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Foreword : A Note from the Publisher

Telangana agitation took its pride in its history and heritage - this journal trying to sustain the spirituality bringing out authentic articles from well versed scholars during past issues of the journal readers are expected to have read quite a range of academic essays spanning through prehistoric, ancient, medieval and modern periods of Deccan history in general and Telangana heritage in particular.

All the issues of this journal are meticulously being planned to offer its relevance to the contents of the months in which they are coming out similarly in the current issue too cultural events like Bathukamma and Christmas and historical events like the martyrdom of the Gound hero Kumaram Bheem are scrupulously presented, giving due preferences to other themes of the Journal.

Hyderabad,
29.06.2019

-Vedakumar Manikonda
Publisher
TRC Journal of Telangana Studies

EDITORIAL

The bi-lingual TRC Telangana Studies is a quarterly Journal and the present issue covers subjects relating to history and culture. The Editorial Board encourages well-researched articles of new facts, findings and interpretative analysis supported by authentic sources. In accordance with the objectives of the journal, articles with interdisciplinary approach are invited. This volume contains five articles, which deal with diverse themes. Christoph von FurerHaimendorf has written an excellent article entitled “Aboriginal Rebellions in the Deccan” which was published in *Man in India*, Vol. XXV, 1945 (Ranchi). Since the article reviewed the tribal rebellions in the erstwhile Hyderabad State including the rebellion of the legendary KumramBheem and still stands intact on the subject the original article has been reproduced in this issue. To generate more enthusiasm among the scholars we refer more details on the subject in the work entitled, Tribal Hyderabad by Haimendorf. V. Rama Krishna Reddy’s article deals with environmental history. Forests and their products formed a vital environmental component of Warangal Suba of the former Hyderabad State. The extent, or the amount of rainfall, is, in turn, primarily influenced, or determined by the extent of greenery that is provided by the forests.

This is well attested by the fact that the three Warangal Suba Districts of Adilabad, Warangal and Karimnagar, which, respectively, occupied the first three places among all the 16 districts in the former Hyderabad State, in respect of the percentage of forest area to total area. Besides being the generating source for the occurrence of monsoons, and the tempering of climate, forests to yield several high-utility products, such as timber, fuel, bamboo, grass, fruits, bark, leaves, etc., which proved as good sources of income to the Forest Department. D. Satyanarayana explained the significance of the festival of flowers called *Bathukamma*. It is the most popularly celebrated festival of Telangana.

Thus it forms the most important intangible heritage of Telangana since it had been preserved only by oral / folk traditions until 18th century when one Kanchanapalli Narasimharaju, native of Mogilicherla of Warangal district, had written the mystic origins and beauty of the floral deity *Bathukamma*. Madhu’s article focuses on the architectural heritage of Bidar and Kalyani and

stresses upon the need to conserve the heritage of Bidar and also save the sites which throw lights on the Pre-Islamic period. In this article the author has tried to connect Bidar and Basavakalyan (originally Kalyan), instead of the usual triangle of Bidar, Bijapur and Gulberga. A link with Kalyan, the capital city of the Western Chalukyan rulers, is much older compared to the Bahmani triangle of historic cities, hence efforts must be made to revive this link. She believes that such a projects will invite more students and scholars to do research work on the historic cities of India. Rekha Pande's paper explains the importance of the first school for girls that was established for women in the beginning of 20th century in the Hyderabad state. In order to reconstruct a history of this first school and the state of women's education, this paper uses the memoirs of Miss Florence Marya Wyld, found in the British Library, India office Records and Private papers. Subash has examined the historical value of the Diary Ananda Ranga Pillai. In this paper he reconstructed the history of 18th century Deccan, with special reference to the Relations between Hyderabad Nizam and French Pondicherry.

Hyderabad,
27.06.2019

-Adapa Satyanarayana
Editor,
TRC Journal of Telangana Studies

FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR EXPLOITATION IN THE FORMER HYDERABAD STATE (WARANGAL SUBA) DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 20th CENTURY

- V. Ramakrishna Reddy

Forests and their products do form an essential and vital environmental component of a region, and more so, in Warangal Suba¹ of the former Hyderabad State², in which agriculture formed the prominent occupation of the people³. As dry holdings formed more than 80% of the total cultivated area⁴, agriculture in the area remained primarily dependant on monsoons and their attendant fluctuations⁵. The extent, or the amount of rainfall, is, in turn, primarily influenced, or determined by the extent of greenery that is provided by the forests. This is well attested by the fact that the three Warangal Suba Districts of Adilabad, Warangal and Karimnagar, which, respectively, occupied the first three places among all the 16 districts in the former Hyderabad State, in respect of the percentage of forest area to total area,⁶ also enjoyed high averages of normal and good rainfall than those of Telangana, Marathwada and also the State, with Adilabad district, once again, occupying the first position in the entire State⁷. Besides being the generating source for the occurrence of monsoons, and the tempering of climate, forests to yield several high-utility products, such as timber, fuel, bamboo, grass, fruits, bark, leaves, etc., which proved as good sources of income to the Forest Department⁸.

DISTRIBUTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF FORESTS

It would be useful and relevant for the study, to know about the distribution and administration of forests in H.E.H. the Nizam's dominions. The distribution of forests, as it existed in 1914-15, could be gleaned from Table.1 that is furnished as hereunder.

Compiled from: Revenue Administration Report, 1324 Fasli (1914-15), P. 128

In the protected forests, trees were under the control of the Forest Department; but in the open forests, only sixteen species¹⁰ were reserved for protection¹¹. The entire forests in the State were divided into Eastern and Western circles, each consisting of seven divisions. The divisions of Warangal, Khammammet, and Karimnagar formed part of Eastern Circle, while those of Asifabad and Nirmal, formed part of Western Circle¹². Each Division was under an Assistant Conservator, and the Forest Department was headed by

the Conservator who was empowered to exercise full control over protected forests, and ‘reserved’ species of trees in open forests.

Table No. I : Distribution of Forests in 1324 Fasli (1914-15)

Name of the District/ Region	Total Area	Forest Area			Percent age of forest area to total area	Remarks
		Protected	Open	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total Marathwada	Sq.Miles 41,378	Sq.Miles 617.50	Sq.Miles 801.19	Sq.Miles 1,418.69	3.42	Note: In this Table, figures of total area as well as forest area of Telangana and the State do not include those pertaining to the Sarf-I-Khas district of Atraf-I-Balda, as the same are not available. ⁹
Warangal District	7,943	2,124.38	926.00	3,050.38	38.40	
Adilabad District	7,294	1,831.50	982.66	2,814.16	38.58	
Karimnagar District	5,733	1,038.68	280.55	1,319.24	23.01	
Total Telangana	38,709	6,573.23	2,770.49	9,343.72	24.13	
Grand Total for the State	80,087	7,190.73	3,571.68	10,762.41	13.43	

Compile from: Revenue Administration Report, 1324 Fasli (1914-15), P.128

Taken as a whole, the open forests formed less than half of the area covered by protective forests, and thus, the opportunities for free and unrestricted exploitation of forest products by the ryots, had been very much curtailed. The forest demarcation line was in many places, adjoining cultivated land. As a result, the farmer had to secure his fuel and timber at non-competitive rates from the contractors who bought blocks marked out by the Forest Department¹³. The economic life of the peasantry was affected, as they could not secure their requirements of forest products cheaply and easily¹⁴.

PERCENTAGE OF FOREST AREA TO TOTAL AREA

As could be seen from Table No. 1, the Suba Districts of Adilabad, Warangal and Karimnagar occupied the first three places respectively in the State¹⁵. Their percentages, especially those of the two former Districts, were far higher than those of the State, the Marathwada¹⁶ and Telangana¹⁷ regions.

The distribution of forests in the State was uneven. The forests were not equally distributed in all parts; whereas the two Districts of Osmanabad and Bhir had no forests at all, the forests in Karimnagar (Elgandal), Warangal and

Adilabad (Sirpur – Tandur) occupied half the area of the State lands. Again, the Maratha Districts were far less wooded than the Telangana region¹⁸. To make this difference further clear, it could be observed that, the Eastern half of the State comprising Telangana Districts has 29.1% of forest land, as against the Western half consisting of Marathwada and Karnataka remained poor in forest land, with hardly 3.4%¹⁹.

FOREST PRODUCTS AND THEIR DIVERSIFIED USE

Forests, yielding good timber, were confined to the Eastern parts of Adilabad, Karimnagar and Warangal Districts along the river Godavari. The notable varieties that could be gathered in them were teak, ebony, shisham, satin-wood, sandal-wood, *bhandara*, *tirman*, *eppa*, *chinnangi*, *kodsha*, *bijasal mokab*, *somi*, *nallamaddi*, *sandra*, *bamboo* and *jettige*.²⁰ With the exemption of a few *coupes*²¹ that were worked departmentally for the supply of agricultural requirements to the local ryots and timber to the saw mills, forest produce was generally sold to be exploited by the contractors, whenever demand existed, and labour was available. Teak was the principal marketable species, which found its way to the chief and distant markets of consumption, such as Hyderabad and Secunderabad. The other species, such as *nallamaddi*, *sandra*, *bijasal* etc., were locally consumed, and were not exported to the above mentioned markets, either because of heavy railway freights or for want of popularity²²

Further, sleepers for State Railways, soft-weed species for use in the Match Factory that was started at Mahboobabad in the 1928, and beedi leaves for the widespread cottage industry, were all supplied from the Eastern forests. Pit props for the Singareni Coal Mines at Bellampalli, Mandamarri and Ramakrishnapur in Adilabad District, and Ramagundam in Karimnagar District, had been largely met from the forests of Adilabad²³. The Singareni Collieries Company Limited at Kothagudem needs about 24,000 pit props for its mines there. All these were obtained from the local forests. Some of the forest *coupes* within a radius of about 32 kilometres from Kothagudem were taken by the Singareni Collieries Company Limited at the rates fixed by the Government²⁴.

