. Cuddalore is also known for its temples of Saivism and Vishnavism. The three important temples are given the details about the ancient endeavours like Tiruppathiripuliyur, Thiruvahindipuram and Thirumanikuzhi.⁴ The great saints were born or settled in the town in ancient period, namely Appar, Thirunavukkarasar and Sundarar.⁵ This article has focused to reveal the significance of Cuddalore on pre historic period.

Karaikadu Geographical Setting

Karaikadu is a town located at a distance of 30 km from the famous *Arikamedu*. It is located at a distance of 5 km from Cuddalore Located on the Far East coast. The fine roman coins of gold, conical jars of red, shreds of amphorae was identified at the site of Karaikadu. The literary sources of the Sangam period, the periplus of the Erythraean Sea witnessed the spatial distribution of ancient ports along the Indian coast. It significantly remembered ptucceri(poduke) , karaikadu, Vasvasamudrm, Kaveripattinam, Alakankualm, Karaikkai, Tondi and Musiri.⁶

Cuddalore has renowned forest in ancient period, and getting the name Arcot or Arukadu which means six forests. Once it is renowned as sedi nadu, nadu nadu, Thirumunaipadi nadu, Gadila Nadu and Islamabad. Cuddalore locale was named after the region capital Cuddalore when the public authority eliminated the position names. Cuddalore, the capital of the British time frame, has lost quite a bit of its water assets, land assets, and jargon (as the colloquialism goes, Thondainadu is a precept), however presently it is gaining ground in many fields.

Cuddalore port during the Sangam period

Nature has made extraordinary trouble the incredible civic establishments of the world. Chinese human advancement was annihilated by the purported Hong Kong River, the supposed misfortune of China. The initial two affiliations were obliterated by robbery. Toward the finish of the Sangam time frame, *Kavirippoompattinam* was obliterated by a tremendous robbery. During the Sangam time frame, the port of Cuddalore was a characteristic aggravation to the world's extraordinary civic establishments. Chinese human advancement was obliterated by the purported Hong Kong River, the supposed misfortune of China.⁷ The initial two affiliations were obliterated by robbery. Toward the finish of the Sangam time frame, *Kavirippoompattinam* was obliterated by a tremendous robbery. The port at Cuddalore might have been obliterated during a similar period. After the Sangam age, the "Kalabhras" administered the Tamil soil. They were given the expression "Dark Ages" since they left no verifiable proof.⁸

Historical significant of Cuddalore

From pre historic period to Modern period(colonial period), Cuddalore acted as the prominent place, both rational values and being capital in the British era. The reminiscences of pre historic antiquates given details about the values of Cuddalore on ancient era. During the Sangam Age, the banking industry and glass industry prospered here which comparatively good as Arikamedu. The Jains settled here and their town has been renowned in the place of Thiruppathiripuliyur, which named after Pataliputra by them. In *Gudikadu* and *Karaikat*, traces similar to the erosion mound of the ancient port have been discovered. Cuddalore is a historically significant location. The Red Zone, Kammiyampettai, is a group of sites in Cuddalore history. Some countries experience year-round drought or cold. Cuddalore has a pleasant climate that is relatively unaffected throughout the year.⁹

Cuddalore is surrounded on the east by the Bay of Bengal, on the north by Pennayarum, on the south by the west by Thiruvananthapuram.¹⁰ Two islands in the Cuddalore suburbs are Gori and Singarathoppu Cuddalore's past is something that all residents should

be aware of. The town's origins may be traced back to the prehistoric Stone Age, when the Sangam searched for material on the ocean. The Chola dynasty, which made all Tamils proud, the Vijayanagara dynasty, which enabled the Tamil community recover from the converts' attack, and the period of European colonisation. What was the status of Cuddalore during the Liberation movement and other periods you can view what was provided in this section.¹¹

Stone Age

The Stone Age was when man lived without knowing the hints of civilisation and lived in hunting caves without knowing the composition and craftsmanship. This period is around 10,000 years prior. The one who lived in this period has been utilising dreary apparatuses to chase. Antiquated people frequently utilised stone instruments, so this period is known as the Stone Age. This Stone Age can be delegated Old Stone Age as New Stone Age. Old stone instruments are unpleasant.¹² The new contemporary instruments are smooth. By the idea of these instruments they are known to be immortal. New stone apparatuses have been viewed as in the "Karaimedu" region of the Cuddalore Circle. From this disclosure it very well may be seen that the mantra has been living nearby since the Stone Age. The study was carried out by "Yuvas Martin", a doctor at the Paris-based Institute in Karachi. The study found roulette, black-red and smooth red shells. In 1966-67, Archaeologist of India *K.V.Raman* An excavation was carried out under the leadership of According to the excavations, Karaikad was known as a town associated with the Romans. However, there is no regular structure found in excavation, but the two places have brick-debris identified by *K.V.Raman* and dated the place first century A.D. 1st century AD uncovered the antiquated human advancement that existed in the district until the subsequent century. It is obvious from this concentrate on that Gudikadu was a studio for making interesting stone globules. It is additionally one of the verifications of Tamil Nadu's exchange relations with the Romans.¹³

Bead making

The first and second century A.D.. there are six places are famous for making beads in Indo-pacific, namely Mantai in Sril Lanka, OC Eo in Vietnam, Khlong Thom in Thailand, and Kuala selinsing in Malaysia, Arikamedu in Pondicherry, and Karaikadu in Cuddalore.¹⁴ These contemporary Indo-pacific beadmaking sites connected on those days. The translucent dark blue glass beads at Kariakadu and Arikamedu have elevated amounts of manganese which includes 1.5 percent of potassium with small amount of cobalt, yields the clour.¹⁵ The Karaikadu yielded coins of Roman and indigenous, ceramics and beads reported similar to Manthai, Anuradahapura, Kelaniya, Ridiyagama, and Tissamaharama.¹⁶ A number of beads of semiprecious stones like crystal, chalcedony, jasper, agate and carnelian are manufactures and found in the strata.¹⁷

Ceramic industry

The Karaikadu region was home to three significant ceramic industries: rouletted pottery, black and red ware, and red-slipped ware. The red and black ceramics among them appeared to be used sparingly and with a somewhat coarse texture. This area has been found to have marinated cooking vessels, which are basic bowls with a rounded base. The distinctive material used to fix the chronological horizon was called roulette ware. The distinctive pink and grey colour of the routed ware. Dishes with incurved sides and a beaked rim are the defining types. We also encountered the broken pieces of the coarse red cloth-covered amphorae with conical bottoms.

Conclusion

The Cuddalore town developed from the prehistoric to the present era due to its geographic and physiographical advantages. The objects, which are located in Karaikadu, demonstrate the importance of trade and commerce, which flourished there and resembled Arikamedu. The significance of Cuddalore, who was revered in the Pallava and Chola regions, is shown by the inscriptional records. The Cuddalore region has been dominated or controlled by a several feudatories with permission from imperialist kings. the Mussalman rulers who ruled the area and gave it a new

name at one point. During the British era, Cuddalore served as the second-important capital. But the past of Cuddalore is lost, particularly the prehistoric Tamil Nadu civilization. Because of the fresh hints found in Tamil Nadu's history, the government has decided to conduct the new excavation.

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