

GANDA

BHERUINDA

Nov-Dec 2017



From The Desk Of YKC Wadiyar



From The Royal House Of Mysore

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ನಾಡಿನ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಆಂಗ್ಲ ನೂತನ
ಸಂವತ್ಸರ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕರ ಸಂಕ್ರಾಂತಿ ಪರ್ವದ
ಹಾರ್ದಿಕ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

With all good wishes for
The New Year 2018
and a very happy and
prosperous
Makara Sankranti

Yaduveer Wadiyar
&
Trishikha Wadiyar



Foreword

The last two months have been life changing, to say the least. The birth of one's first child is always a cherished moment in one's life. It was an overwhelming experience, and I would like to thank everyone who sent in their many wishes on occasion of the Birth of my Son. Your affection truly made the moment all the sweeter.

Even though, I did dial back the travelling and social commitments during December, I still managed to continue to stride toward interacting with a various sections of our state and understanding the dynamics therein. Early November saw me travelling through South Canara, a region that has long held its own idiosyncrasies, which I find to be very intriguing and unique. I had the good fortune of being invited to a Yakshagana competition, which was enthralling. Events in Mysore, as always, held my attention from hosting the students of the Government School at the Palace, Mysore, to releasing the Kannada version of the book "Indian Heroism in Israel", which detailed the sacrifice of the Mysore and Jodhpur Lancers in the Second World War. I also had the good fortune to visit Kurubana Katte, Chamrajanagara, thereby revisiting an old bond that the Palace, Mysore has with the Manteswamy tradition. My sincere thanks to Parampujya Sri. Varchus M.L. Urs Swamigalu, who contributed to this issue of the newsletter, detailing the event and the link between our household and their tradition. It was an extremely invigorating experience.

Other memorable events include my visit to The Mythic Society, another institution that received the patronisation of my forefathers. The Mythic Society's continued effort at highlighting our history, culture, and philosophy is truly to be commended.

The last two months have truly been a roller-coaster of travel, emotion, and learning. It is always a pleasure to meet people from all corners of the state, and witness the myriad of tradition present within the Karnataka Spectrum. Hope to continue the same in the New Year 2018!

Yours Truly,

Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraa Wadiyar

20.01.2018



Children's Day at The Palace

14.11.2017

Children are always special, it is said that a child is as pure as God himself. The Palace saw some special guests on this day, some children from the eighth standard of the Government Higher Primary school, Kuvempunagar.

It was an ennobling experience for me to interact with them, answer their queries and doubts regarding the Palace and our family. It was indeed delightful to see the keen interest in these children to know about history and our ancestors.

After hosting them for tea, I went along for a tour with the children and explained to them about the various portions of the Palace and their significance.

A special thanks to Kalisu foundation for such a fulfilling day with the flagbearers of Mysore's tomorrow.





YKC Wadiyar Hosting Children, Teachers and Members of Kalisu Foundation for tea at The Palace



