

JAFFNA UNDER THE RULE OF DUTCH- A STUDY BASED ON THE DUTCH REPORT-1658.

Mrs.dinoshia Sujindar

Lecturer, department History
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka

dinoshia14@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT: *The history of Sri Lankan Administration was changed with several new aspects in the European period. "Administration is a process of systematically arranging and coordinating". Thus, the administration of a government should be organized and coordinated. It is noted that such administrative system was changed as per the purpose of rule of Portuguese, Dutch and British in accordance with the period of Europeans. Among such Europeans Dutch, ruled from the period 1658 to 1796. Under their administration it was ruled the coastal areas of Ceylon by the three Commanderries namely Colombo, Galle and Jaffna. Among such three Commanderries Jaffna Commandery plays the significant part. The documents belonged to Dutch period help to identify the salient features of Jaffna commandery. The identity of Jaffna Commandery was shown through several reports of Dutch. It can be easily known the political economical religious and social aspects of Jaffna by such reports. So the purpose of this study is to know the importance of Jaffna Commandery from the Dutch Report, published by Rijckloff vanGoens in 1658. This research is carried out based on the primary and secondary data using the historical and descriptive analysis. The research will be useful to reveal the importance of Dutch documents and to expose several aspects which were not exposed before. And it will be supportive to the Jaffna society.*

Key words: Dutch language, reports, Jaffna region, Dutch rule, Administration

1. INTRODUCTION

Sri Lanka under the dominant of Dutch was divided into three major parts by the Dutch in 1658. Such three major parts were called as "Commendaries". Jaffna Commendary, Colombo Commendary and Galle Commendary were formed as the primary Divisions. Among them Jaffna Commendary included the Northern part from Mannar to Vanni areas. Among the regions of Dutch rule, Jaffna was the important one. The places under the Jaffna Commandery were the center for the language, culture, customs and life style of Tamil people. Jaffna Commandery which was under the Dutch rule was divided as Valikamam, Vadamaradchy, Thenmaradchi, Pachchilaippalli, Island and Vanni boundaries. It is revealed that the Dutch tried to respect the feeling of people in Jaffna Commandery as the Dutch compiled the tradition of Jaffna and having interest in revealing the Jaffna history. Dutch gave more priority to the places under Jaffna than the other administrative regions. Several new aspects will also be included with the political economic and social aspects which were already in customs were introduced in Jaffna. Under the administrative activities

of Dutch, political economical social aspects of indigenous people changed rapidly. This research is carried out to find how the Jaffna situation in the period of Dutch was in 1658.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The followings are the questions for this research.

What were the strategies used in 1658 to maintain Dutch rule in Ceylon?

What are the consequences in the administration of Jaffna Commandery and the history of Jaffna region by the administrative activities of Dutch in 1658?

HYPOTHESIS

Jaffna Commandery was selected as the suitable place for the administrative activities of Dutch. The hypothesis of this study focuses on how the background of the economical profit gained from that place.

JUSTIFICATION

Several documents were available in Dutch language in the Dutch rule from 1658 to 1796 in Ceylon. These documents help to know several historical information in connection with Dutch in Ceylon. According to this research topic, various documents obtained by researcher from 1658 to 1680 have been translated from Dutch to English language. From the translated documents it is clear the administrative activities were carried out by the Dutch in Ceylon. Most of the literatures which have been collected until now paid much attention on the political economical social and religious activities carried out by the Dutch. This research is very important to know the administrative aspects of Jaffna Commandery, revealed by the Dutch documents in detail clearly.

OBJECTIVES

The followings are the objectives

To find the favorable reasons for the capture of Jaffna by the Dutch in 1658

To find the political economic and social status of Jaffna revealed by the Dutch Report published in 1658.

