

Biographies of the Unsung Women Freedom Fighters of Tamil Nadu

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Abstract:*The history of Indian National Movement definitely would be incomplete without mentioning the sacrifice of Indian Women. The sacrifice rendered by the Women folk of India will occupy the significant place. They really fought with true spirit and unafraid courage and faced a numerous tortures hardship and exploitations to learn us freedom. When most of the men freedom fighters were in prison the women folk came forward and took charge of the national struggle.*

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Introduction

The Indian freedom movement was a revolutionary movement in the initial stage. Even so, the two years from 1905 to 1907 were a period of only passive resistance, the nationalists carrying on a vigorous anti- British party line and indulging in the free use of tongue and pen. They did it with great sacrifice and their protest found full expression in the celebrated Swadesi

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movement – the first Indian Freedom struggle – as Jawaharlal Nehru rightly termed it. There were twin agitations, namely Swadesi and boycott of British goods. The weapon of the boycott was turned not against an individual but British goods. To the advocacy of Swadesi, which aimed at using goods produced in India, the advocacy of Swadesi, which aimed at refusing British goods, was added. These actions marked the first stage of the “coalescence” of the Indian people into a united nation. In Tamil Nadu, more encouragement was given to Nationalism. Meetings were arranged in every important town and village for taking the Swadesi vow "Swaraj" and failure to keep up this vow should mean ex-communication. The women of Tamil Nadu were awakened with patriotic fever. The revolutionary ideas touched the people and they raised their hands against the Government. They did not tolerate the suppression of the movement. The leadership of Tamil Nadu's new agitational politics comprised largely of young people in their twenties and thirties. Several protest meetings condemning the proposed were held in Madras, Tanjore, Kumbakonam, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Vellore, North Arcott, Madurai, Tuticorin and Tirunelveli. The natives distributed seditious notices and pamphlets to stir the people against the British.

The Tamil paper Swadeshmitran, published from Madras, attracted the attention of the government by their seditious writing. The extremist leaders like, Nilakanta Brahmachari, Sankar Krishan Iyer, Subramania Siva and Padmanabha Iyer, went on a lecture tour in South India.

Role of Feminist Movements

The Quit India Movement was attended not only by the Congress movement but also by the general public in India. In support of Gandhiji's call, he entered the field of civil liberties to achieve India's independence with the main aim of expelling whites. Rukmini Lakshmbai, Damayanti, Ignatius, Janaki, Rajalakshmi, Padmavathi, Surya, Solai and Pakiyalakshmi participated in this struggle in Tamil Nadu and did a great job. The struggle in Tamil Nadu was the most important reason why the wisdom that every Indian woman who saw the course of this struggle should join the freedom struggle became a godsend in the minds of every woman in India. Ambujammal, a member of the Volunteer Cars movement from Chennai province, narrated the Quit India movement. The Girl students also contributed immensely to the Freedom struggle. Students, especially from the College of Women, jumped into the fray. They took part in the freedom struggle and took to the streets chanting,

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"Leave the whites." The English government was shocked to see the students' up rising

Agilandam Ammal (Akilandathammal)



In the grand narrative of India's struggle for independence, history has often foregrounded the charismatic speeches of national leaders, the monumental movements, and the mass mobilizations that shook the very foundation of colonial rule. Yet, woven into the deeper fabric of this freedom tapestry are the lives of countless unsung heroes and heroines—figures whose contributions, though not always celebrated in public memory, were vital in sustaining the spirit of resistance. One such remarkable woman was Agilandam Ammal, also reverently known as Akilandathammal, whose unwavering commitment to the ideals of nationalism, social justice, and Gandhian non-violence place her firmly among the stalwarts of India's freedom movement

An Embodiment of Gandhian Resistance

Agilandam Ammal's political awakening aligned with the Civil Disobedience Movement of the early 1930s, when Mahatma Gandhi's call for Satyagraha reverberated across the towns and villages of India. Far from being a passive supporter, she was an active participant in the Satyagrahas of 1932 and 1933, leading to her first imprisonment. That a middle-class woman, rooted in a conservative society, willingly accepted incarceration for political defiance is a testament to her moral conviction and courage.

