GROWMORE FOOD CAMPAIGN AND MIGRATION IN IDUKKI: SETTLEMENTS IN DEVIKULAM TALUK

A dissertation submitted to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in History

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project entitled "Growmore Food Campaign and Migration in Idukki: Settlements in Devikulam Taluk" is a bonafide record of the project work done by Anila Varghese, M. A History Semester IV (2019-2021) Pavanatma College, Murickassery, under my supervision and guidance and that it has not been previously submitted for the award of any Degree, Diploma, Title or other Recognition.

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DECLARATION

I, Anila Varghese, do here by declare that the project entitled "Grow More Food

Campaign and Migration in Idukki: Settlements in Devikulam Taluk " is a bonafide

record of the project work done by me under the supervision of Mrs. Mariyat George,

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Idukki and that it has not been submitted earlier to any other university/ institution for the

award of any Degree or Diploma.

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INTRODUCTION

Idukki is established on 1972, January 26th. The word Idukki comes from "Idukk" which means "narrow". Idukki is the part of Kerala. Kerala spices economy, Kerala more sufficient forestry etc these are the most specialities in idukki. The Munnar is one of the important tourist destination in idukki district Apart from Munnar, places like Vagamone, Peerumede and Ramakalmede are also important tourist centre. It is the a beautiful hill stations in Kerala, God's own country Devikulam is located in Idukki district and is close to Munnar, Devikukam like any other hill station, has a beautiful scenery and climate.

The migratory history of Idukki districts dates back to the stone age five indegienous Tamils migrated to the Tamil migrated to the Marayoor plateau from villages in the present day Madurai and Coimbatore districts following the Mysore war in the mid of the 18^{th} century. Migration to these hilly areas took place as early as the 1940s, but until the 1940s the main crop were horticultural crops.

The grow more food campaign introduced by Travancore government. The main aims is to avoid food shortages during the time of second World War. This led to numerous migrations to the Highrange. The 1934 the small scale paddy cultivation was started. The 1940s witnessed massive migration to the Highrange and large scale food production. Many factors such as the government land reform policies and the grow more food campaign.

The population of Kumily expanded during the period 1944-47. 1948 vandanmedu settlement started. 1954 Migration took place in Manjappara. By 1957, migrants had reached Kochuthovala, Valiyathovala, Erattayar, Shantigram and Ezhukuvayal.

In 1911 seven farmers came from Highrange in Meenachil taluk. They are Devisa Puthiyath, Kurian Macheri, Joseph karuvanplackal, Frenchy Parapurathu, Chacko Valumel the first migrants came from Thodupuzha, Changanasserry and Muvattupuzha..

For Highrange , the intensive food production was most active from 1946 to 1950s. During this period 10,000 acres of land in present day idukki, Udumbanchola, Devikulam , Peerumede taluk were allotted to the farmers and with this many farmers migrated from Ernakulam and Kottayam districts.

The upputhara were as discribed to the the peasant migration to the Highrange. In early days, food crops were the main crops are Maize, Millet, Colocesia Horse gram, Yam etc. We're widly cultivated and the main one was paddy cultivation.

What is the food crops in Highrange, what are the problems faced by the farmers in the field of production. Grow more food scheme and Highrange colonisation schemes are helped to the emergence of various settlement site in idukki . Marayoor, kanthalloor, and Vattavada , are the major settlement sites in idukki. Kallar Pattom colony was selected as first colony. Both these schemes helped to the growth of food crops cultivation and started to settled life . This created to various settlement site in idukki.

Area of Study

The study based on the "The Peasant Migrations in Idukki: Special Reference to Grow more food campaign and various settlement sites in Devikulam Tatuk". Devikulam taluks includes the villages of Kanthallor, Keezhanthoor, Kottakamboor, Kannandevan Hills, Pallivasal, Vattavada and Marayoor. The study is tries to understand grow more food scheme and Highrange colonisation scheme the development of food crops cultivation and various settlement site in idukki.

Objectives

- To identify the reasons of migration in Highrange.
- To understand food crop production in migrated areas in Idukki.
- To identify grow more food campaign migration sites in Devikulam Taluk.
- To understand Britishes various schemes in 1940s

Review of Literature

For the study of this work both primary and secondary sources were used. The primary sources were collected from the District Hand Book, Gazetteers.

The District hand book provides basic informations of Idukki district. Secondary sources are also written by different authors and different views of the same subject.

Idukki: Desam Charitram Samskaram written by the Manoj Mathirappally, This book focused on beginnings and development of migration.

Idukki Charithra Rekhakal written by T. Rajeesh, he explained land reforms in Highranges.

Highranginte Kudiyetta Charitram written by J. Kurias, He presented a various causes of migrations and various settlement site in Idukki.

Idukkiyude Charitram written by Sathosh George, He presented the causes of grow more food scheme and Highrange Colonisation schemes.

Malanadinte Ithihasam written by Mathew Mannarakam, He mentioned the colonisation schemes and settlement site of kallar pattom colony.

Hypothesis

During the 1940s Britishes different administrative changes established world. Their one scheme was Grow more food Campaign. As a part of this campaign migration started in different areas. This time in Idukki district large number of people migrated to different areas. Migrated people main occupation was food crop cultivation. Development of food crops cultivation and formation of settlement site in Idukki. During that time more active in foodcrops cultivation and settlement sites.

Research Questions

- How land reforms helped by the migration in Idukki.
- How the grow more food campaign helped to the food crops cultivation.
- Who is the first migrated people in Highranges.
- To find out the government view of migration. What are the major food crops cultivated in Highranges during 1940s
- To identify the economic and cultural problems faced by peasants.
- What are the major causes leads to the formation of settlelment site in Devikulam taluks.

Methodology

For the completion of the entitled "The Peasant Migrations in Idukki: Special Reference to Grow more food campaign and various settlement sites in Devikulam Taluk", the researcher used various methods for the collection of data. Both primary and secondary sources are used for data collection. Primary data are collected through observation method, different documents etc. Data are collected from primary ,secondary and territory sources. Primary sources are collected from Gazetteers and secondary sources of data from books and Internet.

.Chapterization

The present study is detailed research to the topic "The Peasant Migration in Idukki: Special Reference to Grow more food campaign and various settlement sites in Devikulam Taluk" The present study is organized in three chapters excluding introduction and conclusion.

The entire research work will into three core chapters.

The first Chapter deals with "General study of Idukki". This chapter mentioned the Geography, climate, fauna and biodiversity.

The second chapter deals with "Migration to the peopling of the region". This chapter mentioned the beginning and development of migrations and the main causes of migration.

The third chapter deals with the "Grow more food campaign and various settlement sites in Idukki". The Highrange colonisation schemes, land reforms and various settlement site in idukki these are discussed in this chapter.

Limitation

Main limitation related to research are the availability of related to the subject scattered across different parts. Language problem in collecting oral information through oral history difficulties in gathering information due to corona without memory loss.

CHAPTER: 1

GENERAL STUDY OF IDUKKI

Addressed in the God's own country, Idukki is known for its rich nature and surroundings. Idukki which lies in the Western Ghats of Kerala is the second largest districts in area but has the lowest population density. Idukki is also known as the spices garden of Kerala. Idukki is also known as the home to nature. The place others the perfect ambiance to the nature and captivates more than thousands of tourists through the weekend. It is a promoting destination in Kerala tourism. ¹Kerala known as the paradise to the South never fails in presenting the attraction among which Idukki remains to the one. It is the largest district of Kerala covering an area of 4,497 sq. Km. ²

The district is other numbers of attractions among which wildlife Sanctuary, hills stations, dams, mountains, lakes and spices plantations. Idukki begins the second largest district it holds the rich variety of flora and fauna. ³

There are many hill stations that come under the idukki district and it is very rich place in flora. Idukki is especially known for its flora resources as they are also a major part of tourist attractions. Half of the area is fully covered by the tea estates and vegetation. There is unmatched variety of floras and it is a lack of flower plants. There are more than 150 varieties of flower plants. The major flower are like Dahlia, Sun flower, Marigold, Petunia, Roses, Phlox, Verbena, Portwala etc. ⁴ All the spices are seasonal flowers and Important attraction of Idukki. A part from the flowers it also offers a gigantic galleryof vegetation. There are many parks for preserving the rich variety of floras. They are well developed and it covers many hill stations. The hill station of Munnar offers the world famous flower called Neelakurunji which bloom's every 12 years. ⁵ The flora of chinnar wildlife Sanctuary include a variety of flowering plants numbering up 965 spices. Rare

¹ Nixon and Baby, *Idukki the Heaven of Kerala*, N and B Publications, Kamblikandam, 2005,p.10

² Ibid, p. 7

³ Ibid, p. 5

⁴ T. K Velupillai, *The Travancore State Manuel – Administration Vol. 4*, Kerala Gazetteer Department, Thiruvananthapuram, 1996,p.24

⁵ http://:www.forest.kerala.govt.in., accessed on20/4/2021

madical plants, many of them endemic to the Western Ghats, can also be found in the sanctuary.

