

ARIYALUR



District Collector:

Dr.T.G.Vinay IAS

HISTORY

- ✓ Following the changes including the receding of the sea, various species that lived in the sea and the sea shore that were submerged under the gutter and swamp became fossils. Thus Ariyalur district is a veritable Palaeo-Zoological Garden and is often nick named as the 'Mecca of the Geological Researchers'.

SANGAM PERIOD (B.C. 500 TO A.D. 300)

- ✓ Ariyalur was under the rule of the Cholas of Uraiyur and the Malavar Chief of Kollimalai which was ruled by Ori, who was famous for his prowess in archery.
- ✓ Vilandai in Udaiyarpalayam taluk was the Capital of the chief Vilandai Vel who was defeated by Kochenganan, the last ruler of the Sangam Age.



- ✓ It was also the Head Quarters of Vilandaikurram which formed a part of Irungolappadi region which was ruled by Irungovel of Pidavur who was a contemporary of Karikalachola.

PALLAVA PERIOD (6-9'TH CENTURY A.D)

- ✓ Coins of Mahendravarma Pallava were found at Govindapuram near Ariyalur.
- ✓ The Devaram trios Appar, Sambandar, Sundarar who lived during the periods of Mahendravarma, Narasimhavarma visited the temples in Kilapaluvur, Thirumalapadi and Govindaputtur and praised the Deities of the temples in their Devaram hymns.

THE IMPERIAL CHOLA PERIOD (A.D. 850-1279)

- ✓ More than 450 inscriptions of the Chola Kings from Aditya-I (871-907) to Rajendra-III (1246-1279) are available in this district.
- ✓ Melapaluvur was the capital of the Paluvettaraiyar Chiefs who ruled Ariyalur region as the feudatories of the Cholas from Aditya-I to Rajendra-I.

ARIYALUR UNDER THE PANDYAS AND HOYSALAS

- ✓ Jatavarman Sundarapandya invaded the Chola country and captured it.
- ✓ Hoysala kings Viranarasimha , Virasomesvara and Ramanatha held sway over this area for some time and helped the Chola king Rajaraja-III from the attack of the Pandyas.

UNDER THE VIJAYANAGAR EMPIRE (A.D. 1371 - 1685) AND THE PALAYAM CHIEFS (A.D. 1550 - 1817)

- ✓ Vijayanaga king Kampana

UNDER THE BIJAPUR SULTANS, MARATTAS, CARNATIC NAWABS AND BRITISH

- ✓ Sherkan Lodhi ruled this area from his capital at Valikandapuram.
- ✓ He was defeated by Mahratta King Sivaji in 1677.



Freedom Struggle

- ✓ Ariyalur Sabapathi Pillai, Natesa Ayyar, Ganapathi Reddiyar, Natarajan Pillai, Eravangudi Padmanathan, Ariyalur Manogirao, Kuppusamy, Abaranji, Appasamy, Virabadran, Rangarajan, Vikkiramangalam, Alagesam pillai, Manakal, Sadasivam Pillai were some of the prominent freedom fighters from this district

Present Day

- ✓ It is bounded on the North by Cuddalore, South by Thanjavur, East by Cuddalore and Thanjavur and West by Perambalur and Tiruchirapalli districts.
- ✓ Ariyalur has been functioning as a separate District since 23.11.2007.

Area

- ✓ The District has an area of 1949 Sq.Km.
- ✓ Population: **Total : 754894**
- ✓ Assembly 2+1
- ✓ Loksabha – 1 part

Water

- ✓ It is an inland district without any coast line.
- ✓ The District has Vellar River in the North and Kollidam River in the South.

Notable Pilgrimage

- ✓ Vaithiyanatha Swamy Temple at Thirumazhapadi
- ✓ Kaliyuga Varadaraja Perumal Kovil at Kallankurichi
- ✓ Siva Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram
- ✓ Guruvayurappan kovil
- ✓ Gandaikonda Cholapuram Siva Temple (Brihadeshwara Temple) built by Rajendra Chola son of Raja Raja Chola is almost a miniature of Thanjavur Brihadeshwara Temple.

- ✓ Elakurichi located at a distance of 32 Kms from Ariyalur is famous for the Adaikala Matha Church built by the famous Catholic Missionary Constantino Joseph Beschi popularly known as VEERAMA MUNIVAR.

Mining

- ✓ The District is rich in mineral deposits. Celeste, Lime Stone, Shale, Sand Stone, Canker and Phosphate nodules occur at various places in the district.
- ✓ Eight major Cement factories are located within the district due to the abundant deposits of limestone.

<https://ariyalur.nic.in/about-district/district-profile/>