YKC Wadiyar along with Children going for Palace tour



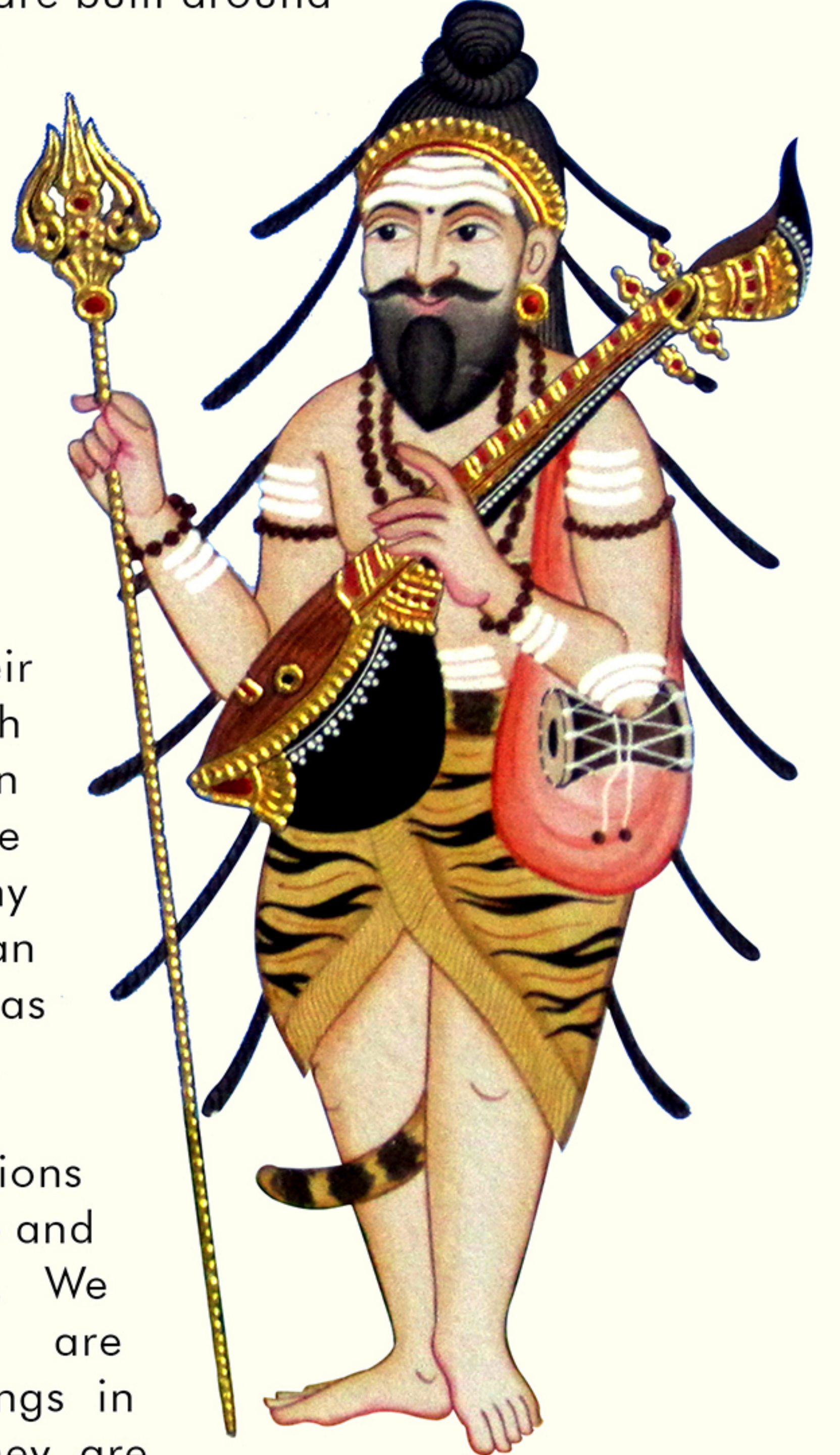
Visit To Sri Kshetra Kurubanakatte

13.11.2017

The Manteswamy (Nilagaarara) Parampare perhaps has one of the largest cult following in the Karnataka State, covering most of the Old Mysore regions & parts of North Karnataka. The 15th Century Shivasharana Dharmaguru Manteswamy is the founder of this cult. Legends are built around his life and the shrines at Sri Boppagoudanapura, Chikkalluru and Kappadi are related to personalities depicted in the epic Manteswamy Kavya. Two of his disciples Sharana Lingaiah & Sharana Chennaiah settled in a remote location near Kollegala town called Kurubanakatte.

Today one can find their Gaddige at Kurubanakatte, which over the years has become an important pilgrim place for the followers of the Manteswamy Parampare. The Kandaya (an ekashula) of Kurubanakatte has gained popularity over the years.

Many people from these regions invite the Kandaya to their village and pay their obeisance to them. We believe that the Kandaya's are removers of obstacles and brings in good fortune to the villages they are taken in procession.



Dharmaguru Paranyoti Manteswamy
as depicted in Mysore style of art



ABOUT THE KSHETRA :

The Kurubanakatte Kshetra is under the Dharmaguru Manteswamy Samsthana Matha, Boppegowdana (BG) Pura. The Dharmadhikari for the Kshetra is from the family of the BG Pura Matha. Late Sri. B.L. Sadananda Raje Urs was the previous Dharmadhikari; he was the paternal uncle of the current Mathadhipathi of the BG Pura Matha, Sri. Gnanananda Channa Raje Urs. It is during the time of Sri. B.L. Sadananda Raje Urs that this Kshetra received much development. Recognising the efforts of Late Sri. B.L. Sadananda Raje Urs, his son the current Dharmadhikari Sri. B.S. Varun Linga Raje Urs has constructed a meditation hall (dyana mandira) and has installed a bust of his late father, the architect of today's Kurubanakatte.