The vegetation of the sanctuary falls under six categories. They are southern tropical thorn forest, southern dry mixed deciduous forest, tropical riparian fringing forest, southern mountain wet grassland. ⁶The predominant vegetation in dry deciduous forest is followed by scrub forest. Together the constitute about half of the total area which is in the low altitude areas. The riparian fringing forest is found on the hills folds and shola forest constitutes a small portion.

The vegetation in the Periyar Tiger Reserve includes Evergreen, semi Evergreen and Moist-Deciduous forest, Grassland, an Aquatic Eco-system and Eucalyptus Groves. There are 1996 varieties of flowering plants including angiosperms. Both decoct and monocots have been include in this region, there are about 171 grass spices and 140 spices of orchids. ⁷

Idukki district :Basic facts

Idukki one of the 14 districts of Kerala state in India, created on January 1972. At the time headquarters was at Kottayam in June 1976, it was moved to Pinavu. Idukki which lies in the Western Ghats of Kerala. Idukki is also known as spice garden of Kerala. The three main endemic plants are Mucuna, Pruriens, the Kadiensis, Habanera and syzygium. Rare plants like Podocarpus wallichianus, the only South Indian conifer are also found in the reserve. ⁸ Idukki is the second largest district in area but has the lowest population density because Idukki has a vast forest reserve are more than a half of the district is covered by forest.

Geography and Terrain

Idukki is one of the 14 districts of Kerala state, India created on 26 January 1972. At that time, the districts headquarters was at Kottayam. In June 1976 it was moved to Painavu. Idukki is the second largest district in area but has the lowest population density. Idukki has an area of 4,358km (1, 683sq.m) and is the second largest district of Kerala (the largest being Palakkad) Rugged mountains and forest cover about 97% of the total area of the district. Idukki district consist of five

⁷T. Rajesh, *Idukki Charitrarekhakal*(Mal), E-Lion Books, Kattappana, 2008,p.10 ⁸Idem

⁶Ibid

talkus of Thodupuzha, Devikulam, Idukki, Udumbanchola and Peerumedu. The district border 's the district of Pathanamthitta to the South, Kottayam in to the South West, Ernakulam to the Northwest and Thrissur to the North and Coimbatore, Dindigual, Thiruppur and Theni districts in Tamilnadu to the east. The districts is accessible only by road, Rail and Air link is not available. National Highway NH49 and state Highway 13 and 33 pass through the districts.

Anamudi is the highest mountain in Idukki district. Anamudi and Meesapulimala are the 2 highest peaks in the South India of Himalaya. Anamudi is in the Kuttampuzha panchayath of Adimali block in the Kannan Devan Hills. Villeges of Devikulam taluk bordering Kothamangalam taluks of Ernakulam district. Thirteen other Peaks in the district exceed a height of 2,000m (6, 600ft). The periyar, Thodupuzha and Thalayar are the important rivers of the district. Idukki dam is the one of the largest Arch dam in Asia, this dam is located in Idukki township of Idukki taluk. The periyar flows through the formed between two high massive rocks known as "Kuruvan" and "Kuruthi" is the site of the Idukki Arch dam.

The Idukki Hydroelectric project more than 60% of the power requirements of the state of Kerala. The Idukki district covers a total area of 1.971.14sq.miles or 5,105.22km making it the second biggest district of the state of Kerala after Palakkad. ¹⁰The district forms 12.9% of the total area of Kerala. The attitude of the place is 1200 meters or 3900 feet above sea surface. The community developed blocks are further divided into taluks. ¹¹

Climate

April to June is the duration of this season which pleasant atmosphere due to the large mountains. During March to May temperature ranges from 25 to 30°. ¹²People can find pleasant and moderate atmosphere all-round the year winter season in Idukki. Winters are very cold and people wear heavy woolen clothes in these days 15°c it 25°c is the average temperature in winters. So the best time to visit idukki is all though the year. ¹³

⁹Nixon and Baby, *Idukki the Heaven of Kerala*, op. Cit., p. 13

¹³ Ibid. p. 32

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¹⁰Sreedhara Menon, Kerala District Gazetteer, State Editor Kerala Gazetteer Thrivandrum, p. 28

¹² Nixon and Baby, *Idukki the Heaven of Kerala*, op. Cit., p. 29

During monsoon this city receive large amount of rainfall. Ambience and atmosphere of the city become amazing which allows you to view its-seenic beauty. About 250-400 cm of average rainfall is received by the city of annually. The district receives an average annual rainfall about 5677mm, ranging from less than 1000(Marayoor, Kanthalloor, Chinnar areas and the North East Anamudi) to round 5000mm (Peerumede, Neriyamangalam etc).

The rainfall increasedfrom east to West. Eastern part of the district lies in the rain shadow region of the Western Ghats, The major rainfall contribution from South West monsoon from June to September which contributes about 60% of the total annual rainfall. The North East monsoon from October to December contributes 24% of the annual rainfall and the balance during the period January to May. ¹⁴

Fauna

The place includes the top wildlife Sanctuaries of God's own county which is idukki wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary is a perfect home to different herds of animals like sambas, Dears, Elephant, Bears, Bison, cat, wild boars, wild dogs, Tiger, Cobra and many more. There are also many birds like Kingfisher, Myna, Block Bulbil, wood pecker, Thrush, Peafowl etc. ¹⁵ Overall, Idukki is a perfect place to watch the rich variety of faunas at their natural habit. These sanctuaries are the best way of preserving the spices of animals and birds which also plays a virtual role in Idukki tourism. ¹⁶

The Chinnar forests support a variety of mammals, reptiles, birds and butterflies. The star among them is the Grizzled Squirrel. ¹⁷ A large Tree squirrel in Kerala, the Grizzled Giant squirel is Kerala, the Grizzled Giant squirel is only found in the riparian forest of the chinnar sanctuary. ¹⁸

Animal spices

A land locked district, Idukki is one of the most natures rich areas of Kerala. The idukki wildlife Sanctuary here spreads over an area of 105.364sq.km in the

¹⁴htt//www.climate-data.org., accessed on 20/4/2021

¹⁵Nixon and Baby , *Idukki the Heaven of Kerala*, op. Cit., p. 13

¹⁶ Idem

¹⁷Sreedhara Menon, Kerala District Gazetteer, State Editor Kerala Gazetteer Trivandrum, op. Cit., p. 17

¹⁸ Ibid. p. 10

Thodupuzha, idukki and Udumbanchola taluk of the district situated at an altitude of 450-748 m above sea level, This sanuctuary occupies the forest land between the Cheruthoni and Periyar River. There is scenic lake around the sanctuary, covered by an enhanting canopy of tropical ever-green and deciduous trees and offers boat rides.

Elephants, Samba, Deer 's, wild Dogs, Jungle cat's wild Boar etc. Are seen here apart from various species of snakes including Cobra, Viber, Kraits and numerous non-poisonous once. The wildlife here is similar to that of Thekkady. This sanctuary lies adjacent to the world renowned Idukki arch dam. 19

Birds

More than 200 spices of birds nest at idukki national park located in Kerala South India 20 Ouite a few of these birds are migrants and the others are Indigenous feat hard species. Among the commonly sighted birds at the Idukki National Park the ones that merit a mention are the Indian swift let oriental power. Hawk Eagle, Eurasian Eagle, owl, Grey Heron, Jungle fowl, fishing Eagle Darter and other birds. ²¹

Thattekad Bird Sanctuary, after the internationally renowned ornithologists is one of the richest birds habit on peninsular India spread across 25 s. q. K. M, it is home to over 300 species of birds like the sri Lankan frogmouth, white Bellied Tree pie, Yellow Browed Bulbul, white Bellied Blue flycatcher and Malabar Grey Hornbill. At Munnar you should sight the endemics Nilgiri wood Pigeon, Nilgiri Pipit, white Bellied sorrowing and the Broad Tailed Grass birds²²

Biodiversity

Major tree species are Dipterocarpus , Palamqum Elliptium ,Calophyllum, Polyanthus, Arboreal, etc. The common animals found are Elephant, Labor Giant Squirrel, Wild Dog, Indian Gaint Squirrel etc. ²³

The tourism has been well developed in Idukki and the place can easily accessible by vehicles. The state is well connected with all major cites of Indian state

²¹Sreedhara Menon, Kerala District Gazetteer, State Editor Kerala Gazetteer Trivandrum, op. Cit., p. 22 ²²Ibid, p. 25

¹⁹ Manoi Mathirappalli, *Idukki Charitravum Charitratheethavum* (Mal), Kazhacha Books, Kattappana, 2001, p.95

²³ Nixon and Baby, *Idukki the Heaven of Kerala*, op. Cit., p. 9

like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Bangalore and many more. The best time to visit Idukki between the months of June to October.

The nearest hill station to Idukki is Aluva station which is about 35km away from Idukki. There are several buses running from different states and cities to Idukki bus stand. Large number of Idukki available which you can take on the hire and reach up to sanctuary and your desired distinction.