Ambujammal

Ambujammal was born in 1899, on January 8, at Chennai. She was born in a rich and influenced family. Her father was Srinivasa Iyengar and mother was Renganayagai Ammal. Because of her father's status, she learned Tamil, English, Hindi and Sanskrit in her home. From the childhood



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itself, she was very much interested in the Gandhian principles. When Gandhiji and Kasthuri Bai came to Chennai in 1915 to collect money for South African Satyagraha, she went to see Gandhiji with her father. She was surprised to see Kasthuri Bai, because she was in 'Kather' Saree. On seeing the simpleness of Kasthuri Bai she had given her large priced silk sarees and jewels for the fund of backward class people.

She opposed the British people for India's Independence and she blocked the shops which were selling the foreign goods. Then she was arrested and locked in Vellore jail. There she was teaching Hindi, Tailoring and flower making for the women prisoners. In 1943 she became the member of Chennai Corporation. She started a women's education Centre "Sreenivasa Gandhi" in the name of her father and Gandhiji. By this, women got training in education, medical treatment and business training.

In 1945, when the Congress conference held in Avadi, Chennai, she was selected as the leader of reception committee. In 1946 she started co-operative societies separately for women in Madras. In 1957 she was a member of social Welfare Board of Chennai and continued it for seven years. She became popular among the people by writing a book "Naan Kanda Bharatham". She got the 'Padma Shree' Award in 1964 for her social work. She fought for women's education, women's business development and abolition of Devadasi system. She was called as the "Adopted Daughter of Gandhiji". She died in 6 October 1983.

Anjalaiammal Kadaloor



Anjalaiammal was born at Kadaloor in 1890. From 1921 onwards she started struggle for the independence of India. She was the first woman who started the struggle for India's independence in South Tamil Nadu. In 1932 she participated in non-cooperation movement, liquor shop struggle and also in 1941 individual Satyagraha. In these struggles she was arrested several times and several years she was in Kadaloor, Vellore, Trichy and Bellari jails.

Challenges and Rigours

As a woman freedom fighter, Anjalai Ammal faced multitudinous challenges. The social government frequently suppressed women's participation in nationalist conditioning, subjugating

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them to imprisonment and harsh treatment. In addition, societal morals discouraged women from engaging in political activism. Despite these obstacles, she remained intrepid and determined, inspiring others to join the movement.

She was a good speaker. When the protest was going on in kadaloor salt struggle, she participated with her child in one hand and the Congress flag in another hand. When British soldiers beat her, she lost her child down but she did not lose the Congress flag down. She sold all her properties and gave the money to the struggle for India's Independence. She was a member in Madras Legislative Assembly from 1946 to 1952. She also sent her child Amma Kannu to fight for freedom. She was a school student at her ninth age when she was sent to jail for four years. Like this she struggled for the freedom in many ways and died on February 20, 1961.

Alamelu Mangai (B.1918, wife of Raja Gopalan)

She supported her husband solidly in all his nationalist activities. Inspired by her husband she joined the freedom movement. She took part in individual satyagraha and she was sentenced to six months imprisonment. She received Tamarapattaram for her service.

Amirthammal

W/o. Virudhunagar Shanmuga Nadar, took part in Foreign Cloth Boycott programme and was jailed for 6 months in Tiruchy.

Chellammal

W/o. Aruppukottai Ponnai Chettiar, she took part in Foreign Cloth Boycott programme and was jailed for 3 months in Chennai.

Engammal (b. 15.2.1916) Wife of Ayyalusamy Naicker)

She joined the National movement in 1935 as a constructive worker. She specialised in Khadi and Harijan upliftment work. She took part in the Individual Satyagraha and Quit India movement. She was sentenced to jail for both these and half months. In 1943-44 she served for the welfare of Harijan and Rehabilitation. She was influenced by Mahatma Gandhi, V.O.C. and Nehru and built by her talents. She was Secretary of Mathar Sangam at Vellakulam.

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Part in the Quit India Movement and Imprisonment

The Quit India Movement of 1942 was a turning point in India's freedom struggle, calling for an end to British rule. Engammal played a significant part in marshaling people, organizing demurrers, and spreading the communication of resistance. Her active involvement in the movement led to her arrest and imprisonment for three months.

During her time in captivity, she endured harsh conditions, but her spirit remained unbroken. Her incarceration did not discourage her; rather, it strengthened her resoluteness to continue fighting for India's independence.

Rajamani Ammal

W/o. Virudhunagar V.A.K. Mahadevu Pillai, she took part in Toddy shop agitation and was jailed for one year in Tiruchy.

