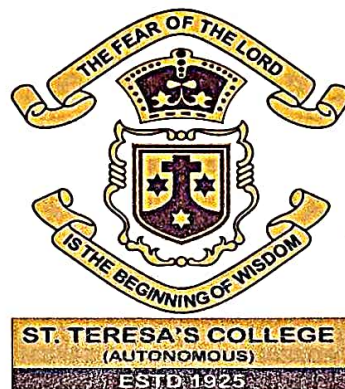


ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF HERITAGE SITES ALONG PARK AVENUE ROAD KOCHI

A Project submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of a B.A Degree in History

St. Teresa's College (Autonomous)

Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.



AB22HIS018

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

ST. TERESA'S COLLEGE

ERNAKULAM

MARCH 2025

Verified by Dr. Jacob. F. S.

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CERTIFICATE

This is to verify that the project work entitled "ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF HERITAGE SITES ALONG PARK AVENUE ROAD KOCHI" being submitted by name in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of B.A Degree in History of St Teresa's College(Autonomous), Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University is a bonafide record of the work done by her under my supervision and guidance. No part of this work has been submitted elsewhere for the award of the degree.

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Asst. Professor,

Head of the Department,

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DECLARATION

We hereby declare that this project work entitled a study on "ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF HERITAGE SITES ALONG PARK AVENUE ROAD KOCHI" is an original work done by me under the guidance of Dr.Stancy S, Assistant Professor, Department of History, St. Teresa's College(Autonomous). No part of this work has been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree.

Place: Ernakulam

Date:

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We also thank the staff of Kerala History Association, Ernakulam for using us their Library. We use this occasion to thank all our respondents for the valuable time they spent with us. I thank the staff of the Library of St.Teresa's college for their cooperation.

Lastly, we extend my heartfelt thanks to our family and friends for their constant encouragement throughout the process of creating this project.

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INTRODUCTION

This project aims to analyse the political, social, cultural significance of Maharaja's College, St. Teresas's College, Govt. Law College, Corporation, District court Ernakulam, General Hospital and Subhash Bose Park. The objective is to trace the history and development of these heritage sites.

In particular, the project seeks to understand the part of each three colleges has played a part in Kochi City's cultural development. The role that Subhash Park plays in transforming Kochi into a green city. More over to explore the political evolution of these heritage sites through years. Overall, this study aims to provide the insights into the importance of preserving the heritage sites.

Kerala is one of India's most progressive states in terms of social welfare and quality of life. The State boasts of one of India's highest literacy rates, highest life expectancy and lowest child mortality rates. The literacy rate for women in Kerala is one of the highest in all of Asia. Enjoying a unique cosmopolitan viewpoint, the people here, at all levels of society, have greater access to services and opportunities - as well as a greater say in their governance. Kerala's history is closely linked with its commerce, which until recent times revolved around its spice trade. Celebrated as the Spice Coast of India, ancient Kerala played host to travellers and traders from across the world including the Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Chinese, Portuguese, Dutch, French and the British. Almost all of them have left their imprints on this land in some form or the other and that has helped us mould and design our own special way of interacting with the world.¹

The Ernakulam District is constituted of territories which once formed part of the princely States of Cochin and Travancore and the District of Malabar which now form the State of Kerala. The history of Ernakulam there-fore represents in a sense a confluence of the three major streams of Kerala history which take their source from the regional water-sheds of Cochin, Travancore and Malabar. Whereas the vital portion of the District comprising of the Cochin and Kanayannur Taluks belonged mostly to erstwhile Cochin State, the outlying Taluks of Parur, Alwaye, Kun-nathunad, Moovattupuzha Moovattupuzha and Thodupuzha, barring a few areas, formed part of erstwhile Travancore. Fort Cochin, the headquarters of Cochin Taluk was, however, part of the old Malabar District. In spite of this peculiar territorial composition which invests this District with rich and

¹ Kerala tourism | <https://www.keralatourism.org/kerala-at-a-glance/>

varied historical experiences and traditions, its history is centred mainly around the rise and growth of Cochin and as such it coincides with the history of the former princely State of Cochin.²

The Ernakulam District derives its name from the location of its headquarters in Ernakulam town. The story of the origin of the name Ernakulam is connected with the popular story of the origin of the Siva Temple situated in the heart of the town. According to popular tradition current in the place Devalan, the senior disciple of one Kulu Muni, became a serpent-man and developed serpent's hoods on his head under the curse of his Guru. The Nagarshi, as Devalan came to be called, attained Moksha by worshipping Siva Linga and propitiating Lord Siva. The tank in which he attained salvation came to be called Rishinagakulam (Tank of Rishinaga) and the deity presiding over the place Rishinagakulathappan. The town which grew around the spot also came to be known as Rishinagakulam after the names of the temple and the tank.¹ The popular belief is that the name Ernakulam is a corrupt and distorted version of the word "Rishinagakulam". This derivation, however, defies the rules of phonology. It seems more probable that the name Ernakulam is derived from the words Irainar Kalam (Place of Lord Siva). The place was also known as "Panchabjapuram" (City of Five Lotus Flowers) as may be seen from the inscriptions on the Deepastambhom (Lamp post) and on certain metal vessels of the Ernakulam Thirumala Devaswom temple. The deity of the latter temple is invoked as Panchabjapuradhiswara (Lord of Panchabjapura) by the priests at the end of their daily archanas.³

Park Avenue Road in Kochi, Ernakulam, is the road that runs between the Maharaja's college ground and Ernakulam boat jetty. The area between the boat jetty and the Maharaja's grounds was formerly called "Valiyathokku." Its name comes from a big cannon that was positioned in the road. After then, it was taken out of there.⁴ We can refer to the road as a government center because it is lined with numerous government buildings that date back more than a century. The Ernakulam Corporation Office, St. Teresa's College, Maharaja's College, the Government Law College, the General Hospital, and the Court Complex are all located along Park Avenue Road. The idea of the new road came up in 1903, when Kochi Maharaja Rajarishi Rama Varma (1895–1914), was travelling to attend the Kochi Durbar. The king was well known for his deep passion for gardening and nature. He felt a need for beautiful tree-lined roads similar to those in Europe and America. He directed the Diwan to build a new park where the public can unwind in the evenings. Thus a new

² C. Achyutha Menon. (1911) "History" in *Cochin State Manual*, state editor kerala gazetteers department pg79

³ A. Sreedhara Menon (1965) "General" in *Ernakulam District Gazetteer* Govt press Trivandrum ,pg3

⁴ V V K Valath (1991) *Keralathile sthala charithrangal : Ernakulam Jilla* , Kerala Sahitya Academy Thrissur, pg230

park came up in the open space opposite Shiva temple facing the sea, named as Rama Varma Park. The king ordered for beautifying the road bordering the park with a wide variety of flowering trees like Gulmohar etc. The king even passed a law prohibiting any person cutting down the trees, even branches without sanction of the Royal court. The beauty of the road impressed the Hon. British Resident of Kochi, that he renamed the street as Park Avenue.

The beauty of the stretch was so impressive that several important institutions were later established in this stretch. This includes the Kochi State Legislature Assembly Building (current Law college), Kochi Royal Huzur Cutchery (Secretariat- the current Taluk Office), Raja's court of Appeal (current Ernakulam District Courts), Royal Medical Office (current DMO office), Divan's Bungalow (current Government Guest House), Ernakulam Mayor House (current Corporation of Cochin office) and St.Teresa's College. These were in addition to the existing major structures, the Maharaja's College and Ernakulam General Hospital. The annual Durbar processions which normally used to take place in Chittoor Road, was later shifted to this stretch. The road has seen several major agitations as part of Indian Independence movements. In the 1930s, the students of Maharaja's College led a major agitation against Kochi Kingdom which was brutally suppressed with the help of armed police. The Park was the main venue for the Civil Disobedience movement in Kochi. It was for the first time that a major agitation was called, against an Indian princely state, which spearheaded the Indian National Congress to spread the Independence movement into princely states. The Park Avenue was one of the first places where the Aikya Kerala Vedi (Forum for United Kerala) started its agitations for uniting 2 princely states of Kochi and Travancore.

On 15 August 1947 the Park witnessed the ceremony lowering of Kochi Kingdom's Flag for fluttering Indian Tricolour as per Kochi Raja's directive (who was the first Indian prince to join Indian Union willingly). After Independence, the road was taken over by Ernakulam Municipality and retained in the same way as desired by its founder- Maharaja Rajarishi.⁵

Given that Ernakulam is a metropolitan area, parks are essential to the development of a green city. Located along Park Avenue Road, Subhash Park plays a crucial role in the green city idea.

The project consists of 5 chapters . First chapter consists of introduction , review of literature , objectives , methodology . second chapter with the title educational institutions , which details the history of St teresas college , Maharaja's college govt law college . The third chapter titled “ development of public service authorities “ details Ernakulam general hospital , Corporation , and

⁵ History | Park avenue road, [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Park_Avenue_\(Kochi\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Park_Avenue_(Kochi)) .

District Court complex. Fourth chapter titled “Subhash Park :Green city “. Fifth chapter the concluding chapter titled “ Why are these heritage sites located along the Park Avenue road ? “.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Park Avenue is a famous tree-lined road starting from the western end of Durbar hall road to Broadway in the city of Kochi . Several famous historical buildings are also located alongside the road. There is a lack of exact data on this topic. History of these heritage sites is quite difficult to find . Kerala district gazetteers:Ernakulam contains details about the history of Ernakulam.

Keralathinte sthala charithrangal : Ernakulam jilla written by V V K Valathu published in 1991 giving major details about the history of the Park Avenue road and the surroundings of the place .

However certain magazines like Maharajakkeeyam published by Maharaja's college Ernakulam contain details that give insights regarding the origin and development of Maharaja's college.

Down the century : history of the congregation of the Carmelite sisters of St. Teresa 1887-1987 written by Sr. Ann Felice CSST and Noottandinte charitra vazhikal written by DR. Soumya Baby has given information regarding the history and development of St. Teresa's college (Autonomous) Ernakulam .Details regarding the Govt. Law College Ernakulam got from the annual diary (calendar) from the college office. Smaranika published in 2000 contains information regarding Cochin corporation . The details pointing to the establishment of Ernakulam District Court from their official website. Ernakulam Jilavikasanam Samagra Nirdheshanghal gives us the details regarding General Hospital Ernakulam. Subash Bose Park : Heart of Ernakulam city a paper published in the online platform gives major details of Subhash Bose park.

Official records like books that were kept in the taluk , online newspaper reports , journals , and personal interviews were helpful in the research of the project.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the history of Park Avenue Road Kochi.
- To evaluate how cultural sites have developed .
- To determine the part , each of the three colleges has played a part in Kochi City's cultural development.

- To understand the role that Subhash park plays in transforming Kochi into a green city.
- To evaluate these cultural site's political evolution.

METHODOLOGY

This project has been conducted using a variety of research approaches. Primary sources such as books, magazines, and personal interviews provided the majority of the data used in this project. This research is therefore a blend of qualitative and quantitative methods. The nature of this undertaking is descriptive, analytical, and objective.

Primary sources of data for this study were personal interviews with local people and the government officers ..To gather information about the government buildings, government officials were visited. Secondary data used in this project include the books from the library and the History Association . Research was done to find out how the general people felt about the way these heritage sites were developed. The questions were descriptive in nature.