Forest types

Forest types include west coast tropical evergreen forest, semi evergreen forest, moist deciduous forest, hill shoals and grass lands. ²⁴Tropical Evergreen forest usually occurs in areas receiving more than 200cm of rainfall and having a temperature of 15 to 30 °c. They occupay about 7% of the earth 's land surface. ²⁵

Mountain forest

Our Idukki district has a lot of mountains. Rugged mountains and forest cover about 97% of the total area of Idukki district. Anamudi is the highest points in Idukki district and Kerala and South India.

Forest in Idukki

Idukki which lies are in the Western Ghats of Kerala is the second largest district in area but has the lowest population density. Idukki has a vast forest reserve area, more than a half the district covered by forest. ²⁶ The urban areas are densily populated whereas villages are partially populated. Since before the migration of history of Idukki the native tribes are live in forest and they used the forest resources for this living. They are only hereditary owners of the forest land. Many of the forest included the category of reserved forest.

The forest covers the 78 percentage of its geographical area. The assessment forms part of the India a State forest report 2011, prepared by the forest survey of India (FSI). The forest cover of an area is defined based on its free canopy density. Very dense forest is defined "all land with tree canopy density of 70 percent on above.

Medical plants

²⁵ District Census, Handbook, Directorate of Census Operation, Op. Cit., p. 25

²⁶Ibid. 27

²⁴ Ibid, p. 10

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More than 350 Medical plants, including trees shurbs and herbs, have been identified at Periyar Tiger reserve, mainly in the Evergreen and moist deciduous forest. Plants belonging to the family of fabaceae and Euphorbiaceous are the major onece among them. Glory lily (glorious superb) and kino tree (pterocarpus Marsapium) are to the plant with medicinal value found here. Medical plants and their natural habit are under treat of over exploitation than ever before. ²⁷

Indian herbal Industry has an annual turnover of about 300 million us dollars. The world market of medical herbs for skin care and toiletries are worth us billion. Several tones of medical plants are harvested every year from about 165000 has forest. Kerala is one of India's largest producers of traditional medicines.

Grasslands

The ecologically importante grasslands are facing various kinds threat could be effectively countered and there is enough provission for it in the Madhav Gadgil committee Report categorise the entire region in to the three zones based on the topographical features, cultivation, soil condition and it's biodiversity spread.

The grassland forest and cultivated and populated areas are all given due importance while specifically underlining the phenomena like earth quake could burst and climatic changes for a long term plan. As for Idukki, the Western Ghats played a major role as on the bordering the rain shadow area is spreading and basal on the ecological sensitivity, the report has plan for a rejuvenation of the green cover to a scientific conservation approach on the Western Ghats he said. ²⁸

Even as the massive flowering of Neelakurunji is stated near year vast area of grasslands where the plants grow were found destroyed at Jandapara in Kottakambur in the Western Ghats in Munnar local people said they had noticed smoke emanating from nearly a month ago. The area comes under the Kurunji National Park. For which the final notification on awaited. ²⁹

About 300 acres of grasslands with Neelakurunji were destroyed in the fire. It was alleged that land mafia that has encroached upon the government land and cultivated

²⁷ Manoj Mathirappally, *Idukki: Charithravum Charithratheethavum* (Mal), op. Cit., p. 98

²⁸ District Census Handbook, Directorate Census operation, op. Cit. P. 24

²⁹Kerala District, Gazetteer, State Editor Kerala Gazetteer Trivandrum, op. Cit., p. 15

Grandis there set fire to the grasslands with the aim of keeping the area out if the park when the final notification is issued.

Aboriginal Tribes Living in Idukki

Muthuvans

The Muthuvans primarily live in Devikulam and Adimali blocks in Devikulam taluk of Idukki district. Their tribal legends show that they were the Royal dynasty of Madurai Meenakshi for the fleeing in Tamil as "Muthiku".³⁰

When Kannagi, a divine women and the prinsiple character of the epic Chilapathikaram left Madurai after destrying it by her curse, a group of people also migrated with her to the hills, carrying her their children and belongings on their backs (Muthuku in Malayalam). This they came to be known as Muthuvans meaning 'those who carried something on their backs. ³¹The Muthuvans still carry their children their backs, an uncommon practice in kerala. According to another version the name is derived from the word mutu, which means 'old's.

Muthuvan is also spelled 'Muduvan' by some writers. But, in this report, the spelling 'Muthuvan' will be used . This group should no be confused with Mudugar , an entirely different group in Palakkad, Kerala. Muthuvan is classified as a scheduled tribe of Kerala and Tamilnadu. They are one of the most undeveloped groups in Idukki. Many Muthuvan people can be considered as being part of two groups, which many be referred to as Tamil Muthuvan or Malayalam Muthuvan. ³²

Some Malayalam Muthuvan also refers to themselves as Nattu Muthuvan and to although this may be a derogative term. The differences between the groups are mainly due to contact with Malayalam speaking people and Tamil speaking people. They considered themselves as different until a few years ago.

However, many of them now realize that they are a part of the same ethinic group, with some differences, in their language and customs. ³³ More recently, inter-marriage has been taking place and the people have recoganized that they share

³⁰Manoj Mathirappally, *Idukki; Desam Charithram Samskaram* (Mal), op. Cit., p. 33

³¹ Idem

³² Manoj Mathirappally, *Idukki Charithravum Charithratheethavum* (Mal), op. Cit, p 44

³³J. Kurias, *Idukkiyude Kudiyetta Charithram*(Mal), A. K. C. C. Diocese of Idukki, 2012,p.39

some common interests. But some muthuvan are still strongly opposed to people from other Muthuvan subgroups.

Urali

There are several Dravidian tribal communities designated as urali. The urali of Kerala inhabits the hilly regions on the Western slopes of Highranges of Idukki district. They are different and seperated by considerable geographical distance from the Urali Kurumba of wayanad district, Kerala, and also of the Urali of Nilgiri district, Tamilnadu. In Idukki district, theyare mainly found in Upputhara, Kanchiyar, Vannapuram, velliyamattomandAyyappankovil Panchayath. According to the 1999 Interested Tribal Development Programme Report, there are 1,295 urali families in Idukki District. Nontribal people as well as tribal people, like Muthuvan and Mannan, have repeatedly explicted the urali people for years. ³⁴ Even today, outsiders are cheating them by giving less money for their agricultural goods and for the forest collections. Each settlement consists of a single clan with a 'Kani' (headman). Their religion is a mixture of animism, totemism, magic, sorcery and ancestor worship.

They believing an immortal soul and in a supreme god, Padachathampuran, who is the creator of universe and is formless and unknowable. They recently adopted Hindu gods, Including Ayyappan and Kali. The 1981 Census reported that 96% are the Hindus and about 4% are Christians. They bury their dead.

Betel leaves and rice are put in the mouth of the dead in order to appease the soul. According to the 1991 Census, the literary rate among the urali in Kerala was 56% (49% among males and 42% among females). ³⁵ Singh Reports that Malayalam is their mother tongue and they use the Malayalam Script. The urali Bhasha of Kerala appears to be dying out because of language shift towards Malayalam.

Ulladan

The Ulladan are a scheduled tribe found mainly in Kottayam, Idukki and Pathanamthitta districts of Kerala. South of the river Pamba, they are also knowns as Karan, Kuttan and Kochuvelan. The Ulladan that live in interior forests are known as

³⁴Manoj Mathirappally, *Idukki Charithravum Charithratheethavum*(Mal), op. Cit., p. 44

³⁵ Ibid. p. 44

"Mala Ulladan", while those that live in the plains are known as Nadu Ulladan. The former are listed as a scheduled tribe, where as the latter are listed as scheduled caste.

The 1991 Census Reports that the population of Ulladan is 14,846 in Kerala. According to the 1999 ITDP Report, 1,020 Ulladan families live in Idukki and Kattappana blocks of Idukki district. Their tribal assembly consists of elderly members of the tribe. Their headman is called 'Muppan'. Their religion was once purely animistic, but they have recently adopted the Hindu Pantheon. ³⁶

Thalaparamala swami , the deity of the temple peak Thalaparamala, is most worshipped supernatural being.

They also adore the deities Kappiri, Thekkady and Chathan. The mother tongue of Ulladan is Malayalam and Malayalam script is used by them. Nandi states the Ulladan speak Malayalam with some phonetic shifts, but they do not have a different dialect or distinguishable vocabularies.

Hill Pulayas

The Hill Pulaya also referred to us Malapulayas are a set of hill tribes living in the forest areas. In Anjunadvalley of Devikulam taluk. ³⁷Various explanations are given to how to the name Hill Pulayas have been derived Mala Means a mountains or Hills and Pulayan is derived from Pula, meaning pollution the hill Pulayan have their endogomies groups like Kurumba, Pulayan Karavazhypulay and Pamba pulayas ³⁸.

It is stated that kurumba Pulayas are called by this name as their early occupations was sheep rearing. They were engaged in lending a particular variety of sheep known as kurumba sheep. ³⁹ A typical Hillpulaya settlement is called 'Kudi'. There are 635 Hill Pulayan settlements in Devikulam taluk. ⁴⁰

Malapandaram

The Malapandaram are also known as hill pandaram. The majority of them live in the forest to the 1991 Census, the population of Malapandaram are 2839 in Kerala and

³⁷Ibid, p. 49

³⁶Idem

³⁸ Idem

³⁹ Idem

⁴⁰T. Rajesh, *Idukki Charitrarekhakal* (Mal), op. Cit., p. 36

1930 in Tamilnadu. The 1999 ITDP Report claims that there are only six Malapandaram families in Idukki district.

