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வநலநாயகம்

*From Legend to Legacy: The Cultural Memory and National Identity Shaped**by Velu Nachiyar*

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Abstract

The 18th-century Queen of Sivaganga was VeluNachiyar, which was specified as a sign of mutiny, patriotism, and leadership in the history of India. Considering that the first female to authority to front retaliate against the British colonial administration, she carved a prominent inheritance that continues to shape future generations. This study examines how her extreme has been shielded and transformed into an enriching legacy illustrating civic ideals. Across history, legends and depiction. Velu Nachiyar's picture has advanced from a state picture to a patriotic figure. The research examines the informational move of her legacy, exploring how her fearlessness and leadership have been essential in connecting the most significant intelligence.

Additionally, this paper examines the purposes of folklore, intelligence, and knowledge exchange in maintaining her bequest. By examining these moves, the investigation supported deep penetration of how folklore impacts civic pride and individuality. Velu Nachiyar's study ultimately exemplifies how chronicle, remembrance and civilization develop patriotism.

Keywords: *Velu Nachiyar, national identity, anti-colonial resistance, historical legacy, Tamil history.*

Introduction

The play of historical legend in reinforcing civic loyalty is essential in ancient and cultural studies. An underappreciated treasure among many of Indian history, Velu Nachiyar originates as a female lead who opposed British colonialism earlier than the independence movement stimulated. She was born in 1730 and was a visionary woman

who led military operations and redefined governance. Various monarchs of her period gathered information, established key partnerships and familiar methods used in guerrilla warfare against the British East India Company. Her life history, however, takes priority by later autonomy movements and continues as a decisive point in the protracted discussion of rebellion and agreement. This paper focuses on examining how her bequest has been secured, illustrated and integrated into present-day stories of patriotism.

Cultural tradition plays a significant role in protecting and changing historical awareness. The history of Velu Nachiyar has been transferred multigenerational through spoken historys, legends, and chronicles. Tamil history and community folklore have commemorated her courage, assuring that her assistance is treasured. Regional music, epigraphs and historical documents illustrate her as a courageous warrior who resisted colonial oppression, highlighting her holistic insights and staunch loyalty. Gradually, these histories have been drawn out, except borderlines, to provide a comprehensive system of Indian opposition movements. By investigating these historical historys, this study focuses on how Velu Nachiyar's figure has been created and rebuilt to coordinate with the developing social and political systems. This study examines how different channels have impeded her history into social memory, strengthening her role in tailoring Tamil and Indian heritage. By evaluating this depiction, this research provides a broader conversation on the crossing of history, resemblance and patriotism.

Historical Context of Velu Nachiyar

She was born in 1730 in Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu, to the dynasty of the Sivaganga kingdom. Unlike many queens of her period, she was experienced in fighting arts, equitation, and calculated warfare from an initial period. Her academics included proficiency in multilingual such as Tamil, Urdu, and French, which later assisted her in forming diplomatic partnerships. Her rearing progressed her into a potent leader who would later difficulties the strength of British administration.

The 18th century was a time of political instabilities in South India, with noticeable unwavering power battles among the Marathas, the Nawabs of Arcot, and the rising British East India Company. The imperialist approach of the British contributed to the surge of the rising conflict in the colonial rule of native dynasties. The Sivaganga

kingdom, under the authority of Velu Nachiyar's spouse, Muthuvaduganatha Periya Udaya Thevar, fronted many threats from both inner and outer influences.

In 1772, the British East India Company, in union with the Nawab of Arcot, attempted to capture Sivaganga, setting the stage for the assassination of Muthuvaduganatha Periya Udaya Thevar. The realm was occupied by British-allied troops, pressuring Velu Nachiyar and her child into banish. Unlike several monarchies who surrendered to imperial powers, Velu Nachiyar deliberately accumulated and arranged for a war to rescue her realm. While she was expelled, Velu Nachiyar took cover in the court of Hyder Ali, the king of Mysore, who combined common antagonism concerning the British. Identifying her potential to lead, Hyder Ali contributed to her with military aid, practice in modern warfare, and a force to ransom her forgotten realm. She applied this time of banish to excel in military strategy, forge partnerships, and be ready to retaliate against the British.