CHAPTER I

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

From 1810 to 1819, the education sector began to be reformed during the time of Colonel Munro, who was the Resident and Diwan of Travancore and Cochin. None of the previous rulers had given much importance to the education of the common people. At this time only upper classes practiced through schools and gurus. However, during Munro's time, schools were started in Travancore and Cochin, both directly and through missionaries. It was suggested that all children between the ages of five and twenty should study. Munro issued an order in 1818. In 1818, Missionary worker Rev. J. Dawson established an English-medium school in Mattancherry, where English education began in Kochi. The government had given a grant for this, but the school stopped functioning after not much time. Later, in 1835, another school was started at the same place under the instructions of the resident Casamajor. Its aim was to teach English, Malayalam and Hebrew to the Jewish children here. Two years later, an English school each started in Thrissur and Tripunithura. In 1845, the school was also established at Ernakulam. The school was raised to a Second Grade College in 1875 under the affiliation of Madras University. This is the present Maharaja's College. By 1890, the number of English schools in Kochi had increased to 24. Of these, six are government schools and 18 are private schools. The education system improved as a result of the efforts of the government, missionaries and revival workers. In 1887, 'St. Teresa's', the first school for girls in Kochi, started its operations.⁶

MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE ERNAKULAM

Malayalis can be found all over the world. Similar to this, Malayalis would always run into at least one former Maharajas College student wherever they go. How did the college acquire such a special historical position? Searching for answers revealed two things. One is the Kochi kingdom's inventiveness and unadulterated determination, which drove the college's creation. The Cochin monarchs insisted that anything beneficial from the rest of the world should be implemented in their nation and that the Kochi people should benefit from it. During that period, the king and his subjects had a clear, unguarded, and incredibly loving relationship. This Maharajas College, which is essential to us, is the outcome of their vision.⁷

⁶ Dr.Soumya Baby (2024) "Kochiyile vidhyabhyasam", in *St.Teresa's College Nootandinte Charitra Vazhikal*, pg22

⁷ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012), Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg15

The second reality is that the merit of guru sreshta, the academic gurus who led the Maharaja's in their early days, continues to serve as the foundation for this school. With the benevolence of all who passed through it, it became Maharaja's Viswavidhyalaya. Beginning as an English elementary school in 1845, Maharajs began on a relatively small scale and expanded into a complete institution. Diwan Shankara Warriar began searching for a school location as soon as he grasped this concept; he had no interest in creating the structure with funds from the treasury. The concern of not having enough children was the cause. The school started by separating a section of the public library that was housed in a tiny, three-room, thatched hut. The lower, middle, upper, and infant pre-primary courses began in the rooms and verandah. The headmaster was chosen to be W.E. Kelly. The headmaster received a remuneration of Rs. 25 per month. Those who studied primary classes at home were also required to be able to enrol in fifth grade. The institution, which began with thirty-one pupils, grew to become the ocean-sized Maharaja's College. From the start, there were stringent regulations. The exam will not be available to individuals who fail to show up on the appointed day. The youngsters must wear a uniform. Coats and hats are rigid. Make sure the coat is buttoned all the way up. Mundu, trousers or trousers may be worn whichever you choose. Children from higher castes should bind their kuduma and conceal it under a cap. Life is similar to discipline. The Saippans were unwilling to make any concessions on this matter. A higher level was set in accordance with the expectations, and more students were welcomed than anticipated. The primary school continued on. As part of the desire to further improve the quality of teaching, E.F. Seeley was identified as a capable headmaster with a wealth of knowledge and intelligence. M.A. at the moment. After graduating, he became a well-known lecturer at Cambridge. Professor Seeley became the new headmaster of Ernakulam Elementary School on January 20, 1865, and he started over on February 6. He lived in government housing and received a salary of 300 rupees each month. For twenty-four years, the professor was the director of public education in Kochi, the first principal of the college, and the headmaster of the school. Being the founder of English education in Kochi, Seeley's title is more than just a decorative accent.⁸

Twenty years later, in 1865 and 1968, the English elementary school was transformed into a high school, which was allowed to accept students who passed the matriculation test. These 20 individuals all went through. The monarch grew interested in the school after observing its expansion and made the decision to construct a new school building. The first installment that was ordered was 26920

⁸ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association,"pg16-18.

rupees. Professor for the creation of a new structure with the architectural splendour of Cambridge University's house, where he previously worked. Seeley took the initiative. The L-shaped main structure on the college's western side was constructed during that time Prof. Seeley, has the touch.⁹

The project took three years to finish. The planked floor, the over bridge that connects these buildings, the history and economics departments on the south side, the English department on the north side, and the library and main hall on the west side are all remnants of the old days. The headmaster's room was located south of the main hall. You can see the estuary across the backwaters to the west, and you can sense the school's march to the east. That was the speciality of Prof Seeley's room. Classes that had previously been held at the library building were moved to the new location. HH Rajas School, Ernakulam underwent a name change. The school gained popularity due to strong matriculation results. As more youngsters arrived from other regions of the country and the Kochi royal palace, this educational center became a popular destination for others. People lined both sides of the road to watch the princes and princesses leave Tripunithura Palace in a double-horse carriage. There were separate rooms for them in the school. When the lesson began, they followed the rule of only entering the classroom with the teacher. Otherwise, the other youngsters would have had to rise up to show respect to the royal family members. If someone does not respect that, it can cause problems. The teacher's arrival is intended to avoid this. There was a dedicated table and chair for Thampuran students beside the teacher in the classroom. After class, they will rest in a room designated specifically for Thampuran children at the school. In the evening, they would return to the palace by horse carriage.¹⁰

They made the decision to begin the FA class the following year. Prof. Seeley took a year's leave to travel to England in the interim. Rather, the Headmaster was D.M. Cruickshank, a Scotsman. Cruickshank made it possible for anybody who passed FA to enroll in the Madras Presidency College. The school was renamed 'Ernakulam College' instead of FA School... In doing so, the college established its own book depot and library. The Kingdom of Cochin's first second-grade institution was Ernakulam institution, which opened its doors in 1874. After his return, Professor

⁹ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg18.

¹⁰ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association,,pg18-19.

Seeley became the college's first principal. Professor Seeley took the lead in developing the college's own football team and a sports club.¹¹

The farewells given by Seeley's colleagues, pupils, and villagers at Ernakulam College, where he served as principal till 1892, literally brought tears to Kochi. Seeley exited the main hall with the satisfaction of having accomplished a great mission. He walked away without looking back.¹²

Seeley was replaced as Principal by DM Cruickshank. He was a Scot who excelled at studying music and poetry. He was the one who put the practice of teachers taking notes into practice. In Kerala, this custom is being followed today. At the college where he served as principal, Cruickshank enrolled his own daughter Helen in an effort to improve exam scores. After graduating from FA school, Helen was employed in Thrissur as a teacher. In the FA class, there were fewer girls. Therefore, in order to promote women's education, there was a requirement that only half of the fee should be paid by girls during Cruickshank's time. The college was growing day by day with great scholars as teachers. Australian Prof. Kentel became known as the 'travelling encyclopedia'. His English classes were world class. He transplanted world literature into the interior of this small college. Pro. Koshi has thirty years of experience as a teacher and taught English grammar. In a similar vein, R.S. Shepherd, the godfather of English grammar, taught here for four years. And he passed away at the age of forty.¹³

In his farewell address at the College Anganam, Cruickshank, who had served for ten years, said, "When I came here, it was just a beach, full of huts and rowboats." Not a single ferry boat was seen. There was just one building in this area, the college building. All of that is gone now. Here, a significant shift is apparent. This is auspicious. He was a visionary. Despite his retirement, Cruickshank remained in Kochi with his family. In 1908 he passed away in Kochi.¹⁴

Prof. FA Davies became principal after Cruickshank. The Intermediate Class (1909) was introduced at this time. Both Dewan A.R. Banerjee and Rama Varma, the monarch of Thrissur at the time, had strong feelings for the college. The college's royal prominence was increased by the king's

¹¹ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg19.

¹² Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg19-20.

¹³ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg20-21.

¹⁴ Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association, pg21.

regular visits. The principal was appointed as the leader of both the school and the college, which had been split into two at that time. Department wise libraries and extensive laboratories were typical of that time. With good results, students from Malabar - Travancore area also came to study here. Following this Hindu and Christian hostels were opened for them to stay. A Hindu hostel was built opposite to the college facing the General Hospital and a Christian hostel at Ernakulam boat jetty where the present telephone exchange sits. The principal visited the hostels exactly twice a week. Prof Davies took the initiative to form a boat club in the college. The aim was to teach children to row. After Prof. Davies retired, Prof. Glynn Barlow, also an English professor, took over as principal. He erected an elaborate stage in the college's main auditorium and formed a theatrical club to teach pupils about acting. He also founded a tennis club. Barlow inspired the children's creativity. When the First World War broke out, Barlow went to the war front in 1914. Later one of the students when Barlow was the principal became the chief minister of Thiru-Kochi named C Kesavan.¹⁵

Following a string of Englishmen, the title was awarded to an Indian, V.R. Venkateshwara Iyer, who taught English at the institution before becoming principal in 1911. After that, he served as the college's head for eight years. He had the opportunity to observe significant occasions in the college's history. The college magazine was founded, celebrated its golden jubilee, and was renamed "Maharajas" during the tenure of VR Venkateswara Iyer. The college also became a first-grade institution. The magazine was initially created on the Cambridge model by Professor VR Venkateswara Iyer. The campus journal featured articles from experts in a variety of subjects. Four copies of the journal, each costing fifty paise, were published in a single year. How much more is the magazine worth now than it was in 1919, when the cost of a cover page ad was Rs. 15?

The October 1925 edition marked the beginning of the college magazine's Malayalam section. Both the Science Association and the College's Literary Union were established during this time. In January 1925, the Alumni Association was established. Under the principal's direction, a petition was submitted to the king on January 8, 1925. The petition demanded that this institution, which was formerly known as Ernakulam College, be renamed "Maharaja's" College. It was the college's golden jubilee year. The monarch granted the request and gave them the title of Maharajas.

Drowning in the glories of the past, Maharaja yearns for the all-around development of the College and unchangeable royal highness. The amazing surroundings of this area, where the majesty of historical tradition meets the freedom of the environment, attract anybody, and those who have experienced it will never forget it. It is also Maharaja's credit that his past pupils, who are more

¹⁵Maharaja's College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja's charitrathinte naalvazhikal, "*Maharajakeeyam*", Maharaja's College old students association,,pg21-22.

infamous than renowned, have lit the fire of kindness in the domains to which they have advanced. Maharajas College Alumni Association, the world's largest alumni association, is actively working as a platform for famous and infamous alike to gather and reminisce.¹⁶

ST .TERESA’S COLLEGE ERNAKULAM

Mother Teresa of St Rose of Lima was the founder of St Teresas school and college. Lords and serf systems and caste systems etc prevailed during this time. Feudal system and slave trade which didn't existed in 1st century was strong in 19th century . During that time poverty was very high . Those who were untouchables were always a group who always had to live separately. During this period the slaves , untouchables etc had to face a lot of discrimination in the society. She was a great educationist and a human social worker. Her remarkable contribution to society was empowering women through education. In education, her vision went beyond her times, aiming for the formation of a complete human person with a sense of responsibility to the society and to the nation. She focused on faith formation through education: ¹⁷

St.Teresa’s College, a pioneering institution in the field of Higher Education in India, was established on 15th June in the year 1925, as the first Women’s College of the erstwhile Cochin State and the second in the whole of Kerala by the Congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of St.Teresa. Mother Teresa who was an Anglo Indian reached Alleppey and later on Kochi .Those people didn't have the right for land ,house or education. Her main was to start a school in kerala but when reached here the condition here was pathetic so she wanted to do something more for the society because of which she started old age home As she aimed for reformation in society mother Teresa started St Joseph girls school in Alleppey .When school was started Vakkom Abdul Khadar moulavi was only six. Mother Teresa who reached Kerala at the age of twenty one had spent the rest of her life for social reformation. After the construction of the building many students were getting admitted in St Joseph school. During that time people had to go through many disease So because of which she started a dispensary. She had to face a lot of trouble while running all this. In Varapuzha a seminary was started.During this time many people had died because of many diseases .