Dharmadhikari Sri B.S. Varun Linga Raje Urs welcoming YKC Wadiyar

THE EVENT :

HH Sri. Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, Maharaja of Mysore was invited to inaugurate the said installations at Kurubanakatte. The invitation was extended to me as well. On the auspicious Kade Karthika Somavara (last Monday of the Karthika month) (14.11.2017) Over 14,000 people belonging to the Manteswamy sect headed by Sri. Varun Raje Urs received us. We were taken in a grand procession with all the honours and regalia of the Matha. Prior to reaching Kurubanakatte we received a warm reception in all the villages we came across between Kollegala Town and Kurubanakatte. After performing puje to the main deity, inaugurating the meditation hall and the Bust, curtains were drawn on the function with a stage event.



YKC Wadiyar offering flowers to the bust of Late Sri B.L. Sadananda Raje Urs installed at meditation hall

This event was of historical significance as it was a repeat of a similar event conducted 25 years ago and attended by our previous generation (our respective parents). The inauguration of certain developmental activities was carried out by the then Maharaja of Mysore HH Late Sri. Srikantadatta Narasimharaaja Wadiyar (my revered maternal uncle), Maharani of Mysore HH Smt. Pramoda Devi Wadiyaravaru (current Rajamatha) along with late Rajasevadhurina Sardar M.R. Lakshmikanth Raje Urs (my revered father & Mathadipathi of Sri. Manteswamy Matha, Malavalli), Late Maharajakumari Smt. Meenakshi Deviavaru (daughter of HH Sri. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar & my most revered mother) and Late Sri. B.R. Siddalinga Raje Urs the Mathadhipathi of the Manteswamy Matha, BG Pura. The event was organised by late Sri. B.L. Sadananda Raje Urs.

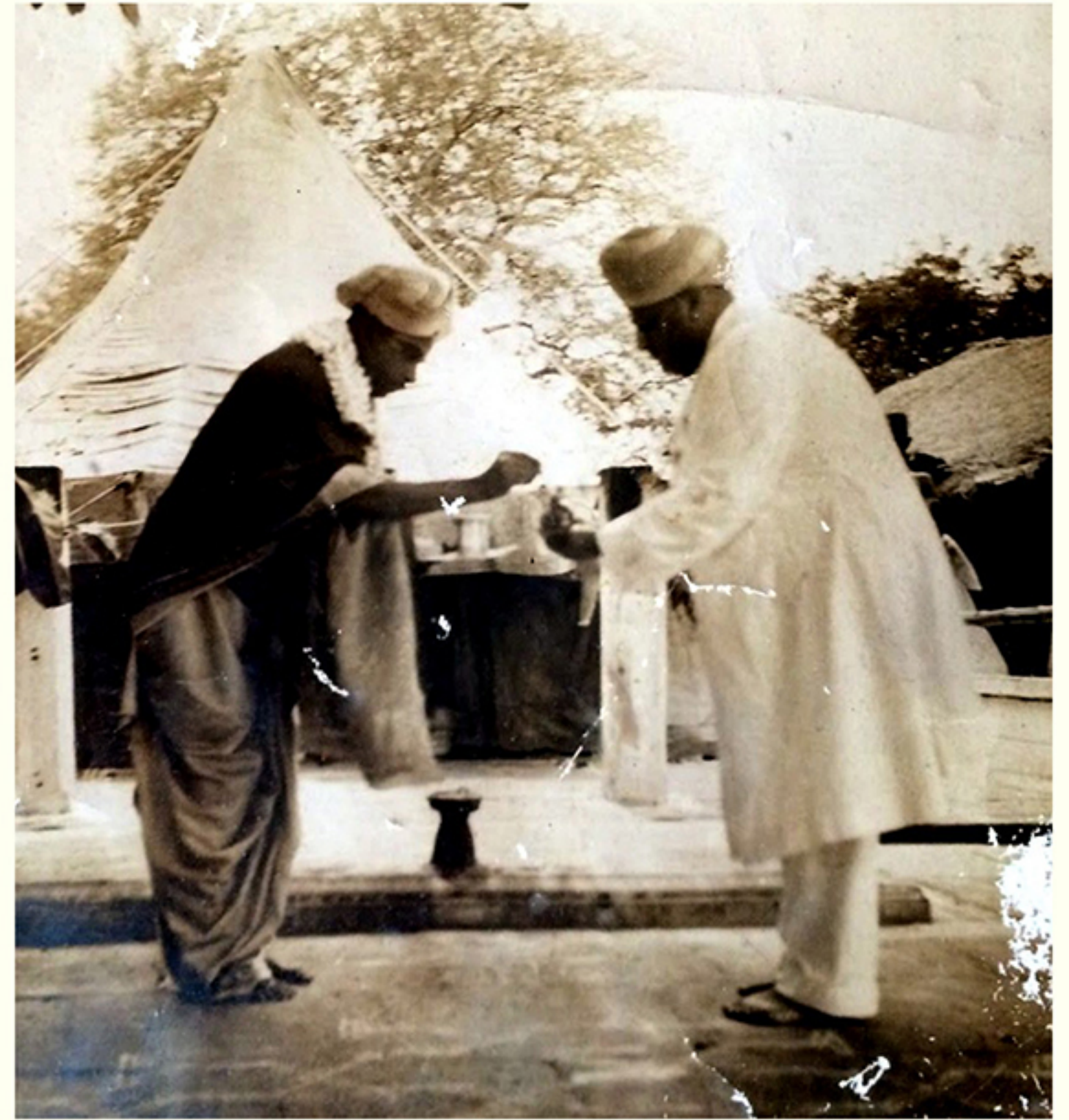
During the event Sri. Yaduveer called upon the members of the Ursu community to play an important role in the political scenario of the State with the hope that the golden era of Mysore can be relived. He expressed his happiness and gratitude for being part of the well-organised and wellattended event.