They speak a dialect of Malayalam, locally termed Pandaram language. The Malapandaram covers with others, in the use of Malayalam. In Sreedhara Menon's Report that the speak a poor dialect with many Tamil and Malayalam words and Phrases. ⁴¹ Their religion is a mix of Hinduism and their traditional faith. 94% of males and 31% of the females are literate. ⁴²

⁴¹ J. Kurias, *Idukkiyude Kudiyetta Charithram*(Mal), op. Cit., p. 38

⁴² Ibid, p. 93

CHAPTER: II

MIGRATION TO THE PEOPLING OF THE REGION

Tenure systems of Kerala and Land Reforms

The state of Kerala which is located on the princely state of Travancore, cochin and British Malabar before it's formation. The agrarian expansion this area had great impact on the land based social order and it made implementation of land reforms essential. Since land was most important means of wealth and source of power and prestige in agrarian society, changes in the institutional framework of agriculture or pattern of ownership, control and use of land or land system would definitely influence land based social order. In the field of land relations Brahmin domination started and a new form of feudal land, lord-peasant relationship emerged. The land Lord or Jenmies are emerged. The feudalistic agrarian relation existed in Kerala.

The new immigrants were not actual cultivators but the land occupied by them was cultivated by others leading to the emergence of two main unfriendly groups: the landed gentry and landless farmers in the agrarian order, led by the Brahmins. The Brahmin jennies controlled the ownership rights on the land and cultivators had to accept this.

From the 1^{st} to 6^{th} century AD, the social system was known as the ancient class society. The exploited section such as Uzhavar and Adiyar also existed at that time. $1/6^{th}$ of the income from land was given to the king by the farmers as royalty. ¹he Brahmins their land leased to karalar².

Migration

Migration of the people from on place to another is world wide phenomenon.
³Migration which has had a strong impact on social organisation, has changed world history. A group of people (animals / birds) voluntarily compalsary moving from one place to another at a particular time in order to find food, to improve their standard of living, or to obtain a more secure life principle.
⁴Migration is the constant

¹T. Rajesh, *Idukki charitrarekhakal* (Mal), e-lion books, kattappana, 2008, p.48,

²Ibid n 49

³Fr. J. Kurias, *Highranginte kudiyettacharitram(Mal)*, A.K. C. Dioces of idukki, 2012,p.99

⁴Idem

change of Highrange migration history density decreases through migration, economic growth is being achived, cultures are integrated and national resource are declined. ⁵Thus their are many positive and negative consequence of migration. Hunger was the main reason for human migration to the highrange during the 1920s and 1980s.

The Begining and development of idukki migration

The hills and valleys of idukki are land for migration. The history begins with the migration to the idukki from the stone Age. The first settlers in idukki were 5 native Tamils from the Marayoor basin.. ⁶The five native Tamils migrated to the plateau from villages in the peasent day Mathurai and coimbatore districts following the invasion of the Mysore sultans in the late 18th century AD. ⁷ Jedi Manroe , who reached the Munnar hills in the late 1870 , has accurately documented the people who lived in Marayoor, Kanthallor and Keezhanthur at that time .

The migration of Tamil workers

Many Tamil workers were among those who came for the cardamom harvest. The huts were kept till the completion of the harvest and at least some temporary cultivation was done. ⁸ There were grasslands and swamps in many parts of Elamala which were not conducive to the growth of cardamom. The six months after the order was issued on June 4, 1898, the fallow lands Elamala were leased out for pepper and cocoa cultivation. Most of these who came up the hills were Tamils. ⁹

The issuance of leases for cardamom plantation and other agricultural lands in the Highrange has resulted in more people migrating to idukki. Along with this, workers came to the estates started in Elam hill and from Tamilnadu. Under the leadership of the English there was under was the formation of a garden based agrarian culture centred on peerumade and Munnar. From 1860 onwards, coffee and

⁶Manoj Mathirappalli, *idukk: desam charitam samskaram*(Mal),Geo Books, kattappana,2017,p.115,

⁵Idem

⁷Idem

⁸ Ibid, p. 122

⁹Ibid., 124

tea were cultivated in and around peerumade and the situation in the Munnar hills was no different. 10

Coffeee cultivation started here in 1877 and later shifted to tea cultivation. It took years of deforestation and cultivation in both these areas to fight off the onsalught of infectious diseases against wildlife and adverse weather conditions. For this the Tamil workers stood strong with the will of the English, Thousands of Tamil workers flocked from Tamilnadu to Munnar via Bodinayakannur and kumily

With each passing year, the presence of Tamils in the Highrange increased. The Tamil people migrated to idukki to collect forest resources and not to work on English plantations. In udubanchola and other places, Many such people were involved in deforestation and cultivation. All of them were immediately granted a permit. ¹¹ Those who came to Elamala in small groups later went home and brought more people and setteled in some parts of Highrange. ¹²

Migration of Malayalees

Culture influence of Tamilnadu culture seemed to be increasin exponentically and this led to an increase in the migration of Malayalees to the Highrange in 1920 when Sreemoolam Thirunal Ramavarma ordered that land should be given only to the Malayalees in the Highrange. ¹³

It was during the last three and four decades of the 19th century that the plantation industry was established in Munnar and Peerumade and many Tamil workers came up the hills. ¹⁴Another reason why Malayalees do not reach the Highrange these days is that the Malayalees, who lived in better surroundings than the people of Tamilnadu at that time, we're not only intested in working in the forest as labourers. ¹⁵

¹⁰ Ibid, p. 125

¹¹Ibid, p. 126

¹²Idem

¹³Idem

¹⁴Idem

¹⁵Idem

From the first decades of the twentieth century, peasant Malayalees began to migrate to the Highrange, which gradually increased. ¹⁶ By the 1940s, the migration of Malayalees to idukki had increased tremendously. Thousands of people came to idukki, including women and children. The Highrange has become the land of the industrious farmers of the plains including Pala, Poonjar, Erattupetta, Kanjirappalli, Ramapuram and koothattukulam.

Upputhara can be described as the getway to the peasant migration to the Highrange. ¹⁷Kuttikanam, Palliikunu, Elapara, Chemmannu and Chintalar to ottamaram were the tea estate owned by the British at that time. The plantation workers also settled in the areas adjacent to the estate. After that, only the forest was allowed. With the permission of Travancore government to cultivate grain in many places, the migration of Malayalee farmers started. 18 With the announcement of the government in 1911 seven farmers came from Travancore Highrange Meenachiltaluk. They are Devisya puthiyath, kurian Macheril, Joseph karuvanplackal, Franchy parapurathu and chacko valumel the first migrant came from Thodupuzha, changanasserry and Muvattupuzha. In later years, more farmers migrated from Pala, Bharanaganam, ponkunnam, Mundakayam ,Kuttikannam their climb was via Elapara, Chintalar and vagamon. During this time, every farmer who came here cleared eight to ten accres of land cultivate it.

During the same period, there was a migration to peerumade, vandiperiyar and kumily. 1992 an example of this is when the family of karippaparambil in the present day Chakkupallam panchayath obtained permission from the king of Travancore to cultivate 250 acres of land. ¹⁹According to the Royal Declaration of September 12,1902,all such lands were in permanent possession only. ²⁰However, the 1932 decision to lease the land was a great boon to the early settler farmers, which led to more migration.

Within the next century there was a presence of settlers in present day Ayyappankovil , Marykulam, Mattukatta, vellilamkandam, Kalthotti, Murikattukudy and

¹⁷Idem

¹⁶Idem

¹⁸Idem

¹⁹Ibid, p. 127

²⁰Idem

swaraj. ²¹ When V. S Subramanya Iyer was the Diwan of Travancore in the eary 1939s, he auctinedoff 3000 acres of swamp land in the Adimali region. Thus, in March 1934, cultivation started in various parts of present day Adimali panchayath. In the following years, similar areas were cleared for paddy cultivation in the Highrange. ²²

The migration started from the Western streets of the Highrange and gratually spread to the east. The migration started from upputhara and spread to Ayyappankovil , Marykulam, Mattukatta, swaraj , kanchiyar, Kattappana, Erattayar and Thankamani. ²³ Although Ayyappankovil developed into a maior settlement for settlers in the late 1940s, Kattappana become active in the early 1950s. ²⁴

Prior to that, there were only nominal farmers in the area. In 1950, 3000 acres of land was allotted to the settlers in the present day Kattappana and Vellayamkudy area. By 1957, The Kochuthovala, Erattayar, shantigram, Ezhukumvayal and Valiyathovala were active. The migration to Cheruthoni, Vazhathoppu and Painavu was also during this period.