¹⁶Maharaja’s College Ernakulam(2012) , Maharaja’s charitrathinte naalvazhikal, “*Maharajakeeyam*”,Maharaja’s College old students association,,pg22.

¹⁷ Dr Saumya Baby(2024),” Keraleeya Samoohika vyavastha-nootandinh munb”, in *St. Teresa’s college nootandinte charithra vazhikal*pg17

She was very strong during these adverse conditions.¹⁸ Even though she had to face a lot of struggle she was determined to establish a college was her dream. Mother Teresa died in a train accident. After her death The College started with Sr. Beatrice as its first Principal and Mother Veronica as the first Manager and a student strength of just 41.¹⁹ While high academic standards were maintained in the college from the very start, students were also taught the value and dignity of labour, good social relationships and above all, lasting spiritual values. College was a second grade Arts College affiliated to the Madras University and offered the Intermediate Course with Ancient History, Modern History and Logic under Part III. During World War II, the College buildings were commandeered by the Army and converted into a military hospital and was reoccupied by the College only by 1946. With the dawn of Independence of the country in 1947, there was a tremendous rise in the enrollment in our institutions of higher education; and St. Teresa's College generously took its share in the process of democratization of University education. The growth of the institution during the post-independence era was tremendous both in quality and quantity in the beginning of the academic year 1957-58. The affiliation of the college was transferred from Madras University to Travancore University, which was renamed in August 1957 as Kerala University. ²⁰

The College has always been rendering help to deserving and financially handicapped students and towards this end the Students Aid Fund was started in the year 1959, which still continues. The National Service Scheme was introduced in 1969. A book bank was introduced in 1971 with UGC assistance for the benefit of financially backward students. It has not been all work and no play for the Teresians. St. Teresa's College formed the first women's basketball team in the University and the State in 1961. A Sports Hostel came into existence in 1986. When the Principal Sr. Marie Cecile retired in February 1986, Sr. Emeline became the new Principal. The Women's Cell was organized in the college in 1991. The AWARD ERA of St. Teresa's College started in 1994, when the College received the prestigious and highly coveted first R. SANKAR AWARD instituted by the Government of Kerala given to the Best College of the State for all-round excellence. The college

¹⁸ Dr Saumya Baby(2024), "Keraleeya Samoohika vyavastha-nootandinh munb", in *St. Teresa's college nootandinte charithra vazhikal* pg18

¹⁹ Dr Saumya Baby(2024), "Keraleeya Samoohika vyavastha-nootandinh munb", in *St. Teresa's college nootandinte charithra vazhikal* pg71

²⁰ Dr Saumya Baby(2024), "Keraleeya Samoohika vyavastha-nootandinh munb", in *St. Teresa's college nootandinte charithra vazhikal* pg89

was awarded the R SANKAR AWARD three times after that for the Best Non-Special Grade Private College in the year 1995, 1998 and 2000. St.Teresa's College celebrated its Platinum Jubilee on 4th December 2000. In the pursuit of excellence there have been many creditable achievements the latest being that it has been raised to the status of "FIVE STARS". The college building were used as a military hospital during world war II. Academic activities resumed in 1946. The college became affiliated with the Travancore university which became Kerala university the college became affiliated with MG university in 1983 the college was granted autonomous status in 2014.²¹

GOVT . LAW COLLEGE ERNAKULAM

The History of Government Law College, Ernakulam goes back to 1874 when Legal Education set its roots in Kerala by the Maharaja of Travancore sanctioning "the Organisation of a Law Class" in connection with His Highness College (i.e. Present University College), Trivandrum. This was with a view to enable the candidate from Travancore to present themselves for the Law Examination of University of Madras. Those law classes continued as such till 1894 when the institution was re-organised entirely on a different footing. The college was raised to the status of an independent college under the designation of "His Highness the Maharaja's Law College, Trivandrum" with Mr. W.T.A. Cosby Bar-at-Law (Judge of the High Court of Travancore who was appointed as Professor of Law in 1892) as the first Principal. The faculty had one Senior and two Junior Professors working an hour a week. A Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence working an hour/week was added to the faculty in 1897. A complete set of rules was also formulated by the Government for the control and regulation of work in the college. The rules prescribed the qualification required for the members of the teaching staff.

In 1929 on the recommendation of a Commission from University of Madras, which inspected the institution, the Government sanctioned the conversion of the College from part-time institution working in morning and evening to full-time institution working between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an interval of one hour between 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. with effect from the academic year 1931-32.

²¹ Dr Saumya Baby(2024), "Keraleeya Samoohika vyavastha-nootandinh munb", in *St. Teresa's college nootandinte charithra vazhikal*pg89

In 1933 Government sanctioned the suspension of the Pledership Classes for a period of five years with effect from the beginning of the academic year 1933-34 and consequently dispensed with the service of two Elective Lecturers and the Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence. The tenure of appointment of the Elective Lecturers was extended to a period of three years on the expiry of which there was to be a fresh selection.

In August 1949 the College was shifted to Ernakulam to fit in with the new set up arising out of the integration of the erstwhile States of Travancore and Cochin and the consequent shifting of the Travancore-Cochin High Court from Trivandrum to Ernakulam. The College is housed in the old Assembly Building of the Cochin State at Ernakulam since its shifting to this place in 1949. The College celebrated the centenary of Legal Education in 1975.²²

The strength naturally increased as the College in the new set up had to cater to the needs of the entire erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State. The classes were becoming unwidely and accommodation limited. This led to the division of the classes (F.L. from July 1951 and B.L. from 1952) in two sections and the College commenced working in two shifts, one section of each class working in the morning and another in the afternoon. Four additional Lecturers were also appointed temporarily to cope with the increased work. The shift arrangement was felt to be highly unsatisfactory and detrimental to the proper imparting of legal instruction. The Thiruvananthapuram Bench of the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin High Court commenced its sittings at Thiruvananthapuram from July 1954. The occasion was availed of and the problems facing the Law College were solved by starting a second Law College at Thiruvananthapuram. To commemorate the shifting of Law College to Ernakulam the College celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1999.

In the year 1967-68, the three year LL.B. Course was started and the nomenclature of the Degree of M.L. was changed to LL.M. During the year 1968-69 the two year B.L. Degree Course was abolished. Part-time course for the three year LL.B. started during 1968-69 but was abolished in 2002.

The college is at present offering both 5 year (10 semester) and 3 year (6 semester) courses for the LL.B. Degree. Admission to both the courses is through entrance examination conducted by the Commissioner of Entrance Examination, Kerala. At present the college is offering instruction in two branches of law for the LL.M. Degree viz. (1) Commercial Law and (2) Criminal Law. Admission to the LL.M. course also is through entrance examination conducted by the Commissioner of Entrance

²² Govt. Law College ,” History of the college”,*Calendar*,pg1

Examination, Kerala. In the rolls of the college there are seven hundred students for the LL.B. Course and thirty students for the LL.M. Course. The college is a recognised Research Centre in Law under the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam since 2010. The college was maintained by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore from the beginning and managed till 1909, in which year the College was placed under the Director of Public Instruction. In 1910, the College came under the control of the High Court of Travancore. With the inauguration of the University of Travancore in 1938, the College was transferred to the Control of the University and became one of its ²³constituent Colleges. This position continued till 1957, when with the establishment of the University of Kerala, the College was transferred back to the control of the State Government. In 1983, with the establishment of Mahatma Gandhi University at Kottayam, the College became a constituent College of that University and is now affiliated to it.²⁴

²³ Govt. Law College ,” History of the college”,*Calendar*,pg2

²⁴ Govt. Law College ,” History of the college”,*Calendar*,pg3

CHAPTER II

DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

AUTHORITIES

CORPORATION

Cochin corporation was founded on Kerala's birth day. On November 1, 1967. It was a minor section of the then-united Kerala. Because the corporation was founded by combining Travancore and Malabar into Kochi. The corporation is made up of merging the Ernakulam, Mattancherry, and Fort Kochi Municipalities and the Vyttila, Vennala, Edappally, and Palluruthy Panchayats, as well as certain islands such as Wellington. Edappally and Vennala were part of Travancore. Fort Kochi is also part of Malabar in the Madras state. The remaining territories belong to Cochin .

Kochi has had a long history of self-government. During Dutch Rule , Autonomy came into existence in Fort Kochi. It was governed by a city council. In 1795, the British defeated the Dutch and there was a definite change in the system. Following the cancellation, the plan went into effect. A Municipal Commission for Kochi had been established 15 days before that. But the election came too late and the election was on 1883 december 6. The election was held in front of a 16-member council made up of four taxpayer-nominated officials and ten natives.

The Madras Municipal Act of 1884 changed the makeup of the council, making it more populist. The membership is limited to 20, and only 15 people are chosen. Five-person government nominees . The taxpayers elected 20 members after the nominators changed the legislation in 1930. The right to come of age has been implemented in the spirit of liberty.²⁵ The Sanitation Committees of Mattancherry and Ernakulam pioneered self-governance in 1990. Had support from the kingdom. Mattancherry and Ernakulam now have proper sanitary facilities. The government paid the full sum for boarding activities. The Board did not collected directly from the public.

The Kochi State Municipal and Social Improvement Regulation was enacted in 1910. council consists of six to twelve members and the president . Only one third of the members were enlisted and others are government nominees. The Cochin Municipal Regulation Act of 1951 strengthened the councils' democratic nature. The minimum number of members was increased to 15, with additional powers. Voters were able to elect two-thirds of the members. The remaining members were government nominees. This act gave councilors the right to directly elect municipal chairs.

²⁵ Cochin Corporation (2000), "Charitram kuricha nagarasabha ", *Kochin smaranika* ,pg 209

Ernakulam and Mattancherry rather than Town Councils and Presidents the Municipal Council and the Chairman were came by the 1951 Act . Only taxpayers were eligible to vote in both circumstances of independence and adulthood. The development of the municipalities were continued . Elamkulam panchayat and Pachalam and Vaduthala which the part of Cheranalloor panchayat added with Ernakulam municipality in 1956. Parts of Palluruthy panchayat were added to Mattancherry municipality. When the time of establishment of Coporation Mattancherry and Ernakulam were first grade panchayats . As per the Kerala Municipality Act of 1960 administration in the three places were merged.