To find the importance of report in 1658 in the history of Jaffna region

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is carried out based on the historical research methodology and descriptive methodology and primary data and secondary data are used in this research. Dutch Report published by Rijckloff vanGoens in 1658 is used as the primary data. Reports of Rijckloff vanGoens diaries and memorial are also used. Annual report, administrative reports, other than the reports of Rijckloff vanGoens in related to this topic are used as the primary data. Secondary data has been used in this research. Such as Books and essays written by Professor Arasaratnam, Prof. Pathamanathan, and Prof. Sivasamy are used as the secondary data. Also books and essays on Dutch period written by the historians Tikiri Abayasinghe, CR De Silva, Boxer, and Paul.E. Piers and Parnavithane are also used as the secondary data.

ANALYSIS

Various information can be collected on Jaffna region from the Dutch report, published in 1658 A.D. The collected information can be categorized as political economical social and religious aspects. Accordingly, when considering the administrative matters, following Jaffna was captured by the Dutch in 1658. Jaffna was brought under the administrative structure of Dutch. The main post such as commander and Disawa were presented to Dutch in the Dutch administrative structure. Rijckloff vanGoens in his report 1658 stressed that anyhow they needed to be fluent in Sri Lankan indigenous languages as they belonged to Holland. Moreover it was a chance to reduce the expenses of selected Dutch administrators and to recruit the local officers in their administrative system. Mudaliyar who had experiences and ability in the administrative services was recruited in the administrative system During the colonial era, Mudali (Mudali) or Mudaliyar (Mudaliyar) was a title in Sri Lanka. In the 17th century AD, the Portuguese established the mudaliyar class. From among the many castes in Sri Lanka's coastal regions, those who could be faithful to the Portuguese overlords were chosen for this position. After the Portuguese ruler, the Hollanders who had the rank of Mudali continued it.

It was decided to appoint a leader from such castes compulsorily for the purpose of satisfying the castes such as Madapillai and Akampayar on the basis of priority. Among those who were selected, MamapoelyAndrado was significant one. It is clear that he was loyal to Dutch Company (Vangoens, 1658).

It can be observed Rijckloff vanGoens attempted to make normalcy among the Jaffna communities as per the report. It is clear that Muthaliyar was the much influenced among the Jaffna Commandery administration. Particularly as soon as Dutch captured the JaffnaPattinam Court was formed for the Citizens when the administration organised the matters regarding judicial administration as per the Desavalama. Accordingly the details of Muthali who were appointed during the period of Rijckloff vanGoens as follows

	Name	Division of the Post
1.	Rasakariya Muthaliyar	Villages of valikamam and Island
2.	Veravilon Thonjan	Valikamam and Island
3.	Kanagaraya Muthali	Villages of Valikamam and Island.
4.	Thom Manuel Senatadna Muthaliyar (Muthaliyar and Irai Visuva	Vadamaradchi
5.	Kunchiya kumara Muthali	Thenamradchi
6.	Sethukavala Muthali (Muthali and Irai suvathor)	Thenmaradchi
7.	Sethuraya Muthali	Pachchilaippalli
8.	Thom.Kasparu Iraisuvador	Pachchilaippalli
9.	Singai Kavala Muthali	Land under the Portuguese

(Pathmanathan, 2011)

Those who were appointed like that for the charge of justice and administration of JaffnaPattinam .Also many conditions were made for them. Home of Muthaliyar should be in the town and they should be ready to contact immediately whenever they are required. Four of them among the Muthaliyar Iraisuvathor should be selected annually as the justices who inquire the civil cases. They had the power to inquire the cases not more than the amount of 100%. An amount of Rs. 10.00 (Fannas) and parai rice should be provided as the Muthaliyar, Iraisuvathor monthly (vanGoens, 1658).

The Muthaliyars who were selected with such conditions should know the affairs of the provinces which are under their rule and they should submit reports regarding it time to time. They should send the orders to be done there by them. Service of labourers and coolie should be got from there by them. Rijckloff vanGoens stated that if they acted perfectly, they would not be a need for Dutch to enter here. The above part explains that they administered the local administration smoothly using such influence. Iraisuvador had much influence in the community like Muthali during the period of Rijckloff vanGoens.