WADIYARS AND MANTESWAMY MATHA

Legend says that the two institutions Wadiyars of Mysore and Manteswamy Parampare are connected going back to the 15th Century. It is believed that it was Manteswamy (the Jangama) who instructed Yaduraya (progenitor of Wadiyars of Mysore) to help the family of Chamaraja from the treacherous Maranayaka, and it is he who gave him his Jolage, which became the flag of the Mysore royal family. There is also reference to Rachappaji (disciple of Manteswamy), to have helped one of the Wadiyar Rulers to defeat one of their enemies. This can be deduced by what is sung by the Nilagaara singers as part of the recital of the Manteswamy Kavya (one of the greatest oral epics of Karnataka).

However going back a century, my paternal great grand father Sardar Sri. M. Lakshmikanth Raje Urs was married to Maharajakumari Smt. Cheluvajammaniavaru (daughter of HH Sri. Chamaraja Wadiyar X, Maharaja of Mysore) and my father late Rajasevadhurina Sardar M.R. Lakshmikanth Raje Urs was married to Maharajakumari Smt. Meenakshi Deviavaru (daughter of HH Sri. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Maharaja of Mysore). However more importantly both the institutions are based on similar principles such as secularism, gender equality, upliftment of the downtrodden and many more. I am sure together these two institutions can recreate the golden period for the people of Karnataka.



H.H Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wadiyar with Sri B.R. Raje Urs, Mathadhipati of BG Pura Manteswamy Mutt.

- M.L. VARCHUSVIN S.S. RAJE URS

The author is the current Mathadhipathi of Sri. Manteswamy Matha, Malavalli. He is the grandson of HH Sri. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Maharaja of Mysore.



Photographs from Kurubanakatte event







Advent of The Yadavas

Part 2

As we have to accord the honor of having founded the Yadava Dynasty in Mysore to Yaduraya, so to Raja Wodeyar has to be accorded the honour of enlarging What was a modest Chieftainship into the rank of a Kingdom, and of securing for its Ruler a proud and historic throne.



Raja Wodeyar Seated on his throne of power

Beginning his reign in the year 1578, Raja Wodeyar had a long career of forty years of unbroken successes till his death in the "year 1617.. He seems to have been gifted both with military talent and political acumen, and rose thereby from the headship of 33 villages and the command of 300 soldiers to the position of one who was able to face the massed array of nearly a lakh of foot, seven to twelve thousand horses, and one hundred elephants.

Despite the presence of a Viceroy of the Vijayanagar Kingdom at Srirangapatnam, he went on subduing one neighboring Chieftain after another, till in 1610 he ousted the Vijayanagar Viceroy himself . from Srirangapatnam, transferred his capital to it and ascended the throne there.

That was on the 21st of March 1610. From then the Capital of the Dynasty was shifted from Mysore to Srirangapatnam.