Mattancherry municipal council raised the concept of Corporation first. In 1960, a Corporation should be constituted by combining Fort Kochi with the Ernakulam Municipal Corporation. The resolution was passed by council. However, after four days, the Fort Kochi Municipal Council met and opposed the project. And indicated that they oppose such a combination. The Ernakulam Municipal Council, which met on August 2, 1963, demanded that the three municipalities of Wellington Island and Tripunithura, as well as the Chitrapuzha, Thrikakkara, and Kalamassery panchayats, be merged into one Corporation. As demand for the corporation grew from all sides except Fortkochi, the government accepted decision.²⁶

Major Balagangadhara Menon, director of local bodies, has been designated as a special officer to provide the report. Government has accepted the report of the commission legislation was enacted. On July 1, 1967, the Kerala Legislative Assembly approved the establishment of the Kochi Corporation. On September 27, 1967, the government issued an order establishing the corporation. The corporation included 83.5 square kilometers and included the municipalities of Ernakulam, Mattancherry, and Fort kochi, as well as the Paallurutty, Vytilla, Vennala, and Edappally panchayats, Wellington Island, Gundudweep, Ramanthuruth, Vimanathuruth, and Thanthonnithuruth. On November 1, 1967, in front of a large throng at the Durbar hall Ground, Chief Minister E.M.S. Namboothiripad inaugurated the Kochi Corporation. That is how the municipality we know today came to be. Municipal Department Minister TK Divakaran was present. Ahmed Kurukkal, the Panchayat Minister, and V. Lakshmanan took over as Special Officer. Municipal Commissioner P.A. Varghese Ernakulam (Ernakulam) and KP Damodaran Nair (Mattancherry) serve as Deputy Special Officers. while K.A. Gangadharan (Fortkochi) also.

²⁶ Cochin Corporation (2000), “Charitram kuricha nagarasabha “, *Kochin smaranika* ,pg209-210

The Special Officer received full authority over the Corporation. The government also created an advisory group until the corporate elections took place. Municipal chairmen, A.K. Seshadri (Ernakulam), M.K. Raghavan (Mattancherry), KJ Harshal (Fort Kochi), Panchayat Presidents A. Surendran (Vennala), CA Muhammad (Edappally), and T.K. Sreedharan (Vyttila). EK Narayanan (Palluruthy) and others were among its members. In 1968, the Kochi Corporation expanded to include 31 divisions. Two divisions are reserved for Harijans. There were two-member constituencies. 46 divisions and 48 representatives. Elections were conducted for them in May 1969. The Council was established on June 2, 1969.

The mayoral election was deadlocked in voting, hence the winner was decided by a draw. He was more lucky than MM Lawrence. A.A. Kochunni therefore became Kochi's first mayor. LG Pai was the deputy mayor. T A Veerankunju, MK Hamsakunju²⁷ were the chairmen who took the oath in 1969 June 26. KCM Rautar became the first commissioner. The elected council had a five-year term, although the first council served for ten years and four months. T.M. Abu, A.C. Jose, and K.M. Hamsakunju were elected mayors during this period. VV Michael. O K Madhaviyamma, PA Abdulkhader, C.K. Gopalan, M.J. Zakaria, and Everest Chammini, as Deputy Mayors.

The government amended area of the Corporation into 87.3 sq.kms. In 1974, the majority of the council dissolved 50 divisions and constituencies. In September 1979, the second council was chosen. On October 3, K. Bala Chandran became the mayor of the second council, followed by EK Naryanan, Prof. Mathyupaili and K.S.N. Menon were also elected mayors. The council was disbanded on September 30, 1984, at the end of its term, with K. Balachandran serving as mayor again. P.C. Stansilaos, Everest Chammani, TM Mohammad, KJ Sohan were appointed deputy mayors in this council.

A.A. Kochunni and K. Balachandran served as the corporation's first mayors, and the current mayor is K.K. Somasundara Panicker has been mayor twice. Somasundara Panicker was the longest-serving mayor (7 years). AK Seshadri comes in second (at three years and seven months). K. M Hamsakunju he was mayor for two and a half years. Jacob Pallath was the shortest serving mayor in three and a half months. Everest Chammini, TM Muhammed served as Deputy Mayor twice.

²⁷Cochin Corporation (2000), "Charitram kuricha nagarasabha", *Kochin smaranika*, pg 210-211

Following the second council, the I. A. S. members, including the district collector, took responsibility of the mayor for a period. MP Joseph, V Rajagopalan, KR Rajan, and others presided over the city at this time, and the third municipal council was elected. DM Muhammed became the first mayor of the third council, followed by C A Madhavan, KJ Sohan, K A Ummer KK.Somasundara Panicker reached the post. Councilors K.J. Anthony, P.B. Radhakrishnan, M.A. Sadanandan, O.K. Vishwambharan, and AV George served as Deputy Mayors till January 31, 1994.

Then IAS was given the opportunity to serve as mayor once more. Thomas Mathew and Dr. K.M. Abraham was also in charge at this time. Their control lasted until October 3, 1995. The council, established following the implementation of the Panchayati Raj and Municipal Corporation Act, assumed office on October 4, 1995. KK Soma Sundara Panicker took over as Mayor again. Sabu George, Deputy Mayor. Kochi's municipal council is expanding to 60 members, in accordance with its population. The city waits hopefully at the Fifth council.²⁸

DISTRICT COURT ERNAKULAM

The history of modern Judicial Administration in Cochin begins with the advent of the British. In ancient days there was no separate judiciary. Customs or 'Maryadas' which were believed to be based more or less in the Dharma Sastra was the law recognised in the settlement of civil and criminal disputes.

Before the creation of various courts the King was the Supreme head of the State. He enjoyed legislative, executive and judicial powers. Moreover, he was the highest court of appeal in the State. Although the King was the supreme head, in administration, he was assisted by his ministers and deputies.²⁹

The modern judicial administration in the District dates from the coming of the British. An auxiliary Zilla Court was established at Fort Cochin in 1812 and a District Munsiff's Court in 1816. The former was discontinued in 1845 and its place was taken by the principal Sudr Amin's Court. In 1875 the designation of the principal Sudr Amin was changed to Subordinate Judge. In the Cochin area the setting up of courts with regularly paid judges was one of the reforms brought about by Col. Munro. By the Hukm-nama of April 1813 a Cheria or Subordinate Court was established at

²⁸ Cochin Corporation (2000), "Charitram kuricha nagarasabha ", *Kochin smaranika* ,pg 211-212

²⁹ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

Tripunithura and a Valia or Huzur Court at Ernakulam. The subordinate Court was to be presided over by a Hindu and a Christian judge and a Sastri and the Huzur Court by the Dewan, a Hindu and a Christian Judge and a Sastri. All disputes were to be determined according to the provisions of the Dharma Sastras and the custom of the land. In 1818 during the Dewanship of Nanjappayya a Proclamation was issued by which the Huzur Court was converted into an Appeal Court and the Subordinate Court at Tripunithura was removed to Ernakulam and designated the Zilla Court of Anchikaimal. The Zilla Court was empowered to enquire into and dispose of all cases subject to confirmation by the Appeal Court and appeals lay from their decision to the Appeal Court. By Regulation I of 1036 which was passed in June 1861 a Munsiff's Court was set up at Ernakulam for the trial of cases not exceeding Rs. 100 in value. This was done to afford some relief to the Zilla court where the volume of work had increased greatly.

A Munsiff's Court for the Cochin Taluk was established in 1877, but it was discontinued in 1883 and revived seven years later. In 1882 the constitution of courts in Cochin was radically altered. By Regulation I of 1057 (1881-82), four classes of courts were constituted viz., Munsiff's Court, Zilla Court, Appeal Court and His Highness the Raja's Court of Appeal. By Regulation X of 1076 (1900-01) a Chief Court was constituted and the Raja's Court of Appeal was discontinued. By Regulation III of the same year the designation of the Zilla Court was changed to District Court. Village Panchayath Courts were established by Regulation V of 1089 (1913-14) and were empowered to entertain certain classes of suits not exceeding Rs. 30 in value. In 1938 the Chief Court of Cochin was converted into a High Court. Travancore Area The scheme of judicial reform worked out in 987 M. E. (1811-12) under the reign of Rani Gouri Lakshmi Bai provided for the establishment of a Subordinate Court at Alwaye for the Alangad Mukhom. This Court which was later called the Zilla Court was stationed at Parur. Munsiff's Courts were first established in Travancore in 1831 and Alwaye, Parur, Perumbavur, Muvattupuzha and Thodupuzha in this District which gradually became seats of Munsiff's Courts. A Village Panchayath Court was established at Parur in 1917.³⁰

Court of justice

Establishment of courts with regularly paid judges was one of the first reforms which Colonel Morrison undertook, not so much for the better administration of justice as to put a stop to the abuse of their plenitude of powers which the Karyakars enjoyed. These functionaries were not only revenue officers, but judges, magistrates, police-officers, and to a limited extent, military governors of their

³⁰ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

respective districts. The measures required to remedy this evil were contained in the Hukm-namas issued in May 1812 and April 1813.

By the Hukm-nama of April 1813, two cheriya or subordinate courts, one at Tripunithura and the other at Trichur, and a valia or Huzur Court at Ernakulam were established. Each of the subordinate courts was to be presided over by a Hindu, a Christian judge and a Sastri; the Huzur Court by the Diwan, a Hindu and a Christian judge and a Sastri. All disputes were to be decided according to the provisions of the Dharma Sastras and the custom of the land. If both the parties were of the same religion or nationality the case was to be disposed of according to the law applicable to that nationality, and if they were of different nationalities the law applicable to the nationality of the defendant and the Dharma Sastras should apply. Complaints against public servants in the discharge of their duties should, after the examination of the complainants and witnesses without any intimation being given to the servants concerned, be forwarded with the records of enquiry to the Huzur Court to be submitted to the Diwan for disposal; and all other matters were to be enquired into in public by subordinate courts, appeals against their decisions lying to the Huzur Court.³¹

Two years later a Hukm-nama fixed the respective spheres of jurisdiction of the courts. Suits of value exceeding 8, 000 funams (Rs. 857) and all suits against the White Jews were made directly cognizable by the Huzur Court. All other suits were to be tried in the first instance by the subordinate courts, appeals lying to the former from their judgments. Soon after Nanjappayya was appointed Diwan he published a proclamation (January 1818), by which the Huzur Court was converted into the Appeal Court, and the subordinate courts into the Zilla courts of Trichur and Anjikaimal, that at Tripunithura being removed to Ernakulam. The Zillah courts were entrusted with the power to enquire into and dispose of all cases, subject to confirmation by the Appeal court, and appeals lay from their decisions to the Appeal Court. The first Regulation passed in Cochin was Reg. I of 1010 M. E. (1835) passed for extending the jurisdiction of the courts, but without altering the constitution of the civil courts. For the convenience of the inhabitants of the remote Taluk of Chittur the Tahsildar of that Taluk was, in 1852, invested with the powers of a Munsiff and authorised to dispose of suits not exceeding Rs. 100 in value.