The historical overview of Velu Nachiyar's period of ruling his monarchy also emphasizes the social and political patterns of 18th-century Tamil Nadu. The function of women in administration was finite, yet Velu Nachiyar ruined traditional customs by drawing in revolution. Her rule was distinguished by operational effectiveness, market liberalization and a highlight on self-determination, establishing the groundwork for forthcoming struggle movements opposed to British imperialism. By the 1780s, Velu Nachiyar had constructed an alliance of regional sovereigns and tenacious warriors. Her declared power was a significant achievement but a turning point in India's opposition. Her operation vibrates the British swell in Tamil Nadu, demonstrating her as one of the early portrayal to oppose British power through battle. Unlike behind uncontrollable, her struggle was deep-rooted in a mixture of planned diplomacy and calculated insights, leading to the later demolition of colonialism.

The legacy of Velu Nachiyar surpasses her war-field proud. She was an expert who proclaimed power in Sivaganga after getting back it from British-allied troops. She supported for justice delivery, economic development and military readiness, confirming the kingdom is strong against future colonial threats. The historical origins of her sovereignty contribute to awareness of the nature of indigenous defiance against European colonialism and the function of women in constructing loyalty movements.

Resistance against Colonial Rule

Velu Nachiyar's resisting colonial rule was a prominent phase in the history of India, as she originates as a leading figure in resisting British rule. Unlike several rulers who accompanied a preventive attitude towards British forces, Velu Nachiyar held a problematic way, intriguing on a deeper level military plan, secret service and partnership to reclaim her domain. Her fight against colonialism was not about revenge, merely about safeguarding the autonomy of her land and people from imperialism.

Formation of Alliances and Military Preparation

Following the catastrophic loss of her husband, Muthuvaduganatha Periya Udaya Thevar, in 1772, Velu Nachiyar identified her possibilities to escape, avoiding British troops and their partners, including the Nawab of Arcot. However, instead of surrendering and exile, she used a premeditated method, associating with the potentate. Who expressed her opposition to the British. She led among the essential agreements she organized with Hyder Ali, the emperor of Mysore. Hyder Ali had deep-rooted contention with the British regarding boundary conflicts in South India. Identifying Velu Nachiyar's latent leadership ability, he coincided with assisting her troop-wise. Their association was not just diplomatic but also crucial. Hyder Ali contributed to her with expert military, entry to weapons and an asylum in Dindigul to prepare her revenge.

During her period of banishment, Velu Nachiyar did not stay inactive. Instead, she applied the period to:

- *Hired and trained male and female troops for her impending conflict.*
- *Extract data on British movements, their power and deficiency.*
- *Reinforcing her political and military joints within the Tamil community.*
- *Adopt guerrilla warfare strategies that would prove crucial to her success.*

Her perseverance and battlefield awareness distinguish her from other defiant leaders of her period. She did not depend on conventional troop deployments and merely accommodated advanced military tactics derived from her awareness and intelligence gathering.

Guerrilla Warfare and Military Strategies

A major contributing cause for Velu Nachiyar's victory against the British was her power to enact a guerrilla warfare strategy. Unlike traditional military, which requires an army corps to confront directly, guerrilla warfare counts on attacks, invasion, and the use of native regions to the defensive edge.

Velu Nachiyar formed her troops into less portable units, which empowered them to:

- *Affect British settlements without warning.*
- *Devastate British organizations and communicating paths.*
- *Retire rapidly until the British could formulate a countermove.*
- *Applied regional factors (forests, rivers, and hills) for their vantage.*

The British troops adapted to an inflexible battleground establishment and fought against these quick and uncertain assails. By the period they marshal support, Velu Nachiyar's troops had previously receded into the packed Tamil region, making creating a countermove challenging. Moreover, she combined strategic intelligence warfare, where undercover agents and snitches contributed detailed reports on British strategies. This permitted her to predict opposing forces and tactically utilize her forces for maximum impact.