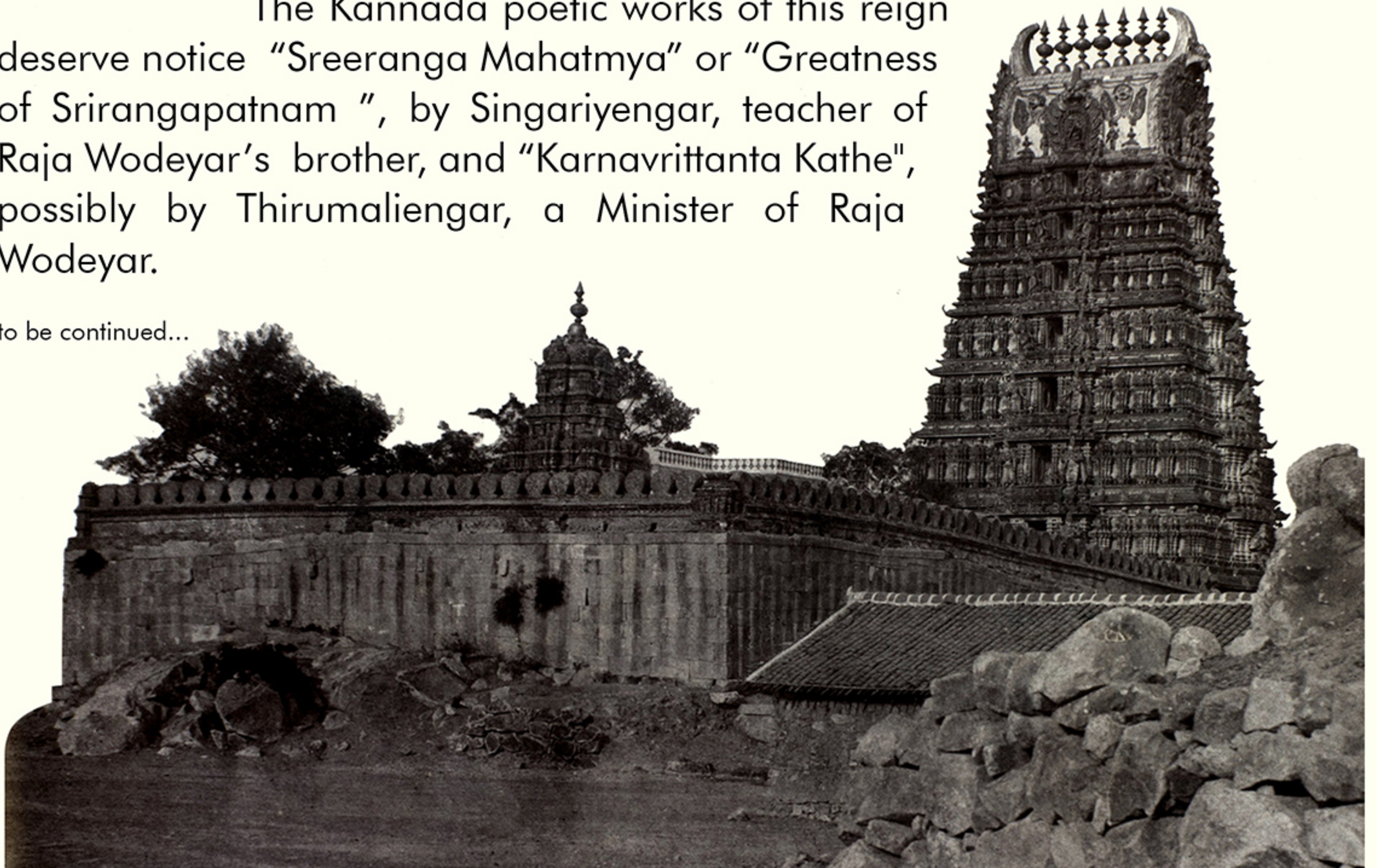
As the Kingdom extended, the military force increased owing to constant warfare and the collection of revenue and protection of life and property of the increasing population required increased attention, and Raja Wodeyar found it necessary. to appoint a Dalvoy or military head, who was also Sarvadhikari or Chief Administrator. Bettada Arasu, a nephew of his, was appointed to the combined offices. Every village in the State was provided with officials for supervision, protection and collection of revenue.

Fine warrior and remarkable administrator that he was, he was also a man of piety, devotion, and literary culture.' He improved the temples at Srirangapatnam Mysore and Melkote, and made gifts of land for their maintenance.

He also inaugurated in 1610 the celebration of the Navarathri festival on a religious basis and on a spectacular scale, which greatly helped to add to the lustre and increase the glamour of royalty.

The Kannada poetic works of this reign deserve notice "Sreeranga Mahatmya" or "Greatness of Srirangapatnam ", by Singariyengar, teacher of Raja Wodeyar's brother, and "Karnavrittanta Kathe", possibly by Thirumaliengar, a Minister of Raja Wodeyar.

to be continued...



Goddess Chamundeshwari Temple, Chamundi Hill



Tumkur Visit

20.11.2017

YKC Wadiyar visited the city on Monday and recalled the 'unique bond' between the erstwhile Mysore rulers and the people here.