The members of families who were much influenced in Jaffna deserved this post. The post "Iraisuvador was given to most of those who were in the same family during the period of Rijckloff vanGoens. Don Philip Sangarappillai of Kannangarai was the significant one among them. Muthalithambi, brother in law of Don Philip Sangarappillai was appointed as The Iraisuvador in Vadamaradchy. Mandalanayaga muthali, the brother of Sangarappillai was appointed as the Iraisuvador, in charge to Thenmaradchy. (Zwaardecroon, 1911).

It is noted that several complaints had been received by the Commandery officers mentioning that many fraud was committed as the relations were attached in the administrative activities. The post Pandarappillai was one of the chief post in that period. The Pandarappillai was appointed as per the extent and the population of the province. Six Bandarappillais were appointed in Vadamaradchy during the period of Van Gogh. Iraisuvador and Pandarapillai were responsible to recover the tax of Dutch period such as "Thalaivari, Nilavari, Varam, InavariTholil Vari and Adhihara Vati" from the residents and to provide them to the government. They will get one percent amount of money from the whole money recovered from the residents. The residents had to pay an amount of money in addition to the tax for them. 25 Rix-dplars from Vadamaradchi and 12 Rix- dplars were recovered annually during the period of Van Gogh. This less amount of money had to be shared by Iraisuvador, Pandarappillai and their assistants (Zwaardecroon, 1911).

Only the experiences and abilities Rijckloff vanGoens had, were not the reasons to recruit the local directors by the Van Goens. Especially the main reason was to recruit them with less salary. The above instances are the great proof. Likewise the posts "Udaiyar, Kangani, Thalayari, Vanniyanar and Variasai" were also important during the period of Rijckloff vanGoens several common and specific conditions were also implemented on behalf of local directors in the period of Rijckloff vanGoens the conditions are as follows;

“Muthaliyars and leaders of all castes have to suggest to Artilleries about their visits twice a year and fulfil the duties. Everybody should present anything as gift. Leaders bring Hens. Everyone brings something related to their employment. It is compulsory, those who are in Vanni have to visit once a year. It is usual to bring hen and ghee. This customs should be followed continuously. Such customs initiated by the kings who were there before. Portugees followed them. Nowadays it is followed by “Uttama Rijckloff vanGoens” (Memoir for the honourable laurents pyl, 1911).

It can be observed that everybody was given conditions. Iraisuvador, muthaliyars, Thalayaries and Arachchies were on the behalf of the whole community should assemble in the presence of commander in Kotte two times in a year. This assembly was called as “Varisai”. This customs were followed from the period of Jaffna Kings. It is pointed out that such local directors assembled to expose their loyalty and obedience to the government. This event was used to inform the matters organized in the country and to submit the application considering the public well-being. This customs were continuously followed in the period of Rijckloff vanGoens. He pointed in his report that such customs were followed continuously as it gave advantages to the Dutch government. It revealed that Rijckloff vanGoens followed such various procedures in order to bring local directors into a regulation. It is obvious that most of the procedures mentioned here were already in effect but they were revised as per the policy of Dutch company. The main reason to organize them is to maintain the administration smoothly and increase the economical profit. So it is better to focus on the procedures followed by Rijckloff vanGoens in order to implement such matter.

The main purpose of the journey of Dutch towards Asia was trade and economic activities and to collect massive wealth. And to achieve this aim Dutch declared that they had the trade monopoly in Sri Lanka. So that local and foreign trading companies or the private traders were unable to engage in import and export businesses. According to the Jaffna Commandery, Dutch already recovered much levy for the products which were produced in the Jaffna commandery and they attempted to gain the income much. It was considered by the Dutch that the contribution of Rijckloff vanGoens was significant. Rijckloff vanGoens clearly added in his report that what were the raw materials and other incomes to be gained by the Jaffna Commandery and the ways to be followed to acquire them.