Role of Women Warriors and the First Suicide Bombing

The most remarkable feature of Velu Nachiyar's defiance was the exposure of women in battle, especially the formation of the earliest known occurrence of a self-sale in Indian history. Identifying the courage and loyalty of Tamil women, Velu Nachiyar established a distinct military force of female soldiers directed by her reliable leader, Kuyili. This battalion, named Udaiyal Padai, performed a significant role in multiple battles, appealing in spying, frontal assault, and destruction operations against the British. The noted act of courage came from Kuyili herself. Throughout Velu Nachiyar's movements to reclaim Sivaganga in 1780, Kuyili devised a self-sacrifice plan to ruin British armament. She:

1. *Saturated her in oil.*
2. *Set her on ablaze.*
3. *Ran into the British arsenal, burning an outburst that turned off British troops in the zone.*

This crucial altruism exhausted the British military, permitting Velu Nachiyar's force to initiate a broad-ranging incursion and reassert control over Sivaganga. Kuyili's action is frequently obscure in traditional history; it merely continues one of the initial reported incidents of a self-immolation attack as defence operations. This incident emphasizes the dedication of Velu Nachiyar's troops and illustrates how she encourages loyalty and immolation among her adherents.

Reclaiming Sivaganga and Governance

Through the British debilitated by Kuyili's attempt and the unrelenting onslaught by Velu Nachiyar's troops, the queen established an ultimate impertinent against British-supported troops in Sivaganga. In 1780, following almost a decade of exile and military preparation, she defeated the British and their allies, restoring her kingdom's independence. Upon reclaiming Sivaganga, Velu Nachiyar focused on strengthening the kingdom's defences to prevent future invasions. She:

- *Established fortified military outposts across the region.*
- *Strengthened alliances with Mysore and local chieftains.*
- *Ensured that her army remained well-trained and ready for any further conflicts.*

Unlike many rulers who celebrated military victories, Velu Nachiyar focused on sustainable governance. She worked on:

- *Restoring economic stability by revitalizing agriculture and trade*
- *Strengthen local administration and ensure fair governance*
- *Preserve Tamil culture by encouraging art, literature and temple renovation*
- *Maintain a standing army and ensure military preparedness.*

Her tenacity and leadership ensured that Sivaganga remained independent for years, setting an example for future resistance leaders in India who would fight colonial rule.

Legacy of Her Resistance

Velu Nachiyar's defiance against British rule indelibly affected South Indian history. She was:

- *One of the foremost rulers to militarily challenge the British, long before Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi*
- *A pioneer of guerrilla warfare, a tactic later used in India's freedom struggle*
- *She was a champion of women in war and demonstrated that women could play an active role in military leadership*
- *It symbolized the Tamil resistance and inspired later uprisings against British rule in the region.*

Her history remains lesser known in mainstream Indian history, merely an attempt to reclaim her bequest through academician research, cultural memory, and populace commemoration. Velu Nachiyar's resistance against British colonial rule was not just an act of rebellion, merely a strategic and well-organized military-political campaign that challenged the might of one of the most influential colonial empires of the time. Her tactical acumen alliance and advanced use of guerrilla war set a precedent for future anti-colonial struggle. Her victory over the British in 1780, based as a testament to autochthonal resistance, proved that local leadership and strategic war could efficiently counter colonial expansion. Today, her bequest continues to inspire the patriot movement feminist discourse, and cultural revivalism guarantees that her contribution to India's history continues to be widely acknowledged and observe

Cultural memory and folklore

The bequest of Velu Nachiyar has been observed, and assorted forms of cultural memory and folklore guarantee that her contribution to Tamil history and India's anti-colonial struggle stays alive, unlike mainstream historiography, which frequently overlooks regional resistance leadership. Velu Nachiyar's history has boomed in oral tradition folk song temple inscription and regional literature. The function of folklore in shaping

national identity is crucial as it allows the historical figures to exceed coevals and become symbols of cultural pride.

Oral tradition and Storytelling

Oral tradition has played a significant function in continuing Velu Nachiyar's history, particularly in rural Tamil Nadu. For centuries, Tamil bards and folk narrators have passed down the history of her courage, military art, and resistance against British rule. This history, frequently sung or performed during village gatherings, temple festivals, and cultural events, supports her memory of an alive evening without being written or rewritten.

Some of the key subjects in this oral tradition include

- *Her early training in Martial humanistic discipline and war set her apart from conventional female rulers.*
- *Her defiance against British colonialism is portrayed as an act of Godhead justice.*
- *Her alliance with Hyder Ali is a picture of a diplomatic masterstroke.*
- *The forfeit of Kuyili is recited as an act of supreme patriotism and devotion.*

In many Tamil villages, aged narrators and folk singers still recount this history, guaranteeing that Velu Nachiyar's history remains part of the collective consciousness of the Tamil people. This oral tradition serves as a counter-history to colonial history, frequently marginalizing autochthonal resistance movements.