From 1951 onwards, People started living in Murickasserry, Vathikudy, Padamugham, Thopramkudy, Pathinaramkandam, Killiyarkandam and Thekkinthandu²⁵. The migration in the area began in the early 1950s and lasted until 1961. Vathikudy was a one of the importante settlements of the Mannan tribe during the migration areas like Mariyapuram, Pandipara and Upputhodu were inhabited as early 1957.²⁶ Migrants arrived in Kamakshi, Thankamani, Parakadavu and Nellipara in the late 1950s. Migration related to Aluva Munnar Road exists in the northern part of idukki. Kothamangalam, Kunnathunadu taluks are the former land of most of the people here. The population of Kumily region, which started during the construction of the Mullaperiyar Dam, expanded during 1944 - 1947.²⁷

²¹Idem

²²Idem

²³Ibid, p. 128

²⁴Idem

²⁵Idem

²⁶Idem

²⁷ Ibid, p. 130

During the period there was widespread migration there was widespread migration in various parts of kumily panchayath and also in Anakkara, Puttady, kochera, Vandenmedu, Amayar and Chettukuzhy. The migrant culture of idukki was most strong between 1950 and 1970.²⁸

The various causes of migration on Idukki

The declaration of Travancore Lease in 1865, the tenants and cultivators of Pandaravaka land gained full ownership and freedom of purchase over their land. With this, the farmer got the right to convert the deforested land into his own land.²⁹ In 1863, following the famine of Travancore in 1860, King Ayilyam Thirunal orded that kappa be cultivated whereever possible and with that the people began to migrant in large numbers to the native cultivable lands. ³⁰ With the implementation of the Revenue settlement of 1883, the practice of cultivating state - determined crops ceased and farmers could cultivate any kind of crop and the farmer could take the harvest himself and the government would not interfere in it. This led to massive migration to idukki and expansion of agriculture. ³¹ During the repressive rule under Sir C. P, the government could not cultivate the land and settle it.

Migration to idukki increased exponentially by the 1930s. During this period, workers and educated youth came forward willing to engage in plantation related occupations. The number of Malayalees who migrant in 1931 was 5132. Most of the migrant workers at that time were from Macelikara and Kayamkulam areas and educated people from Kottayam and Thirivalla areas. There were no farmers in the group.

The main reasons for migration to idukki. They are

- 1. British occupation
- 2. Tamil migration
- 3. Pallivasal project
- 4. Government encouragement and colonization

²⁹Fr. J. Kurias, *Highranginte Kudiyettacharitram* (Mal), Op. Cit, p. 103,

²⁸ Ibid, p. 134

³⁰Idem

³¹Idem

- 5. Idukki Dam construction
- 6. Construction of Aluva Munnar Road

British occupation

The first settlers in the highrange, which borders Travancore and falls under the Poonjar Parish, we're the British. Having lived in tropical India for a long time, the British developed the habit of going to cool places in summer to preserve the Their skin ³². They found Munnar, Devikulam and Peerumede in the highrange for this purpose. ³³Gradually roads connecting these summer residence to the administrative centers were developed. That is how the Kottayam-Kumily Road was built in 1879-1880. By 1895 the construction of Aluva - Munnar Road was almost complete, At the same time the construction of Kumily-Munnar Road was completed³⁴. The English understood the climatic variations in the areas where these roads pass and started cultivating crops that suitable for each climate. British companies came forward to cultivate rubber in Anakkulam, Mundakayam and Peruvanthanam, tea in Munnar and peerumede and cardamom in Udumbanchola. They often acquired more land from the Travancore government than was needed for plantation. 35

Tamil Migration

When the British reached the hills of Idukki, there were only tribals here, with the development of British culture based on the plantation Industry, another life took place here sooner or later. The Tamil workers came to work in the plantations and settled in the areas adjacent to the tea estates. Today, all the Tamils in the Munnar, Peerumede and Elapara areas, which has tea estates, are descendants of those who came. ³⁶ The Tamil workers who had come to the cardamom forest for harvest did not return. Krishnaswamy Rao, the Diwan of Travancore, impartially granted the lease, forcing Tamil workers to settle in Idukki. All the Tamils in in Udumbanchola

³²Ibid, p. 104

³³Idem

³⁴Ibid, p. 105

³⁵Idem

³⁶Idem

taluk today came for these two reasons. ³⁷ There were also Malayalees who leased land here.

Pallivasal project

The natural waterfall at Pallivasal was a special attraction for the British. ³⁸ From there, the company started generating 200 kilowatts of electricity For its own needs from 1906. The Travancore government has decided to upgrade it to generate more electricity. Accordingly, the work started in 1938 was completed in 1940.³⁹ The Muthirapuzha , a tributary of the periyar , was diverted through a 3121.67 m long tunnel. It flowsdown through 4 penstocks 2214.3 m long and is fed to the powerhouse to generate 37.5 Mw of electricity. Ancillary dams have also been constructed at Mattupetty to prevent the reservoir from depleting was the flow in the Muthirapuzha decreases. This is the first hydropower project in Kerala. ⁴⁰ Many of those who had come from different parts of the country for the completion of the Pallivasal project and allied projects still settled in the Pallivasal area, owning farms. ⁴¹

Government Encouragement and Colanization

During the period 1948-55, all the border areas of idukki were the areas where the Tamilnadu people had a strong influence ,Large-scale deforestation was carried out in the border areas of Idukki under the leadership of Tamil. 42 Attempteswere made by hundreds of groups to divert Kerala forest resources and water to Tamilnadu.

After Independence, the formation of princely states accelerated, struggles intensified in various parts of kerala and Tamilnadu, demanding the formation of states on the basis of language. Convinced that the rich plantation area had been annexed to Tamilnadu, It was invaluable loss and left the southern taluks of kerala and retained the Peerumede and Devikulam areas in kerala.

³⁷ Ibid, p. 106

³⁸ Ibid, p. 112

³⁹ Ibid, p. 113

⁴⁰Idem

⁴¹Idem

⁴²Idem

1955 Highrange Colonization Scheme established colonies at Kanthalloor, Kallar, Vattavad and Marayoor and settled Malayalees and promote migration. 43

Idukki Dam Construction

1958 Hundreds of people who came for the construction of Chenkulam-Pallam 110 kv line started living in Cheruthoni, Keerithode and Chelachuvad areas.

44 In addition, settlements began in various parts of the Highrange in connection with the construction of dams and powerhouses. 1936, The workers who came for the construction of Kallarkutty dam did not return, workers who came for the construction of the Chenkulam Dam in 1946 also stayed here.

Construction of Aluva -Munnar Road

A road passing through Kuttampuzha -Puyamkutty- Mankulam – Munnar to Tamilnadu has existed since ancient times. ⁴⁶ It came to the attention of the British and was developed into a large vehicular road during 1895 - 1899. This was the way the British brought tea from Munnar to Aluva. The road was renamed after the floods of 1924, Making it impossible to rehabilitate, and a new road was required to replace the existing Aluva -Munnar Road via to Adimali. ⁴⁷ The construction of the present Aluva -Munnar Road at Neryamangalam began in 1930. The construction of Aluva -Munnar Road was accelerated migration.

More migrants arrived in the Adimali region between 1946 and 1951, Along with this , migration took place in Nedumkandam, Bisonvalley, Udumbanchola, shanthanpara and Rajakad. All of the above factors accelerated migration.

The challenges faced by migrant farmers

Syrian Christian families were the first settlers in Upputhara and the Highrange, such as Devisya Puthiyath, Joseph kanakalil, Chacko Valumel, Franchu Paravil ,Kurian Macheril, Kakkanattu , who arrived on Upputhara in 1918.⁴⁸ The adventures

⁴³ Ibid, p. 114

⁴⁴Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam* (Mal), Turn Books, Kattayam, 2019, p.407

⁴⁵Idem

⁴⁶ Fr. J. Kurias, *Highranginte Kudiyettacharithram* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 125

⁴⁷ Ibid, p. 126

⁴⁸Ibid, Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 397

and hard – working young people migrated to the Highrange. They faced many challenges. They are the following:

- Hard climb
- The loft
- Simple food
- Infectious diseases
- Threats from Foresters
- Wildlife distrubance

The adventures and hard – working young people migrated to the Highrange. Their journey was barefoot through a forest full of stones, worms, thorns and cobras. ⁴⁹ They had only the necessities of life. They set out for the Highrange in groups of eight and ten. Their goals was to encroch on the land. ⁵⁰ They lived with acquintances until they built their own balcony. The shelter was built to protect the wildlife during the night. The hut was built on trees that were too high for the elephant to reach. There were ladders made of bamboo to climb on it. Everyone ate Kappa, Porridge, backed dried were Channayila and Kuvayila The other food items was wildhoney, wildboar, squash green banana boiled and wild pamkin

Malaria, Cholera, and Smallpox were another direct problems. In addition to being a Malaria and Cholara, they were also attacked by worms. The one - root treatment, which is wrapped in Jaggery and Swallowed is very effective against Malaria.

The forester's permission was required to build huts. ⁵¹ Migrant farmers were forced by forest officials to pay build hud in the forest. The forest officials set fire to tribal huts, cut down and destroyed crops, oppressed migrants and humiliated women. ⁵² Wildlife often didnot allow farmers to enjoy the fruits of their labor. It was common for crops to be trampled to death by elephants.