Lakshmi Ammal

W/o. Rajapalayam K.T. Narayana Rajan, took part in 1930 Agitation and was jailed for 3 months in Madurai.

K.P.Janaki Ammal

K.P.Janaki Ammal the courageous daughter of Madurai who took on the British and faced many challenges that came her way. Janaki Ammal was born in 1917 in Madurai. She was hailed first women in South India to be arrested by the British. She was never hesitant to raise her voice against British. As a theatre artiste, freedom fighter, congress worker and later a communist the contribution of Janaki Ammal cannot be undermined. She was 1st arrested in 1930 while giving a performance in Tirunelveli and served in penury. She lost her mother when she was eight and was brought up by her grandmother. As an 8th grade school dropout, she joined music class, she later joined Palaniappapillai Boys company for a salary of Rs.25 per month later, she went on to become the lead actress. She married Guru Swamy Naidu the harmonium player in the troupe.

She joined the Congress Party as a member in 1936 and subsequently joined the Congress Socialist Party. When the Congress men of Madurai refrained from giving a reception to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose when he visited Madurai, Janaki Ammal took part

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in the reception. She met P.Jeevanandam and P.Ramamurthy at Batlagundu. Inspired by the Communist philosophy, she joined the Communist Party in 1940. She was arrested for taking part in the anti-war propagation work under the Defence of India she was elected as the president of the All India Democratic Women's Association and also represented the Madurai South Constituency in the Assembly in the free India she is the first women councilor elected for the Madurai Municipality in 1947. She passed away on March 1, 1992.

Kannavaram Ammaiyar

W/o. Sivagangai Lawyer, Ramanujam Iyer. She took part in the Harijan Movement.

She helped her husband and other freedom fighters. She actively participated in the Gandhian constructive work and especially worked for the uplift of the oppressed people. She helped Vaidyanatha Iyer's temple entry efforts She dedicated herself to the welfare of the Harijan Children in the Sivaganga Harijan Hostel.

A. Kalammal – Madurai

She comes from a depressed class and stood in the forefront of satyagraha and constructive work inspired by Kasturba Gandhi. She plunged into the national movement in a spirit of sacrifice. The uplift of the depressed people became her top priority. She awakened the women folk and motivated them. She took part in the Quit India movement and was imprisoned for six months.

V.M.Kothainayaki Ammal

She was born as the second daughter of Venkatacharyar and Pattammal in December 1, 1901 at Thiruvallikeni, Chennai. At the age of 5 she got married. So she did not get a chance for education. But in the childhood itself she had a good knowledge in storytelling. Up to the age of 20, she did not know to read or write. But she published the drama 'Indira Mohana' with the help of her friends.

Then she started learning Tamil and wrote many stories and dramas. In 1925, she purchased the magazine 'Jeganmohini' to publish her stories. Because of her writings it came in the first place. More than 10,000 prints had been published by this magazine and it created a great record. She had continuously published this magazine up to 5 October 1959.

She gave out world news and news about freedom struggle to the house wives

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through her magazine. She created more than 150 women writers by her magazine. She was very fond of the principles of Gandhiji and she wrote more about that of Gandhian principles in her magazine and wore 'Kadhar' dress. Her Novel 'Vaitheki' was about the life of prostitutes. She fought against the sale of foreign dresses and liquor. Then she was arrested and put in to the Vellore jail. In Vellore jail she looked the pathetic life of women prisoners and she wrote a novel 'Sothanaiyin Kodumai'. The government was against to publish her other novels like 'Thiyaha Kodi' and 'Nalina Sekaran'. But she was not afraid of anything and published the novels. After Independence she started 'Mahatma Gandhi Seva Sangam' and she fought for the development of women, prohibition of liquor and eradication of untouchability. She was in the literary field for 35 years so she was called 'Naval Rani' and 'Katha Mohini'. She died on February 20, 1960.

M.S.K. Kamalam

W/o. Trichy M.S. Krishnasami Iyengar, took part in the civil disobedience movement in 1932 and was jailed for 6 months in Vellore.

Mariam Beevi

W/o. Trichy Bheema Nagar Abdul Karim. She took part in the 1942 Nagpur Flag struggle and was jailed for 6 months in Cuddalore.

M.R. Kamalaveni

This celebrated harmonist sang many national songs in dramas. Her inspiring patriotic songs in dramas. Her inspiring patriotic songs were banned on the eve of Quit India movement in 1942 and she was arrested and sentenced to six months imprisonment with a one year infant child. "To the shivering of the earth to the trembling of London Mahatma Gandhi waged the nonviolent war" These inspiring lines moved many people.