Folk songs and Ballads

Tamil folk songs, Villupattu and Themmangu, have been instrumental in lauding Velu Nachiyar's bequest. These lyrical compositions blend history with poetic elements, transforming her resistance into a beginning of inspiration for subsequent generations.

Some folk ballad highlights explicitly:

- *Her war scheme likening her to a great male warrior*

- *Her deathless committedness to the Tamil people depicts her as a motherly defender*
- *Her victory over the British was frequently dramatized as an epic poem battle between good and evil*

These songs are performed in folk theatre and temple festivals where the audience prosecutes with historical history artistically and emotionally. Folk performance guarantees that the evening illiterate community are exposed to the rich people's history of Velu Nachiyar's reign.

Temple Inscriptions and Local Legends

Temples have historically been the centre of cultural preservation, and many inscriptions and temple mural pictures of Velu Nachiyar 's rule. In specific temples in Tamil Nadu, her name is inscribed, and other rulers mark her contribution to the region's administration. Additionally, there are legends associated with specific temples that recognize Velu Nachiyar with

1. *Rebuilding temples that were destroyed during a colonial attack*
2. *Providing royal backing for temple renovation and festival*
3. *Commissioning inscriptions that document Tamil resistance against the British*

For example, in some villages, local deities are believed to have blessed Velu Nachiyar earlier. Her battles and rituals are performed in her award during particular religious occasions. This integration of history and spirituality guarantees that her memory is not just historical but sacred, promoting her as an idolized status in Tamil cultural memory.

Literary history and regional Historiography

Although mainstream Indian historiography has frequently overlooked Velu Nachiyar, regional Tamil scholars and historians have worked to document her contribution to Tamil literature and historical text in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, reflecting an attempt to reclaim her bequest.

- *Some early Tamil nationalist writers portrayed her as a symbol of anti-colonial resistance, often comparing her to later freedom fighters.*

- *Modern historical research attempts to correct colonial biases and reintroduce them into academic discussions.*
- *Historical fiction and novels based on her life grew popular, and her influence extended beyond academic circles.*

Books, academic papers and historical treatises have begun to reshape her history, ensuring she is not forgotten in Indian historiography.

Representation in Public Commemoration

Recently, there has been a resurgence of interest in Velu Nachiyar's, with public celebrations and government recognition. Her legacy is commemorated through:

- *Statues and Memorials: Tamil Nadu has erected a statue of Velu Nachiyar to commemorate her role in the resistance against British rule.*
- *Government tribute: The Tamil Nadu government has launched several programmes to educate students about her contributions.*
- *Cultural events: Festivals and special events now include reenactments of her battles, keeping her story alive in the public memory.*

Her recognition posthumously raised awareness of local history and ensured her contribution was recognized beyond Tamil Nadu.

Impact of Cultural Memory on National Identity

Cultural memory is vital in defining national identity as it helps societies remember past struggles, victories and heroes. Velu Nachiyar's transformation from a regional warrior to a national symbol highlights the importance of preserving indigenous history.

- *She represents a Tamil identity rooted in resistance, courage, and self-rule.*
- *Her story challenges colonial histories that often depicted Indian rulers as weak or submissive.*
- *She is a symbol of feminism and a testament to women's important role in India's struggle against foreign rule.*

By preserving the memory of Velu Nachiyar through folklore, songs and literature, Tamil society has ensured that Velu Nachiyar continues to be an influential, inspirational figure in the broader picture of Indian history. The collective memory and legend connecting Velu Nachiyar have played a vital role in retaining her bequest and strengthening Tamil's individuality. While conventional Indian history frequently forgets autonomy warriors, Velu Nachiyar's bravery and captainship have been handed over via folklore, songs, and rural history, ensuring that her bequest is always remembered.

Velu Nachiyar's Representation in Modern Media

The resumption of curiosity in Velu Nachiyar's inheritance in the 21st century has led to her depiction in different forms of modern media, along with movies, television, books, educational debate and web platform. As history is growingly sculpted by famous civilization, media plays a major part in renewing and reforming ancient story for modern listener. At one time, she was widely missed from popular study of history, current attempt have confirm that her offerings to India's fight for self-determination are widely identified.