⁴⁹ Ibid, Fr. J. Kurias, *Highranginte Kudiyettacharitram* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 126

⁵⁰Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 405

⁵¹Ibid, Fr. J. Kurias, *Highranginte Kudiyettacharitram* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 130

⁵²Ibid, Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam* (Mal), op. Cit, p. 406

The early settlers experienced a number of such problems. They endured many sacrifices to cope.

The peasant women in migrant soil

One of the highlights of Highrange's migration history is the suffering of women during and after migration. During cardamom plantations, women were more likely than men to prepare and pick berrier under cardamom. ⁵³ It was the responsibility of the women to prepare the food and look after the children, The women were responsible for feeding and watering the sheep and cattle. In addition to these jobs, women and men went to the ground to cut down the undergrowth.

Role of church in migration

There were people of various castes and religions who migrated from Travancore to the Highrange during the Post - Independence period. It was the Syrian Christians who carried out the massive migration from the areas covered by the peasant day Kottayam districts. ⁵⁴ It is estimated that tens of thousands of Syrian Christians migrated to Malabar and the Highrange between 1930 and 1950. ⁵⁵ Most of the Christians who migrated were from districts like Ernakulam, Thodupuzha and Kottayam. The reasons for the increase in the migration of Syrian Christians. They are the following.

- As the majority of farmers in Kottayam districts.
- As they inhabited the Higheange in the vicinity.
- As they were interested in agricultural land and agriculture. ⁵⁶

Churches have played an importante role in the migration from Kottayam districts. ⁵⁷ churches focused on the testimony of migrant farmers as part of their efforts to provide appropriate guidance during the migration period it is kwon as

⁵³Devasia Kuzhikattu, *Kodamanjil Urukiyavar : Karshakanezhuthiya Kudiyettajeevitham* (Mal), Paideia Books, New Delhi, p. 110,

⁵⁴Santhosh George, *Idukkiyude Charitram*(Mal), Author in Association with Research and Publications wing, Murickasserry, 2014,p.60

⁵⁵ Ibid. p. 60

⁵⁶ Idem

⁵⁷ Mar Mathew Anikuzhikattil, *Mannum Manushyanum: Oru Daivajnante Jeevithadarsanam* (Mal), Book solutions, Kottayam, 2018,p.111

'Koinonia'. ⁵⁸ It was customary to gather at the church once a week as part of the workshop service. Through this weekly get together we were able to make others aware of the potential for migration and take advantage of it. The prices of koinonia has helped to migration. ⁵⁹ The Higheange has been strongly influenced by the influx of Syrian Christians into social development, especially their influx into the education and health sectors.

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⁵⁸ Idem

⁵⁹ Idem

CHAPTER: III

GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN AND SETTLEMENT SITE IN IDUKKI

This campaign was launched in 1948 as a program of crop production field demonstration and contact with the farmers to introduce the improved techniques and initiation of the dialogue with the villagers were the main lines of approach. But the campaign failed to achieve its targets. Soon after the independence 1947 objectives of grow more food campaign as the attainment of self suffiency in good grains by 1952 and simultaneously increased in the targets of production of other crops to meet shortfall as a result of the increased in the targets of production of other crops to meet the shortfall as a result of the partition of the country. At the same time arrangements were made for integration and co-ordination of the entire campaign for increasing agricultural production. Some state governments associated the public with working of the campaign by setting up non-official committees at the villages, taluks, district and state levels. The plans were revised from time to time tomake the campaign more effective.

Tea plantations were started by Europeans in Devikulam taluks. Until the 1940s, major crops were plantation crops. Food crops were note given importance until 1940s. Until then, they had been cultivating crops such as pepper, rubber and coconut. Until this time, they had not given much importance to food production. Even if there was food production, it was only a small percentage.

Back ground of Grow more food campaign

World War second in 1939 led to food shortages in Travancore.² When world War 2^{nd} broke out in 1939, food shortages began to be felt all over India. With the Japanese conquest of Burma, the supply of food grains to Travancore stopped.

² Mathew Maannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam*(Mal) Turn Books, Kottayam, 2019, p. 393

¹ Growa more food campaign, p. 14

Travancore rice was imported from Burma, Thailand and Indo-china.³

The Bengal famine erupted in 1942. The British government was unwilling to distributed even the food stocks it had at this time. According to the British government 2.5 laksh people died of starvation of Bengal and more than 2,000 in cherthala and Alapuzha. In fact Bengal alone 4 Million people died as a result of famine. Food shortages following world War 2nd, prompted the Travancore government to increase food production. The transition of farmers in Travancore from food crops to cash crops after 1850 led to the further poverty. The climate in the high Range was favourable for paddy cultivation and led to food production.

British policy on India

An announcement on a policy for India which is aimed at leading to an early realisation of full self-government were broadcast by the Prime Minister and the Viceroy yesterday. A Constitution-making body is to be convened after elections have been held early next year, and, although the Cripps offer still stands, there will be discussions to see whether an alternative or modified plan is preferable. The terms of the treaty which will be necessary between Britain and India are now being considered, and Mr. Attlee gave an assurance that there would be nothing in it incompatible with Indian interests.

Premier's appeal to Indians

In his broadcast last night Mr. Attlee said:

"The King's Speech at the opening of the new Parliament contained this passage: In accordance with the promises already made to my Indian peoples, my Government will do their utmost to promote, in conjunction with the leaders of Indian opinion, the early realisation of full self-government in India."Immediately after assuming office the Government turned its attention to Indian affairs and invited the viceroy to come home in order to review with him the whole situation, economic and political. These discussions have now concluded and the viceroy has returned to India and has made an announcement of policy.

³ Sonthosh George, *Idukkiyude charitram*(Mal), Author in Association with Research and Publications wing, 2014, p. 56

"You will remember that in 1942 the Coalition Government made a draft declaration for discussion with Indian leaders commonly known as the 'Cripps offer.' It was proposed that immediately upon the cessation of hostilities steps should be taken to set up in India an elected body charged with the task of framing a new Constitution for India. Sir Stafford Cripps took that offer to India, but it was unfortunately not accepted by the leaders of the Indian political parties; the Government is, however, acting in accordance with its spirit and intention. The first step necessary is to get, as soon as may be, as democratic a representation of the Indian peoples as possible." Everything possible, the Premier said, would be done to ensure a free and fair election. After describing the discussions which would follow the elections, as announced by Lord Wavell, Mr. Attlee continued:

"The broad definition of British policy towards India contained in the Declaration of 1942 which had the support of all parties in this country, stands in all its fullness and purpose. This Declaration envisaged the negotiation of a treaty between the British Government and the constitution-making body. The Government is giving immediate consideration to the contents of such a treaty. It can be said here that in that treaty we shall not seek to provide for anything incompatible with the interests of India.

"No one who has any acquaintance with Indian affairs will underestimate the difficulties which will have to be surmounted in the setting up and smooth operation of a constitution-making body. Still greater is the difficulty which will face the elected representatives of the Indian people in seeking to frame a Constitution for a great continent containing more than 400,000,000 human beings.

"During the war Indian fighting men have, in Europe, Africa, and Asia, played a splendid part in defeating the forces of tyranny and aggression. India has shared to the full with the rest of the United Nations the task of saving freedom and democracy. Victory came through unity and through the readiness of all to sink their differences in order to attain the supreme object, victory.

"I would ask all Indians to follow this great example and to join together in a united effort to work out a Constitution which majority and minority communities will accept as just and fair, a Constitution in which both States and Provinces can find their place. The British Government will do their utmost to give every assistance in their power, and India can be assured of the sympathy of the British people."

Grow more food campaign

The Grow more food scheme was launched by the first people's Government of Travancore in 1947 under the chairmanship of Ikkanda Warrier , food Minister of Travancore , to address the food shortage following world War 2nd (Go. LR8727/49/2RD dtd. 28 – 12 – 1949) . Under this scheme, the Forest Department was relived of it's power in the areas where monopolies were included and leased out for 20 years under the Revenue Department.⁵ The commission headed by K. M Chandy had submitted a report to the government identifying land for cultivation in the highrange.⁶

Accordingly in Devikulam and Peerumede taluks, N. S. Krishnapillai has been appointed as the Devikulam land distribution commissioner. As a part of the Grow more food scheme, five acres of land was distributed at a Kundalampara (survey 19/1) and Kalthotti (survey 24/1) stations in vandanmedu half.

During the same period, the Chairman of the food production Board distributed 2,500 acres in Ayyappankovil and 4,000 acres on both sides of the Kumily-Devikulam Road on a Highrange Reclamation scheme basis.

Eligibility for land was that he did not own land. District committees were formed. The land was allotted to the group leaders of this committee. Part of the production had to levied on the government 26.12.1949 At a meeting held at the secretariat it was decided to inquire as to the extent of forest land which was decided to inquire as to the extent of forest land which could be permanentally allotted.

