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3. The classical work is that of J. P. M. Van der Ploeg, *The Christians of St. Thomas in South India and their Syriac Manuscripts* (Rome and Bangalore: Center for Indian and Inter-Religious Studies and Dharmaram Publications, 1983). See also Istvan Perzcel, "Syriac manuscripts in India: The Present State of the Cataloguing Process," *The Harp: A Review of Syriac and Oriental Ecumenical Studies. Vol. XV (2002) – Festschrift for Mar Aprem*, Kottayam, Kerala, India, pp. 289-298. By now, this study, published in 2002, is largely outdated. The new catalogues by Mar Aprem and Istvan Perzcel of the Thrissur Chaldean collection and by Istvan Perzcel of the collection of the Trivandrum Syro-Malankara Major Archbishop's House, as well as that of St Joseph's CMI Monastery, Mannanam etc. are forthcoming with Georgias Press. For more information on the Kerala Syriac collection, see also www.srite.de.
4. Syriac written in Malayalam and Arabic are seen. In the case of Kerala Malayalam Garshuni is more common though we have an example of Arabic Garshuni in the *Satikon* (the appointment letter of Bishops or Delegates who come from Syria) of Mar Abdul Jaleel who is entombed at North Parur.
5. A retrieval tool is defined as an aid to identify and locate the information needed from among the mass of data. N Sundararaj, *A Manual of Archival Systems and the World of Archives*, p. 157
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L. RAMACHANDRA NADAR AND CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR IN KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT

Dr. G.M.Sunder Singh

L. Ramachandra Nadar was one of remarkable personalities of Kanyakumari district. His period of administration in Co-operative sector earned a great name to him. He has done yeoman service for the emancipation of the masses from poverty and illiteracy by establishing several co-operative societies in the district. So he was called as the father of co-operative sector in Kanyakumari District. He took over the reign of administration in Kanyakumari District Central Co-Operative Bank for over a decade as its chairperson and made the institution a model one for the whole of the state. He was a pillar to K.Kamaraj and Indian National congress. He was a very influential and vibrant leader who followed the Gandhian path of Kamaraj and his nationalism. He was a very soft and innocent man in his inner heart and a person with no vengeance or planned route for political growth. He grew high as the nature and people made him high. He was a very eminent person of Congress family. His tall fair and royal personality made anybody attract and accept him more as leader. He was

dearly called as 'Nadar' was very affectionate to anyone. He started a unit called Kanyafco. He was a very good administrator talking about the project, production capacity and feasibility technically. He had started a number of co-operative banks, co-operative societies and made a quantum of permanent and temporary jobs without any favour. He was born in a medium class family. His grandfather Mr. Bhiman Nadar served as the important soldier in the house of Veluthampi Thalavai. Though the movement of Velutham failed against the British they hanged Bhiman Nadar in a Banyan tree at Mondaymarket. Again they tortured the son of Bhiman Nadar namely Chottaiyan Nadar. Realising the critical situation Chottaiyan Nadar left the place and settled at Neyyoor. Being an associate of Muthukutty swamikal Chottaiyan Nadar engaged in all religious activities. His son was Cho. Ramachandran Nadar. He settled at a place called Chenamvilai of north Neyyoor. R. Lekshmana Nadar was the lost son of Cho.Ramachandra Nadar. In his early period R. Lekshmana Nadar was highly interested in the field of education. He also had

the practise of collecting palm leaves records. His interest towards his studies stimulated him to learn Tamil, Malayalam and Sanskrit languages. In view of that he also got association with the Brahmins who stayed in Kumarakoil. At this time the Britishers introduced vernacular system of education. So to teach education for the students who lived nearby his area R.Lekshmana Nadar established a school at Mekkankarai in Neyyoor. He also became a teacher in that school. As a communal clash took place at Neyyoor in 1854, the L.M.S. Missionaries arranged their education at Scott Christian School and Duthie School at Nagercoil. So the students nearby Mekkankarai and Neyyoor went for their studies at these residential schools at Nagercoil. Without proper student strength Lekshmana Nadar was unable to run the school in Mekkankarai. So Lekshmana Nadar handled the school to Kerala Hindu Mission. In remembrance of that the school is managed by the Government of Madras in the name of Kerala Mission School at a place called Mekkankarai nearby Neyyoor. After resigning his teacher job Lekshmana Nadar became a business man nearby his house. After a short period he took contract of construction of Pechipparaai Dam.