FOREST PRODUCTS AND THE EXTENT OF THEIR INCOME

The sources of income from the forests had been different and diverse. An idea could be had of them, and the extent of their contribution, from *Table No. II*, for the period 1922-36 of which period only, item-wise District

figures²⁵ are available. Timber and fuel formed the major source of revenue, and it generally amounted to 50% of the total revenue of the Department. There was big increase amounting to nearly 100% in this item during the period 1922-26 in the case of Warangal and Karimnagar Districts, as against decrease in the case of Adilabad. This pointed to the better utilisation of the resources in the case of former two Districts in view of the better means of transport they had, and, on the other hand, poor facilities in this respect in the latter District had its adverse impact, even though it had equally good timber and fuel resources. Contrastingly, there was a slide down from 1926 to 1936 in respect of Warangal and Karimnagar Districts, but increase in respect of Adilabad District. The pre and post-Depression period had its diminishing effects in respect of the former two, and the low wages and easy availability of labour in the latter District has resulted in increasing exploitation of the material by timber contractors. But, more important from the view point of augmenting the revenue from this item, had been the effective prevention of smuggling of teak²⁶ into British territory, and providing easy and better means of transport to the timber areas. Only little progress was recorded in this direction, especially in the latter aspect.

*Table No. II : Value of the Outturn of forest Products,
Revenue and expenditure of forest Department, 1331-1345 fasli (1922-36)*

Sl NO	WARANGAL DISTRICT										KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT					
	Value of the Out-turn of Products in O.S. Rs.										Value of the Outturn of Products in O.S. Rs.					
	Fasli/Year	Timber & Fuel	Bamboo	Grass & Grazing	Fruits	Bark and leaves	Other minor products	Miscellaneous receipts including revenue collected by Revenue Department	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure	Timber and fuel	Bamboo	Grass and Grazing	Fruits	Bark and leaves	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	1331F/1922	81,713	5,858	46,057	177	3,048	288	21,365	1,52,506	1,11,306	24,902	275	36,798	10	1,072	
2	1335F/1926	1,65,936	26,065	1,50,908	1,078	9,513	377	20,492	3,74,369	96,829	93,356	1,216	1,36,013	258	5,064	
3	1340F/1931	1,63,392	9,533	..	..	31,217	1,445	12,837	2,18,424**	1,06,649	80,087	568	90,000	..	7,116	
4	1345F/1936	1,41,094	9,529	66,221	..	35,110	1,623	14,676	2,68,253	1,26,000	63,974	2,214	38,388	..	7,906	

KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT				ADILABAD DISTRICT								
Other minor products	Miscellaneous receipts including revenue collected by Revenue Department	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure	Timber & Fuel	Bamboo	Grass & Grazing	Fruits	Bark and leaves	Other minor products	Miscellaneous receipts including revenue collected by Revenue Department	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
352	4,698	68,015	44,156	75,996	5,474	31,604	796	3,943	8,783	3,708	1,30,304	1,33,267
180	12,960	2,51,097	52,188	52,569	12,561	1,17,112	1,145	4,726	1,729	52,545	2,42,387	1,34,123
2,519	5,454	1,85,744	44,755	1,26,529	11,195	..	..	27,536	4,193	43,919	3,49,232	1,11,207
1,442	16,504	1,30,428	49,829	1,14,525	18,632	1,33,586	..	24,530	2,160	39,198	3,27,631	1,53,107

O.S. (Osmania Sicca) means the currency that was in vogue during the time of MIR OSMAN ALI KHAN, the VII Nizam.

** In the Statement, it is given as Rs. 33,38,636/- which does not tally with the total of columns. 3 to 9.

Compiled from :- Hyderabad District Gazetteers, Tables Volume, 1340 & 1345 Fasli (1931 & 1936 A.D.), Warangal, PP. 94-95, Karimnagar, PP.94-95 & Adilabad, PP 94-95.

Next to timber and fuel, grass and grazing charges formed a significant source of income from the forests. The types of grass found in the area, in common parlance, were *Eddigaddi*²⁷, *Pillipesaragaddi*, *Gerichagaddi*, *Kachigaddi*, *Semalagaddi*, *Yadagaddi*, *Chipurugaddi*, *Molvagaddi*, *Koprigaddi*, *Yelaka Chevulagaddi*, *Takkelaagaddi* and *Kolinigaddi*²⁸. Grazing in the 'reserved' and 'protected' forests was regulated by the Forest Department, and the fees was collected either Departmentally or through contract agency. Grazing rights in the 'open' forests were auctioned annually by the Revenue Department²⁹. Thus, the cultivator was made to pay grazing tax³⁰ both to Forest and Revenue Departments. But, in practice, it was found that the Forest Department paid particular attention only to timber producing areas and neglected grazing grounds and grass lands, which were generally left to themselves³¹. The Government *bancherai* or public grazing land was situated in many villages at a distance, and there was no controlling authority to enforce steps for ensuring proper growth of grass by preventing indiscriminate grazing. As a result, it served no useful purpose³². Further, at many places, the area fixed for *bancherai*, being 10% of the total land of the village, was not given in full. In some villages of Warangal District, it was only 4 to 14%; it was 10 to 13% in Karimnagar, and in Adilabad no figure could be given as the Settlement³³ was not over³⁴. The growing of grass and fodder crops in the cultivators' own lands, which was in vogue already both in Telangana and Marathwada offered the only hope for making good the shortage of common grazing grounds³⁵.