Order No. 16.6.1951 in G. O. D. Dis 5122/1951/RD exampting from Forest Department and Erosion prevention Department.⁸ On February 11, 1950, an order was issued not interfere with the distribution of land. 16.18.1952 G. O. D. -Dis 5446/FD. Asper the order, it was

⁵ J. Kurias, *Idukkiyude Kudiyetta Charithram* (Mal), A. K. C. C. Dioces of Idukki, 2012, p.108

⁶ Idem

⁷ Idem

⁸ Ibid, p. 109

decided to hand over the entire piece of land given in the name of organizations and group leaders to the real farmers. On July 27,1950, the government appointed a committee headed by chief forest officer T. P. Venkiteshwara Iyer to respect the land and submit a report.⁹

In the 1940s, the government introduced an innovative land system called "Kuthakappattam" which leased land for a short period 5acres per person. Farmers are not given any permanent rights to the land they have acquired. However, there has been a large influx of migrants from Central Travancore during the Grow more food campaign in highrange soils that yield hundreds of tons.

Mr. Sree Sreedharan Menon, a Kappa Kannam native who migrated to the Highrange in the 1940s and cultivated land lease under the Grow more food campaign, gives us the following informations. People were more interested in the swamps of the Highrange. The aim was increase food production. It gives us information that he performed areas such Nediyani, Mayyana and Muthikandam in present day Thodupuzha taluks. The allottment was called "land allottment.¹¹ The practice was thata few intermediaries who had leased land from the government turned it over to the common people. The rent was RS. 15 per 100 bags of paddy. The village officer also known as Pravarthiyar or Varothiyar. At the end of the harvest, the village officer used to the farm and measure the lease.¹²

According to the Report submitted by the Forest Conservator to the government in 1944, 13,600 acres of forest in Travancore were distributed forcultivation under this scheme. In March 1934, cultivation started in various parts of present day Adimali Panchayath. In the following years, the Highrange was given up for paddy cultivation in many places. For the High Range, the intensive food production programme was most active from 1946 to 1950. During this period tens of thousands of acres of land in the present Idukki and Peerumedu taluk were allotted to the farmers. Under the intensive food production scheme

⁹ Ibid, p. 110

¹⁰ Sathosh George, Idukkiyude charitram(Mal), op. Cit., p. 58

¹¹ Idem

¹² Ibid, p. 59

¹³ Idem

¹⁴ Ibid, p. 126

, 20 people will be accommodated for the first time. In the mid -1940s ,swamps and fallow land were leased for paddy cultivation. The Highrange Colonisation Scheme.

Pattom Thanupillai , who was the Minister of Thiru-Cochi , established colonies at Kallar, Kathalluoor, Marayoor, Kottakamboor and Vattavada under the name of 1955 Higheange colonisation scheme to preven inclusion of Devikulam and Peerumede taluksin TamiNadu and encouraged the migration of Malayalees. ¹⁶ The government advertised in a newspaper offering allotments of 5 acres each and 1,000 rupees.

Based on this 7320 acres in Devikulam and Peerumede taluks, Kallar pattom colony in 1385 blocks of 6860 acres, 220 acres in 45 blocks in Marayoor, Deviyar allotted 240 acres to farmers in 27 blocks. The E. M. S government in 1957 detained the farmers who had dropped out of the allotment by giving them free tools and RS. 2,000 adult in the Highrange. Pattom Thanupillai has played a major role in keeping the Highrange region in Kerala. The order regarding the Highrange colonisation scheme was issued on October 1,1954. As part of this, Kumara Menon appointed a survey team as a special officer to find suitable land for the formation of colonies was found at kallar, Marayoor, Kanthalloor and Deviyar.

There is another reason behind the creation of the Highrange colonisation Schemes as a part of the Grow more food Campaign. The aim was to keepHighrange a part of Kerala. The Central government under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru was the main reason behind the formation of pattom colony for the formation of linguistic state. Pattom Thanupillai 's idea was to transform the Highrange into a Malayalam speaking region. Sree. P. J. Kunju Sahib was incharge of colonisation. The project was started in 1955. Colonies were formed under the High Range colonisation scheme at Pampadumpara, Nedumkandam, Kallar, Chithirapuram, Kanthalloor and Marayoor in the Highrange. The plan was to resettle 8,000

¹⁵ Ibid, p. 128

¹⁶ Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam* (Mal), op. Cit., p. 402

¹⁷ Idem

¹⁸ Manoj Mathirappally, *Idukki : Desam Charitram Samskaram (Mal)*, Geo Books, Kattappana, 2017, p.133

¹⁹ Santhosh George, *Idukkiyude Charitram(Mal)* op. Cit., p. 61

families on 50,000 acres of land in the High range.²⁰

Revenue settlement

Poopara, Udumbanchola and vandanmedu divisions were added to the Devikulam taluks as half concerts. The flowing the formation of Peerumede taluk, half of Vandanmedu was added to Peerumede taluk in 1912. These halves of the Devikulam division were under the jurisdiction of the Devikulam Divisional Commissioner. 1921 Land Revenue Department recoganized under the authority of the Commissioner of Land Revenue. Subsequently the Devikulam also terminated the division and the areas in the division came under the Kottayam division. ²¹

Revenue settlement followed by site wise survey completed and settlement Register prepared. The settlement Register, which records registered land information, is the basic document of the revenue settlement. Thousands of acres of land have been setaside for paddy cultivation under the 1922 Travancore Land Assignment Act.²²

Kuthakapattam

1940 Kuthakapattam Proclamation was issued G. O. ROC - 11774/42/Dev . Dtd-24/11/1942 order NO. For allotment of 24,000 acres of grassland and swamp land inThodupuzha taluks of Peerumede and Devikulam for cultivation. Such lands under the Pandaravaka lease categories are government land outside the C. H. R. Line.²³

Land Assignment after Independence

1949 in the state of Thiru-kochi was formed, As a result, the value of the Travancore Land Assignment Act disappeared. In 1950 Travancore - Cochin Land Assignment Act formed.²⁴ All previous Land Act were subject to the Travancore - Cochin Land Assignment Act of 1950.

The Land Assignment Rules under the Travancore-Cochin Land Assignment Act

²¹ T. Rajesh, *Idukki Charitrarekhakal* (Mal), e-lion books, Kattappana, 2008,p.104

²⁰ Idem

²² Idem

²³ Ibid, p. 106

²⁴ Ibid, p. 108

came into force on October 18,1958. Applications were accepted under the Travancore-Cochin Act, 1958. Land Assignment files up to 1964, Notice and Applications under the Rules, 1958.

Land Assignment procedures on such files have been completed as per Kerala Land Assignment Rules 1964, which came into force under section 7 of the Kerala Land Assignment Act, 1960.²⁵

Kerala Land Reforms Act, 1963

The Land which were leased under the Travancore New Rule were exchanged under this Act. There are many such lands in villages like Anakkara, Karunapuram, Rajakkad and Rajakumari. The fact that the land included in the Reserve forest does not fall under the Kerala Land Reforms Act confirm that c. H. R. Is Reserve Land. ²⁶

Kulamavu Allotment

During the period 1948-52, on the recommendations of the Akkamma Cheriyan Committee, 10 acres of land was allotted to 19 families in placelike Kulamavu and Marykulam as part of the intensive food production scheme.²⁷

These who got by 1961-62 settled there and started cultivation. For Kulamavu Dam, these families were relocated in 1968 and given three acres of land and settled in Kanchiyar Panchayath. On June16, 1951, the Government issued an order exempting 30714 acres of land from the Forest Department on the basis of data received from the Forest Department.²⁸

On June 22,1954, the Government ordered that land should not be given to farmers for new food production as per the directions of a special committee appointed by the government on May 12,1952,the government noticed that the forest cover was declining rapidly due to the food production and ordered that the reserve forests should not be leased out.²⁹

²⁶ Ibid, p. 109

²⁵ Idem

²⁷ Mathew Mannarakam, *Malanadinte Ithihasam*(Mal), op. Cit., p. 400

²⁸ Idem

²⁹ Idem

1940 the Revenue Department oversaw the distribution of long for agriculture. The Forest Department was in control of the forest land and all the trees in the High range. Under the 1950 Act, the Forest Department was restricted to forest. As per the government order dated October 1,1956, 60,000 acres ofland was vested in the farmers.³⁰

³⁰ Idem

CONCLUSION

The project entitled Grow More Food Campaign and Migration in Idukki: Settlements in Devikulam Taliuk. The secondary literature written about Devikulam taluk discussed in this project. The primary and secondary sources are provided valuable informations about grow more food campaign and various settlement site in idukki.

The first chapter deals with the General study of idukki. It involves the georaphical features of idukki. Idukki is kwon for its rich nature and surroundings. In this chapter includes Geography and Terrain, climate, fauna, Animal species, Birds, Biodiversity, Types of forest and Tribals. Many tribal communities are living in idukki like Muthuvans, Uralis, Ulladan, Hill Pulayas and Malapandaram. Different types of forest existed in idukki, especially in mountain forest.

The second chapter deals with the development of migration in idukki. Itincludes the migration of Tamils workers and migration of Malayalees. The various causes of migration on idukki they are British occupation, Tamil migration, Pallivasal project, Government encouragement and colonisatin, Idukki Dam construction.

Construction of Aluva -Munnar Road. And this chapter involves challenges of migrantfarmers and role of church in migration.