K.K.S. Kaliasammal (Wife of celebrated freedom fighter Gandhi Subhana Gounder, Kugalur, gobi TK.)

She took active part in Khadi Work, prohibition Campaign and Programme for removal of untouchability from 1921 onwards. She supported her husband solidly in all his nationalist activities. She was arrested for her participation in Individual Satyagraha and was in jail for 15 days but was released on payment Rs.1000/- as fine. During an acute water shortage, she

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allowed harijans to draw water from her well. Her whole family was excommunicated from her caste. Mahatma Gandhi felicitated her in his Harijan Weekly. She became a role model to many women in her religion.

Manjubhashini (24.9.1906 – 23.9.1996 – Chennai)

She married at the age of 12 to an advocate Mr. Subramaniam. She was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi and 'Manjumma' flung aside the comforts and threw herself into India's freedom struggle. She participated in the burning of foreign goods at Thambu Chetty Street, Chennai, in the Salt Satyagraha at Vedaranyam and Quit India Movement. She spent 1 ½ years as a detained in Vellore Jail. Then she dedicated her life to constructive work and founded. 'Bala Mandir' for the destitute and abandoned children. She was incharge of Prayer and food when Gandhiji visited Chennai in 1946.

Moovaloor Ramamirtham

Ramamirtham was born at Thiruvarur in 1883. She was the important person who fought for the defeat of the Devadasi system. She started 'Uvathi Saranalayam' a welfare organization for devadasis and gave a new life to Devadasis. She had written two novels 'Thasigalin Mosavalai' and 'Mathi Petta Minor'. In the novels she insists the need for the abolition of the Devadasi system. In 1938 she participated in anti-Hindi agitation. In this agitation she walked continuously for 42 days and 577 miles. She was the only woman who walked the anti-Hindi agitation. She died on 1962.



Manickammal

W/o. Tiruvadanaï, Thiruvedagam Pathur Chellathurai, took part in August Agitation in 1942 and was jailed for 5 months in Thiruvadanaï8.

Neela Mehrunni

She was from Keezha Ayikudi, Ramnad. She took part in Individual Satyagraha and was jailed for 4 months in Chennai.

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Nagammaiyyar

Nagammaiyyar was born in the year 1885 in Thathampatti, Salem District. His parents were Arangasami and ponnuthayi. In 1898 at the age of 13, she married E.V.R.Periyar. E.V.R.Periyar struggled for the Indian Independence and women's freedom. He was highly encouraged by Nagammaiyyar. In 1921 she participated toddy shop protest in Erode and when she came back from jail, she cut all the plam trees which had been planted in her garden.

In Vikkam, Kerala, the high caste people did not allow the low caste people to enter the Temple and street. Untouchability flourished in Vikkam. For this Kerala Congress Leaders asked help of E.V.R.Periyar. In this struggle Nagammaiyyar joined with E.V.R.Periyar and went to Vikkam and struggled for the low class people and got freedom for them. On 19 November 1925 they conducted a celebration for the victory of Vikkam protest. In this function Nagammaiyyar got a place in Chennai for her well known service. Also in 1989 Tamil Nadu Government had started E.V.R. Nagammaiyyar Memorial Women free Bachelor Education., V.Kalyana Sundranar awarded E.V.R.Periyar as "Vikkam Veerar". He also spoke about the brave character of Nagammaiyyar.

Nagammaiyyar's death shocked Periyar. Periyar wrote about Ammaiyyar's death in the Republic Magazine. Starting her life as an uneducated ordinary woman, she fell in love with Periyar at that time and became her husband's companion in public life and became the first warrior to jump into the social battlefield as a pioneer for women in public life today. If you think that a woman stands on the side of a man's success, the only example is Mother Nagamma. she was actively involved in the National Movement and Self-Respect Movement.

Section 144 has been imposed across Erode. Despite this, Nagma continued to protest. There were great uprisings in Erode. The incident has caused outrage across the country. Nagamma, who was Periyar's companion, died on 11.5.1933 at the age of 48. Periyar wrote in the

Republic Magazine.

Are you saying you're excited?

Are you saying you're inspired?

Are you saying it is all gone?

"Nagamma lived and wanted to live, not for me but for herself.

