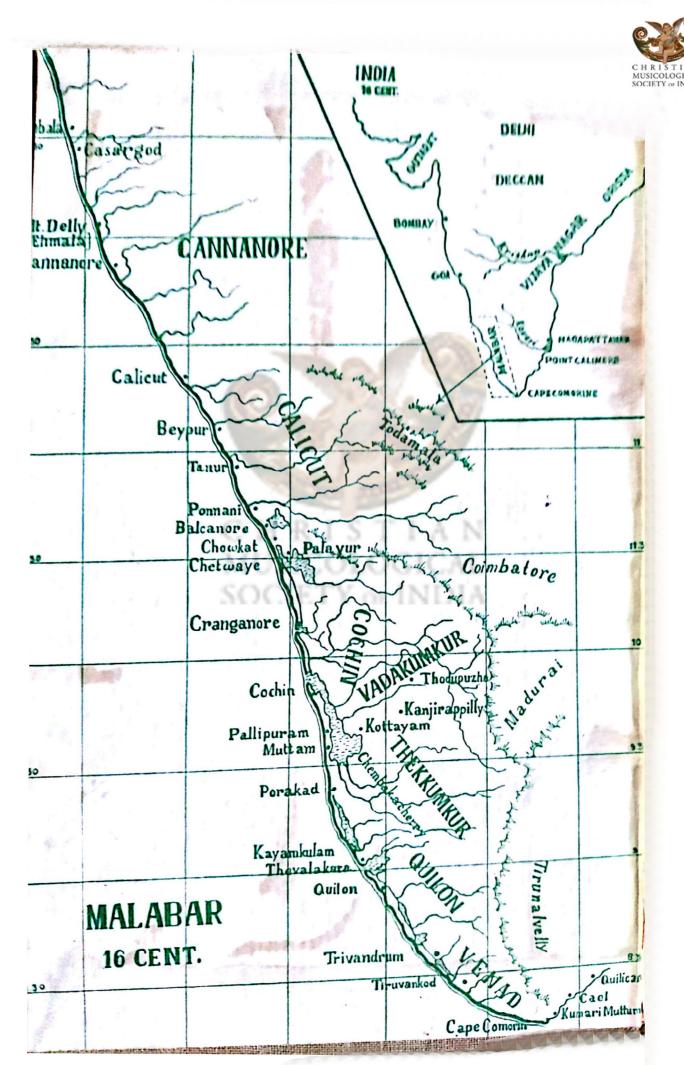


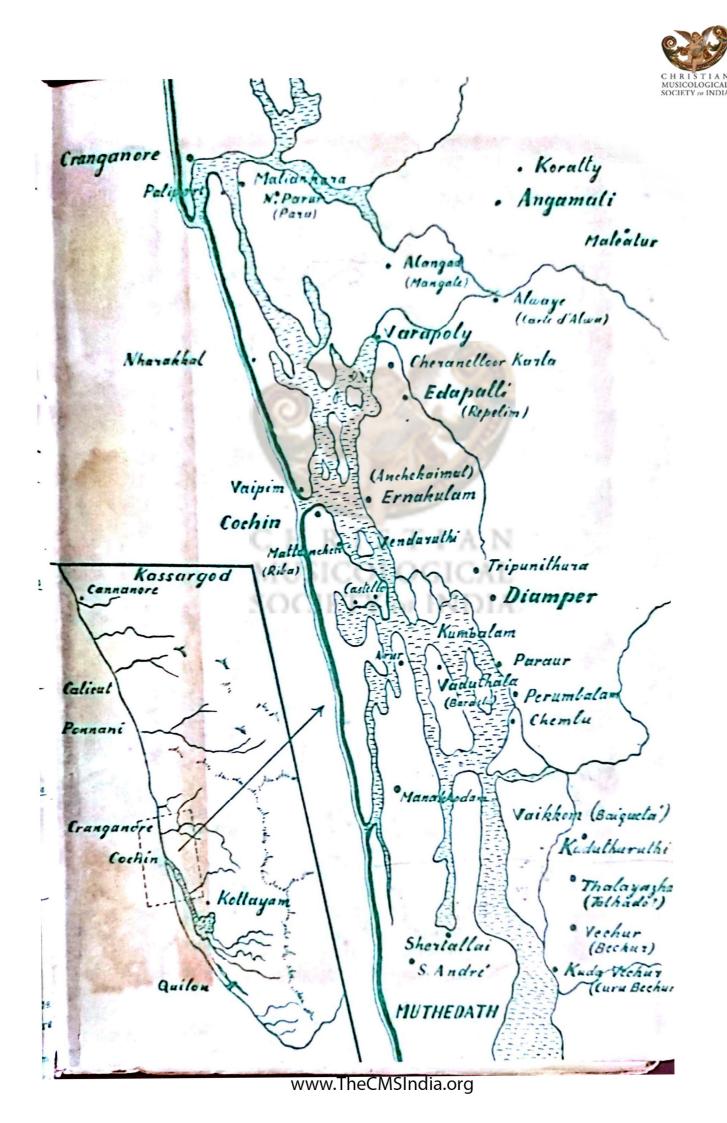
# TRADITIONS OF ST THOMAS CHRISTIANS



A. M. MUNDADAN

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### TRADITIONS OF THOMAS CHRISTIANS

CHRISTIAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA



# Sixteenth Century Traditions of St Thomas Christians

A. MATHIAS MUNDADAN, C. M. I.

With a Foreword by G. SCHURHAMMER, S. J.

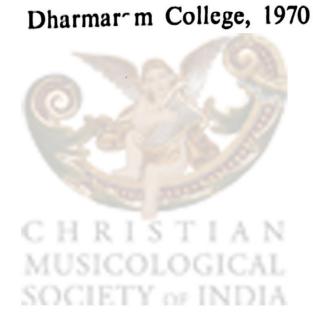


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### **FOREWORD**

Two points are treated in the pressent volume: the question of the tomb of Saint Thomas in Mylapore, now a suburb of Madras, and the history of the Christians of Saint Thomas after the death of the apostle up to the arrival of the first Latin missionaries in the Middle Ages.

In his introduction to the first point the author gives a short review of the different opinions about the apostolate of Saint Thomas in India without entering into a critical evaluation of the arguments given for or against it. Then follows the question of the tomb in Mylapore, which is treated in extenso according to the published and unpublished sources from the second to the 18th century, which we have collected and hope to publish in the near future in their original texts. Of the greatest importance are here the Portuguese reports about the discovery of the tomb in 1517, about its opening by order of the Portugese king in 1522 and about the local traditions concerning the apostle and his tomb for which Christian and non-Christian witnesses were called in 1533.