Income from fruit trees was not much, they being very much grown in private gardens. Bamboo, which was available in huge quantities, especially in Adilabad District,³⁶ had become the basic raw material for the Paper Industry at Sirpur which started production in March, 1942, and had gradually become the largest Paper Mill in the whole of the Southern zone³⁷. Another

good revenue yielding produce was *gulmohwa*, which was collected in the forest areas by the Excise Department in large quantities for making country liquor³⁸. For the year 1323 Fasli (1913-14 A.D.) the revenue demand for *gulmohwa* from the Districts of Warangal, Karimnagar and Adilabad was Rs. 15,720/-, Rs. 52,867/-, and Rs. 2,76,163/- respectively³⁹. The tribesmen such as Gonds, Koyas, and Lambadas, residing in the neighbourhood of the forest regions of Godavari, used the flowers of the *mohwa* (*Bassia Latifolia*), both as a part of their staple food as well as drank liquor prepared out of them⁴⁰. They resented its auction by the Government as the contractors demanded payments from them even though they were entitled to free use of the flowers for their domestic consumption⁴¹. Lac, a forest product of much economic importance, was collected in the forests of Nirmal, Hanamkonda and Karimnagar, and the quantity gathered in Nirmal alone in 1328 Fasli (1918-1919 A.D.) fetched a profit of Rs. 5,500/- to the Government⁴².

FOREST EXPENDITURE : NATURE AND PROPORTION TO REVENUE

If stray cases, as found in 1922 and *Table No. II* above, are ignored, forest expenditure usually formed not more than 50% of forest revenue. On examination of the figures that are available for the period 1913 to 1945,⁴³ it appears that, whereas the increase in forest Revenue during this 32 year period ranged from 3 to 20 times,⁴⁴ that in forest expenditure ranged only from 2 to 6 times,⁴⁵ in the five Forest Divisions of Warangal *Suba*. Revenue surplus had, thus, accrued from year to year. On the other hand, there was need for increasing funds to be spent on schemes of re-afforestation, prevention of soil erosion, and promotion of the means of transport⁴⁶. Forests yielding good timber had been so drastically overexploited that unless immediate steps are taken to re-stock them with valuable hard-woods and industrial soft-woods, the future supply of timber from them would suffer great shortages⁴⁷. The hilly and riverine areas of Mulug, Khammam, Madhira, Yellendu, Paloncha, Mahadeopur, Chinnur, Utnur and Nirmal were prone to the danger of erosion whenever heavy rains occurred, due to the slopy and undulating topography of the land. Remedial measures like regulated forestry, controlled grazing, revegetation, etc., needed the attention of the Forest Department⁴⁸.

In fact, above all, poor communications that existed in the Eastern area of the State which was capable of yielding good timber, had very much

hindered the exploitation of forest resources in this area. As a matter of fact, except teak, other varieties such as *Satin*, *Nalla Tumma*, *Bandaru*, *Chiriman*, *Jitigi*, *Yegi*, *Neredu*, *Eppa*, *Chinangi*, *Vepa*, *Somi* and *Maddi*, which were equally good to serve as beams, rafters, poles, door-frames and seatlings⁴⁹, had not been very much exploited, mainly due to the transport and marketing bottlenecks.

The wide, varied and beneficial impact of forests as an vital environmental ingredient has been amply clear. Agriculture depending on monsoons, and monsoons setting depending, in turn, on the forest greenery and its salubrious climate; most of the industries in the *Suba* depending on agricultural products like sugarcane, groundnut, cotton, paddy, sesamum etc., or forest products like bamboo, tendu or beedi leaves, lac, etc; trade also mostly depending on these agricultural products and the resultant industrial products, all testify to the all-round and all-embracing impact of forests. Further, big irrigation tanks like Pakhal, Ramappa, Lakhnaram, Ghanpur, Sanigaram, Nizamsagar, also had their source or base in the hilly and forest areas. Even rivers like Godavari, Krishna, Palair, Manair, etc, also for most part of their course, run through the forest and hilly tracts. But, during the period under review, neither the farmers received much benefit from the abundant and rich Eastern forests as greater part of them was made protected or reserved, nor the resources were adequately exploited due to lack of proper transport and marketing facilities. But, all the same, the need for the protection, preservation and development of forests, as an essential environmental factor, has been established beyond any doubt.