Representation in Tamil Cinema and Television

Movies and television have an authority on historical recall, forming how image like Velu Nachiyar are seen by today viewers. While current Indian Movies has widely concentrated on resistance fighter from the 19th and 20th centuries, Tamil moviemakers have tried to bring native fighter like Velu Nachiyar into the center of attention.

- *In 2017, Tamil Nadu's government declared a biographical movie on Velu Nachiyar, meant to teach the common people about her role in fighting against the British colonial rule.*
- *Several reports and short program have been established, emphasize her war plans, partnership and administration.*
- *Tamil Television station have shown ancient dramas and enact, play her war opposed to the British colonial rule.*

However, one of the crucial difficulties in filmic depiction is historical authenticity. Many commercial movie and television dramas tend to overplay events, occasionally

idealizing or ideal her personality. Although these depiction help popularize her history, they risk preventing real history in kindness of recreation.

Even though, these enhances to the cultural renewal of her inheritance, make sure that younger people acquire knowledge about her defiance colonial rule..

Academic Discourse and Historical Research

In recent times, ancients and sage have managed to report Velu Nachiyar's offering through academic study and ancient books.

- *Tamil Nadu education institution and research facility have organized research on her participation in the ancient anti-colonial protest movement.*
- *Indian ancients have recorded her history in magazine on native protest movements, positioning her parallel to other native fighters similar to Rani Lakshmibai and Kittur Chennamma.*
- *Various doctoral thesis and report have inspected her rule, war policy, and cultural influence, assuring her knowledge in university circles.*

However, in spite of these academic struggles, Velu Nachiyar's history remains marginalize in popular ancient references and recognize report study. The struggle remains in linking the space between research study and people awareness, assuring that her offerings are recognized at both native and public levels.

Digital Media and Social Awareness

With the growth of digital content and online social network, observe a new interest in recovering native stories, and Velu Nachiyar's inheritance has gained from this action.

- *YouTube reports and ancient web blogger have make film on Velu Nachiyar's battle, put forward her history to a international viewers.*
- *Wiki encyclopedia and online report records now include particular story of her lifetime, assuring that obtainable knowledge is accessible to the people.*
- *Social network campaigns and hashmark (for example #VeluNachiyar and #TamilResistance) have support impact awareness regarding her offering.*

- *vlog and online conversation gathering on Indian study have emphasized incident and argument on her part as a freedom fighter.*

Although these digital project, Velu Nachiyar is no more restrict to ancient novels but has develop a commonly debated shape in online discussion. This digital renewal has recreated a important part in creating her a sign of women s equal rights and Tamil inheritance.

The Role of Media in shaping historical memory

Media play a decisive function in shaping historical consciousness, and portraying figures like Velu Nachiyar determines how future coevals remember them.

- *Positive representation in film and television contributes to brand history, easier to access.*
- *Academic research and digital platforms ensure practical accuracy and historical integrity.*
- *Public commemorations and government initiatives provide official recognition and validation of her contributions*

Modern media can ensure that Velu Nachiyar's history is meaningfully remembered and respected by reconciling entertainment with historical accuracy.

Velu Nachiyar's representation in modern media has changed most significantly with developments in film literature, digital content and government enterprises, which have contributed to her resurgence as a historical icon. The challenge, however, remains to ensure her legacy is not falsified. The recognition of regional history only comes at a national and global level.

National Identity and feminist symbolism

Velu Nachiyar s bequest widened beyond her military resistance against colonial rule. She symbolizes national identity and feminist authorization, representing self-government leadership and defiance against oppression. Her history is profoundly weaved into Tamil cultural consciousness and increasingly acknowledged in India s wide patriot discourse. As a female ruler, the who actively engaged war strategic administration and political diplomacy. Velu Nachiyar s history challenges the conventional male-dominated historical

history and offers a powerful feminist icon for contemporary discussion on gender and leadership.

Velu Nachiyar's Role in shaping Tamil and Indian National Identity

National identity is constructed upon historical history, collective memory and cultural heritage and figures like Velu Nachiyar play a crucial function in shaping this consciousness. With information technology rich people's history of regional resistance against imperial force, Tamil Nadu holds Velu Nachiyar as a symbol of early anti-colonial struggle.