Regulation I of 1036 (June 1861) provided for the establishment of Munsiff's courts at Ernakulam and Chittur for the trial of cases not exceeding Rs. 100 in value, and also for the disposal of such cases by a single judge of the Zilla courts sitting as a judge of small causes. Two years later two more Munsiff's courts were established, one to exercise jurisdiction over the Taluks of Mukundapuram and Cranganur and the other over those of Trichur and Talapilli, and the Zilla courts

³¹ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

then ceased to exercise the powers of a court of small causes. In 1868 a separate Munsiff's court was established for the Trichur Taluk, and one for the Cochin Taluk in 1877; the later court was abolished in 1883, but revived seven years later.

In Regulation I of 1042 (enacted at the end of 1866 to extend and define the powers of Munsiffs and their jurisdiction) they were empowered to try suits of up to Rs. 200 value and to give final decisions in suits involving Rs. 10 or less. The appeal decisions of Zilla courts in cases with amounts up to Rs. 50 were also final. The constitution of the courts changed substantially in 1882. Regulation I of 1057 (enacted in 1882) established four classes: Munsiff's courts, Zilla courts, Appeal Court and His Highness the Raja's Court of Appeal.

The ordinary jurisdiction of the Munsiff was increased to Rs. 500, and their small cause jurisdiction to Rs. 25, and the appellate decisions of the Zilla courts in small cause suits not exceeding in value Rs. 100, were made final. Appeals from the decisions of the Zilla Judges in suits below the value of Rs. 1000 in the case of immovable property and below Rs. 3,000 in the case of movable property were to be heard and disposed of by a bench of two judges of the Appeal Court, and suits of a higher value by a single judge. Against the decision of a single judge an appeal lay to the Raja's Court of Appeal, which was generally to be heard by the other two judges of the Appeal Court, the Diwan having in case in which the Sirkar was not a party the power to direct the appeal to be heard by the two judges in association with himself. The decisions of the Raja's Court of Appeal were to be submitted through the Diwan to His Highness for confirmation, and they could be pronounced only after they had been so confirmed.³²

This good system continued in force for eighteen years, when another alteration was made in the constitution of the courts by Regulations II and III of 1076, the former of which constituted the present Chief Court, and put an end to the Raja's Court of Appeal, and by the latter the designation of the Zilla Courts was changed to that of District courts, and the ordinary jurisdiction of the Munsiff was increased from 500 to 1,000 rupees, and their small cause jurisdiction to Rs. 50. There was no provision for the appellate small cause jurisdiction of the District court, but power was taken by Government to bestow on them small cause jurisdiction up to a limit of Rs. 200. All appeals against the decisions of the District Judges in original suits were to be heard and disposed of by a full bench of all the three judges in the Chief Court, and appeals from their appellate decisions by a division bench of two judges; but a subsequent Regulation, IV of 1079, introduced a modification by which two judges of the Chief Court were empowered to hear and finally dispose of cases which under Regulation I of 1057 the judges of the Appeal Court were competent to dispose of finally. The only

³² District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

unsatisfactory feature of these changes is that while under the older Regulation there was provision for second appeals in the majority of cases, the right of second appeal has been limited by the existing Regulations to suits of which the value does not exceed Rs. 1, 000. When the value of suits exceeds that sum the first appellate decision by three judges, or even by two judges in certain specific cases or if specially authorised by His Highness the Raja, is final.

There were no periods of limitation prescribed for suits in limitation in Cochin till Regulation I of 1010 was passed in 1835. By a Proclamation issued in 1818 a period of twelve years was prescribed for the execution of the decrees of the Company's courts by the courts of Cochin, but Regulation I of 1010 prescribed for the first time a period of twelve years for suits and complaints in respect of movable property, but it did not apply to claims regarding landed property, nor to cases in which "the plaintiff could prove either that he called upon the defendant for a settlement of his claims or demanded the payment of the sum or sums due by the defendant within the above mentioned period or that the defendant admitted the justice of the demand, or that he (the plaintiff) had directly preferred his claim within the said period to any competent authority" This law prevailed till 1868, when Regulation I of 1043, based on the British Indian Act XIV of 1859, was passed. This Regulation was in turn superseded in 1904 by Regulation II of 1079, an adaptation of Act XV of 1877.³³

The Hukm-nama of May 1816 provided that parties to suits might be represented by their agents or deputies if they could not be present in person—a system hitherto unknown.

There were no qualifications prescribed for vakils till the passing of Regulation I of 1041, after which competitive examinations for the selection of vakils were held by the Appeal Court in 1868 and 1881, and since that time persons who had passed these examinations or who had qualified themselves for enrollment as vakils in the several British courts have been allowed admission to the Cochin bar. The Chief Court, under the power conferred on it by Regulation II of 1076, framed rules in 1902 as to the qualifications and admission of vakils, under which the qualifications prescribed for enrollment as vakils in the Chief Court, the District courts and the District Munsiff's courts respectively were made practically the same as those prescribed for enrollment in the corresponding courts in the Madras Presidency.

The Huzur and subordinate courts (whose names were afterwards changed to Appeal and Zilla courts) administered both criminal and civil justice. According to the Hukum-nama which formed them — which was subsequently amended to read Appeal and Zilla courts — all punishments were to be inflicted according to the Dharma Sastras, and all questions to be decided on the evidence,

³³ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

trials by ordeal being expressly prohibited. There was therefore no definite statement of the jurisdiction of the courts, except that the Zilla courts could take cognizance of all cases, and that their judgments were in all cases subject to confirmation by the Appeal Court. All complaints were first investigated by Tannadars under the direction of Tanna Naiks, and if there was a prima facie case the accused were committed to the Zilla courts for trial. Capital punishment was inflicted in the case of certain serious crimes, such as waging war or attempting to wage war against the State, attempting the life of the sovereign, willful murder, homicide, and serious cases of dakaiti, but the courts were at liberty to substitute other forms of punishment even in such cases. Other crimes were punished by transportation, forfeiture of property, imprisonment and fine, but mutilation as a form of punishment was abolished.³⁴

1835. Several important modifications were made in the administration of criminal justice. By Regulation IV of 1010 the Tahsildars were made police officers and were to exercise the joint functions of Magistrates and Police Inspectors, the Zilla courts became the criminal courts of the respective Zillas, and the judges of the Appeal Court were appointed circuit judges for the trial of sessions cases. All complaints were to be reported first to the Tahsildars, who were competent to deal with offences punishable with fines not exceeding five rupees. They were to commit all other cases to the Diwan or Diwan Peishkar for trial, who were competent to award imprisonment for six months, six stripes, and fines not exceeding Rs. 50. Cases requiring heavier punishment were committed by them to the criminal courts. Appeals against the decisions of the Tahsildars lay to the Diwan Peishkar, while the Diwan as Chief Magistrate had a general control over the whole magistracy. One of the judges of the Appeal Court, assisted by the Sastri of the respective Zilla courts, held quarterly sessions at Ernakulam and half yearly sessions at Trichur for the trial of cases committed by the criminal courts. The latter had the power to award imprisonment for one year twenty stripes and fines to the extent of Rs. 100, while the circuit court had the power to award punishment to the extent of imprisonment for three years, 36 stripes and Rs. 200 fine. All cases deserving heavier punishment were to be referred by the circuit judge to the Appeal Court, which was to pass sentence at its discretion according to the nature of the offence, but all sentences of death by hanging, imprisonment exceeding fourteen years, stripes exceeding thirty-six in number were to be submitted to His Highness the Raja for confirmation. The judgments of the criminal courts were subject to appeal to the Appeal Court, but those of the Appeal and circuit courts were final. By Regulation I of 1036 the powers of the circuit judges were enhanced so that they could award imprisonment for seven years, forty-eight stripes, and fines up to Rs. 500, and the cases committed by the Zilla court of Trichur

³⁴ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

were not necessarily to be tried at Trichur, the place of trial being left to be decided by the Appeal Court with the sanction of His Highness the Raja.

Regulation I of 1043 (1868) abolished the circuit or sessions courts, and gave to the (Zilla) criminal courts power to try and dispose of cases of every description, and to refer sentences pronounced therein to the Appeal Court for confirmation if they exceeded three years' imprisonment, thirty-six stripes or a fine of Rs. 200. As to the power of the Appeal Court, sentences subject to confirmation by His Highness the Raja were limited to sentences of death and imprisonment for life. In the Regulation it was also provided that “ in awarding punishment in the exercise of their criminal jurisdiction the Appeal Court and the Zilla Courts shall be guided by the penalty prescribed in the Indian Penal Code”. This arrangement remained in force till 1884, when this branch of judicial administration was completely reorganized by the enactment of the Police Regulation, the Cochin Penal Code and the Cochin Criminal Procedure Code, adapted from the corresponding British Indian Acts. A police force was organised on modern lines, the police function of the Tahasildars was divested, and the magisterial function of the Diwan. The Tahsildars were appointed subordinate Magistrates under the new code, the two Peishkars were appointed District Magistrates with original and appellate jurisdiction, and the Zilla (now District) Judges were appointed Sessions Judges for the trial of cases committed to them by the Magistrates and for disposing of appeals from the decisions of District Magistrates. Appellate authority over the sessions courts and the powers of reference and revision were vested in the Appeal (now Chief) Court. No provision was however made for trial by jury or with assessors and for summary trials. Besides the seven Tahsildar-Magistrates, the Police Amin of Nemmaram, whose office was created in 1865 in the interests of the planters on the Nelliampatis, was made a subordinate Magistrate, and to give relief to the Tahasildar-Magistrates of Mukundapuram and Talapilli, Sub-Magistrates courts were established at Adoor and Kunnankulam in 1890. In 1902 a special second class Magistrate was appointed for the Kanayannoor Taluk, the Tahasildar being relieved of all magisterial work.³⁵

In September 1907 all the Peishkars and all the Tahasildars were divested of their magisterial functions, and the Magistrates courts at Adoor, Kunnankulam and Nemmara were closed. A full-time District Magistrate was appointed for the whole State, with six full-time subordinate Magistrates under him with second class powers, two for the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk and one each for the other four Taluks. The District Registrar of Cranganur was invested with the powers of a third class Magistrate for trying offences arising within that Taluk, but this arrangement was afterwards cancelled, and a full-time Magistrate was appointed for that Taluk also in June 1909. This

³⁵ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

complete separation of the revenue and magisterial functions involved no change in the system or law governing the administration of criminal justice introduced in 1883.

Ernakulam District has a place of honour in the scheme of judicial administration in Kerala as the Kerala High Court is located in Ernakulam town. But the District Judge, Ernakulam, is the highest authority in matters pertaining to the administration of justice in the District. The District Court, Ernakulam, has attached to it not only the District Judge, Ernakulam, but also three Additional District Judges, two at Ernakulam and the other at Parur. The District Judge presided over the District Court which is the principal court of original civil jurisdiction in the District. The District Court is also a court of appeal from all decrees and orders up to the value of Rs. Twenty lakhs passed by the subordinate courts from which an appeal can be preferred. The District Judge Exercise general control over all civil courts in the District and their establishment and inspects proceedings of these courts. The Additional District Judges have all the powers of the District Judge except the powers of administration and supervision. The District Judge, Ernakulam, is the State Transport Appellate Tribunal also.³⁶

GENERAL HOSPITAL ERNAKULAM

As with other Indian states, ayurveda has long been practiced here. The most well-known ayurvedic acharyas can be found here. "Uzhathara Warrior," the acharya of the Cochin royal family, wrote an interpretation of "Ashtanga Samgraham." With the help of the kingdom's magesties, ayurveda was taught at Thripunithura Sanskrit College. In 1818, Rev. J. Davson introduced western medicines, but there was no attempt. Then, the Diwan of Cochin, Sankara Warriar, established the present-day General Hospital in 1845. Later, he also opened homeopathic dispensaries in Mattancherry, Andikadavu, and Njarakkal.³⁷

General Hospital Ernakulam is a state-owned hospital in Kochi, India, that offers exceptional superspecialty training and treatment in cardiology, ctvs, nephrology, and urology, as well as internal medicine and general surgery. It is managed under the Kerala government's public health system.