Nagammaiyyar also attended all the conferences attended by Periyar.

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Narayanammal : (1910 – Alamarthupatti, Tiruthangal Tk. Parents: Gurusamy Naidu, Lingammal; Brother Ramachandran, a Freedom Fighter)

She was a member of the Sathur congress committee. She widely distributed national news, congress circulars and pamphlets. She worked voluntarily as a teacher to remove illiteracy. She participated in 1941 Individual satyagraha and was jailed for six months. She refused to receive the honour conferred on her by the State and Central Governments including pension and tamara pattayam for her sacrifices.

V.K.T. Pankajammal (1928-1979, Wife of Srinivasa Alwar)

She entered the freedom struggle at an early age. Through her powerful songs and speeches she created awareness about British exploitation and the urgent need for our freedom. She was imprisoned for thirty months for participating actively in the Quit India movement of 1942.

PonnuthaiAmmal

1927, Tuticorin. Parents: Arumuga Nadar – Mariammal, Husband: Isaac Velayya Nadar. Studied upto Vth form. She participated in the Swadeshi movement, boycott of foreign clothes and the Quit India movement. She was imprisoned in 1942. President of the women club in south Tuticorin.

Padmavathy Asher: (B. 1908; Thirupur)

She entered the nationalist struggle on the direct call of Mahatma Gandhi. She took active part in constructive programmes such as Khadi, prohibition and removal of untouchability work. She was sentenced for two months for participating in the salt satyagraha, for one year for her participation in civil disobedience movement, in 1932 for organizing a huge procession against ban and for seven months in 1933.

Padmasini Ammal

Padmasini Ammal was one of the noteworthy frontline leader of the national movement As a result of the impact of Non-Cooperation Movement, Padmasini established the Tilak Ashram in Madurai and conducted classes for adults in the evenings. She also undertook

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door-to-door campaign highlighting the value of Khaddar. She was in the family way when Swami Sivam organised the Cauvery yatra. Padmasiri took part in the yatra and propagated the value of Khadar. She addressed a meeting in Paparapatti (where Subramania Siva was buried). During the course of the yatra she delivered a female baby. Due to the strenuous nature of the trip the baby passed away a couple of days after its birth. Padmasini Ammal attended the Belgaum session of the Indian National Congress held in December 1924. She established the 'Sisters Association'. When the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched, she spoke in support of the movement in the meeting held at Jhansi Rani Park. When she was arrested, she went on fast in the jail, she was then three months pregnant. As a result of the stress; she had a miscarriage. In 1934, she assigned 10 acres of land in Munnampattu village for the Bharathi Ashram. In 1935, she started a school for the depressed classes in Manamadurai. Padmasini sent off her husband with a garland and tilak when he went to prison for picketing toddy shops. She has given many speeches to bring the unity among the people and she has participated in many riots held in Tamil Nadu. She passed away on January 16, 1936.

G. Rangammal

Intensely worked along with her husband in the villages of Periyakulam taluk mobilising village women for the khadi work and nationalist movement. She fully dedicated her life for the cause of the nation. She was jailed for two months in the individual satyagraha (1941).

J.A. Rajalakshmi

W/o. Ramnad V. Appavu, took part in Toddy Shop Agitation and was jailed for 6 months in Madurai.

T.P.Rajalakshmi

T.P.Rajalakshmi was born in Thiruvaiyaru at Thanjavur District in the year 1911. She was the daughter of Punjabakesa Iyyer and Meenakshi. She was married at the age of 11, but was abandoned by her husband when she could not pay her dowry. So Rajalakshmi's father committed suicide. Then Rajalakshmi left her village along with her mother. In order to support her family, Rajalakshmi joined a drama troupe and acted in stage plays. She learnt dance and music from Sankaradas Swamikal, a popular dramatist. Rajalakshmi got a grip on life in 1931, when she acted as the heroine in the first Tamil talkie, 'Kalidas'. So she got the

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proud of being a first Tamil actress and also got the special name 'Cinema Rani'. By acting, she became rich and started her own film company named 'Rajam Theatres'. She produced a film 'Miss Kamala'. The story was written by her and she had directed it. So she became the first woman director of South India. She was very popular in film industry but she was interested in Congress Party and Gandhian Principles. So she had taken a film 'Indiya Thai' regarding our independence. Because of censor board it got failed. She struggled for the development of Tamil society and died in 1950.