Tamil Patriotism and Velu Nachiyar's Legacy

- *She is regarded as a Tamil warrior - the queen of the motherland, free from foreign interference and colonial rule.*
- *Her rule emphasized autonomy and sovereignty, in line with the Tamil Patriot Initiative's regional pride and historical recognition.*
- *Her alliance with leading local warriors and park people reflects Tamil Nadu's long tradition of resistance to outside rule.*
- *Her legacy is reflected in the cultural festival literature and popular observances of Tamil Nadu, ensuring that she remains part of the formation of regional identity.*

Inclusion in India's patriot Discourse

Although regional historiography has hankered to acknowledge Velu Nachiyar, her contribution is now increasingly admitted inside India's more considerable anti-colonial movement.

- *She is one of the earlier rulers to defy British expansion actively, predating the 1857 Revolt and other national rebellion.*
- *Her military scheme and administration model have been analyzed in historical research, drawing analogs between her and other leaders like Rani Lakshmibai and Kittur Chennamma.*

- *The government of India has honored her contribution through postal cast academician recognition and cultural events integrating her into India's broad independence history.*

Her history bridges Tamil patriot pride and India's national identity, highlighting the diverse and multi-faceted nature of the Indian freedom struggle.

Velu Nachiyar as a feminist icon

Velu Nachiyar's reign and military leadership offer a significant historical counterpoint to the patriarchal history that frequently minimizes the function of women in administration and war. She was a ruler, warrior, diplomat and strategist, incarnate quality that challenged historical gender stereotypes.

Women in leadership breakage stereotype

- *At a time when women expected to stay restricted to domestic function, the Velu Nachiyar led army allied and engaged an active agent war.*
- *She was not a passive voice queen or regent, merely a proactive leader devising decisions for the political and military future of Sivaganga.*
- *Unlike many female figures in history, the who is overshadowed by its male counterpart. Velu Nachiyar's accomplishments are based wholly on her strategic intelligence and courage.*

Role of Women in Military and Governance

- *Velu Nachiyar was one of the first Indian rulers to train and deploy a woman's army, a revolutionist move in the male-dominated military landscape of her time.*
- *Her female regiment led by Kuyili shows that a woman could be combatant strategist and defender of the kingdom, challenge the traditional perception of war as a masculine sphere.*
- *By integrating women into active agent military function, she set a precedent that later freedom movements in India, including the rani Jhansi regiment of Subhas Chandra Bose's INA, would follow.*

Velu Nachiyar and contemporary feminist movement

- *In modern times, Velu Nachiyar has been reclaimed by feminist historians as an early example of woman's authorization and resistance.*
- *Her leadership has been foregrounded in gender surveys and feminist discourse as a model of female agency political power and military leadership.*
- *Women's organizations and political movements have increasingly used her bequest to advocate for gender equality, leadership opportunity and representation in administration.*

Her historical significance exceeds her era, devising her as an inspiration for the modern feminist struggles that stresses women's autonomy, leadership, and resistance to oppression

Symbolism in modern patriot and feminist discourse

Velu Nachiyar's symbolism has been regenerated in patriot and feminist discussions, where she is frequently mentioned as an early example of autochthonal leadership defying colonial oppression. Her image represents

A Symbol of resistance Against oppression,

- *Her battle against the British typifies national sovereignty and resistance against foreign rule.*
- *She is seen as a heroic verse figure in Tamil and Indian patriot discourse, incarnating the spirit of defiance and independence.*

A Function Model for Women in Politics and Leadership,

- *Velu Nachiyar's administration is used as an example in an argument on women's leadership, emphasizing women's capability in political schemes and administration.*
- *Her independent rule and military tactics inspire discussion on gender equality in administration.*

An Emblem of Courage and Self-Sufficiency,

- *Feminist scholars mention her as a woman from the who, specified her destiny rather than waiting for external Jesus.*
- *Her autonomy and strategic alliance challenge the impression that women in history are dependent on male rulers for power.*

Her symbolism widens beyond history, devising her relevant and influential figure in discussions on patriotism, gender equality, and leadership in contemporary society.