Raw Materials	Other Incomes
Rice	Income gained from the land and levy
Cotton	An amount of money to be paid by the slaves
Tobacco	Income gained by elephant through Vanni kings
	Levy recovered for using the constructions
	To provide the commodities with instalment
	Income by selling Chaya root Vanniyar get not less than 80 animals from others annually as mentioned in Tombo as penalty

According to the above table, it is clear that the sources can be obtained from Jaffna Commandery Rijckloff vanGoens put forwarded his opinion regarding how to get the resources and other subordinate resources. According to the Jaffna commandery, rice, cotton and tobacco were very important. He mentioned that it was very necessary to test whole land to cultivate paddy in a large scale. And he added in his report that people were interested in small products having enough land without cultivating in such large land. Rijckloff vanGoens continued in his report that people were not motivated for harvest, but keeping them lazy even though there were more land. From this, it is clear that Portuguese did not focus or guide the people regarding this matter. So Rijckloff vanGoens pointed out two strategies on the purpose of increasing the harvest.

People were given permission to engage in product widely in their land.

Harvest can be sold to the company in the same price as it was given to traders

These conditions were put forwarded by Vangoens and he ordered to the Pavilion, the Jaffna Commandery to implement it. Especially it was impossible then to pay more amount of money than the price from the company's sale for the harvest. So Commander was ordered to implement the above matter in all 4 provinces rapidly. He also mentioned that the harvest can be carried out in the paddy land owned to the Portuguese with the assistance of the people who involve farming.

Vangoens mentioned that Portuguese slaughtered around 1600 cattle for the purpose of food when the JaffnaPattinam was captured by Portuguese and many cattle should be obtained immediately from Koramandel to make settlement. So he mentioned in his report that he could understand that cattle played an important role in the paddy cultivation and as they were slaughtered during the Portuguese period and it was followed constantly. So it is clear that Vangoens followed various procedures for the purpose of bringing local directors under the systematic way. Particularly this part clearly explains although the most of the procedures were already followed it was set up as per the policies of Dutch company. The main reason to organise is to administer healthy way and increase the economical profit from it.

It is clear that Vangoens engaged in the way of getting income by cattle. Chaya root product was one of the main things in the Jaffna commandery. Chaya root which was available in Karaitivu and Mannar is was quality one. As the quality of such root was high, Vangoens thought to product it more and export weaving clothes to the European countries including Holland. So he put forwarded his recommendation regarding the Chaya root as follows:

Collecting Chaya root is very important work in Mannar. Half ripe root should be dried well and they should be dried before packing (Vangoens, 1658). So the importance of Chaya root is known from the report published in 1658. Other than the above matters can be known from this report. And Vangoens mentioned that there were many stray cattle in Jaffna town. An information reflected that Vesorstone can be found in the belly and it should be also considered. And we got around 50 to 60 stray horses from Delft. So that it was easy to control white people. And they could be used for the transportation and forces. When we consider this matter we can understand the economic activities carried out in the period of Vangoens. It is special features that economic strategies which were put forwarded can be implemented in the present days.

It is clear from the above data that the main purpose of capturing Sri Lanka by Dutch was the commercial purpose. Especially data including the reports published in the administration of Vangoens reveals them clearly. One of his main policies is to spread: Protestant religion with the purpose of gaining wealth through the trade. So it should be considered the religious activities carried out by him during the period of his rule.

After Vangoens captured Jaffna peninsula in 1658 he thought on carrying out census of population in Jaffna peninsula. Especially he mentioned in his report that the population census and the details of those who were adopted another religion (Religious conversion) will be the basis for the policy of spread of: Protestant religion. Accordingly census of Jaffna population was carried out in 1658.

“As per the census held in 1658, there are 12000 people living in Jaffna Pattinam” (Anthony Mooyaart, 1766). According to the data, most of the people were adopted as Christians during the period of Vangoens. It is better to analyze the religious activities done by him. Vangoens mentioned that it is better to spread the: Protestant religion through philippus baldaeus and he ordered the Jaffna Commandery to apply the strategies which were put forwarded by Baldeas Swami.