At a function organised by Akhila Bharata Ladara Sangha in his honour in which was felicitated, Yaduveer said, "The people here have not forgotten the contributions made by the erstwhile Mysore rulers. I express my gratitude for reminding about the relationship between the people and the kings."



YKC Wadiyar at Ambabhavani Temple, Sira

He said the people have not forgotten the fact that Chamaraj Wadiyar X had provided land for the construction of Ambabhavani temple at Sira. "Chamaraj Wadiyar X ruled for 33 years and his contribution to the state was unique," he recalled.



The land was given by Chamaraja Wadiyar X to the lad community who came from gujarat to fight against Tipu

Yaduveer said he prayed to Goddess Ambabhavani to bless the district with more rain, crops and prosperity.

Deputy Commissioner K P Mohan Raj, who was the chief guest, said the Mysore kings developed the state well as they considered their subjects as their own children. Hence, the people are proud about the Mysore Royals, he added.





Swami Veereshananda Saraswathi of Ramakrishna Vivekananda Ashram, who graced the occasion, said, "The Myore kings lived up to the saying 'Raja Prathyaksha Devatha' - a king is the real God. They built lakes and tanks for the people. Today, it is painful to see that such water bodies are not being protected.

They also developed temples and encouraged seers. The Mysore Maharajas were ready to help Swami Vivekananda to take part in the World Parliament of Religions in the USA as the representative of Hindu religion. This has been recorded in Ramakrishna Mission's documents," he recalled. The seer called upon Yaduveer to tour the state at least 100 days a year to create as it reminds the people of the good works.



YKC Wadiyar with Seers of Ramakrishna Vivekananda Ashram and other Dignitaries



Few photographs from Tumkur visit





Purnahuti of the Ati Rudra Yaga

25.11.2017

YKC Wadiyar performs the Purnahuti on the 10th day of the Ati Rudra Yaga being performed at the Avadoota Datta Peetham, Mysore.



YKC Wadiyar offering Purnahuti of the Ati Rudra Maha Yaga

Rudra is a synonym of Lord Shiva and also stands for Jeevatma and Paramatma. Agni (fire) is a representative form a Rudra. Rudra Yaga will be conducted by chanting 169 mantras as per the rituals prescribed in Yajurveda Samhita. In these mantras, Lord Shiva is extolled as the forces of nature, such as Earth, Energy and Wind with their derivatives, referred as the aspects of Rudra. Shata Rudreeya Mantra Parayana / Homa with Vasordhaara and pacifies the ferocious forms of Rudra and pleasing the peaceful aspects of Lord Shiva, resulting in prosperity and well-being.

The method of Ati RudraYaga require 121 ritwiks (pundits) reciting 11 times Rudra mantras, performing rituals in 11 Homa Kundas daily for 11 days. The other worships like Ekadasa Rudrabhisheka, Veda parayana, Bilwarchana, Ashtavadhana Seva, Shata Chandi Parayana, Nama Sankeertana, Armadana are part of Ati Rudra Yaga, every day.



Bichugatti Book Launch

25.11.2017

YKC Wadiyar launches the book Bichugatti in Mysore. The book was originally written in English as 'Indian Heroism in Israel' by Sri Ravi Kumar and was translated to Kannada by Pradeep Mysuru.

23 Sept 2018 marks the centenary celebrations of Haifa war where Mysore Jodhpur and Hyderabad jawans who fought the 1st world war.



YKC Wadiyar Launching the book Bichugatti at Mysore

The Mysore Imperial Service played a big role in the liberation of Haifa on September 23, 1918, from Ottoman Turks and Germans, by allied forces. This is seen as one of the fiercest battles in the west Asian theatre of World War I in which India, as a British colony, fought German and the Ottoman troops.



Carnival 2017 for Children of Special Needs

18.11.2017

YKC Wadiyar inaugurated 'Carnival 2017' organised by Round Table Mysore for Children of Special Needs.

YKC Wadiyar said "Only by giving encouragement to Special Needs Children will we be able to move forward as a holistic community."







Centenary Celebrations of The Daly Memorial Hall

17.12.2017

YKC Wadiyar inaugurated the Centenary Celebrations of the Daly Memorial Hall as well as the seminar on 'The Contributions of Mysore Kings' at The Mythic Society in Bangalore.