Subalakshmi

Subalakshmi was born as a daughter of subramaniya Iyyer and Visalatchi Ammaiyar in Mylapore, Chennai on 30 July 1886. She was very much interested in education and finished her primary education at the age of nine. She got married at the age of eleven and her husband died within three months after her marriage. So her relatives were against her education. But again she started her education in 1899. In 1905 she came in third place in the state matriculation examination. In 1908, she started to learn B.A. degree and finished it at the age of 23. She was the first woman to finish the B.A. degree in the caste of 'Antharar'. She got the job as a teacher in 1911 and later she was promoted as a head mistress.

In 1912, there were more than 22000 widows in Chennai in between the age of 5 to 15. In her own home at Elumppoor, Chennai, she started a service Centre for the widows. She named it as "Shree Saratha Iyikkia Sangam". Also she started a school and because of insufficient area she shifted it to Thiruvallikaeni, Chennai. The Government of Tamil Nadu had given Rs.170000 for constructing new buildings to this school. From 19 December 1922 in the new building her school was started as the name of "Lady Willington" school. This school got the great place in the growth of women education in Tamil Nadu. She struggled for the life of widows so the central government awarded her 'Padma Shree' award. She was affectionately called as 'Sister Subalakshmi'. She died in the year 1969 at the age of 82.

Seethalakshmi ammali: (b. 1909, daughter of the celebrated freedom fighter sundaraja pillai and chellammal, madurai.)

She was a powerful orator instilling confidence, determination and emotions in the minds of the people. She was the leading nationalist singer (between 1926 and 1930) In 1932 for her

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participation in the freedom struggle she was sentenced to six months imprisonment. She worked hard for building up women's awareness and their uplift through "Sister's Sangam" and Bharat Sevika Samiti".

Sornathammal (1916, Madurai)

She participated in the 1941 individual Satyagraha and in 1942 Quit India movement. She was jailed for three months in 1942. On 2 nd Oct, 1943 (Gandhi Jayanthi Day), she along with Lakshmibai Ammal organised a Women's march in Madurai shouting Quit India slogan. She was arrested by the police and was left naked in the area of Alagarkoil. Tolerating all humiliation, she continued her sacrificial yagna for freedom

Sidhu bhagyalakshmi: (b. 1907, daughter of rajappa and wife of sidhu alagar samy iyer, madurai)

She participated in freedom struggle along with her husband. She participated in foreign cloth boycott movement in 1932 and was sent to jail for three months. In 1938 she participated in nitting company strike and was imprisoned for three months. She was a committed constructive worker.

Seelakaralammal

W/o. Madurai Karmega Servai. She was born in 1897. She took part in Non cooperation movement in 1932 and jailed for 6 months in Vellore

Sengamalai

D/o. Ranganatha Pillai of Tiruthurai Poondi was born in 1888. She took part in individual satyagraha in 1941 and was jailed for 3 months in Vellore.

Seethai

W/o. Tirunelveli, Mettu St. V. Kalimuthu, she took part in Independence struggle in 1930 and was jailed for 1 year in Trichy .

Kamalam

W/o. M. K. Muthu of Karur, took part in 1947 individual Satyagraha and was jailed for 2

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months in Vellore. She died in 1943.

Kalyani Ammal

W/o. Trichy T.V. Saminatha Sasthry, she took part in Civil disobedience movement in 1932 and was jailed for 6 months in Vellore.

Velammal

She was from Thiruvadana. She took part in the Quit India Agitation in 1942 and was jailed for 2 years.

Conclusion

Women occupies a significant role in the freedom struggle. Madurai town was naturally the scene of greatest political activity today women's are all shining in the various fields. Every woman whether rich or poor, high or low should have freedom to live, to work and to have education in a freedom society with all their rights. The above said women's K.P.Janaki Ammal, Sornathammal, Padmasini Ammal, Ambujammal were became as role model for today women due to their heroic activities in the freedom struggle. The Indian Women shouldered critical responsibilities in India's Struggle for freedom. The Women Freedom Fighters of Tamil Nadu bravely faced the baton of the Police and went behind the iron bars. Hundreds and thousands of Women of Tamilnadu dedicated their lives for obtaining freedom of their motherland. They held public meetings, organised picketing of shops selling toddy, arrack and foreign cloths; sold khadhi and indigenous products and stood against the administrative arrogance of the British during the Gandhian Movements in Tamilnadu between 1920 and 1947.

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