The strategies are as follows

1. Male and female children should come to the school. Protestant education should be taught for them
2. Religious ethics should be taught to the children. So that parents should be ready to send their children to the school. The children who were baptized should be kept in the church with the permission of parents
3. Another way to save Christianity All the people should assemble every Sunday in the church. They should learn the orders of Gods, prayers and the religious ethics. Majorols and Taljuers were appointed to confirm the presence of absentees. Punishment was given by them for those who were absent to the school.
4. Damaged churches should be identified and renovated. And Kopay people may be punished as they were damaged the churches during the war period.
5. School teachers should be appointed to the Parish. If big, two teachers should be appointed.
6. Two teachers should be appointed in Pointpedro, Tellipalai and Chavakachcheri.
7. Modern educational system should not be introduced. They can only conduct the already approved curriculum and the approved syllabus by Councilor Rhee and Council of India
8. All the members of church should be present without fail
9. sometimes it is necessary to motivate the diligent children by giving a small gifts
10. The immoral activity to make the children married against their wishes should be prohibited
11. Attempt should be made to join the husband and wife who were lost their partner, from different family
12. Devil dancing should be completely banned. Moors and Genitives should be stopped from the public influences (Vangoens,1658)

Rijckloff vanGoens pointed out in his report that the above mentioned strategies were given to him by philippus baldaeus and Vangoens mentioned that the request made by Baldeas is reasonable and he added that it should be considered regarding to

implement them. Particularly strategies No. 1, 4, 6, 11 among them, mentioned by Baldeas should be implemented. But Vangoens thought that it was difficult to implement the strategy No. 1 because parents will not permit the female children above 8 age to the school. So Vangoens thought that it was difficult to implement strategy No. 1. And he mentioned that it should be discussed with the partners personally regarding such matter. And he stated that if violence was not applied and behaved kindly, it could be possible to implement strategy No.3. The strategy should be implemented partially.

Teachers' salary will be provided with the penalty recovered from them. And he mentioned that company will not be responsible for this matter.

34 Hindu temples were available other than the Portuguese and Dutch temples in this period. This province developed the spread of Christian religions and education because of the initial attempts was made by philippus baldaeus in the Tellipalai church of Valikamam (Pelligama) in August 1658. philippus baldaeus contributed much to the Protestant in the period of Rijckloff vanGoens rule from 1656 to 1665. When considering such every fact, education played a major role in the development of Protestant. So it can be understood that several sectors had been used for a sectorial development (Religious). It is clear that political influence, economical privileges, educational progress, promotion in the post and the social influence and all other sectors were used for the progress of Protestant. Especially Rijckloff vanGoens thought to use the caste system which was in the community of Jaffna town and the community discrimination from it.

Rijckloff vanGoens captured Jaffna in 1658 and he understood that he had much influence from Vellalar in Jaffna. Also Vellalar was advantageous to the Dutch when Dutch armed force tried to capture, presiding by Rijckloff vanGoens in Jaffna. So this caste had chance to get various administrative post in the Dutch rule. (Vangoens, 1658).

At the same time Velalar had much experience and knowledge in renewing the matters of Thombo. So that Vangoens thought to get the assistance from them and recover the tax properly. Also they adapted Protestant and they were the owner of several land. And they were the rich by engaging in trading. Rijckloff vanGoens thought to implement power sharing policy by providing high post to the other castes as he thought that their income would be affected. So that he thought to appoint Karayar Madapalliyar, Cheddis, Parathesi, thanakarar and Siviya in the government posts. It was the chance for several people to get government service. Rijckloff vanGoens found a court for the purpose of inquiring their problems because of he identified so many issues in the society. Because administration was maintained on the basis of every custom from community to community. He wanted them to bring under one law and made the following judicial activities.

So it is obvious that Vangoens was a great personality not only as per his reports and other's literatures and it is clear that how the ways to be followed to maintain the administrative matters by the reports letters and higher order. Because the matters which were followed by him from the period 1658 to 1675 were the base for the sustainability of Dutch in Sri Lanka. Dutch ruled by following such base until 1796.

So it is significant that his rule and the administrative policies followed in the coastal are including the Jaffna Commandery by him were a great guide.

3. RESEARCH CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The problem to fulfill this research is the documents which were published by Dutch, available in Dutch language. So it is necessary to translate from Dutch to English. Accordingly the importance of the Jaffna regions is shown from this research. Various reports, notes and the administration were available in the Dutch period from 1658 to 1796. Several documents of Dutch period have to be translated. This research will pave a better way to reveal the importance of Dutch documents.

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