Challenges in Recognizing Her Feminist and patriot Legacy

Despite her growth recognition, Velu Nachiyar still faces challenges in being admitted nationally. Some of the issues include,

- *Underrepresentation in history textbooks - while she is observed in Tamil Nadu, her contributions are not widely covered in the national history course of study.*
- *Male-dominated Historical History - Many histories of Indian independence movement focus on male leadership and neglect the function of an early female warrior.*
- *Limited Populace Awareness - Although there have been attempts to commemorate her through movie research and memorials, many Indians outside Tamil Nadu remain unaware of her contribution.*
- *Colonial erasure British record frequently understate Or ignored regional resistance movement, making it difficult to reconstruct her complete historical impact.*

Addressing these challenges necessitates continued academician research on feminist discourse and populace enterprise to guarantee that Velu Nachiyar's contribution receives the recognition it deserves

Velu Nachiyar's bequest as a warrior-queen patriot symbol and feminist icon is a testament to her leadership and resistance against colonial oppression. Her history challenges the patriarchal history and offers a powerful example of woman's agency in politics and war.

Reconstruct history Challenges and Controversies

The procedure of reconstructing history is frequently filled with challenge gaps and distortion, notably when it semen to regional resistance leadership like Velu Nachiyar's contempt of her massive contribution to India's anti-colonial struggle. Her bequest has stayed vastly underrepresented in mainstream historiography. This lack of recognition can beryllium impute to colonial erasure and patriarchal bias in historical writing and the laterality of the North Indian patriot history in shaping India's collective memory.

Underrepresentation in mainstream historiography

contempt being one of the earlier rulers to challenge British colonial rule, Velu Nachiyar remains largely absent from mainstream Indian history books, while figures like Rani Lakshmibai Tipu Sultan and the Marathas are usually in the national resistance history. Velu Nachiyar's history is frequently restricted to Tamil Nadu's regional history.

North Indian Dominance in patriot Histories

- *Indian history textbooks frequently focus on Delhi-centric and Mughal-era historys overshadowing South Indian resistance movement.*
- *The 1857 Revolt is usually pictured as India's "first war of Independence," whereas Velu Nachiyar's rebellion in 1780 is rarely admitted to a national degree.*
- *The freedom struggle is frequently narrated by male-centric positions departure out decisive woman leadership like Velu Nachiyar Kuyili and another female warrior.*

Patriarchal Bias in Historical History

- *Many colonial and post-colonial historians prioritize the accomplishment of male rulers and ignore the function of women in war and administration.*

- *Velu Nachiyar was not a mere consort or regent. She governed independently and led active agent military-political campaign.*
- *Unlike Rani Lakshmibai, the who became a national icon. Velu Nachiyar's bequest was not widely popularized primarily due to male-dominated historical Documentation.*

Express academician research and Documentation

- *There is a lack of extensive primary beginning on Velu Nachiyar's life and the rule devising it challenging to reconstruct her history accurately.*
- *Much of the information about her comes from oral tradition temple inscriptions and regional folklore, which has not been systematically documented in national archives.*
- *Colonial historians intentionally ignore regional resistance movement, devising it challenging to recover a comprehensive examination record of her administration and battle.*

Because of this factor, Velu Nachiyar's contribution has been marginalized, necessitating an attempt to reintroduce her into India's mainstream history.

Colonial erasure and regional Histories

One of the significant challenges in reconstructing Velu Nachiyar's history is the impact of colonial erasure the systematic removal of autochthonal resistance history from the historical record.

British Manipulation of Historical History

- *British colonial administrator document history from their position, frequently understating that or erased the history of Indian resistance.*

- Many records of Tamil resistance movements are either destroyed or misrepresented, making it challenging to recover accurate details of Velu Nachiyar's struggle.
- British historians concentrate on rulers of the who collaborating with them while figures like Velu Nachiyar, who actively defy colonial rule to be left out of the official record.

Lack of writing beginning and Reliance on oral tradition

- Unlike the Mughal or Maratha ruler whose history is recorded by court historian Velu Nachiyar's history has essentially been continuing through oral tradition folk songs and temple inscription
- While these beginnings are valuable, they are frequently dismissed as undependable by traditional historians, leading to fostering exclusion from the mainstream historical history.
- Reconstructing her life and reign necessitates patching together break up, beginning devising historical accuracy a challenge.

Marginalization of South Indian Resistance Leadership

- Many South Indian rulers and freedom combatants have been overlooked in the national history, with greater emphasis put on the North Indian struggle.
- Figures like the Tipu sultan and the Marathas receive considerable attention, while Tamil leadership like Velu Nachiyar, the Marudhu brother, and Kuyili stay lesser-known.
- This selective historiography makes an incomplete picture of India's anti-colonial resistance and necessitates corrective historical research.