FOOT NOTE REFERENCES

1. **SUBA** refers to a Revenue Division or Administrative Unit, headed by a *Subedar* or Commissioner. Warangal *Suba*, during the last Nizam's period of 1911-1948, consisted of the three Eastern Telugu – speaking Districts of Warangal, Karimnagar and Adilabad.
2. It refers to the Nizam's State under the sixth and last AsafJahi ruler, Mir Osman Ali Khan, whose reign period has been indicated in foot note No. 1.
3. *Census of India, 1911, Hyderabad State, Part- I*, P. 157
4. *Decennial Report on Administration, 1912-22.*, P.85.
5. See the Section 'M.Crop conditions' in Chapter V of V. Ramakrishna Reddy, *Economic History of Hyderabad State (Warangal Suba, 1911-1950)*, Gian Publishing House, Delhi, 1987.
6. *Revenue Administration Report, 1324 Fasli (1914-15)*, P. 128.

7. See Table - V. 'Normal, good and bad Rainfall' in Chapter II of Economic History of Hyderabad State, *op.cit.*, P.33
8. See Table III. 'Value of the outturn of Forest products, Revenue and Expenditure of Forest Department – 1331 -1345 Fasli (1922 – 36)¹' in Chapter II of Economic History of Hyderabad State, *op.cit.*, PP 26a – 26c.
9. It is for this reason that the total area of the State in the Table appears less than the usual figure of 82,698 Sq. miles, whereas the percentage of forest area to total area is more than the accepted figure of 11.7, as stated above.
10. Sandal, teak, *shisham*, ebony, satin-wood, *eppa*, *nallamaddi*, *bijasal*, *batta*, *gunam*, *somi*, *dhaura*, or *tirmani*, *Kodsha*, *sandra*, *bhandara*, *mokab* and *Chinnangi*.
11. *The Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Services, Hyderabad State*, 1909, p.36.
12. *Statistical Abstract of H.E.H. the Nizam's Dominions from 1321 Fasli to 1330 Fasli (1912-21)*, (Government Central Press, Hyderabad - Dn. 1925), PP. 96-97.
13. S. Kesava Iyengar, *Economic Investigations in the Hyderabad State, 1929-30*, Vol.III, Warangal District (Government Central Press, Hyderabad – Dn: 1932), P.7.
14. Extract from a broadcast talk by Shri Daulat Rai, Chief Conservator of Forests, from A.I.R., Hyderabad Station, on July 3, 1950 – in S. Kesava Iyengar, *Rural Economic Enquiries in Hyderabad State, 1949-51*, (Government Press, Hyderabad – Dn: 1951), P. 137.
15. The calculation of these percentages differed from one source to another. For example, regarding Adilabad, whereas the Revenue Administration Report for 1914 – 15 gives it as 38.58, Warangal *Subedari* (hereinafter referred to as W.S.) *File No. 36/.86 of 1343 Fasli (1934)* states the same as 46%. This might be due to the differing criterion that was adopted in computing the forest area.
16. Refers to the area comprising four Marathi – speaking and four Kannada – speaking Districts.
17. Refers to eight (8) Telugu – speaking Districts which included the three Districts of Warangal *Suba*.
18. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Hyderabad State*, *op.cit.*, p.38.
19. B.K.Narayan, *Agricultural Development in Hyderabad State, 1900-1956*, (Secunderabad, 1960), p.8.
20. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Hyderabad State*, *op.cit.*, PP. 166 &167.
21. Forest areas demarcated for Departmental exploitation.
22. *The Economic Life of Hyderabad* (Government Central Press: Hyderabad – Dn, 1937), P.9.
23. M.V. Rajagopal, *Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers, Adilabad* (Government Central Press, Hyderabad – Dn : 1976), P.67.
24. *Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers, Khammam*, (Government Central Press, Hyderabad – Dn : 1977), PP – 15 – 16.
25. Annual figures of just Revenue and Expenditure, forest division – wise are available from *Statistical Year Books and Statistical Abstract for the period 1322 Fasli to 1350 Fasli (1913 – 1941 A.D.)*, but they only indicate fluctuations in net income and expenditure.