Lekshmana Nadar and Mrs. Ponnu Nadachi did not have a child in their family life for 12 years. So they took Sethumala as their foster daughter. In the meantime these couple a male child was born on 31 March 1912. They named the child as L.Ramachandra Nadar. He organised fasting in support of Lower class people. In later stage Lekshmana Nadar widened his business to strengthen the economy of the family.

L.Ramachandra Nadar started his early educational career at Govt. Higher Secondary School at Eraniel. He continued his higher education in Scott Christian College, Nagercoil to study F.A [Faculty Arts]. After his completion in college he was in a trial to go to foreign countries for his further studies. But as per the request made by his father L.Ramachandra Nadar got married. He Married Valliammai, daughter of Madaswamy Nadar from Moolachenvilai. But unexpectedly during her first child birth she passed away. He got a job of accountant in District Co-Operative Society in Thiruvananthapuram and this job brought out an experience about the Co-operative movements in Tamilnadu and Kerala. In this time as per the

request made by his mother L.Ramachandran agreed for remarriage. In search of bride he married the daughter of Yesudian Teamaker namely A.Victoria who was a widow. She had completed nursing and compounding courses. Their marriage ceremony happened in Home Church Nagercoil. It was a symbol of religious harmony. She also gave medical treatment for the people who lived nearby Beach areas. In this period a Rare Earth Company was started at Manavalakurichi. The general manager of that company was Crowther, a British man. He appointed L.Rama-chandra Nadar as an officer of that Company. He got the chance of giving job opportunity to the poor people who lived nearby that Company. He used the chance of giving appointment for nearly 500 persons of the nearby area. In the meantime the Company transferred L.Ramachandra Nadar to a place called Chavara at Kollam District in Kerala to start a new Rare Earth Company. By this opportunity he gave a lot of appointments to the poor people who lived nearby the company of Kollam district. So in order to show their affection to L.Ramachandra Nadar most of the employees of that Company called affectionately him as 'Nadar Sir'. He also maintained friendship with the leaders of Socialist Party in Kerala like Sreekandan Nair, Baby John and Abdul Raheem. He also acted as one of the leader of RSP Party in Chanra. So the upper class people opposed the activities and turned against him. The help which he rendered to low caste people created some trouble for his job. The upper class people turned against himself and the management. So L.Ramachandran Nadar resigned the job in 1949 and returned to his native place Mekkankarai in Neyyoor. After returning to his native place he took contract work and performed it in a good manner. In this time the election for Panchayat was announced for the first time in 1950. So L.Ramachandra Nadar contested for the president of Colachel Panchayat and got victory in that election. At this time by the experience and close association with his friends he started a Bank called 'The Nadar Mercantile Bank' at Thiruvananthapuram as its headquarters. This bank had its branches in Tamilnadu and Kerala. He also acted as the advisor of the southern region till it was Nationalised. After a short period this Bank was annexed with Union Bank Of India. As he got association with some of the Nadar leaders in Kerala and Kanyakumari District he joined as the life member of Nadar Mahajana

Sangham in 1951. In the same year itself he organised the conference of Nadar Mahajana Sangham in Monday Market. So he got the friendship Of Tamilnadu Congress president K.Kamaraj. He was one of the intimate friend of K.Kamaraj in Kanyakumari District till his life time. When L.Ramachandra Nadar acted as the president of Colachel panchayat house tax was imposed on the poor people. So the poor people suffered a lot. Realising the situation L.Ramachandra Nadar resigned his presidentship in 1952. At this time the general election for Colachel constituency was announced. So L.Ramachandra Nadar contested as the Congress candidate in Colachel constituency. K.Kamaraj, the president of All India Congress party stayed in the native place of L.Ramachandra Nadar for six days and held election campaign for him. He failed at the election of winner T.T.Daniel. After that time withdraw from politics and joined in the khadi movement and Vinobha bhaves Bhoothathan Movement and rendered a lot of social services .He gave up his land for the poor people in construction of houses for them. The Dalit people were much benefitted by him. In this time L.Ramachandra Nadar acted as the judge of Colachel panchayat court. Till the functioning of the panchayat court he was the judge. Like L.Ramachandra Nadar his wife Victoria Ramachandran Nadar was also a talented lady. She had done a lot of social service for the poor people. By her allopathy treatment she cured a lot of diseases who were affected by various diseases nearby her place. She also conducted maternal delivery for the pregnant women who lived nearby her area. In order to honour her social work the Tamilnadu Chief-minister K.Kamaraj appointed her as the Chairman of project implementary committee of womens' welfare in Tamilnadu. The Hospitals which she started in the villages were uplifted as Maternity Centres nearby her villages. In the later stage she acted as the member of Tamilnadu Women Welfare Department and made some welfare measures for women with the help of Ambujammal, Mrs. Sarojini Varadhappan and Madurai V.Ramachandran. In Chennai a women conference was organised under the Presidentialship of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. In that conference Mrs. Victoria Ramachandran gave a valuable talk in English related to the upliftment of Women in rural areas. L.Ramachandra nadar started a co-operative milk society and a co-operative Society in 1960 in his own village in Mekkan