The Third chapter is the Grow more food campaign and various settlement site in idukki. Grow more food Scheme how helped to the growth of food crops cultivation . Paddy, Horse gram, yam, Maize , colocesia and Millet are the main cultivationin this period. The food crops cultivation created to the settled life.

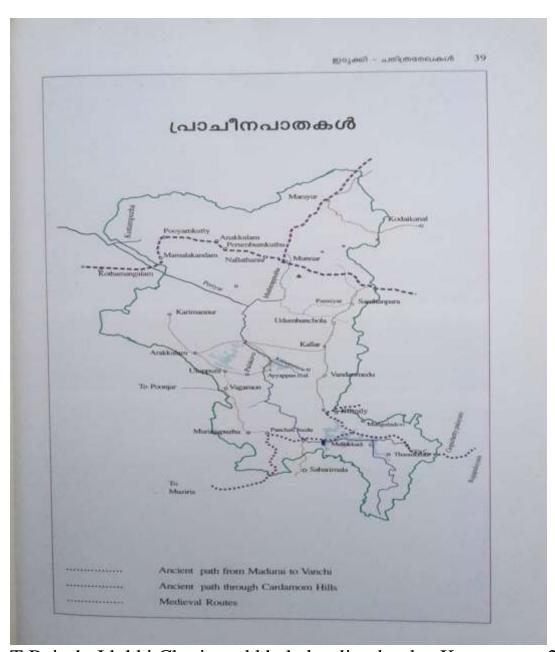
The grow more food scheme and High range colonisation schemes are the origin

of various settlement site in idukki. Especially in Peerumede and Devikukam taluks. The main aim of grow more food scheme was the food sufficiency of the state.

The paddy was the major cultivation and this scheme helped to the growth of foodcrops cultivation.

This result was social economic development of Devikulam taluk.

Appendix -1 Map on Idukki District



T Rajesh, Idukki Charitrarekkhakal, e-lion books, Kattappana, 2008

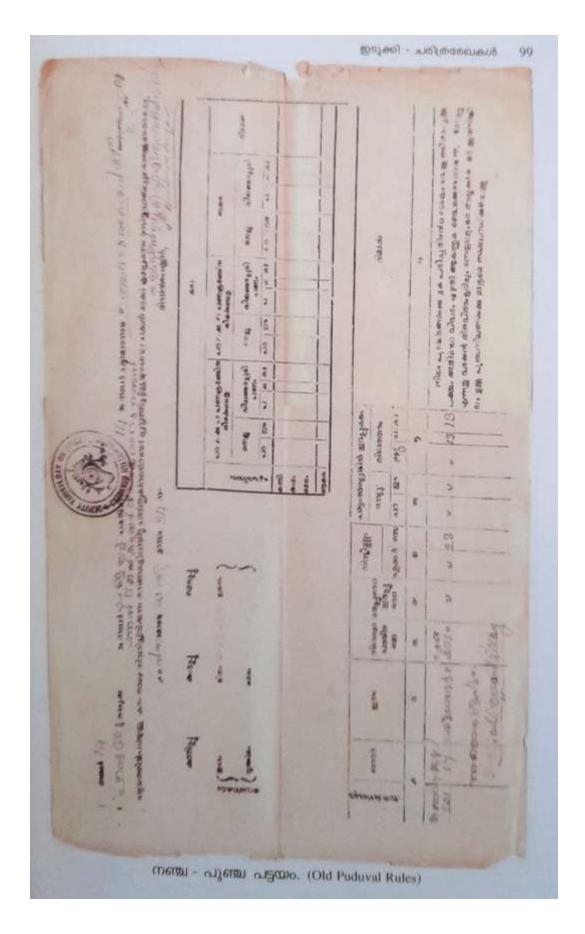
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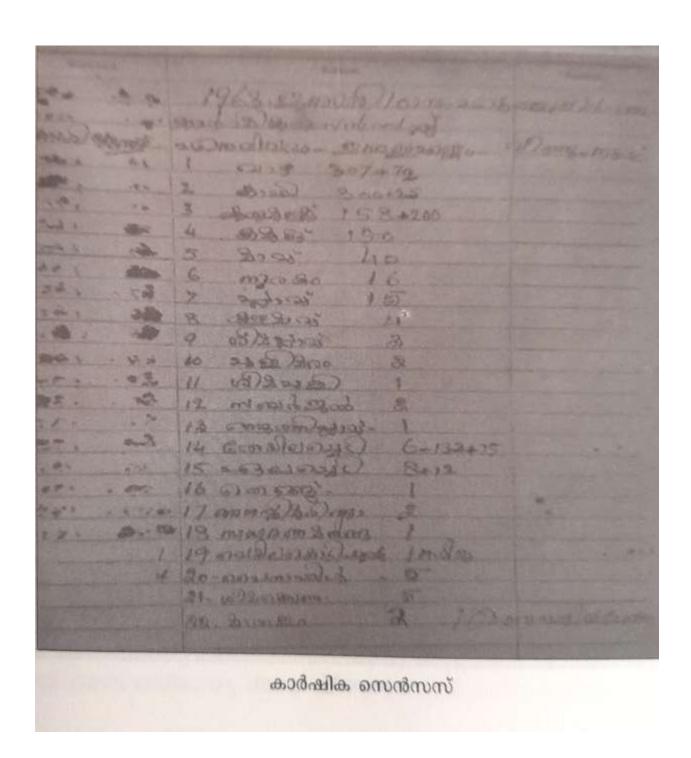


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Sajeev D, Local History of Pattom Colony, Thiruvanathapuram, 2017





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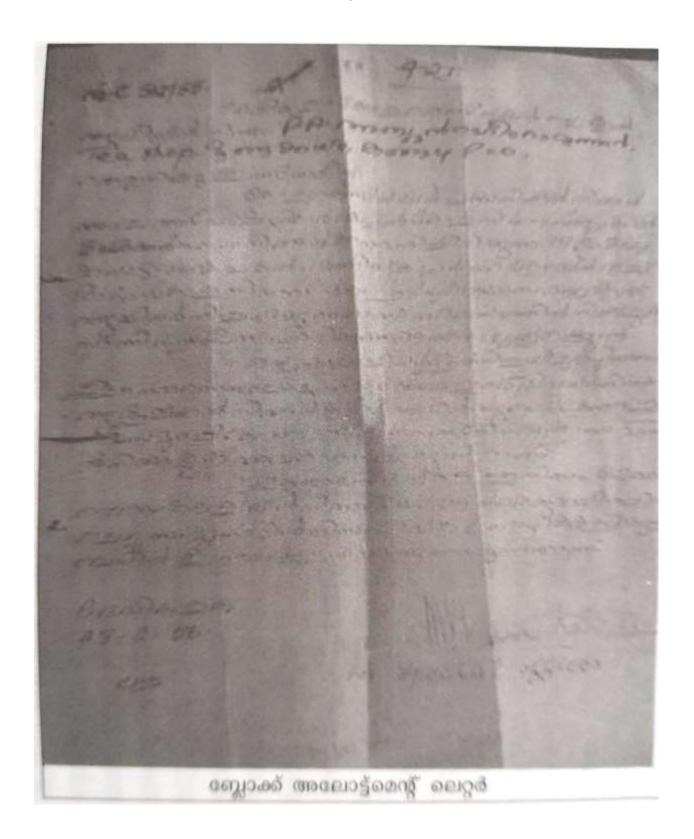
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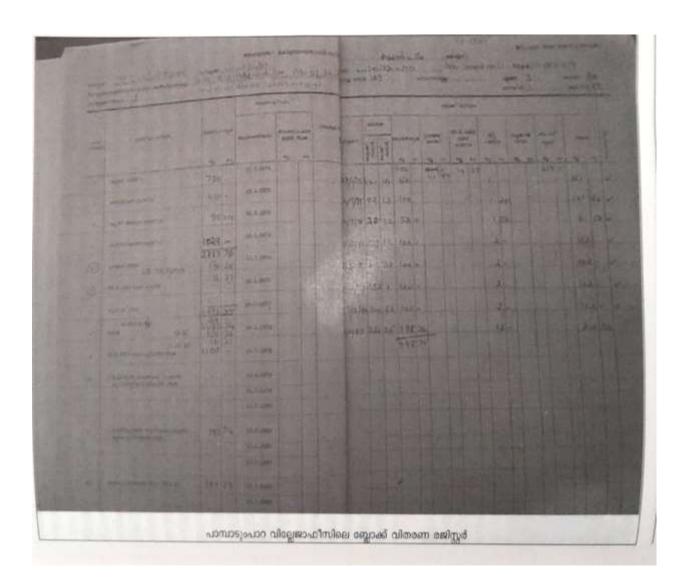
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GLOSSARY

➤ Chantor - exploited category

➤ Kani - single clan with a headman of Urali.

Kudi - settlement of Pulayas

> Muppan - Headman of Tribe.

 Muthuku - Muthuvan tribes her their children and belongings on their backs.

➤ Pari Vetta - PariVetta is said to be for the participation of everyone in the village who brought the hunting animals.

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