Later transferred to the Kerala government following India's independence and subsequent state reform. The operating system is on par with private sector hospitals, setting it apart. The state government funds Ernakulam General Hospital, and all treatments are heavily discounted, making it a favored destination for patients from India's Lakshadweep islands. Citizens classed as below the

³⁶ District court ernakulam | <https://ernakulam.dcourts.gov.in/>

³⁷ Cochin Corporation ,” Pothujana arogyam” , *Ernakulam Jillavikasanam samagranirdheshangal*

poverty line receive full government subsidies for their treatment. The General Hospital serves as the primary dispensing outlet for the public health system, which distributes the majority of government spending on health care programs in the area governed by the Kochi Corporation.³⁸

During that time (the time when this book was published) ,in order to track the district's birth and death rates and research population growth. The population increased during the months of May, June, and July, and the death rate increased during the months of July, August, and September. According to the study, gastroenteritis, anemia, pneumonia, tuberculosis and typhoid were the main causes of the rise in the death rate. In certain years, pandemics such as plague colera were disseminated here. It was noted that Elephantiasis was spreading. The steps taken to prevent the disease's spread were effective. Malaria was unmanageable as well. The District Medical Officer was in charge of the district's public health. The primary government hospitals include Ernakulam General Hospital, Palluruthy Women's and Children's Hospital, Fort Kochi Government Hospital, Aluva Government Hospital, and Muvattupuzha Government Hospital. There were two clinics in Muvattupuzha and Palluruthy. There were dispensaries and primary health centers . Angamaly Little Flower Hospital, Kolancherry Orthodox Medical Mission Hospital, Ernakulam Lissie Hospital, and Lurth Hospital were the well-known private hospitals. ³⁹

The Ernakulam General Hospital lacked the necessary infrastructure to implement the development programs. In order to implement new policies, it was necessary to develop new structures and work with the other medical departments to implement the necessary steps, which included providing beds for every ward. Some development policies were established with the public's wants and budgetary limitations in mind.

1. Establish a polyclinic: this policy calls for the establishment of several outpatient departments with specializations in pediatrics, dentistry, ophthalmology, throat disorders, and other areas. A budget of Rs. 7,150000 was allocated for this policy.
2. Construct a four-story building: For a budget of Rs. 6200000, the building on the hospital's east side will be demolished and replaced with a four-story structure.

³⁸ General Hospital | https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Hospital_Ernakulam

³⁹ Corporation ,” Pothujana arogyam” , *Ernakulam Jillavikasanam samagranirdheshangal*

3. Doctors' parking: The hospital's parking was severely constrained by the surrounding area. Therefore, a parking launch plan that allows for 25 cars to park at once. was scheduled for the next year. 40000 rupees is the budget.

A host of facilities including a modernised women's ward, a renovated medicine collection centre, and a fibro-scan facility were inaugurated at Ernakulam General Hospital on December 1. Health Minister Veena George also launched the Blood Centre Android Mobile application, the renovated ophthalmology department, a library, and a reading corner at the hospital on the day. The three-storey block has 54 ICU beds for dialysis. There are 54 dialysis units. The other facilities include centralised oxygen suction air pipeline, six bio carbonate mixers, help desks, nursing stations, washing area, and rest room for staff members, he added.

Public sector units including Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited had contributed funds for the project. The others who joined hands to fund the project include Rotary Club of Cochin Central, Rotary Club of Cochin Titan, and the Hospital Development Committee. The public is completely happy with the developments taking place in the hospital. Over the past three years, a number of blocks have been constructed. ongoing development initiatives that guarantee public wellbeing are secure.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Corporation ,” Ernakulam govt ashupathri vikasanam” , *Ernakulam Jillavikasanam samagranirdheshangal*

CHAPTER III

SUBHASH PARK : GREEN CITY

One of Kochi's few open parks that is kept up properly is Subhash Chandra Bose Park, also referred to as Subhash Park. With a view of Cochin Harbor and the Vembanad Backwaters, the park is located in the center of Ernakulam. It is a popular destination for city inhabitants due to its breathtaking natural beauty and serene ambiance.

One of the main leisure areas, Subhash Bose Park, was first constructed under Raja Rama Varma XV's administration under British control. From 1895 until 1914, Raja Rama Varma XV, also referred to as the Rajarshi of Cochin, was the Abdicated Highness and the ruler of the Kingdom of Cochin.

The current city of Cochin was founded under the reign of Raja Rajarshi. Cochin became one of the most developed Indian states of the time under Raja Rama Varma. He was a leader who felt that self-respect, not rank, was the greatest strength of a good ruler. When he saw that his pride and authority were being challenged, he became a king and gave up his status. The Viceroy Baron Hardinge received a confidential letter from the Raja in 1913 addressed to him as "My Esteemed Friend."

This was criticized for being impolite and disrespectful, which naturally infuriated the Raja, who was a strict etiquette enforcer. Then, on December 1, 1914, the king abdicated in protest of the viceroy's misconduct. We are reminded of the tale of an idealistic monarch who was reluctant to submit to the British Empire by the bronze statue located at Subhash Bose Park.

When Raja Rama Varma XV was on his way to the Kochi Darbar in 1903, he had the idea to build a new route. Roads lined with trees, similar to those in Europe and America, were the vision of the king, who was well-known for his love of horticulture and the outdoors. In an open space across from the Shiva temple that faces the sea, he gave the Diwan instructions to create a park where people might unwind in the evenings. This led to the establishment of Rama Varma Park. The king commissioned a variety of flowering trees to adorn the road that borders the park.

The king even passed legislation prohibiting anyone from cutting down trees or even branches without the approval of the Royal Court. Impressed by the grandeur of the road, the Honourable British Resident of Kochi nicknamed it Park Avenue.⁴¹

⁴¹St.Teresa's college | Subash bosc park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

Park Avenue is now one of the few green lungs in Kochi, which is rapidly expanding. The street's name comes from the two big parks that run alongside it. "The route that is now known as Park Avenue was once called Broadway, and it stretched from the Huzur Jetty, which is now Rajendra Maidan, to Broadway. The former Rama Varma Park, which stretched from the old Secretariat to Broadway, was divided into three well-designed parks. The top stretch is known as Indira Priyadarshini Children's Park and is funded by the Central Government, while the lower section is known as Subhash Chandra Bose Park and is operated by the Kochi Corporation. Adjacent to it is Annie Besant Park, a park exclusively for women.

Subhash Park was a popular destination in the early 1990s, but as time passed and owing to inadequate management, the park fell into disrepair. However, the government launched development and reconstruction efforts to restore the park to its former splendor. Several areas of the park were taken over for associated construction in order to commission Park Jetty and the KSRTC Bus Stand. The park has hosted numerous historical events and agitations, including Kayal Sammelanam, one of Kerala's most significant anti-caste struggles. A century ago, members of the downtrodden classes were forbidden from convening in public places, even for calm talks about their communities.

Due to a shortage of big plots of land, inhabitants of these villages were unable to gather in gatherings greater than a dozen people. Even if someone had adequate land, the government would not allow them to assemble in large numbers.

In 1913, the Pulaya community, which belonged to the downtrodden classes, devised a really creative solution to overcome that obstacle. During the construction of a retaining wall to safeguard coastal land between the Huzur Jetty near the Fine Arts Hall in the western portion of Emakulam town and the Burma Shell Company near the Ernakulam High Court.⁴²

Krishnethi Asan and a few other Pulaya community members were the subcontractors in charge of the coastal wall building. Inspired by lyrics from Pandit Karuppan's lyrical sculpture Jathikummi, which aims to unite the impoverished class. Krishnethi stressed the necessity for an organization to resist the injustices perpetrated by the upper caste on the Pulaya community. Pandit Karuppan, the then-headmaster of Ernakulam Girls High School, was approached with the idea of organising members of the Pulaya community. Under his supervision, the concept of Kayal Sammelanam was

⁴² St.Teresa's college | Subash bose park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

discussed with Adv. Krishnan Menon and Fr. Dominic. As stated around mid-night on April 4th, 1913, boats used for transporting stones for the coastal protection wall were moored, and a conference was scheduled for the backwaters of Cochin. Advocate Krishnan Menon presided over the meeting, while K. P. Karuppan and Fr. Dominic addressed the Pulaya Conference. According to reports, more than 1500 activists attended the seminar. The Kayal Sammelanam was held in secret when the fatal smallpox plague was spreading in Kochi's neighboring districts. Kayal Sammelanam was undoubtedly held in the middle of the night since it was customary for upper caste members to avoid seeing Pulayars during the day due to concerns about pollution.

During ancient times, Subhash Park hosted an annual agricultural commercial fair in Ernakulam and Thrissur. On October 23, 1912, a public assembly was held at Subhash Park, also known as Irwin Park, with representatives from all over the state in attendance. At the conference, it was decided to celebrate the then-ruler Raja Rama Varma's 60th birthday or Shashtipoorthi on December 25, 1912. It was also decided to commemorate the anniversary appropriately throughout the state, offer a congratulatory address to the Highness on the day, and construct a befitting memorial in commemoration of the event. It was decided that a permanent tribute in the form of a bronze statue of the Highness would be placed on Ernakulam's waterfront. The group still had enough money from subscriptions for the occasion, which would be utilized to fund the statue. Diwan A.R. Banerji, who was on vacation in England, consented to oversee the statue's creation. He advised that the committee give the job to Ernest G. Gillick of Chelsea, a well-known British sculptor whose statue of the Maharaja of Bikaner had pleased Banerji. The work was completed in June 1922, and the statue arrived in Cochin the following December. Gillick requested that a pedestal for the statue be designed and delivered, along with designs for it. Diwan Bahadur T. Nambiar, a well-known engineering contractor, completed the job on Pallavaram stone in Madras. Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, Governor of Madras, unveiled the statue in the afternoon of October 13, 1925. When the statue was inaugurated, Rama Varma XV was no longer the Maharaja, having abdicated the throne in 1914.⁴³

In this park, the then Maharaja of Cochin hosted a garden party in honor of Viscount Goschen, the Governor of Madras. The elliptical cement platform on the southern side of Subhash Park and the semi-circular stage on the western side of the park are the remnants of the platform where the Maharaja of Cochin held the garden party. A quarter of a century ago, the platform's ruins could still

⁴³ St.Teresa's college | Subash bose park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

be seen. In recent years, the platform was demolished, and footpaths were built in the current design. A second stage was built on the east side, facing the stage on the west side. Maharaja invited all members of the Legislative Assembly of Cochin, with the exception of Pandit K.P. Karuppan.

Pandit K. P. Karuppan was a well-known writer and social reformer with various government positions and a reputation throughout Kerala. Despite being revered by all levels of society, including the royal family, he was denied an invitation to the garden party simply because he is from a lower caste. He petitioned Maharaja with a poem titled 'udyanavirunne' after being hurt by the unjust conduct. This poem motivated the public to launch anti-caste campaigns in Kerala. This is why the garden party is crucial in Kerala's history and literature.