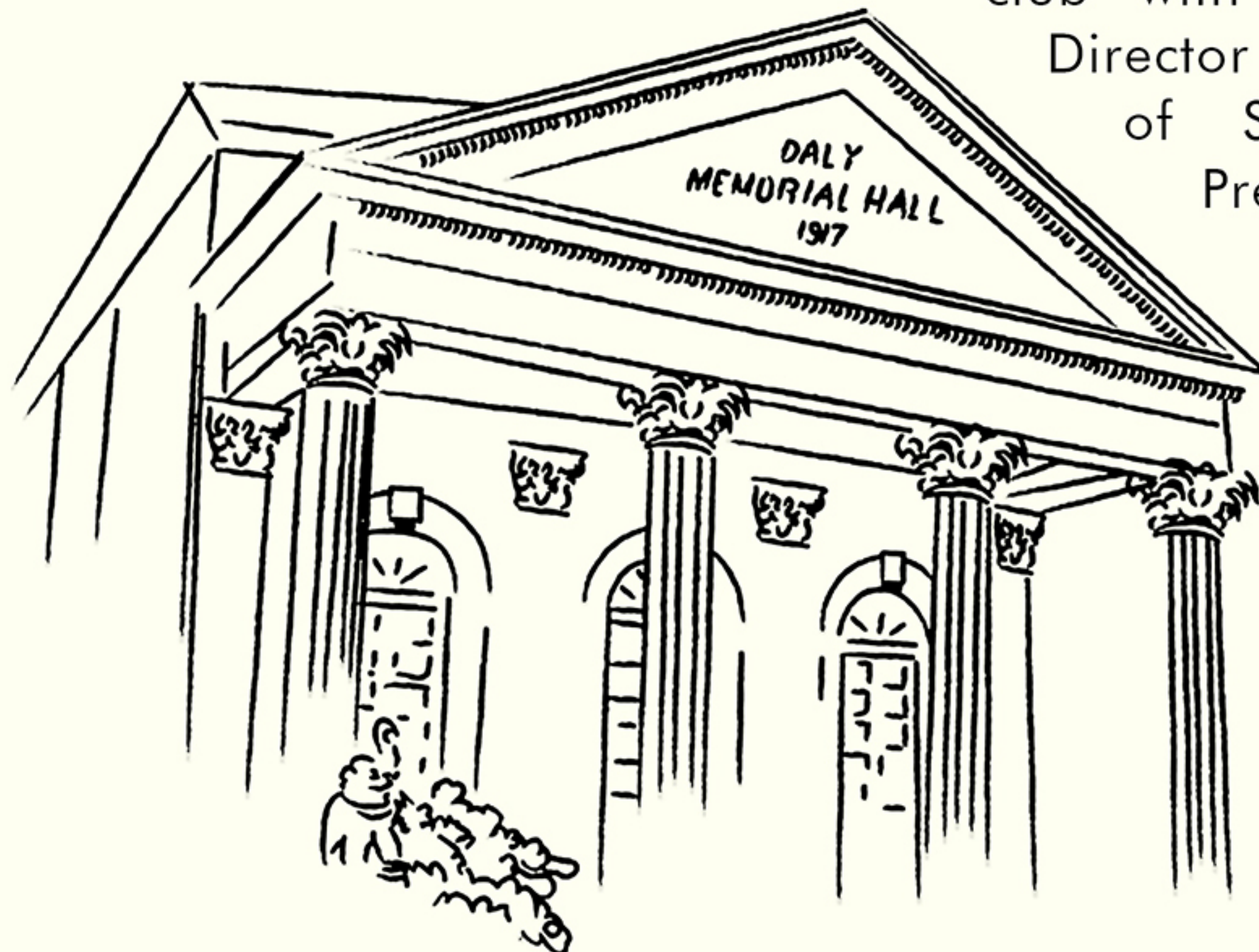
The Mythic Society:

A pioneering institution of Indic studies in South India, the Mythic Society was founded in 1909 by some European enthusiasts in Bangalore. F.H.Richards, who was the Collector of the Bangalore



YKC Wadiyar with other Dignitaries at Daly Memorial Hall

Cantonment District took the initiative and a meeting was held in his residence on 5th May, 1909 and 17 members joined this new academic 'club' with Dr. Traverse, the first Director of the Indian Institute of Science, being its first President too.



Father Tabard, the parish priest of St. Patrick church was its next President for long and he gave the slogan that 'Mysorean must know Mysore better'.



The Daly Memorial Hall foundation stone was laid by The Maharaja, H.H. Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV on August 30, 1916, and inaugurated by The Yuvraja, H.H. Kanteervera Narasimharaja Wadiyar on July 25, 191, who also served as the Patron of The Mythic Society.