26. *The Deccan Chronicle*, 4-3-1949.
27. *Gaddi* means grass in Telugu language.
28. Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers, *op.cit.*, Warangal (P.12), Karimnagar (P.18-19) & Khammam (P.13).
29. The Imperial Gazetteer of India, Hyderabad State, *op.cit.*, P.37.
30. It also used to be known as *bancherai* (Public grazing land) cess.
31. M.M.Ali. Baig, "Cattle Improvement in Hyderabad" in *The Hyderabad Forest Magazine* (Quarterly) No. II, (July, 1942), No. 1, P.5.
32. *Immediate Agrarian Problems, Hyderabad State*, (Hyderabad – dn: Agriculturists' Association, 1949), P.12.
33. The process by which survey measurement and fixation of category and assessment of land is made by the Settlement Department.
34. W.S.File No. 103 of 1338 Fasli (1929 A.D) #Record No. 3100 of 1339 Fasli (1930 A.D.)
35. Revenue Administration Report, *Op.cit.*, P.189.
36. It was spread within a radius of 1,012 miles to Sirpur Paper factory and spread over an area of 36,000 acres, with an average of 4.5 tons per acre – *Golkonda Patrika* (Bi-weekly), 23-2-1939.
37. L.S.Habib Ahmed: *An Economic Survey of the Sirpur Paper Mills Limited*, unpublished M.A. (Economics) dissertation, (Osmania University, 1960), P.19.
38. The Economic Life of Hyderabad, *Op.cit.*, P. 11.
39. Revenue Administration Report, *op.cit.*, P.213.
40. Syed Khaja Abdul Gafoor, *Tribes and Tribal Welfare in Hyderabad*, (Government Press, Hyderabad-Dn; 1953), P.16.
41. Christoph-Von-Furer-Haimendorf, *Tribal Hyderabad*, (Hyderabad: 1945), P.105.
42. *Administrative Report for 1328 Fasli (6-10-1918 to 6-10-1919)*, (Hyderabad – Dn : 1920), P.6.
43. *Statistical Abstract, 1912-21 A.D. to 1922-31 A.D. & Statistical Year Books, 1935-1945 A.D.*
44. 20 times increase in Asifabad Division of Adilabad District.
45. 6 times increase in expenditure in Nirmal Division of Adilabad District.
46. R.V.Rao, *A Review of Hyderabad Finance (Hyderabad : 1951)*, P.134.
47. Rural Reconstruction Department Serial No.27, File No.261/50 Misc. of 1950 A.D.
48. Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers, *op.cit.*, Warangal, P.72; Khammam, P.54, Karimnagar, P.84 & Adilabad, p.55.
49. Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers, Warangal, *Ibid.*, P.87.



ఫణిగిరి బౌద్ధ ఆరామ శిథిలాలు

- భావజామహమ్మద్ అహమద్

హైదరాబాదు సంస్థానం పూర్వ ఆంధ్రసామ్రాజ్య శిథిలాలకు పట్టుకొమ్మ, పూర్వ ఆంధ్రసాహిత్య, శిల్ప, లలితకళాది సంపదలు అస్తి స్వరూపములో, ఈదేశపు గడ్డను శిథిలాలలో దొరుకుతాయి. ఫణిగిరి అట్టి పూర్వ శిథిలాలలో ప్రసిద్ధమయినది.

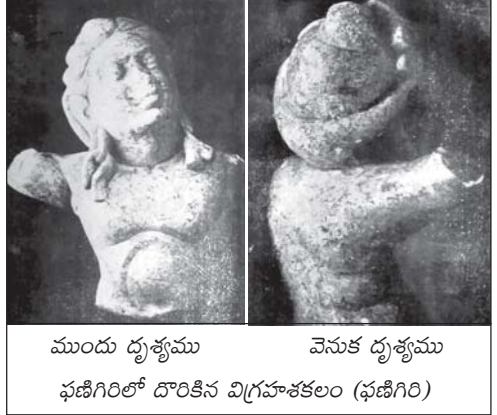
నల్లగొండ జిల్లాలో, గత పది ఏండ్లలో నేనొనర్చిన పురావస్తు పరిశోధనలకు ఆలవాలమైన పురాతన క్షేత్రాలలో ఫణిగిరి శిథిలారామము, బహుముఖమైనది. ఈ విహారము ఒక చక్కని కొండగుట్టమీద నిర్మితమై ఉన్నది. ఈ గుట్టలో క్రీ.పూ. 1వ శతాబ్దమునుండి, శతాబ్దాలతరబడి కాలగర్భమున లీనమైపోయిన భారత సంస్కృతి, పురావస్తు రూపమున అంతర్గృహితమై శిథిలస్థితిలో నిలిచి యున్నది. పరిశోధకులకు ప్రాచీన భారత సంస్కృతిని బహిరపరచుటకు అనంతమైన సంపద ఈ ఆరామ శిథిలాలలో లభించగలదు.

ఫణిగిరి పోవలెనన్న 'జనగాం' రైల్వే స్టేషనులో దిగి సూర్యాపేట రోడ్డుమీదుగా 30 మైళ్లు పోవలెను. శాస్త్రీయ పరిశోధనల వలన ఫణిగిరి శిథిలాలు, బౌద్ధయుగము నాటివని బయల్పడినవి.

ఇక్కడ దాదాపు ముప్పది స్తూపముల శిథిలములు బయలుపడినవి. ఇవన్నీ గుండ్రని కట్టడములు. ఎక్కువగా రాతితో కట్టినవే. అడుగున ఎత్తుగా రాతితో నలుచదరపు వీకము కట్టినట్లుండి పైన స్తూపములు కట్టబడి యున్నవి. ఈ చదరపు ఫలకములపై మరేమైన కట్టడము కూడ యుండెడిదో లేదో, ఇదంతయు ఎప్పుడైన గిలాబా చేయబడి యుండెడిదో లేదో ఊహించుట కష్టము. ఈ స్తూపములలో చాలా భాగము, ముఖ్య ఆరామమునకు పశ్చిమ భాగముననే కొండవాలవ, వివిధ అంతస్తులుగా నిర్మింపబడి యున్నది.