Before India gained independence, Subhash Chandra Bose Park was known as Irwin Park. Irwin Park was named after Lord Irwin. The open space near Park Avenue was turned into a park to honor the Viceroy. Under British administration, access to the park was restricted to British aristocracy. On the eve of Independence Day, a group of young people marched into Irwin Park, carrying their placards high. They intended to destroy the arched-shaped board in front of the park, but when their efforts failed, they poured tar on it and covered it with a cloth with the words Subhash Chandra Bose Park.

Later on when the non-Congress Municipal Council took charge in Ernakulam, they held the opinion that the park should not be named Irwin Park in independent India. During the council meeting, there were proposals to rename Irwin Park as Bhagat Singh Park, Children's Park as Tilak Park, and Ladies Park as Annie Besant Park. However, the Congress members did not agree with naming it after Bhagat Singh and preferred to name it after Mahatma Gandhi. When it came time to vote, it was unanimously agreed that the widely accepted name of Subhash Park would suffice.⁴⁴

Subhash Bose Park, which covers 11.5 acres and is owned and maintained by the Kochi Municipal Corporation, has evolved into an important public space in the city of Kochi. It has become a popular tourist and residential destination, delivering a wealth of ecosystem services that contribute to an improved quality of life in cities. Subhash Park, like other green spaces in cities, serves as a crucial green cover, absorbing pollutants and improving air quality in the surrounding area.

The park has a remarkable biodiversity, as indicated by its collection of over 50 tree species. It also has a variety of herb and shrub species. The park's thriving floral diversity not only adds to its

⁴⁴ St.Teresa's college | Subash bose park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

aesthetic appeal, but also provides a conducive environment for a diverse range of insects and avifauna.

Land reclamation was used to cover more than half of the park's area. The park was a popular attraction in the early 1990s. There were qualified specialists who had received training to plant and manage trees in accordance with British government guidelines. The trees planted and maintained at the time can still be found on either side of the road today. The formation of canopies is a characteristic feature of these trees. Unfortunately, the park's popularity has dwindled due to neglect and insufficient care, as well as the expansion of commercial malls in the city. To restore the park's former glory, a significant rehabilitation project was initiated and concluded around 2015. The restoration effort includes planting, tiling, the construction of a communal meeting place, the installation of play equipment, electrical work, and the development of a popular musical walkway with four unique zones showcasing different sorts of music. New lawns, benches, lights, bathrooms, and rubbish bins were also erected, with special places for older guests. As a result of these modifications, the park is once again drawing tourists on a daily basis.

The park's maintenance is mostly sponsored by corporate social responsibility funding and private sponsorships. The Corporation's plan funds are used for large renovation projects. For a time before and during the Covid-19 epidemic, the park was managed by a private party under a contract with the corporation for a fixed fee based on the number of employees employed. However, during the epidemic, when park activities were halted, only security personnel worked. Despite this, the private party presented a report saying that all employees were working, sparking controversy over the misleading accounting.

Consequently, the contract was halted, and the park's administration was turned over to C-hed, the Corporation's environmental division. At the moment, Cochin Shipyard Limited sponsors the CSR fund, while C-hed is in charge of park management and financing. Following a thorough rehabilitation, Subhash Bose Park reopened in April 2021 thanks to a partnership between the Kochi City Corporation, the World Resources Institute (WRI), and ICLEI South Asia.⁴⁵

The program was part of ICLEI South Asia's bigger project "INTERACT-Bio" and the WRI's KAWAKI initiative, both of which are part of Kochi's Cities4Forests campaign. The initiative aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in minimising the effects of

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climate change in Kochi. The major goal of the project was to create urban grooves that were reminiscent of traditional grooves seen in Kerala. In addition, ICLEI South Asia aims to mitigate the effects of climate change by integrating biodiversity objectives across the city. Subhash Bose Park serves as a huge carbon sink, with over 300 types of native trees and other species of indigenous flora. The Kochi City Corporation is dedicated to increasing local biodiversity and educating communities about its importance in ensuring the long-term viability of conservation efforts.

This was a motivating force behind the creation of the park, which not only improves the city's native biodiversity but also acts as a nature teaching facility. The recently constructed pollinator garden is an excellent addition to the park, increasing the number of pollinators in the city.

The park is not only home to a variety of plant and animal species, but it is also a popular recreational destination on the Arabian Sea coast. It is well-maintained and safeguarded with the assistance of numerous partners. The city administration has launched a number of measures to ensure the park's long-term viability, including a herbal garden, butterfly garden, and biodiversity centre. Geotagging every tree in the park is also used to document and conserve the urban forest. Furthermore, Kochi's government is working with a variety of stakeholders, including the World Resources Institute (WRI), to create afforestation and nature-based solutions projects.

To ensure its ecological well-being, c-hed has developed a comprehensive plan for maintenance and management. One of the projects started by c-hed is the restoration of sculptures. Unfortunately, a lot of stunning sculptures and installations in the park's southern area have been neglected. These works have a rich history, having been created by 14 distinguished artists who came together to participate in the first International Symposium of Sculptors, also known as the Sculptors Camp, which was co-organized by Kalapeedom and the Kochi Municipal Corporation in 1990.

Seven of the 14 artists were from various nations throughout the world, while the other seven were from India. Hiroshi Mikami, a well-known Japanese sculptor, conducted the Symposium of Sculptors, which was managed by T. Kaladharan, Director of Kerala Kalapeedom, and supported by the Kochi Municipal Corporation.⁴⁶

C-hed's management method focusses on lowering the quantity of concrete building while expanding gaps that promote soil permeability. This strategy is intended to improve the city's score on the City Biodiversity Index. By limiting concrete building and expanding permeable spaces, the city may

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improve soil quality, lessen the heat island effect, boost vegetation development, and protect wildlife habitats. The goal is to build a more sustainable and resilient urban environment that can promote inhabitants' health and well-being while simultaneously maintaining and improving local biodiversity.

The current proposal for the park under c-hed calls for the removal of existing concrete structures and the return to a more traditional park design that includes play areas for children with soil and natural components, as well as spaces for the public to spend time in nature. The idea is to prioritise a more nature-based park design, with an emphasis on giving children opportunity to play in natural settings and allowing the general public to connect with nature.

Subhash Park now has both exotic and invasive tree species, with exotic trees outnumbering indigenous trees. This is because foreign species had a larger access to seeds and saplings during the early stages of afforestation in Kochi and its neighbouring areas than indigenous species. Consequently, the majority of avenue trees in Kerala are foreign. To address this issue, c-hed has developed a strategy to replace the exotic trees in Subhash Park with more indigenous and endemic species.

Initially, the goal of tree planting in the park was to choose species that would improve the park's visual appeal. However, with the new project led by c-hed, the focus has shifted to planting more fruit-bearing trees. This adjustment aims to establish a park ecology that not only enhances the park's attractiveness but also supports the natural vegetation and wildlife of the surrounding region. By planting fruit-bearing trees, the park will provide a long-term source of food for birds and small animals such as squirrels, so contributing to the area's ecological balance. C-hed's approach to sustaining Subhash Park focusses on preserving the local area's natural vegetation and fauna. This will contribute to the preservation of local biodiversity and the establishment of a healthy environment for the community.⁴⁷

ICLEI South Asia created a nature interpretive zone at Subhash Park with the primary goal of raising visitor awareness about Kochi's different ecosystems and the abundant biodiversity that exists within them. This initiative seeks to educate and engage visitors in a fun and engaging manner by utilising a variety of displays and exhibits that highlight the distinct qualities of different ecosystems and the species that inhabit them. The zone acts as a platform for encouraging conservation initiatives and sustainable development methods that can assist safeguard the natural environment while also

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maintaining the delicate balance of the 25 ecosystems. ICLEI South Asia built the Pollinator and Herbal Garden in Subhash Park to raise awareness about the importance of pollinators and medicinal plants in the community. Its principal goal is to preserve and restore local ecosystems by creating a favourable habitat for pollinators and cultivating a variety of therapeutic plants. Pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds play an important role in pollinating flowers and creating the fruits and vegetables humans consume. However, due to habitat degradation and chemical use, many pollinator populations are dwindling. Subhash Park's pollinator garden supports their populations by providing habitat and ensuring crop production.

The herbal garden, on the other hand, is a collection of medicinal plants grown for their therapeutic powers. These herbs have been utilised in traditional medicine for ages and continue to be used now to treat a wide range of diseases. Growing these plants in the park allows the local population to learn about various medicinal herbs and their applications. The herbal garden is also a resource for researchers and students who want to investigate the medical characteristics of these plants.

The park's management is currently facing a number of obstacles, including a lack of public support for the proposed goals. One of these initiatives is to eliminate invasive species from the park, notably *Acacia auriculiformis*, an evergreen tree commonly used for ornamentation and shade. Although native to Africa and well-adapted to dry and arid areas with sandy or rocky soils, these trees grow quickly and can outcompete indigenous flora, resulting in a loss of plant and animal diversity. Furthermore, they can change soil chemistry, making it difficult for native species to thrive.

Unfortunately, *Acacia* trees are not well adapted to Kochi's soil conditions and local temperature, and they take a lot of water from the soil, causing the region around the tree to dry out. Despite submitting requests to remove these trees three years ago, the application has yet to be granted. The public is opposed to the destruction of these trees, which adds to the difficulty of administering the park. Rising sea levels make it difficult to manage Subhash Park because they allow tides and waves to rise and harm the park's sea walls. The park is currently dealing with a big concern: the destruction of these embankments.⁴⁸

Another area of concern in maintenance is salt water infiltration. This occurs when freshwater in the area mixes with saline water, particularly after December. When plants are irrigated with this

⁴⁸ St.Teresa's college | Subash bose park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

mixture, their leaves dry off, which might lead to plant death. A water treatment plant is under construction to address the issue.

Subhash Park is open to the public for a short time, from 3 to 8 p.m. However, registered park members get access to the park in the morning for their regular walks. Many people like the park's security measures, which make it a popular place to go for morning walks. 2% The park is ideal for visitors of all ages, offering a tranquil and peaceful environment in which to enjoy nature and relieve tension. Its well-kept roads and foliage make it a great site for a leisurely stroll or a fast jog.⁴⁹

⁴⁹ St.Teresa's college | Subash bose park : Heart of Ernakulam city ,2023

CONCLUSION

WHY THESE HERITAGE SITES ARE LOCATED ALONG THE PARK AVENUE ROAD.

On the ancient times the areas between the Maharaja's ground and Boat jetty known as "Valiyathokku" which means a big gun. Its name originated from the statue of a big cannon which placed there. Park avenue road can be call as a government hub which lined by numerous government buildings which dating back to hundred years ago.

The three colleges which lined along the Park avenue road plays a significant role in the growth of the city. Maharaja's college known for the political scenarios of the college . L shape construction style of the Maharaja 's college which makes it a magnificent structure is made modelled by the Great Oxford University . It is one of the earliest colleges in the Kochi kingdom along with Law college, which mostly used wooden raw materials for construction. Diwan Shankara Warrior who built the college to promote education in all social levels of the society. There were social disparities among the students. The, Thampuran children had dedicated tables and chairs seated near the teacher. In the evening, they would return to the palace by horse carriage. The youngsters must wear a uniform. Coats and hats are rigid. Children from higher castes should bind their kuduma and conceal it under a cap.