Because of these challenges, reclaiming Velu Nachiyar's bequest necessitates an extensive scholarly attempt to reconstruct her history by combining oral traditional folk literature and archival research.

Efforts to Reclaim and Institutionalize Her Legacy

In the recent years, a growth movement was to restore Velu Nachiyar's topographic point in history, driven by Tamil historians, feminist scholars and cultural militants. Several enterprises have been undertaking to commit to her bequest and guarantee her contribution receives the recognition they deserve.

Inclusion in Academic research and school Curriculums,

- *The Tamil Nadu government has taken steps to include Velu Nachiyar's history in school textbooks to guarantee that future coevals learn about her contribution.*
- *Universities and research centers have perusal her military scheme and administration to increase academic recognition of her function.*
- *Scholars have to get down drawn comparisons between Velu Nachiyar and other female freedom combatants, widening her recognition in feminist historiography.*

Government Recognition and Populace commemoration,

- *In 2008, the Indian government published a postal cast in the award of Velu Nachiyar admitting her historical importance.*
- *Statues and memorials have been raised in Tamil Nadu to commemorate her leadership and contribution.*
- *Annual events and reenactments have been kept to spread awareness about her function in defying British rule.*

Digital revival and popular culture representation

- *With the rise of digital platforms, Velu Nachiyar's history is being shared widely on social media, YouTube documentaries and historical blogs.*
- *Tamil filmmaker and writer are working on biopics and historical fiction novels to bring her history to a mainstream audience.*
- *Cultural movement focus on woman warriors and anti-colonial history increasingly highlights her contribution to India's resistance movement.*

Feminist and Regional Identity movement

- *Feminist scholars have reclaimed Velu Nachiyar as a symbol of women's leadership and recommend her more excellent representation in discussions on gender and power*
- *Tamil patriot movement stresses her function in Tamil identity formation exploitation of her history to assert regional pride and historical recognition*

By these initiatives, Velu Nachiyar's history is slowly acquiring the recognition it deserves, challenging historical negligence and colonial distortion.

Her bequest as a warrior-queen feminist icon and anti-colonial leader is slowly derived identification and guarantees that future contemporaries learn about her massive contribution to India's battle against British rule by means of education population honor and digital storytelling. Her historical effect of choice continues to motivate the movement for injustice resistance and woman's authorization.

Conclusion

The history of Velu Nachiyar is one of the strength, defiance and vital illumination, devising her as a pivotal figure in India's anti-colonial opposition. As one of the previous rulers to challenge British imperialism, she demolished gender norms, redefined leadership and motivated future coevals. Her ability to organize resources, forge alliances and implement guerrilla war approach shows her strategic foresight in the battle against colonial oppression.

In despite of her historical significance, Velu Nachiyar stayed largely unfamiliar in mainstream historiography for a century. The process of rebuild her bequest has been an ongoing challenge impeded by colonial erasure, patriarchal bias and the laterality of the North Indian patriot history; Still concert attempts by historians, cultural militants and digital medium enterprises have played a main function in revive her history guarantee that her contribution receives the identification they deserve.

This study has researched the various dimensions of Velu Nachiyar's bequest, including her military resistance cultural memory, modern medium representation of feminist symbolism and historical rebuilding attempt. As we re-examine India's past, enlarging the national discourse over the commonly followed figures is necessary to conform that

regional leaders like Velu Nachiyar are acknowledged for their massive contribution to India's battle for sovereignty.

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அரண்

பன்னாட்டுத் தமிழாய்வு மின்னிதழ்

அறிவிப்பு / Announcement

அன்பான தமிழ்ச் சொந்தங்களே

வணக்கம்.

வரும் 2026, ஏப்ரல் மாதம் வெளிவரும் அரண் பன்னாட்டுத் தமிழாய்வு மின்னிதழ்க்கான ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகள் ஆய்வாளர்களிடமிருந்து வரவேற்கப்படுகின்றன.

கட்டுரை வந்து சேர வேண்டிய கடைசி நாள் - ஏப்ரல் 10. அதற்கு பின் வரும் கட்டுரைகள் ஏப்ரல் இதழில் இடம்பெறாது என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறோம்.

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