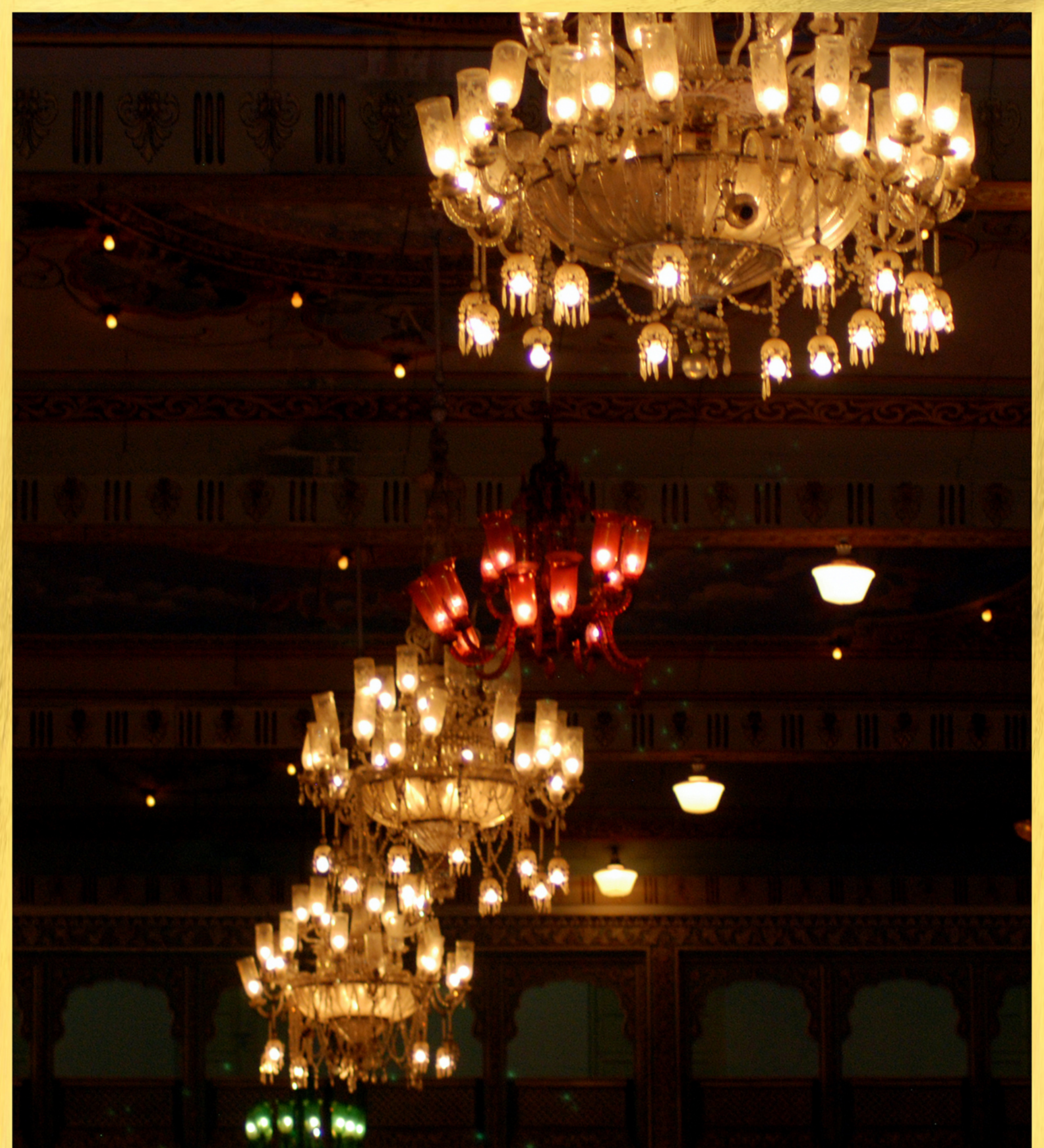
Daly Memorial Hall has seen Mahatma Gandhi and Nobel laureates like Rabindranath Tagore and C V Raman deliver lectures. Researchers such as Dr B.L Rice, Sir John Marshall, Fred Goodwill, Dr A Venkatasubbaiah & Dr M.V Krishna Rao were associated with the Mythic Society. The Mysore ruler named the hall after Sir Hugh Daly, Resident of Mysuru, and the society's first honorary president. Daly's association with Mysuru went beyond administration.



YKC Wadiyar delivering speech at Daly Memorial Hall




H.H Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wadiyar at Daly Memorial Hall




The Official Newsletter of YKC Wadiyar. Written and managed by The Royal Household at Mysuru Palace, The newsletter aims to provide an authoritative resource of information about the Wadiyars, Past and Present.

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