On the modern days, the political development of the college during the years , nothing much is happened by the political parties is understood by the personal interview with a PTA ex member of the college. Abhimanyu the former student and then leader of the Students Federation of India and one of the Chairman of the College Union took the initiative for stopping the night stay and liquor consumption of Students in the College specially mentioned by the person .

St. Teresa's College which is known for its unique fashion sense started its journey from the Cast ridden society of Kerala and has now become one of the most valuable institutions of the country. As the Ist College which provides women education in the Kingdom of Cochin it played a significant role in shaping the history of modern Cochin.

Most of the young women, especially those who had misgivings of studying in mixed colleges, opted to join St. Teresa's. The college overlooked the backwaters and a stretch of the park . Initially it was a

magnificent red brick Gothic style structure , stood on a lonely stretch between Broadway and Maharaja's College.⁵⁰

The college began its functioning in one of the large halls of the St. Teresa's school , now spans around 3 blocks with - departments. The college achieved autonomous status in 2014, allowing for greater academic flexibility and innovation. In 2019, it was accredited with an A++ grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) , reflecting its commitment to excellence in education.

St. Teresa's College has played a pivotal role in empowering women through education for nearly a century. Its dedication to academic excellence, holistic development, and societal contributions has established it as a leading institution in women's higher education in Kerala.

Government law college dating back to 1847, started in Trivandrum in “His highness college“ nowadays ,University of Kerala .This was with a view to enable the candidate from Travancore to present themselves for the Law Examination of University of Madras. On 1949 the college shifted to Ernakulam to fit in the integration of the erstwhile states of Travancore and Cochin. The consequent shifting of the Travancore- Cochin High court from Travancore to Ernakulam. The college was housed in the Assembly building of the Cochin at Ernakulam until it place along the Park Avenue road. In the year 1967-68, the three year LL.B. Course was started and the nomenclature of the Degree of M.L. was changed to LL.M. During the year 1968-69 the two year B.L. Degree Course was abolished. Part-time course for the three year LL.B. started during 1968-69 but was abolished in 2002.

The History of the Corporation dates back to the second half of the 20th century.the corporation was founded by combining Travancore and Malabar into Kochi. Mattancherry municipal council raised the concept of Corporation first. The corporation is made up of merging the Ernakulam, Mattancherry, and Fort Kochi Municipalities and the Vyttila, Vennala, Edappally, and Palluruthy Panchayats, as well as certain islands such as Wellington with the first Mayor as AA Kochunni .The Madras Municipal Act of 1884 changed the makeup of the council, making it more populist. The membership is limited to 20, and only 15 people are chosen. Five-person government nominees .The taxpayers elected 20 members after the nominators changed the legislation in 1930. The elected

⁵⁰ <https://www.thehindu.com/features/metroplus/a-college-with-a-varied-heritage/article6197222.ece>

council had a five-year term, although the first council served for ten years and four months. T.M.Abu, A.C.Jose, and K.M. Hamsakunju were elected mayors during this period. VV Michael. O K Madhaviyamma, PA Abdulkhader, C.K. Gopalan, M.J. Zakaria, and Everest Chammini, as Deputy Mayors.

Today, the Cochin Corporation oversees the city's development infrastructure, and civic administration, playing a crucial role in urban planning and governance .

From the advent of the British paved the way for the judicial administration in Cochin. On ancient times there were no separate judicial system. An auxiliary Zilla Court was established at Fort Cochin in 1812 and a District Munsiff's Court in 1816. There was Hukm nama , the Cheria court which presided over by Hindu judge and huzur court, the Valia court which presided over by Christian judge or a shastri. Disputes were to be determined according to the provisions of the Dharma Sastras and the custom of the land. A Munsiff's Court for the Cochin Taluk was established in 1877, but it was discontinued in 1883 and revived seven years later. In 1882 the constitution of courts in Cochin was radically altered by the regulations . Under the reign of Rani Gouri Lakshmi Bai provided for the establishment of a Subordinate Court at Alwaye for the Alangad Mukhom. This Court which was later called the Zilla Court was stationed at Parur. Munsiff's Courts were first established in Travancore in 1831 and Alwaye, Parur, Perumbavur, Muvattupuzha and Thodupuzha in this District which gradually became seats of Munsiff's Courts. A Village Panchayath Court was established at Parur in 1917.

General Hospital Ernakulam , was established by the Diwan of Cochin Sankara Warriar in 1845. Hospital plays a crucial role in the Kochi city's healthcare. General hospital undergoing developments in last years . The new three storey dialysis unit block was inaugurated in January 2024. Well equipped 54 dialysis machines and ICU beds were implemented and the hospital among the largest dialysis centers in the country. The hospital has introduced several specialized facilities, such as a modern women's ward, a renovated medicine collection center, and a fibro-scan facility. Additionally, a mobile app for the Blood Centre was launched to streamline services. The master plan for a new in-patient block, spanning 160,000 sq.ft and costing rupees 83 crore, was approved in May 2023. This block will feature 14 ICU beds, 6 operation theaters, and advanced medical facilities, further bolstering the hospitals capacity.

Subhash Bose park is the open space spread over the area of 11.5 acres and is located along the Park Avenue road . Park provide space for people to spend there time a break from their busy life

schedule. Park used for recreational activities like walking , jogging, and playing outdoor games. In addition , the park used as the venue for the public gatherings and cultural events.It plays a major role in keeping the Kochi city a GREEN CITY.The park has witnessed many historical events and has been a witness to the social, cultural and political changes that have taken place in the city over the years.

The main reason which led to the research is a question that “ WHY THESE HERITAGE SITES ARE LOCATED ALONG THE PARK AVENUE ROAD ? “ the answer we got that , there were a need of Government offices, educational institutions, hospitals, residents for the workers and officers . Government was spending lot of money for the buildings which took as rent, because of the high price of the land in town areas. But the lack of space was a main issue for the rented buildings.

In order to meet the growing demands of the populace, the existing old buildings were refurbished and new government restrooms were constructed for the passengers.

To sort these issues the government decided to build a civil station in main centre of the district and to build civil stations in every taluks. With this they planned to build all the offices and courts in one place, therefore it will become convenient to the public.⁵¹

⁵¹ Cochin Corporation ,” Kettidanirmanagal” , *Ernakulam Jillavikasanam samagranirdheshangal*pg12 .

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is your name?
2. Where are you from?
3. How many years are you working here?
4. Have you ever think about the historical significance of this place?
5. Do you think it is beneficial that these government institutions are standing next to each other?
6. Can you explain the notable changing you have witnessed during the reign of different political parties?
7. What are the developments happened here?
8. Are you satisfied with the service of the General Hospital?
9. How you feel about the significance of the Subhash park in the heart of city like Kochi?
10. Do you think it is beneficial that these government institutions are standing next to each other?

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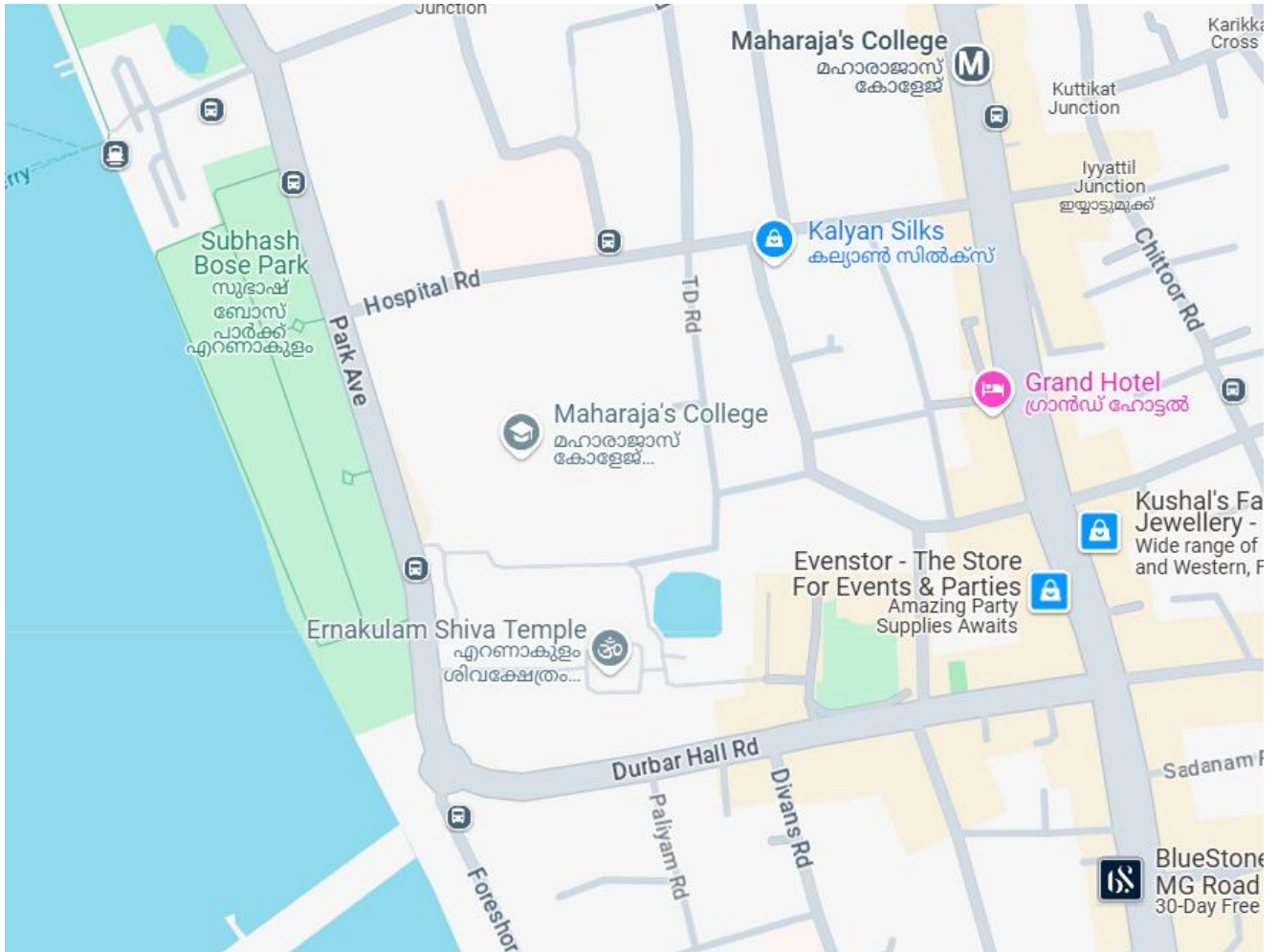
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APPENDIX I - MAP



APPENDIX II - PICTURES



Fig.1 PARK AVENUE ROAD



Fig.2 MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE



Fig.3 ST.TERESA'S COLLEGE



Fig.4 GOVT LAW COLLEGE ERNAKULAM



Fig.5 DISTRICT COURT ERNAKULAM



Fig.6 GENERAL HOSPITAL ERNAKULAM



Fig.7 COCHIN CORPORATION



Fig.8 SUBHASH PARK