In the second part of the book Portuguese and Indian sources are examined for the chief event in the history of the Christians of Saint Thomas: their exodus from Mylapore to the South Coast of India, the arrival of Thomas of Cana and the foundation of the community of Cranganore, which gave origin to the two divisions of the Nordists and Sudists, the coming of the brothers Sapor and Prot and the community in Quilon, the fallen-away communities in Kerala and the Syrian Church at Cape Comorin. Then the author describes the social and the socio-ecclesiastical life of the Christians of Saint Thomas, their cult and liturgical life, and their attitude towards the Latin rite and the Portuguese efforts of of Latininization.



St Thomas, Ap., church of, 17 22 23 26 31 and n. 44; 47; converts made in India by, 44; his apostolate in India, Indian tradition on, 5 6, nature of the tradition on, 3 ff., views of scholars on, 2 f., western tradition on, 4 5 f; his apostolic activity and death according to, Chaldeo-Malabar tradition, 42 ff., Mylapore tradition, 50 ff.; his death, legends about, 46 f. 52 f. (cf also 12), the manner of, 37 46 f. 52 ff., place of, 37 53 78; his tomb, see tomb; house of, 17 26 30 ff. 50; in China, 43 f; in Persia, 42; in Socotora, 43; local documents on, 60 ff.; miracles of, 44 ff. 50 ff.; monastery of, 15.

St Thomas wood, see wood. Strizzi, Peró d'Andrea, visits Mylapore (1514), 22. Sunday observance, 160 161

164.

Sybil of Quilon, 109.

Syriac, liturgical language, the attachment of Thomas Christians to, 160 f.

Tane Modaliar, 55 71 and n. 20; see also king of Mylapore.

Tarakan, 136 and n. 76.

Tardaiqual Naiqemar, 110 f.

Tarijanel, 126 137 and n. 80.

Temporal administration, 142.

Thekkumbhagar, see Southists.

Theodor, anaphora of, 163. Thomas of Cana, 89 92 ff. 107 115 116.

Thomas Cana plates, 115 132 ff.; see also copper plate grants.

Thorana (July 3 feast), 66.

Tiruvanchikulam, 62 128, n.48. Todamala Christians, 110.