akarai nearby Neyyoor. He acted as the president of Co-operative societies and served in an appreciable manner. By noticing the renowned qualities of L.Ramachandra the nearby people approached him to render his help to start a co-operative society in their village. He helped a lot for them to start new co-operative societies. As a very talented man and mostly associated with co-operative movements he was elected as the Chairperson of Kanyakumari District Central Co-operative Bank on 29 Sept. 1960 and continued till 17 Sept. 1971. He also helped to get some benefits from Thiruvananthapuram central Co-operative bank. He also started co-operative societies in Kalkulam and Vilavancod taluks for the betterment of poor people. He acted in these co-operative societies as Chairperson for long term. He was one of notable person in organising a co-operative society at Aralvai-mozhy. He acted as the executive Director of Tamilnadu co-operative banks. He also acted as the vice-president of Medai Thalavai Kumara-swamy co-operative Training centre at Tirunel-veli. When he acted as the president of the co-operative sector in Kanyakumari District he was the first person to give appointments for women. By his plan women from different places got appointment in co-operative societies at various places. The serious efforts taken by him rendered a lot of jobs for poor people in the co-operative sector. He was the person who took hard risk for constructing own buildings for Co-operative banks in Kanyakumari District. To help the poor students nearby his village for higher studies he planned to start an arts college. So with the consultation of his best Muslim friend in Thuckalay named N.S. he got the land and laid the foundation for the construction of Lekshmipuram Arts & Science College. He had nine children of 5 sons and 4 daughters. All his children holds the top level in various departments. After the death of his intimate friend K.Kamaraj, L.Ramachandra completely involved in religious and spiritual activities. His wife Mrs. Victoria Ramachandran gave religious speeches in Hindu Temples, Chrisitan churches and Muslim Mosques. Ramachandra was affected by cancer and passed away on 15 August 1978 at the age of 66 on Independence Day. His wife Victoria Ramachandran passed away at the age of 86 on 28 January 1998. Ramachandra was considered as the visionary for the growth of co-operative sector in Kanyakumari District.

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GULF MIGRATION AND SOCIALISATION OF WOMEN IN KERALA

Saleena, M

Migration is a continuous and constant process in the annals of human history. It is a movement from one place to another either temporary or permanent¹. Kerala has been experiencing massive migrations of the advanced countries of the West and the newly rich, oil surplus countries of the Middle East in recent decades². It has helped migrant households attain higher levels of income, consumption and acquisition of assets compared to non-migrant households³. Gulf migration from Kerala especially a Male affair, Even though the migrations of a large number of the Population to the Gulf Countries has an impact on the women of Kerala.

Gulf Migration From Kerala: Kerala has a migratory tradition over several decades in the past. Generally migration from Kerala has been two types. Internal migration and external migration. Internal migration was to other states within India. Mainly Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra. External migration which has been much higher than internal migration was to other countries mainly to the advanced countries in the west and the Middle East⁴. Kerala began to figure prominently on the migration of international migration from the early 70's. External migration from Kerala has begun concentrated greatly near the gulf countries. Among the gulf countries marked

preference of the migrants were towards Saudi Arabia, Oman, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar Kuwait and Iran.⁵ According to some scholars, Kerala had been a net in migrating state still very recently and that net out migration is only a recent phenomena, Kerala which was a net in migrating area prior to 1931, became a net out migrating area, after that data with the volume of net out migration increasing with every decade. During 1951-61 Kerala experienced an in migration of about 108,000 and an out migration of 393,000.Until Kerala was formed, out migration of Malayalis was confined to the Malabar area, which had been part of Madras presidency directly under British rule. But at the very time India started the labour export, its waves were started to notice Kerala also.

Today as far as Kerala is concerned, migration is undoubtedly its most productive 'industry', 'employing' nearly 2 million persons directly and 7.8 million family members indirectly⁶. Till the early 1920's the Muslim belt of Malappuram district was cut off from the main stream of the society. It was a backward area, where the main occupation of the people is agriculture. Eranad and Valluvanad, the two historically significant places of South Malabar reminiscent of the historic Malabar Rebellion of 1921. This badly needed the government interference and the British Government now