ఆరామ మధ్యమున, నలుచదరపు వ్యూహముగా, ఇటుక కట్టడముల పునాదులున్నవి. ఈ పునాదులలో కూడ గదులు గదులుగా కట్టబడ్డ నిర్మాణముల శిథిలములో ఎక్కువ బయలుపడు చున్నవి. ఈ గదులు విడివిడి బౌద్ధ సన్యాసుల నివాస గృహములో (Cells) లేక మరే ఇతర ప్రయోజనార్థమై కట్టబడినవో సరిగా ఊహించుట కష్టము.

ఈ చైతన్యము కొండపైన కట్టబడినదగుటచేత కాబోలు, కట్టడాలు వానకు, వరదకు కొట్టుకొని పోకుండను, నీరు ఇనికి కూలిపోకుండను, నిర్మాతలు చాలా జాగ్రత్త వహించినట్లు కనబడుచున్నది. దాక్షిణాత్య శిల్పములో తదితర స్థానములందు కనరాని, పెట్టె కట్టుడు విధానములో (Boxed buttresses) మందరము



ముందు దృశ్యము

వెనుక దృశ్యము

ఫణిగిరిలో దొరికిన విగ్రహశకలం (ఫణిగిరి)

గోడలకు ఈ రక్షణను అవలంబించినారు.

ఈ శిథిలాలలో దొరికిన వాసపు పెంకుల వంటివి, పూర్వ ఆంధ్రశిథిలాలలో మాత్రమే లభించిన వాటివంటివగుటచేత, ఈ చైత్యములోని ఇండ్ల కప్పులకు కూడ కొన్నిటికి పెంకులే వాడి ఉండిరేమో అని ఊహించవచ్చును. దీనినిబట్టి ఈ చైత్యగృహముల ఉపరి భాగములు గట్టి వస్తువులతో కాక, త్వరితముగా శిథిలమైపోవు వస్తువులతోనే నిర్మించినట్లు భావించ నొస్తదము కలుగుచున్నది. కట్టడములకు వాడిన ఇటుకలు రెండడుగుల పొడవు, అడుగు వెడల్పు, 3. 1/2 అంగుళముల మందముగా కలిగి ఉన్నవి. ఫణిగిరి కట్టడములలో వాడిన ఇటుకల నిర్మాణము, కొండాపురం కట్టడములోని ఇటుకల నిర్మాణ విధానములోనే జరిగినది. మట్టితో ఎండుగడ్డి, ఊక మొదలైనవి కలిపియే ఈ ఇటుకలను తయారు చేసినట్లున్నది. ఈ ఇటుకలలో, గడ్డి, ఊక మొదలైనవి కాలినప్పటి గతుకులు చెక్కు చెదరకుండు అట్లే కన్పించుచున్నవి.

ఇక్కడ దొరికిన వానిలో తెల్ల సున్నపురాతి చెక్కడములు కొన్ని బహు అందమైనవి దొరికినవి. బౌద్ధుల మత విగ్రహములు తదితర లాంఛన శిల్పములుగల చెక్కడములు, తరువాయి కాలములలో ఈ ఆరామములను నాశన మొనర్చినప్పుడు, ముక్కలు ముక్కలుగా విరగగొట్టబడి, చిందర వందర చేయబడినవి.

ఫణిగిరిలో దొరికినవి శిల్ప సముదాయము బహుస్వల్పము. కాని వానిలో శిల్పకళ అత్యున్నత శిల్ప సాంప్రదాయములను పెలువర్చుచున్నది. శిల్పములలో, జీవశక్తి భావుకత్వము, రూపసౌందర్యము, విస్తృతముగ కొట్టవచ్చినట్లు కనిపించును.

ఈ దొరికిన విగ్రహములలో, ఒక విగ్రహ ఊర్ధ్వభాగము మాత్రము దొరికినది, ఆ విగ్రహములోని కండరముల సొంపు, మొగమున భావశబలత, బహురమణీయముగ భావస్ఫూరకముగ నుండి, చిత్తవృత్తుల నద్దములో ప్రతిబింబించినట్లు మొగము రేఖలలో బింబించు చున్నవి. చెవుల ప్రేలాడుచున్న తాటంకముల బరువుతో చెవి సాగిపోయినట్లు, తాటంకముల బరువును తెలుపుతూ శిల్ప యధార్థముగ శిల్పమును నిర్మించినాడు. తలపై విజయలాంఛనముగ చుట్టబడిన ఆకుకొమ్మ, విగ్రహమునకు గ్రీకు స్వరూపమును కల్పించి, ఆనాటి శిల్పముపై గ్రీకుశిల్ప ప్రభావ మెంతగలదో చాటుచున్నది. దక్షిణ భారత భూమిలోనికి ఈ గ్రీకుశిల్ప ప్రభావము అటు ఉత్తరము నుండియూ, ఇటు తూర్పు పడమర సముద్ర తీరములనుండియూ కూడ చొచ్చుకొని ప్రవేశించినది.