Tomb of St Thomas in Mylapore, ancient testimonies on, 14 ff.; discovered by the Portuguese, 19 26 ff.; excavation of, 70 ff.; Muslims' devotion for, 12 12, n. 29; 23 28 30 82 f.; pagans' devotion for, 20 30 82; opinions about the authenticity of, 11 ff.; objections to authenticity of, 12 82 f.; Portuguese visitors to, 68 f.; site and surroundings of, 9 ff. 19 ff.

Tombs, in Mylapore, 22 23 31 34 f.; at Cape Comorin, 111. Trade, Thomas Christians and, 119 f.

Travancore Coast Christians, 111.

Udaya Marthandavarman, king of Travancore, 112, n. 102.

Ugo Nicolo, Fr., 73 74. Unni Kerala-Tiruvadi, king of Travancore, 112.

Vadakumbhagar, see Northists. Valignano, about the traditions 86, n. 2.

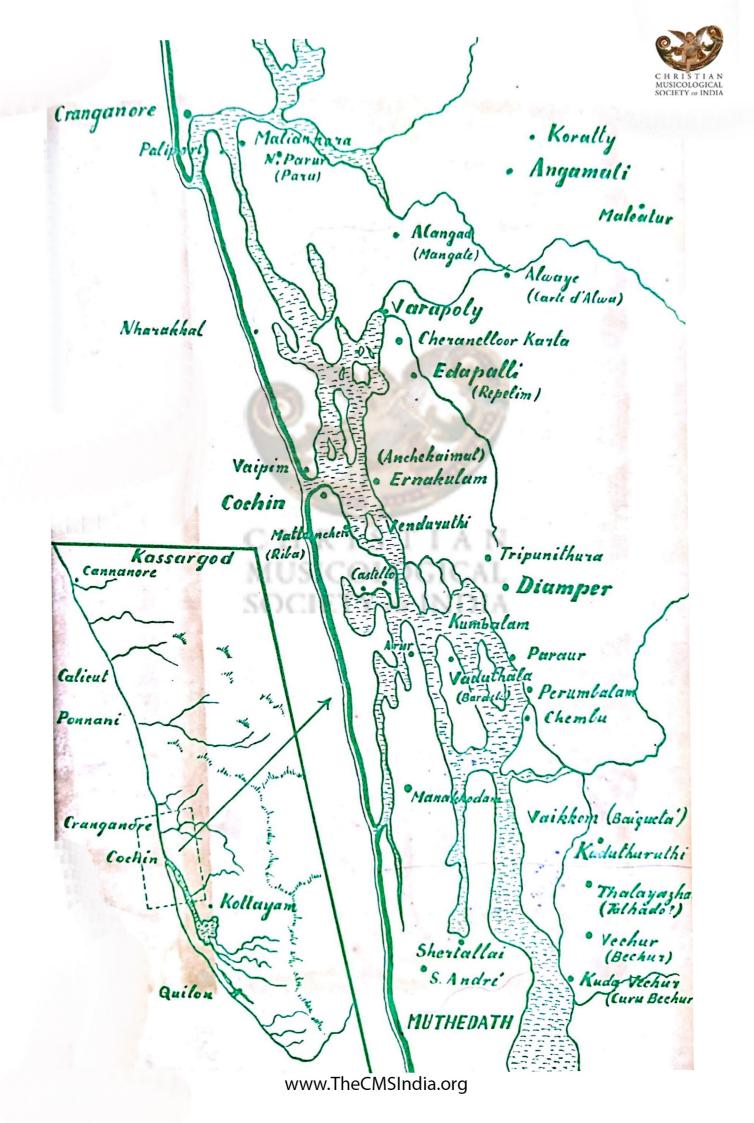
Vammanad, 64.

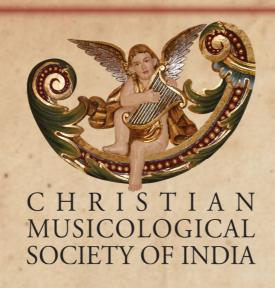
Varthema, about the tomb, 21. Vettila chewing, 176 179.

Vicar Generals, archdeacons as, 141 146.

Vijayanagar, 10 56 74; see also Bisnaga and Narasinga. Villarvattam, 126 and n. 35; 129 136; see also Beliarte.

Wars in Mylapore, 21 f. and n. 12; 30 89
Wine, for eucharist, 166.
Women and their occupation, 121 and n. 14.





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