

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN*
(SEPTEMBER 11, 1889-OCTOBER 6, 1962)



INTRODUCTION

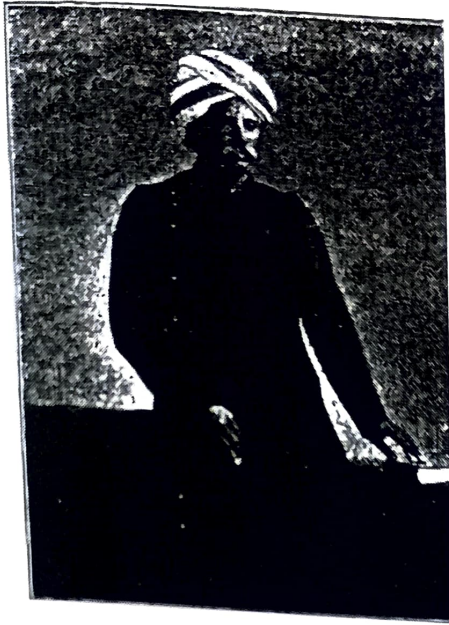
Dr. P. Subbarayan was a freedom fighter, lawyer and a politician from Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu. After having practised as an Advocate in the Madras High Court, Subbarayan entered into politics by becoming a Member of the Madras Legislative Council and eventually became the Secretary of the Council. Not willing to associate with both Justice Party and Swarajya Party, he contested in elections as an independent candidate, and won. He was asked to form a government as the Chief Minister, by the Governor in 1926, to which he acceded. Thus, he became the third Chief Minister of the Pre-Independent Madras Presidency and significantly the very first Tamil Chief Minister of the Presidency.

During his period, he proved to be a true social reformist by bringing about various social, legal and political reforms by way of multiple laws and policies. The passing of the communal G.O. that granted reservation for the first time to the Non-Brahmin Communities in Tamil Nadu (first ever in the whole of India); Introduction of the Hindu Endowments and Charitable Trusts Law to

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SALEM RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR *

(September 6, 1852 - March 2, 1892)



INTRODUCTION

Spanning a lifetime of merely forty years, the achievements of Salem Ramaswamy Mudaliar are many. He was an upright judge and an eminent lawyer, a legend who opened the gateway of ancient Tamil literature to the entire world and a freedom fighter who raised the voice of Indian independence for the first time in England. A truly unsung hero, the role and contribution of Salem Ramaswami Mudaliar to our nation is very less known and must be unearthed to render the true appreciation that the leader deserves.

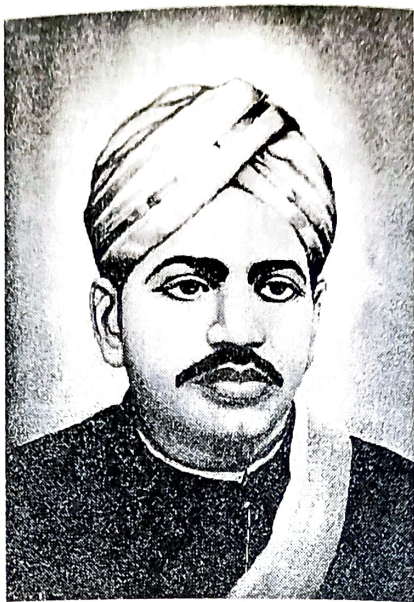
EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION

Born in a rich, affluent and a respectable family in Salem on September 6 1852, Ramaswami Mudaliar was blessed with good education and status. His great grand father was Venkatachala Mudaliar who was a dubash (agent) of the English East India Company. Ramaswami Mudaliar's father Salem Gopaldaswami Mudailar himself was an influential Mittadar (landowner) in Salem, who also served as the Tahsildar of Namakkal till his retirement in 1867.

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V.O.CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI

(September 5, 1872 - November 18, 1936)



INTRODUCTION

A study on the role of Tamil Nadu in the freedom movement is incomplete without comprehending and appreciating the role of V.O.Chidambaram Pillai. Fondly known as V.O.C or Vaa.Oo.Si, Chidambaram Pillai was an epitome of sacrifice and selfless service. V.O.C spent every penny in his pocket and his whole being for the freedom of our nation and the welfare of the people, especially the poor. This article endeavours to throw light on his early life and education, role in the freedom movement, contribution for the growth of Tamil language and his contribution to the society as a lawyer, as well.

EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION

V.O.Chidambaram Pillai was born to Olaganathan Pillai and Paramayi Ammal on 5th September 1872 in Ottapidaram village, also called as Alagai or Alagapuri of Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, near panchalankurichi and Ettayapuram, the birth places of veerapandiya kattabomman (1705-1799) and poet subramaniya Bharathi (1882-1921) respectively. Chidambaram Pillai belonged to