కుబేరుడు

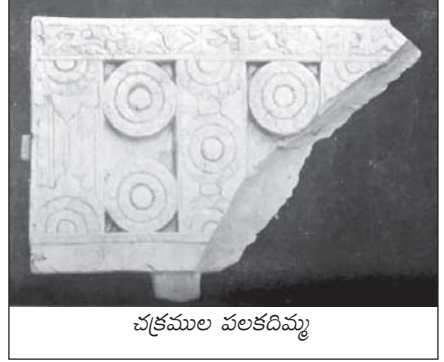
ఇచ్చట దొరికిన వస్తువులలో మరొకటి కుడ్య భాగమైన నిడుపాటి పలకల దిమ్మ దీనిలో దొరికిన భాగము చిన్నదేయైనను, ఈ ముక్కమీదనే, మూడు ప్రక్కలు శిల్పములు చెక్కబడి యున్నవి. ముఖభాగమున, సంపూర్ణముగా రేకులు విచ్చిన పద్మము అందముగా చెక్కబడి యున్నది. ఈ పత్రముల రచన బహు ఆకర్షణీయముగ నున్నది. ఈ పద్మమునకు దిగువ, ఒక వృషభము, మానవుడు, గజము, విగ్రహములు చెక్కబడి యున్నవి. ఈ వృషభ రూపము, మూపురము ఎత్తుగా ఉండుట, సుమేరియన్, పెహెంజొదారో శిల్పాలలోని వృషభాలను జ్ఞప్తికి తెచ్చుచున్నది. అజంతా శిల్పములలోని వృషభ సమరముల చిత్రములను కూడ జ్ఞప్తికి తెచ్చుచున్నది గాని, ఇవట వృషభ స్వభావము సమర ముఖముగాలేదు ఈ వృషభమును ఏనుగు తరుముచున్నది. ఏనుగుకాయము మహాస్థూలముగునూ, ఏనుగు దంతములు దీర్ఘములుగానూ,

రచించబడినవి. ఈ తరుముకొని వచ్చుచున్న ఏనుగును, అల్పకాయుడైనను, మహాధైర్యముతో ఎదుర్చుచు వృషభమునకు గజమును మధ్య నరుడు నిలిచి యున్నాడు, మానవుని రూపములో విజయమందు కొనుచిహ్నాలే గాన్పించుచున్నవి.

పలక ఎడమవైపు ముఖమున, మరల పద్మపత్ర ఖండమే లిఖించబడి యున్నది. దానికి దిగువను, వర్చస్వియైన పురుషుని రూపము చిత్రించబడి యున్నది.

పలక కుడివైపు ముఖమున కూడ రెండవ దానిలోవలెనే యున్నది కాని, ఇచట పద్మము క్రింద పురుషుని బదులు, సింహము చెక్కుబడి యున్నది.

ఈ శిథిలములలో దొరికిన మూడవ చెక్కడము, కుడ్య శిల్పమువలె నున్నది. దీనిలో విగ్రహము వామన రూపుడైన బౌద్ధయ్య రూపమువలె, నేటి కార్టూన్ శిల్పములవలె నున్నది. ఈ విగ్రహమునకు చెక్కిన అలంకరణములు, నిండైన బౌద్ధ, ఇవి కుబేరుని స్వరూపమునకు వ్యంగ్య శిల్పమేమోనని యనిపించుచున్నది. విగ్రహము రూపు రేఖలు దాక్షిణాత్య విధానములోనే ఉన్నవి. ముఖమున భావప్రకటనము, విగ్రహము అంగవిన్యాసము ఉత్తమశిల్ప లక్షణములను ప్రకటించుచున్నవి.



చక్రముల పలకదిమ్మ

ఫణిగిరిలో, దొరికిన నాణెములలో ఆంధ్ర రాజులవి ఆరువది నాల్గు నాణెము లున్నవి. ఇవన్నియు సీసముతో చేయబడిన నాణెములు. క్రీ.శ. 2వ శతాబ్దపు నాణెములు కూడ మఱికొన్ని దొరికినవి. ఈ నాణెములు ఫణిగిరి ఆరామ కాలమును నిరూపించుచు తక్కిన చారిత్రక పరిశోధనలను బలీయమొనర్చుచున్నవి.

ఒకనాడు దక్కన్లో ప్రబలముగా వెలిగిన ఆంధ్ర సామ్రాజ్య పై భవనమును ఈ నాణెములు పేనోళ చాటుచున్నవి. వీటిని బహిరపరచి, పూర్వచరిత్రను పండిత లోకమున కందించుట, మా విధాయక ధర్మము. మనపూర్వ చరిత్ర సమీకరణలో, ఫణిగిరి శిల్ప సంపద అపారముగా నుపయోగించ గలదని ఆశించుచున్నాము.

